

**Owner's Guide** 

# Thank You for Purchasing Bigleash® VIBRATION TRAINER by DogWatch

At DogWatch®, "It's all about your dog.®" You can be assured that you have purchased one of the most technologically advanced pet training products available. Our extensive research and testing has resulted in products that are safe and effective for training your pet.

Your BigLeash V-10 Vibration Trainer offers Big Features:

- Exclusive "InTouch" two-way communication lets you know you are connected to your dog...even if he is out of sight.
- 10 levels of vibration provides professional dog trainers and pet owners with a *gentle training* option to help your pet learn.
- An audible signal to supplements the vibration training
- The Firefly® nightlight feature to helps you keep track of your dog in the dark.

To make sure that you get the most from your BigLeash Vibration Trainer, please follow the instructions outlined in this manual.

If you have any questions, please visit our website or call Customer Service: **1-800-793-3436 x622**, M-F, 9am to 5pm EST.

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DogWatch® offers a full range of pet containment and training solutions, including Outdoor Hidden Fences, Indoor Boundaries and Remote Trainers. Our Hidden Fence is rated a "Best Buy" by Consumers Digest.

# **Charging the Transmitter and Receiver Collar**

#### FULLY CHARGE THE TRANSMITTER AND THE RECEIVER BEFORE USING THE FIRST TIME.

- The batteries take approximately 3-4 hours to charge.
  - We recommend charging your transmitter and receiver when not in use. A protection circuit prevents overcharging.

#### **Battery Status Indicators**

Transmitter screen: Battery icon

 Charged battery: No battery icon.

Low battery: Battery icon comes on and flashes. Charging: Battery icon stays on in a steady state.

Charging complete: No battery icon.

When plugged-in: - The LCD screen backlight stays illuminated. - The transmitter and receiver will not turn on.

Battery Icon Icon = *low battery* No icon = charged

Receiver collar: Battery status light

 Charged battery: Light flashes green (unplugged, turned on.) Low battery: Light flashes red (unplugged, turned on.)

· Charging: Light turns steady red (plugged-in.)

• Charging complete: Light turns steady green (plugged in.)

Using a battery charger other than the one provided may damage your battery and may invalidate your Warranty.

# Connecting the transmitter and receiver to the charger



Lift the protective tab on the back of the receiver to insert the charger.



Lift the protective tab on the bottom of the transmitter to insert the charger.



Connect the 'Y' cord to the power adapter to charge the transmitter and receiver at the same time.

# **Turning the Transmitter and Receiver ON and OFF**

#### Both the transmitter and receiver must be turned on to operate.

To turn the transmitter and receiver **on** or **off**, hold the transmitter and receiver next to one another so the alignment markers (indicated below) on the transmitter **match the alignment markers** on the receiver.



The transmitter and receiver will not turn on while charging.

- When the transmitter and receiver collar turn on, you hear a low-to-hi "beep" tone and the LCD screen turns on.
- Follow the same procedure to turn off the receiver and the transmitter. You will hear a hi-to-low "beep" tone and the screen will turn off. Turning your system off when not in use will help preserve the battery life.

# **Receiver Features**

The BigLeash receiver provides a battery status light and the Firefly® nightlight to help you keep track of your dog at night.

Battery Status Light\*



ON/OFF Alignment Markers

Firefly Nightlight Strips

#### **Battery Status Light**

Blinks GREEN Turned on, charged
Blinks RED Turned on, low battery
Steady RED Plugged-in, charging
Steady GREEN Plugged-in, fully charged

**Turn "on" the receiver collar** by holding the Receiver and the Transmitter next to each other at the Alignment Markers (see page 3).

Battery Charging Port (under the protective tab)



Lift the protective tab to insert the charger. Replace the protective tab securely after charging.

#### **Firefly Nightlight**

- To activate the Firefly light strips, press the inabtlight button on the transmitter.
  - The Firefly nightlight may be used on both Collar 1 and Collar 2 at the same time, but each collar must be activated separately.
- Press the nightlight button briefly, the light strip blinks briefly.
- Press the nightlight button for 5 seconds, the light stays on and continues to blink. To turn "off", press the nightlight button again for 5 seconds until the light stops blinking.

The BigLeash receiver is waterproof for all-weather, year-round use.

# **Transmitter Features**

BigLeash® uses exclusive digital FM technology with In-Touch™ two-way communication between the transmitter and the receiver collar.



#### 1. Lanyard Loop

A lanyard is supplied with each transmitter.

## 2. Antenna/Range Information

Your BigLeash Vibration Trainer provides a 1/2 mile range in optimal conditions. Range will vary depending on environmental conditions such as terrain, weather, vegetation, buildings and other obstructions.

For best results, hold the transmitter with the antenna pointed up. Pointing the antenna at the dog will not increase the range or the signal strength.

#### 3. Vibration Levels

Use the ▲ and ▼ buttons to adjust the vibration level.

- Level 1 = Lowest vibration signal.
- Level 10 = Highest vibration signal.

Use the low levels if your dog is calm and responds readily to the vibration signal. Use higher levels if your dog is excited or does not respond to the lower levels.

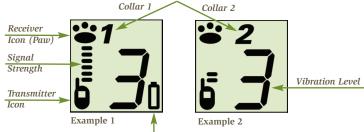
## Find the Appropriate Vibration Level

To begin training, start at Level 1. Send a vibration signal to your dog and pay close attention to see if there is a reaction such as a quick head shake, looking down, flick of an ear or something else to indicate he felt the vibration. Continue increasing the level until there is a reaction. We recommend using the lowest effective level and adjusting as needed.

# 4. LCD Display

#### ■ Collar 1/Collar 2 Icon

Indicates which collar is receiving the signal when working with 2 dogs.



Transmitter Low Battery Icon

#### Receiver Icon (Paw) Indicates that the receiver collar is 'on' and functioning properly.

Paw blinks if signal is lost (dog out of range or collar battery is depleted.)

#### **■** Transmitter Icon

Indicates that the **transmitter** is 'on' and functioning properly.

Transmitter icon blinks to indicate activation when any button is pushed.

# ■ Signal Strength

Indicated by the lines between the transmitter and the paw icons.

#### ■ Battery Icon

No icon = Charged Icon = Low Battery

#### Vibration Level

1 Lowest 10 Highest

**Example 1:** Strong signal, vibration level 3, collar 1, and low transmitter battery.

Example 2: Weak signal, vibration level 3, collar 2, and good battery.

A weak signal usually indicates the dog is moving out of range of the transmitter.

## 5. Collar 1 / Collar 2 Feature

Your transmitter comes set for use with one dog but can easily be programmed for two dogs.

- If you are working with two dogs, you will need two receiver collars. See page 16 for information about adding the second collar.
- The Collar 1 and Collar 2 buttons allow you to change commands between the two collars. The transmitter saves the settings for each collar. The settings change automatically when you switch from Collar 1 to Collar 2.
- The LCD screen indicates if the transmitter is set to Collar 1 or Collar 2.

## **6.** Training Buttons

## **Vibration Button ((V))**

Pressing the vibration button sends a **vibration signal** to the dog's receiver collar. The signal continues as long as you press the button.

#### Audible Button ■®

Pressing the audible button sends an **audible signal** to the dog's receiver collar. The signal continues as long as you press the button. The audible signal can be used as alternative or supplement to the vibration signal.

# Firefly Nightlight Button

Pressing the nightlight button turns the nightlight on and off.

- Press briefly for intermittent use
- Press for 5 seconds to keep the flashing light on. Press again for 5 seconds to turn it off.

# **BigLeash Vibration Training**

Vibration training allows you to use the **vibration signal** from the remote trainer as a stand-in for the traditional leash to accomplish your training objectives. The goal is to achieve **off-leash control** aided and reinforced by the remote trainer.

Training is accomplished by using the vibration signal to simulate the different pulling pressures usually associated with the leash during normal walking or training exercises. Initially, your dog will learn to respond to your voice command (or hand signal) in conjunction with a simultaneous leash tug and vibration signal. As your dog learns the commands and associates them with the vibration signal, you will be able to achieve the same results without the leash.

#### **Helpful Tips**

- Each step builds on the previous step, so make sure you and your dog have mastered the previous step before you move on.
- Whenever your dog responds correctly make sure to reward him with praise
- Depending on your dog's performance you may need to increase or decrease the level of vibration
- Always perform your training sessions in a place that is free of hazards that could put you or your dog in danger.

#### Consistency

As with all types of training, consistency is the key to learning.

#### **Timing**

Send the vibration signal at the exact time you give the command and tug the leash. When training without the leash, give the command and the vibration signal at the same time. This helps your dog learn to associate the vibration with the command.

# **Training Basics**

#### The 'Look' Command

The 'Look' Command is the foundation of BigLeash training. Your goal is to train your dog to respond to the vibration signal by directing his attention to you, even when he is not close enough to hear your verbal command. When you have his attention, you can then successfully deliver other commands.

## Step 1 - On Leash

- Attach a long leash to your dog's collar and allow him to wander freely around you to become accustomed to being on the long leash.
- To begin training, gently pull in the leash to create a slight tension in the leash and at the same time say "look," encouraging your dog to move towards you and make eye contact.
- As soon as your dog makes eye contact with you, release the pressure from the leash and praise your dog with a happy voice.
- Repeat this action in different locations with different distractions until your dog responds quickly to the command.
- Have your dog wear the BigLeash collar during this Step so that he becomes accustomed to the collar before you start using it.

## Step 2 - On Leash with Introduction to Vibration

- Turn on your BigLeash transmitter and receiver.
- With the long leash still connected to your dog's collar, place the BigLeash vibration collar on your dog. Put the collar around your dog's neck right behind the ears where it will provide the snuggest fit.
- Set your transmitter to the lowest level that gets a response from your dog. (See Page 6.)

- Pull gently on the leash to get your dog's attention. As soon as you begin to pull, give the "Look" command while pressing the ((V)) button.
- As soon as your dog makes eye contact release the ((V)) button and the
  pressure from the leash.
- Repeat this action in different locations with different distractions until your dog responds quickly and reliably to the vibration and your command.
- Reward with praise every time your dog responds correctly.

#### Step 3 - Off Leash with the BigLeash Remote Trainer

- Turn on your BigLeash and put the receiver collar on your dog's neck.
- Set your transmitter to the lowest level that gets a response from your dog.
- Without the leash, let your dog wander in a safe area and give the "Look" command at the same time you press and hold down the ((V)) button.
- As soon as your dog makes eye contact with you, release the ((V)) button, and follow with praise.
- Use the vibration signal in conjunction with your command to reinforce the training as needed or to get your dog's attention when he is too far away to hear your command.

#### **Learning Other Commands**

As your dog's performance level improves with the "Look" command, you and your dog are now ready to move on to other commands such as "Sit", "Heel", "Come" and "Down". With each new command, you and your dog must go through the three training steps. Your goal is to achieve a consistent and quick response to your verbal command, reinforced, when needed, by use of the vibration signal in conjunction with the verbal command.

# **Troubleshooting**

#### The Remote Trainer Does Not Seem To Be Working

- Check to make sure the batteries in both the transmitter and the receiver are charged.
- Check to see that both the transmitter and receiver are turned "on".
   Note: The transmitter and receiver will not turn on when charging.
- If fully charged but not turning on, press the ((V)) button on the transmitter
  and check the LCD screen. If the transmitter icon displays, follow the
  reprogramming instructions on page 16. If the icon does not display, or if
  reprogramming does not work, please call Customer Service.

#### **Dog Does Not Seem To Respond**

- Check to see that the collar is snug enough for your dog to feel the vibration.
- Check the vibration. If it is on a low setting, try increasing the vibration level.
- If your transmitter is programmed for use with 2 dogs, check to see that your transmitter is set to the correct collar.

#### The Transmitter Range Is Reduced

- The range may be affected by variations in terrain, weather, buildings and other obstructions.
- For best operation hold the transmitter with the antenna pointed toward the sky, not towards the dog.
- Keep your fingers away from the antenna. Touching the antenna will greatly reduce the range.

#### The Battery Does Not Seem To Charge

- Be sure the charging plugs are fully and securely inserted.
- Make sure you are using the battery charger provided with the trainer.
- If the battery does not hold a charge as long as it used to, it may be time to replace the battery.

For battery questions or replacement, please contact Customer Service:
(800) 793-3436 x622 M-F, 9am-5pm EST
- or - Email: bigleash@dogwatch.com

#### No Communication Link

- The link can usually be restored by turning the system off and then turning it on again or by plugging-in the transmitter and receiver to charge.
- Sometimes the transmitter and receiver must be reprogrammed to recognize each other. See page 16.

#### **Cold Weather Performance**

- All batteries experience a drop in voltage during and may run down more quickly in cold weather.
- For best results in the cold months, charge and store your remote trainer at room temperature.

For other Troubleshooting questions, please visit the website -or-contact Customer Service. (800) 793-3436 x622, M-F 9am-5pm EST.

# **Warranty & Service**

- Register your warranty information online at either: www.dogwatch.com -or- www.bigleash.com.
- Completed warranty information must be submitted online within 30 days of purchase or all repairs will be subject to applicable labor fees.
- If warranty information is not on file, a proof of purchase is required.

#### WARRANTY

DogWatch Inc. (the Company), subject to the terms and conditions set forth hereunder, hereby warrants that it will repair or replace at it's own discretion, without charge for parts or labor, the product or any part thereof (other than batteries) which is found to be defective by reason of improper workmanship and/or materials for the warranty period of one (1) year from the original date of purchase. Warranty claims may be subject to dealer service charges and/or manufacturers shipping and handling charges. Except for the express warranty stated above, the Company disclaims all express and implied warranties or merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

As a condition of this warranty, Customer must:

- (a) complete warranty registration online within 30 days after purchase,
- **(b)** notify the Company of a claimed defect within the warranty period after the purchase, and **(c)** mail product back, insurance and postage prepaid, to: DogWatch Inc. at 10 Michigan Drive, Natick, MA 01760.

The Company's sole responsibility under this warranty will be to repair or replace, at its option, the product or part which DogWatch Inc. determines to be defective. In no event will the Company be liable for any special, indirect, or consequential damages arising out of the purchase or use of the product. In no event shall the Company's liability exceed the purchase price of the product.

## **Warranty Procedures and Guidelines**

- DogWatch Inc. provides a one (1) year limited warranty from the date of purchase on both parts and labor for the transmitter, receiver and battery charger.
- Warranty does not cover repairs or replacement due to misuse by the owner or dog, improper maintenance or lost units.
- The transmitters are "water resistant," not "water-proof," and are not covered under warranty for water-related damage or malfunction.
- The warranty is void if the unit has been altered or an unauthorized person has attempted repair work.
- Warranty is non-transferrable.

# **Procedure for Repair Work**

- All warranty work must be completed at DogWatch Inc. Return shipping to DogWatch Inc. is the owners' responsibility.
- IMPORTANT! Both the transmitter and the receiver must be returned when a repair is requested.
- If the repair is covered under warranty, the cost for shipping the product back to the customer (ground service) is covered by DogWatch Inc. Expedited shipping service is at the owner's expense. If the repair is not covered under warranty, all shipping costs are the owner's responsibility.
- Credit card information is required prior to service work beginning.
- When returning a unit for repair, include a description of the problem with your name, address, daytime phone number and email address. Service request forms are available at www.dogwatch.com or www.bigleash.com.

# **Programming the Receiver Collar**

## **Adding a Second Collar**

Your transmitter is pre-set for use with one dog but can easily be programmed for use with two dogs. Collar 2 has a red collar strap and has a small "Dog 2" sticker on the back so that you can differentiate Collar 1 from Collar 2.

- 1. Before adding Collar 2 to the transmitter, charge it for at least 3 hours.
- Make sure the transmitter and both the receivers (Collar 1 and Collar 2) are turned 'off'.
- 3. With the transmitter and the receivers turned "off", hold down the ((V)) button for 10 seconds until the screen on the transmitter turns 'on'.
- 4. Set the TRAINING LEVEL to '2'.
- Press and hold down the Collar 2 button while turning the new receiver 'on' by aligning the receiver next to the transmitter at the alignment markers.
- 6. Continue to hold the receiver next to the transmitter at the alignment markers while holding down the Collar 2 button.
- You will hear a series of beeps. When the series of beeps stops, move the receiver away from the transmitter.
- 8. The second receiver is now programmed to the Collar 2 setting.
- 9. Turn the transmitter and receiver "on" in the usual way to use.

## Re-Programming Collar 1 to the Transmitter

Follow the same steps as Adding a Second Collar, except:

- Set the training level to '1' (step 4).
- Hold down the ((V)) button instead of Collar 2 button (step 5).

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by DogWatch, Inc., could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures:

- - Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna. - Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- -- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- - Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

This device complies with Industry Canada regulations.

Under Industry Canada regulations, this radio transmitter may only operate using an antenna of a type and maximum (or lesser) gain approved for the transmitter by Industry Canada. To reduce potential radio interference to other users, the antenna type and its gain should be so chosen that the equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) is not more than that necessary for successful communication.

This device complies with Industry Canada licence-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Conformément à la réglementation d'Industrie Canada, le présent émetteur radio peut fonctionner avec une antenne d'un type et d'un gain maximal (ou inférieur) approuvé pour l'émetteur par Industrie Canada. Dans le but de réduire les risques de brouillage radioélectrique à l'intention des autres utilisateurs, il faut choisir le type d'antenne et son gain de sorte que la puissance isotrope rayonnée équivalente (p.i.r.e.) ne dépasse pas l'intensité nécessaire à l'établissement d'une communication satisfaisante.

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes : (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.

For RF exposure - This portable equipment complies with FCC and Industry Canada RF radiation exposure limits set forth for an uncontrolled environment. To maintain compliance, it must not be co-located or operated in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.

# Bring out the best in your dog.®



## www.dogwatchtrainingproducts.com

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