

RALLY O - HINTS & TIPS

Station 26. Call Front - 1, 2 and 3 Steps Backward



Station Description

While heeling, the handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to the front position (**dog sits in front** and faces the handler). The handler may take several steps backward as the dog turns and moves to a sit in the front position. With the dog in the front position, the **handler takes one step backward and halts. The dog moves with the handler and sits** in the front position as the handler halts. This is followed by the **handler taking two steps backward and a halt, and three steps backward and a halt. Each time, the dog moves with the handler to the front position and sits as the handler halts.** The handler then commands and/or signals the dog to resume heel position. When returning to the heel position, the dog does not sit before the handler moves forward.
(Stationary exercise)

This station seems to be causing some confusion.

Here are some tips to help you get it right.

- There are 6 steps backwards in total - not 1, then another 1, then another 1
- Take one step back and to halt, bring the other foot up so that your feet end up together. Then the 2 steps back (halt & feet together), then 3 steps back (halt & feet together).
- Some people are missing the first (single) step back. The one step is not part of the call front (ie getting the dog to sit in front). After the dog sits, then the 1, 2, 3 steps begin.
- You can finish your dog either left or right - in this exercise the finish isn't specified
- Make sure your dog moves with you – it isn't step back and then call the dog up
- Take distinct steps – little shuffles might make it difficult for the judge to count steps.
- If you have balance issues, make the most of each halt to steady yourself. There is no need to rush.

Hopefully this will help sort out the mix ups!