



When you need to be heard

How to use a Logan Whistle

Find our short You Tube video with this link <https://youtu.be/4zVmEnKw0oM>

How the whistle works

- The whistle is designed to sit in the mouth against (not on) the tongue, with sound created by air flowing through the top and bottom holes and out the slot at the front. The key is to get it positioned correctly in your mouth so you can create the air flow needed to generate the noise.

Position it correctly against the tongue

- Hold the whistle by its tab and place it in the mouth with the closed edge against the tongue. Do not put the whistle on a flat tongue, it will stop the air flowing around it
- Ensure the whistle is pushed firmly against the tongue to seal the back edge and then hold it in a position that allows air to get into the holes at the top and bottom of it. Some people push it against the tip of their tongue, others a little further back with the tongue sloping downwards.

Use your lips to seal the outside edges

- Then use the tongue to push the whistle forward and backward in the mouth until you find a comfortable way for your lips to hold it and to seal the top and bottom edges to allow the air to flow out only through the slot.
- Do not have the holes outside the mouth or cover the slot or holes with your lips. Remember it is the air flowing through both holes and out the slot at the front that creates the noise.
- If it helps, turn the whistle around so the long side is on top. You may find it is easier to blow with the longer side at the top and the shorter side at the bottom, but just see which works best for you.

Breathe through it, don't blow at it

- Breathing through the whistle is quite a natural action and some would say the best advice is just to relax! Don't try so hard or fill your cheeks with air. Instead, breathing from your chest, make a 'schew' sound blowing air through the top and bottom holes and out from the slot formed by the top and bottom of the whistle.
- Aim to send the air through the top and bottom holes, as it will then be forced to escape as sound from the slot at the front. Lifting and lowering your tongue on the back of the whistle will vary the direction of the air.
- The whistle requires practice, but most new users can produce controlled sounds relatively quickly. Start off by getting your first whistle sound. Then, taking the whistle out each time and trying again, progress towards a louder more consistent sound.

Whistle Sounds

The use of the in-mouth sheepdog whistle requires some practice, but most new users can produce controlled sounds quite quickly. Start off by getting your first 'squeaks'. Then, taking the whistle out each time and trying again, progress towards a louder more consistent sound. Before using the whistle with your dog it is recommended that one or more consistent commands can be produced so as to avoid confusing your dog.

The dog must also understand what you mean by each whistle command - Use the whistle command first then the voice command that whistle tone replaces. After a while the dog will respond to the whistle tone alone.

Begin by teaching the dog your most important command - e.g. a whistle tone that you want the dog to associate with coming back to you. Make sure you use a consistent tone for this command so practice with the whistle out of the dog's hearing until you can produce a clear consistent command. Teaching your dog a command for 'Stop' (usually a single long tone) and 'Come Back' would be our suggestion of the first whistle commands to teach your dog.

Common mistakes to avoid:

- **whistle is not sealed against your tongue** so air is escaping around it - it is the tension of pushing the whistle against your tongue while also pushing your tongue against the whistle that creates that seal
- **whistle flat on tongue** - that blocks the air going through the whistle. Tilt the whistle up or move your tongue down so the whistle has space around it
- **whistle not far enough into the mouth** - so holes are outside the mouth or lips are over the holes. Use your tongue as a lever to move the whistle backwards and forwards in the mouth so the lips just rest around the top and bottom edge. Try turning the whistle around - long side on top - and see if that helps



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whistle too far in mouth so lips are right over the slot at the front - no way for air to come out. Use your tongue to move the whistle forward so the lips rest on the top and bottom edge, creating a seal so air can only escape from the slot at the front.

Many Other Uses for your whistle:

These whistles have been designed to perform through background noise, wind, rain & fog and over distances of up to 2 miles. A shepherd may be working many dogs at the same time, each has a wide variety of commands and each dog works to their own set of commands. So these whistles are extremely versatile. They are relied on completely by farmers the world over to communicate with their dogs and so farm land that could not otherwise be used productively. The special qualities that have made them so effective for working dogs also make them ideal for a whole variety of other uses. They are also so much more hygienic than using your fingers ! Here are just a few ways they are being used today:

- ▲ as a dog whistle for other activities and working dog breeds -search and rescue dogs; gun dogs
 - ▲ as a way to communicate with and a life insurance for all dogs breeds - avoiding the need to shout at your dog and helping your dog find you when they might otherwise be lost
 - ▲ as a personal safety whistle - when hiking so you can make yourself heard; or in urban areas to ward off unwelcome attention &/or attract help
 - ▲ as a sports whistle - try the Turbo or Logan 304 on a racing yacht
 - ▲ cycling - used by cycling teams to communicate messages between riders while training in the peloton.
 - ▲ to find each other or show your appreciation - anywhere there's a crowd...festival, concert, sport....
 - ▲ calling up Dolphins and Whales !
 - ▲ to call up taxis in New York!
- Tell us how you use yours!**

Logan Whistle Command Sounds - How To Build Your Own Set Of Whistle Commands

by Joanne McHardy - with contributions from Julie Hill, Nij Vyas and Susan Venney

Logan Whistles have been used by shepherds for decades to communicate complex and nuanced instructions to their dogs. They have a 'voice' that all dogs respond particularly well to - soft notes for close work and sharp tones that can carry over extreme distances - which also makes them ideal for all kinds of outdoor activities.

In this guide **we decode the shepherds' whistle language** by breaking it down into **five basic sounds** - the building blocks we have identified as the basis for all whistle commands.

You will find **recorded sound clips and visual illustrations** of these five basic whistle sounds to help you perfect these basic whistle tones. You can then listen to **the personal whistle command sets of successful sheepdog handlers** to hear and learn **how to create a 'set' of whistle sounds that work together** - giving you the information and sounds you need to build up your very own 'whistle language'.

You will also find help and advice on

- ▲ how to use your Logan Whistle
- ▲ how to train a dog on whistle commands
- ▲ the relevance of frequency, pitch, tone and timbre for whistle commands
- ▲ sound clips and visual guidance on building a 'set' of commands
- ▲ how to work two or more dogs together using the same whistle
- ▲ advice on selecting a Logan Whistle for your own needs

-See more at: <https://www.thebordercollie.co.uk/logan-whistle-command-sounds>

Looking After your Logan Whistle

You can keep your Logan Whistle clean with a regular wash in soapy water, rinse and then a final dry off with a clean cloth. We use a soft polish cloth to slide up the slot and dry the inside of the whistle.

Brass whistles tarnish naturally over time with exposure to moisture (it reacts with the copper content in the brass alloy, there is no lead in our brass) so if you want to keep them gleaming, then they polish up beautifully with any widely available brass polish followed by the usual soapy wash, rinse & dry routine.

Stainless steel does not tarnish but the stainless steel whistles also come up really nicely when given the occasional polish in addition to a regular wash.

Silver whistles can be cleaned using polish designed for silver cutlery and then washed, dried and polished as for all other whistles.