

## **Two Toy Fetch**

Playing fetch is a classic and simple way to provide your dog with some extra exercise. Here at ARF, we like to teach the dogs how to play Two Toy Fetch. Benefits to using two (or more) toys include:

- 1. You can still play fetch efficiently even if your dog isn't a pro at bringing the toy back to you yet or dropping it for you.
- 2. Extra opportunities to work on improving your dog's basic manners and impulse control.
- 3. When implemented correctly, you avoid any chance of accidentally triggering any toy guarding tendencies that your dog might already have or could develop.

## **Step-By-Step Guide to Playing Two Toy Fetch:**

- Identify two (or more) toys that your dog finds equally valuable. Two tennis balls, two soccer balls, two rope toys, two Kongs, two squeaky toys, etc...
- To start the game, hold both toys. Show your dog one toy, cue or lure them in to a sit, then reward them for sitting by tossing the first toy!
- When your dog brings the first toy back (or you catch up to your dog if they aren't good at bringing the toy back to you yet), show your dog the second toy, cue or lure them in to a sit, then reward them for sitting by tossing the second toy!
- Here's the key element of Two Toy Fetch. When your dog is away from you chasing the second toy, you can pick up the first toy that they left behind and reset for the next throw.
- Troubleshooting What if your dog doesn't drop the first toy before you toss the second?
  - Try Three Toy Fetch instead! Even if your dog chases the second toy while still holding the first toy in his mouth, they will have to drop the first to pick up the second (if you are using tiny toys and your dog could fit more than one toy in their mouth at once, try upgrading your toys to larger ones). When your dog brings the second toy back, toss the third and pick up the first toy while they are busy chasing the third.
- Here are some links to videos that demonstrate Two Toy Fetch:
  - o https://youtu.be/86zUI\_oGbdE
  - o <a href="https://youtu.be/4G9CP9F9Klw">https://youtu.be/4G9CP9F9Klw</a>