

GROWING VITO'S THINKING GAME



DOGS THAT

Susan Garrett's By **DOG**
SHAPed **PODCAST**

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About Your eBook

Thank you for joining us!

I recognize that today, in particular, there are more and more trainers to choose from while on your dog training adventure. Your dog and I both thank you for choosing to invest your time with DogsThat.

Vito's Thinking Game is an easy, fun way to boost your dog's skills, strengthen your bond, and lay the foundation for advanced training. It's also a great game for enrichment, providing mental and physical exercise for dogs. Dogs LOVE playing Vito's Game, and it's a special game as you don't necessarily do the training but the reinforcing, so jump in and play.

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Here's to setting our dogs and ourselves up for success!



Susan Garrett

www.DogsThat.com

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Growing Vito's Thinking Game

You'll need the foundations of Vito's Thinking Game before you progress to growing the game. Keep the 5C Pyramid in mind, and remember not to introduce a new challenge to the game until you have your dog driving back and forth between the reward stations happily.

Equipment

An item for your dog to go around (traffic cone, bucket, bin or container, laundry hamper – you can use anything that suits the purpose), two reinforcement stations, treats cut up into small pieces.

Reminder of the Keys to Vito's Game

- The trainer is emotionally unattached to any outcome.
- The trainer's only job is to observe and place rewards.
- No eye contact, motions, acknowledgements, markers, words, facial expressions are used by the trainer.
- Allow the dog to think and find their own success.

How to Play

Have a good foundation of Vito's Thinking Game. Your setup will be the same initially, but with an item for your dog to go around placed directly in front of you.

When your dog is going back and forth with the item in front, move the item out gradually. You can keep growing the distance away, or add in another item so there are two side by side, moving them gradually further apart. Once you have the foundations, play around with all the possibilities that come to mind.

When you end the active part of Vito's game, go to the relaxation part of the game.





Gradually move the item your dog is going around further away.



Finish with the relaxation component of the game.

Vito's Game Notes

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About Susan

A world-leading educator of dog trainers, Susan is also one of the most successful agility competitors of the last three decades, winning multiple Gold Medals at National or World Championship events over the past 30 years. Susan was one of the very first dog trainers to share knowledge online when she opened her "Clicker Dogs" website many years ago.

Susan has supported hundreds of thousands of people with enjoying a great relationship with their dogs through her workshops and keynote speaking around the world, award winning books, DVDs, magazine articles, interviews, blog posts, podcasts, free dog training and dog agility video series, and online dog training programs.



A natural teacher and an entertaining speaker, Susan is world renowned for her dog training knowledge and practical application of that knowledge. Her understanding of how to apply science-based learning principles to both competitive and family pet dog training has been pivotal in changing how dogs are trained.

Susan is now helping many thousands of dog owners in over 180 countries have the best relationship possible with their dogs. The real joy for her comes from bringing confidence to dogs and their owner through playful interactions and relationship building games that are grounded firmly in the science of how animals learn.



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182 COUNTRIES.



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AND COMMUNITY



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RECOGNIZED EXPERT
EDUCATORS FOR
OVER 25 YEARS



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