



## ***d-control 430***

*Electronic training collar –  
set with two receivers  
for training a single dog*

***User's Guide***

**D**  **G** <sup>TM</sup>  
T R A C E

Thank you for purchasing the product

## **DOGtrace™ d-control**

from VNT electronics s.r.o., Czech Republic.

We would like to ask you for reading this manual carefully before using the unit and keeping it for future use.

### **EC Declaration of Conformity Guideline R&TTE 1999/5/CE**

The manufacturer: **VNT electronics s.r.o.** declares that the below mentioned product:

**Electronic training collar DOGtrace™ d-control**

complies to all Europe Council Guidelines, Under No. 1999/5/CE of 7. 4. 1999 and corresponds to the following standards:

**ETSI EN 300 220**

# **CE**

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#### **WARNING:**

Persons with a personal heart activity support device (pacemaker, defibrillator) must respect the relevant precautionary measures. The d-control transmitter emits a certain stationary magnetic field (lower part of the remote controller and RF signals).

Frequency = 869.525 MHz, maximum transmitted performance = 25 mW.

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## *Introduction*

Do you need to have your dog under control all the time? Do you want to train and breed it easily, quickly, precisely, and efficiently? Electronic training system **DOGtrace™ d-control** consisting of transmitter and collar will help you train your dog with efficiency incomparable to other methods. The transmitter (similar to a TV remote controller) enables giving orders at long distance. There are three sorts of commands. These are a warning sound signal, vibration, short alert electronic impulse and a set of electronic impulses. It is possible to adjust the intensity of electronic pulses in a simple way. Electronic systems of the transmitter and collar use state-of-the-art technology based on single-chip microprocessors and wireless communications. Thanks to the ergonomic design and low weight of the collar, it is possible to use it also for small dog races.

## *Delivery contents*

- 2 collars /receivers/ including straps
- 12 mm and 17 mm electrodes
- 3 pcs of CR2 3V lithium batteries
- Neon discharge lamp
- Remote controller /transmitter/ with a fastener
- String for hanging the transmitter around neck
- User's guide and service instructions
- Case

## *Optional accessories*

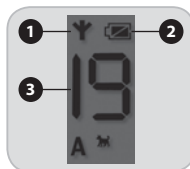
- Dummy collars
- Woven straps in various colours
- Spare electrodes
- Spare batteries
- Spare seals
- Spare screws

## Product description

### REMOTE CONTROLLER



### COLLAR WITH THE STRAP



### LCD PANEL DESCRIPTION

**REMOTE CONTROLLER** ● 1 – Illuminated LCD display, 2 – Booster button, 3 – Correction impulse button, 4 – Sound signal button, 5 – Switch on/off button, 6 – Correction impulse level buttons, 7 – Vibration button, 8 – Light button.

**COLLAR WITH THE STRAP** ● 1 – Target, 2 – Indicators, 3 – Electrodes, 4 – Strap.

**LCD PANEL DESCRIPTION** ● 1 – Transmission indication, 2 – Battery status indicator, 3 – Correction impulse level indicator.

## Battery installation and replacement

### INSTALLATION (REPLACEMENT) OF THE BATTERY IN THE RECEIVER (COLLAR)

- Remove 4 screws of the receiver housing cover plate with a cross-head screwdriver. Install the 3V lithium CR2 battery. Mind the correct polarity indicated on the receiver PCB with “+” symbol in the battery compartment (see photo).
- A beep indicating correct installation of battery will sound.
- If you do not hear the beep after installation of the battery, remove it immediately. Check the polarity and try again.
- Before putting the plate cover to its place make sure that the rubber seal is correctly seated in its slot. Tighten the 4 screws on the cover plate of the receiver.

### Checking the battery status

Look at the indicator on the front panel of the receiver (collar) to check the battery:

- The battery is fully charged: The LED indicator in on-state blinks slowly in green.
- The battery is weak: The LED indicator in on-state blinks in red.

Prepare a spare 3V lithium battery CR2 and follow the section describing the battery installation.

Make sure that the receiver works correctly.



Battery polarity indicator

## INSTALLATION (REPLACEMENT) OF THE BATTERY IN THE REMOTE CONTROLLER

- Remove the screw on the back side of the remote controller and lift off carefully the cover of the controller. Watch out, it is connected to the keypad by a wire. Install a new button cell (3V lithium CR 2450 type) and mind the correct polarity (see the photo). The “+” symbol on the cell must be up after installation, i.e. visible.
- Replace the cover of the box and tighten the screw adequately.

### Checking the battery status

Look at the LCD display to check the battery status:

- Fully charged battery: in on state full battery symbol is displayed on the LCD.
- Weak battery: in on state only outline of the battery status symbol is displayed.  
Remove the 3V CR2 battery according to the instructions above.

Make sure that the remote controller works correctly.

#### **FURTHER ADVICE:**

You can remove the batteries more easily if you use a small screwdriver and insert it carefully under the edge of the battery (from the opposite side than the LCD).

#### **IMPORTANT:**



Switch off remote controller before battery removal!!!



Battery compartment

## Turning ON/OFF

### TURNING THE REMOTE CONTROLLER ON/OFF

- **Turning on:** Press down the  **On/Off** button on the remote controller for 1 second. Turning on is indicated by lighting up of the LCD display.
- **Switching off:** Again, press down the  **On/Off** button for 1 second. Turning off is indicated by going out of the LCD display.

### TURNING THE RECEIVER (COLLAR) ON/OFF

A magnetic switching system located in the remote controller is used to turn the receiver (collar) on and off.

- **Turning on:** Place the lower part of the remote controller for 1 second to the target on the receiver (refer to the Fig.). The receiver indicator will start blinking in green and this indicates that the receiver is ready for use.
- **Turning off:** Again, place the lower part of the remote controller for 1 second to the target on the receiver (see the Fig.). The LED indicator of the receiver will be lit red. The receiver is turned off.

To extend the battery life time, it is necessary to turn off the receiver always after training is finished. If you do not use the receiver for a longer period of time, we recommend you to remove the battery from the receiver.




*The situation when the receiver is turned on/off and the transmitter is being matched with the receiver*



## *Programming (matching) of the remote controller and the receiver*

Every remote controller has its own RF operational code. Programming of the remote controller with the receiver (collar) will be accomplished during the first use of the **DOGtrace™ d-control** set or with a new remote controller or a receiver (when one or the other is lost). This operation will enable you to match your remote controller to the delivered receiver (collar).

**IMPORTANT:** Before programming is started (before the first use of your receiver or code rewriting) make sure that no one else uses his/her d-control or another product made by DOGtrace™ in your neighbourhood – your receiver could randomly receive the code from the other remote controller and set itself to it. If this happens, program your receiver once again using your remote controller.

- Turn on your transmitter.
- Touch the lower part of your remote controller to the target on your receiver (see the photo on page 8). The green LED will be permanently lit and after some 3 seconds, it will switch to the programming mode, indicated by permanent flashing of the both red and green LED diode.
- When the diodes go out, take your transmitter away and press down the sound signal  button on your remote controller. The codes will be matched in this step and your receiver will produce a sound signal.
- Proceed in the same way when programming the second receiver.

## REPROGRAMMING OF YOUR RECEIVER

The receiver can be programmed repeatedly without restraint either using the same remote controller or with another (see the section Programming (matching) of your remote controller and receiver).

**ADVICE:** It is possible to program an unlimited number of receivers to one transmitter, which is possible to use for training of several dogs.

### *How to use the remote controller*

The **DOGtrace™ d-control** remoter controller is designed for cooperation with two separate receivers independent of each other.

#### **Button** – **sound signal**




When you press down the sound signal button, you will be able to send the sound signal to your receiver at a long distance. There is no time limit for this function: The buzzer will sound for as long as you are holding the pressed down button and the green LED on your receiver will be permanently lit. It will be indicated by the transmission symbol on the LCD display of your remote controller.

#### **Button** – **correction impulse**

By pressing down this button, you send your dog a warning in the form of an electronic pulse transmitted by the two electrodes located in the receiving collar for a defined period of time, which is shorter than one second (regardless of how long you are pressing down the button). However, the impulse time is limited to a maximum of 8 seconds. The red LED on your receiver is lit. It will be indicated by the transmission symbol on the LCD display of your remote controller.

### Button – booster

By pressing this button, you will send your dog a warning in the form of electronic impulses transmitted by two electrodes placed on the receiver (collar). The impulses will be given as long as you keep the button pressed, however, no longer than 8 seconds. A red LED diode will be lit on the receiver permanently. A transmission symbol together with the set correction impulse level will be displayed on the display on the remote controller (transmitter). Programming of the Booster impulse

level is done using the setting buttons  . You set the “0” value and hold the down arrow for a few seconds until the “0” symbol starts blinking. Then you set the required value using the up arrow and confirm by pressing the  On/Off button shortly.

### Button – vibration

By pressing this button, you will send a warning to your dog in the form of vibration. The collar will vibrate as long as you hold the button pressed. A red LED diode will be lighted permanently on the receiver. It will be indicated by the transmission symbol on the LCD display of your remote controller.

### Button – lighting the collar

A red LED diode inbuilt in the collar emits very intensive flashes which are stronger than by common light collars. Your dog can be easily located even in absolute darkness! Flashing lasts as long as you hold the light button pressed.

### Control buttons

These buttons are used for quick selection of intensity of impulses from the receiving collar. It is possible to set 20 levels, indicated by numbers 0–19 on the LCD display. When the preset correction impulse level is changed, the LCD will be lit for 3 seconds. Level 0: weakest impulse. Level 19: the strongest impulse.

## *How to check that your DOGtrace™ d-control works correctly*

You can check anytime whether your set works correctly. Before checking, make sure that the receiving collar is turned off.

- Connect the leads of the testing discharge lamp to both electrodes (loosen up the electrodes, insert the wires of the lamp under them so that they can be firmly held and then retighten the electrodes).
- Turn on your remote controller and receiver.
- Press down the button for sending a correction pulse. The testing discharge lamp will indicate the receipt of the signal by a blink. The alteration of the intensity of the pulses according to options 0 to 19 will be indicated by a weaker or stronger light of the lamp.
- At this moment, the correction pulse is only indicated by the light of the lamp, i.e. the electrodes do not emit any correction pulses.



*Test discharge lamp connection*

## For the best results

Training orders you send to your dog are transmitted from the transmitting unit to the collar equipped with the receiver on radio waves. The propagation of radio waves is influenced by a series of factors and under normal conditions the range of this unit is about 200 m (depending on geographic conditions and surroundings).

### **If you want to get the best results with your unit, adhere to the following instructions:**


- To reach the best range for your communication, hold your remote controller in your hand and do not cover its front part (the antenna is located there).
- If you hold your remote controller in front of you with your hand reached out, the range will get longer.
- Before using your training set, always check the batteries in the remote controller and in the collar and replace them if necessary.
- The power of batteries slightly falls down at temperatures below 0 °C. If it is possible, keep your remote controller warm (e.g. in your pocket) and take it out only for use.

### **SELECTION OF ELECTRODES**

Every package contains readily two kinds of electrodes. If your dog is small and its fur is short, use short electrodes. If your dog is of medium built or big, use long electrodes.

### **ATTACHMENT OF THE COLLAR**

The strap of the collar must be adjusted so that the electrodes can be in contact with the dog's skin. When the strap is too slack, the collar is likely to move and repeated friction may irritate your dog's skin. Moreover, in this case the contact with the skin surface is not reliable and the same holds true for proper operation of the collar. We do not recommend you to leave your dog wearing the collar for several hours in the same place as it might cause skin irritation. If it is necessary for your dog to wear the collar for a long time, change its position on your dog's neck.



**ADVICE:** If you attach the receiver on your dog's neck laterally, you will extend the range of transmission.

## Getting started

- The trainer's elementary knowledge in training dogs is the prerequisite for using the training collar.
- If you do not have this knowledge, we recommend you to turn to a training centre, a cynology club, or a school for dogs where you will learn the basic communication with your dog.
- You can start using the collar for a 6-month-old puppy who has undergone the basic training **"SIT", "DOWN", "STAY"**, or at least **"FIE", "YOU MUSTN'T"**...
- Demand these commands along with the sound signal from the collar so that your dog can create a link between them.
- After a command is successfully executed, you should always reward or encourage your dog so that it can execute your commands with delight and its desire to make you happy could grow.
- You must not consider the executed command as the absolute obviousness and punish only disobedience – your dog would soon fall away from you.
- If you are not sure that your dog will obey you after recalling, start training, e.g. using a tracing dog-lead.
- **Your dog will have to get used to the collar;** let the dog wear the collar for a few days, but do not use it so that your pet does not discover the connection with its attachment and effects.
- Affirmative and efficient training requires some time: **do not hurry!**
- Select a well-known environment your dog is used to.
- **Select the right moment for pressing the button;** exactly at the moment when your dog is doing something forbidden.
- Do not hesitate to contact a professional trainer for more advice and in the event of any problems.
- We do not recommend you to use the collar for the dogs not being in good physical health state (e.g. heart problems, epilepsy, etc.) or having behaviour disorders.

## Sound signal

It is only up to you how you use it. It depends on the method you wish to train your dog with. With the sound signal you can:

- Send a sound warning to your dog when it is doing something inappropriate.
- Catch the attention of your dog.
- Teach it that this signal means the command "Come", "Stay", wherever the dog is (the sound signal replaces your dog whistle).

The sound signal forgoing the pulse is very efficient; your dog will soon create a link between its incorrect behaviour, the sound warning, and its unpleasant feeling.

**It is very important to always use the sound signal in the same way to avoid your dog of being confused.**

## Button – Impulse

If your dog does not obey your command and the following sound signal, send it a correction pulse (at a suitable level) to get it out of its activity and draw its attention to you. The objective of this correction pulse is not to hurt your dog, but the pulse is very unpleasant for it and the result is that your dog will soon realize the connectedness between your command, the sound, and its unpleasant feeling. Only a minimum of these correction impulses will be necessary in the course of time since your dog will put it together very well with its disobedience of your command and later, it will be enough to give a command, eventually accompanied with a sound signal.

## Button – Booster

By using this button, you can set the intensity of the correction pulse by 0–5 levels higher than the one you have selected with the permanent pulse button; use this button to solve extreme situations when your dog did not respond to the standard level of correction pulse you set. However, use these correction pulses in extraordinary cases only.

**Button**  – **vibrating collar**

By pressing this button the collar will vibrate to disturb your dog by an undesirable activity.

**Button**  – **lighting the collar**

By pressing this button you can light the collar for you to localize your dog in darkness more easily.

## Advice

**With the DOGtrace™ collars it is extremely easy and quick to teach the dog:**

- To walk along without a dog-lead.
- To call in reliably ("To me", "Come to me" commands).
- To interrupt an inappropriate activity ("Fie", "You mustn't").
- To unteach bad habits during daily coexistence with people, such as taking food from the table, jumping at people, pawing, undesirable barking, etc.
- Precise training of virtually every skill whereas the dog must do it precisely and reliably as if it were on a lead (**as many as hundreds of meters long!**) – with the removal of the undesirable dependence on the lead which the dog knows very well and adapts its behaviour to it.
- To unteach chasing animals and running away from its master in the country – and thus being exposed to problems and risks related to them, so the solution bringing more freedom for your dog who now can move freely also across patches where it would not otherwise be possible or it would be dangerous.
- Special activities and commands for business, hunting, sports or other training.
- Using directly during hunting for communication with the dog.
- A series of other activities and applications which the owner of this unit will soon discover in daily common life with his/her dog.



## Hints for using

- Do not place your remote controller close to objects sensitive to magnetic fields that might get damaged and be out of repair.
- Do not put your **d-control** in places exposed to high temperatures.
- It is necessary to replace the batteries every two years and also in the case that the set is not used for a long time. Never leave a flat battery in your unit; it might leak and damage your unit.
- Repeated contacts of the electrodes with the dog's skin may cause its irritation. If this happens, do not use the collar until all traces of irritation are gone.

### WARNING!!!

In case your dog has a wet fur, use a lower level of the correction pulse than you usually use.

## Maintenance

Never use volatile agents such as thinners, petrol, or various cleaners to clean your **DOGtrace™ d-control**. Use a soft dampened cloth and a neutral clearing agent if necessary.

**The receiver (collar) DOGtrace™ d-control is water-tight only on condition of a good state of the seal and after its treatment with silicone vaseline.** If this is fulfilled, your dog can even swim with that. In order to maintain the water-tightness of your receiver, we recommend to replace the rubber seal under the receiver's cover and treat it with silicone vaseline.

After every replacement of the battery in the collar, make sure that the seal is properly cleaned and settled and that the screws are adequately tightened. Check them regularly and tighten them only adequately!

The remote controller is dustproof and moisture resistant! It is definitely not suitable to expose it to rain or spraying water. Protect it against water and moisture however it is possible. If it is dropped into water, it will certainly be irrecoverably damaged or destroyed.

If you do not use the unit for a long time, remove the batteries from your remote controller and receiver.

The collar will remember the preset configuration (auto encoding). When you turn it on next time, it will be in the mode you selected last time.

## *Troubleshooting*

### **Before you start considering your unit to be faulty:**

- Read this Service Instruction manual once again and make sure that the problem is not caused by weak batteries or by incorrect application.
- Check to see if the batteries are positioned correctly with regard to their polarity.
- If a problem persists, try to initialize the system by removing the battery from the battery holders in the receiver, then use a metal tool (e.g. a screwdriver, scissors, etc.) and short-circuit both contacts – battery holders for about 2 seconds. Reinstall the battery. The unit emits a beep confirming that the battery is installed with correct polarity.
- Unless this helps, program your receiver again. Clear the previous code in the memory and then match your receiver with the remote controller according to instructions in this manual.

If the problem persists, contact your supplier.

## Warranty

DOGtrace™ provides the product with warranty for possible manufacture faults to the extent of two years from the date of purchase.

The manufacturer does not take responsibility for damage to the instrument caused by incorrect use, unauthorized repairs and dismantling.

### **The warranty does not cover the following items:**

- Batteries
- New straps
- Direct or indirect risks during transportation of the product to the seller
- Damage to the product caused by user's negligence or by an accident (e.g. by masticating, breaking, impacts, etc.) and by interventions of unauthorized persons.

**The information contained in this manual may be subject to alterations without prior notice.**

## Technical data

### TRANSMITTER

- Weight ..... 64 grams (without battery)
- Range ..... about 200 meters in a free area
- Power supply ..... lithium 3V CR2 battery
- Battery life time..... 6–12 months, based on usage
- Frequency (output) ..... 869.525 MHz (25 mW)
- Antenna ..... Integrated
- Coverage ..... IP 20
- Radio communication safety and coding ..... by a microcontroller
- Number of pulse levels..... 20
- Operating temperature ..... –10 °C to + 50 °C
- Dimensions..... 110 × 52 × 30 mm

### RECEIVER (COLLAR)

- Weight ..... 56 grams (without the strap and the battery)
- Power supply ..... CR2 3V lithium battery
- Battery life time..... 6 months, based on usage
- Frequency ..... 869.525 MHz
- Antenna ..... Integrated
- IP code ..... Against submersion
- Radio communication safety and coding ..... by a microcontroller
- Operating temperature ..... –10 °C to + 50 °C
- Adjustable neck circumference..... 20 to 75 centimetres
- Dimensions..... 62 × 42 × 30 mm

# TROUBLE SHOOTING

