

## **Getting the Most Out of Your New KONG Wobbler**

The **KONG Wobbler** is our latest treat dispensing and feeding toy for Dogs. The KONG-shaped Wobbler sits upright until pushed by your dog's paw or nose, then dispenses treats as it wobbles, spins and rolls. The unpredictable movement keeps the toy challenging, even for seasoned Wobbler users. The Wobbler is a fabulous toy for playtime, providing challenge and physical activity for your dog. The whole family will enjoy watching the Wobbler in action.

### ***Introducing the Wobbler to Your Dog***

To start treat dispensing, or mealtime feeding, unscrew the Wobbler and fill with food or treats. In the beginning, make sure your dog observes you filling the Wobbler with food. ***Screw top on tightly.*** Demonstrate the use of the toy to your dog – make it a big event. Let her sniff the Wobbler opening. Push it, wobble it and roll it - until some of the food or treats are released. Get excited about the toy - your dog will too! Most dogs will quickly learn to use their nose or paws to move the Wobbler and release the treats. Praise your dog each time a treat is released. Your praise and the treat reward will encourage continued involvement. It also, helps to introduce the Wobbler when your dog is hungry, and thus more motivated to get the treats.

Often, one demonstration is all that's needed in order for your dog to catch on. Repeat the process several times if necessary. It's recommended that you start with a number of high-value, small treats for maximum canine motivation and easy dispensing. This method ensures a rapid training period. As your dog gets more adept using the Wobbler, you can increase the challenge by reducing the number of treats inside, using larger treats and/or a combination of large and small treats. However, always make sure the treats are not too big to fit through the dispensing hole.

Always carefully supervise use of any new toy. Although the Wobbler has been tested and manufactured to the highest standards - No dog toy is indestructible. The large Wobbler is designed **for dogs over 25 LBS**, the small Wobbler for dogs **25LBS and under**.

### ***Wobbler Mealtime Instructions***

The KONG Wobbler is an excellent alternative to traditional bowl feeding, extending the joy of mealtime and preventing unhealthy gulping. Using the same basic instructions as above, fill the Wobbler with up to 2 cups of dog food and then ***screw the top on tightly***. Refill as needed. Use the same daily amount of dog food as instructed on your dog food bag.

### ***Wobbler Tips***

Although the Wobbler is not intended to be used as a chew toy, it proved itself quite durable in KONG's tests. However, the Wobbler is not designed to withstand periods of concentrated chewing. We realize some dogs will chew the smaller diameter top or dispenser hole from time to time. Since it's never too late to teach any dog new tricks, this may be a great opportunity to train proper chewing behaviors.

We (dog owners) know dogs need proper guidance in determining what is appropriate to chew and what is not. If these lessons are not taught, a dog's chewing habits can prove costly (sofas, shoes, plants, etc.). Appropriate chewing behaviors should also be taught for dog toys, some are intended for concentrated chewing and others are not. Although there are many training approaches, KONG recommends the following basic approach for training a dog to use the Wobbler or other treat/food dispensing toys as intended.

***Discourage chewing of Wobbler.*** Depending on your dog's temperament a gentle "No, No" maybe enough, other dogs may need a firmer "NO, NO". If verbal discouragement does not work, remove the Wobbler from your dog and try Wobbler again later (1 – 3 minutes). Every time chewing starts, verbally discourage and remove Wobbler again. Eventually most dogs will learn the reward is in the dispensing of food and not in the chewing of the toy.

*Remove Wobbler once the toy has been emptied of food and treats. This*

*will prevent unsupervised chewing and make the Wobbler playtime or mealtime special. Always supervise use of any new toy. Although the Wobbler has been tested and manufactured to the highest standards - No dog toy is indestructible.*

### **Wobbler Construction**

The plastic used is a non-toxic, food grade, FDA approved polypropylene. It was chosen for its overall strength, impact absorption (including chewing impact), sound deadening and non-toxicity. KONG wanted the surface of the Wobbler to be forgiving to protect a dog's teeth from fracturing, as we and our consulting veterinarians have seen happen with competing toys made of harder plastics such as ABS or HDPE.

Although no toy is indestructible we have had great success and lasting durability throughout our product testing (over 200 dogs). Surface pitting, cuts and scratches are therefore inevitable, when utilizing what we consider to be a safer "forgiving" material, especially for dental health. This normal wear and tear can be controlled by discouraging excessive chewing of the treat dispenser.

### **Frequently asked questions about KONG Wobbler**

#### **Q) Is the Wobbler a treat dispenser or a feeder?**

A) It's both. It can be used to dispense a single treat, a handful of treats, or a complete meal.

#### **Q) Is there a smaller size?**

A) Yes, the small Wobbler is suitable for dogs under 25 LBS.

#### **Q) What food or treats should I use?**

A) Use any dry dog food kibble or dog treats small enough to fit through the

KONG-shaped dispensing hole. When dispensing treats, be aware of the

fact you are giving your dog extra calories and therefore should

reduce

the amount of mealtime food to avoid obesity.

**Q) What KONG treats work with the Wobbler?**

A) KONG Snacks are recommended. Small KONG snacks are the perfect size to challenge your dog. For less challenge, break the small snack in two or three pieces. Large KONG snacks and KONG IQ Treats also work well in the Wobbler, but must be broken into smaller pieces first.

**Q) My dog eats canned food. Can I still use the Wobbler as a feeder?**

A) Only dry or pre-packaged “semi- moist” food is recommended for the Wobbler.

**Q) My dog treats are too big to fit in the Wobbler? Do I have to buy different treats?**

A) Probably not. Most treats can be broken into smaller pieces for use with the Wobbler.

**Q) Can you adjust the level of difficulty?**

A) Yes, by varying the size of treats used in the Wobbler. The larger the treats, the more difficult the release. **Important:** make sure the larger treats fit through the KONG-shaped dispensing hole. Mealtime feeding difficulty can also be adjusted by adding a few larger treats to the kibble.

**Q) Can I feed my dog an entire meal in the Wobbler?**

A) Yes. The large Wobbler holds up to two cups of food. The small Wobbler holds up to 1 cup.

**Q) Do I have to put each piece of food through the tiny dispensing hole?**

A) No. One of the great things about the Wobbler is its “easy fill” design.

Simply twist the Wobbler to open and fill with food or treats, then twist close and it's ready for your dog.

**Q) Is the Wobbler only for adult dogs?**

**A)** No. The Wobbler is a great way to release pent up energy for all dogs, puppies and other animals. As with any toy, close supervision is required for this interactive toy.

**Q) My dog is 120 pounds. Is the Wobbler too small for him?**

**A)** Probably not. Even very large dogs have fun pawing and rolling the Wobbler around. However, very big dogs may be able to pick the Wobbler up in their mouth and chew it. If your dog exhibits that behavior, tell them "no" immediately and hopefully they'll learn the appropriate way to play with the toy. If the dog continues to pick up and chew the Wobbler rather than play with it as intended, the toy should be removed.

**Q) What do I do if I have more than one dog?**

**A)** To avoid disturbances, each dog should have its own Wobbler. Or you can separate the dogs, giving each dog a turn. Make sure the Wobbler is appropriately sized for both dogs

**Q) I have two dogs. Can they both play with the Wobbler at the same time?**

**A)** Maybe. However, most dogs get very focused when playing with the Wobbler and even dogs that generally get along may fight over a treat that tumbles out. It's recommended that one dog at a time be allowed to play with the Wobbler.

**Q) My dog just ignores the Wobbler. Now what?**

A) Most dogs really enjoy the Wobbler once they get the knack of it. Make sure that you are using highly palatable treats—KONG IQ Treats are usually ideal for attracting interest. Also make sure that the treats are broken into small pieces so that they fall out of the hole easily. And it's best to put quite a few treats in at first which increases the chance food will fall out with each tip. If you've followed these instructions and demonstrated the toy to the dog, with no success, then put the Wobbler away and repeat just prior to meal time, when the dog is particularly hungry.

**Q) What happens if my dog chews the Wobbler?**

A) The Wobbler is not a chew toy. The Wobbler is designed to be chew-resistant and is large enough that most dogs cannot get their mouth around it to effectively chew. However, very big dogs or tenacious chewers may try to chew the top or dispenser hole. Immediately discourage this behavior verbally and remove the Wobbler and then re-offer the Wobbler later (1 – 3 minutes). Every time chewing starts, verbally discourage and remove the Wobbler. Eventually, most dogs will learn the reward is in the dispensing of food and not in the chewing of the toy. Minor teeth marks in the Wobbler are normal, but if the Wobbler is punctured or pieces look like they may come off, remove the toy from the dog.

**Q) Can I use Wobbler outdoors?**

A) Yes. The Wobbler can be used outdoors in open areas free from obstacles that could pose a danger to your dog. Remove Wobbler after all treats have dispensed.

**Q) Can I use the Wobbler to entertain my dog while I'm away?**

A) It's recommended that the Wobbler, like all KONG toys, only be used with supervision. If you do decide to leave your dog alone with the Wobbler, make sure to supervise weeks of Wobbler play sessions first until you can be confident that the dog will not damage the toy. Always screw Wobbler top on tight

**Q) Any special cautions with the Wobbler?**

A) Yes, as the Wobbler is heavy, it can become a hazard if it falls from a height. Do not let dogs play with it at the top of stairs, or store in a shelf where it may fall on someone, etc. Also, most dogs get very focused when playing with the Wobbler and even dogs that generally get along may fight over a treat that tumbles out. It's recommended that one dog at a time be allowed to play with the Wobbler.

**Q) How do I clean the Wobbler?**

A) Clean with soapy warm water and rinse – or – the Wobbler is top-drawer dishwasher safe. Twist the Wobbler open and place both sections open side down in the dishwasher.

**Q) Where is the Wobbler made? What is it made of?**

A) The Wobbler is made in the USA with an FDA, food-approved, high-strength polymer and is PBA and Phthalate-free.

**Q) What is inside the Wobbler to weigh it down?**

A) The Wobbler uses "play grade" sand for weight. This is the same sand that is sold for children's playgrounds and sand boxes.

**Q) Doesn't the sand get mixed in with the food?**

A) No. The sand remains in a compartment that has been permanently

sealed using ultrasonic technology.

**Q) Are there any health benefits for dogs that use the Wobbler?**

A) Yes. Aside from the obvious benefit of mental stimulation and physical exercise, the Wobbler is ideal for feeding dogs that need to lose weight,

because it slows and extends mealtime. The Wobbler also helps prevent

dogs from wolfing down their food, which can cause a host of issues including overeating, gastric distress, vomiting, aspiration or even bloat.

While using the Wobbler does not guarantee these maladies can be prevented, it may prove helpful.

**Q) What colors do Wobblers come in?**

A) The Wobbler is only available in red.