

## WHAT THE CLICK ISN'T:

Common misuses of the clicker that can weaken the effectiveness of the training

*Clicker training is spreading worldwide as people discover and practice it, learning from each other and from teaching aids like this book.*

Nevertheless it is new to many people who participate in dog shows. The very concept of a training system based on science can seem unnatural in a world so deeply rooted in tradition. Some handlers and breeders may resent new methods and say so. Some may pick up the clicker but have no clear idea of its purpose, and therefore get mixed or poor results. Some might jump to false conclusions about what the clicker does or doesn't do, and then pass on their misconceptions to others. Here are some common misconceptions about the clicker and its uses, together with suggestions for more effective alternatives.

### **The clicker is not a way to get your dog's attention.**

If you use it like some sort of squeaky toy, to capture the dog's interest, it will lose its virtues as an information system and quickly become just one more silly noise to be ignored.