

## Fun & Easy Indoor Game for Pups!

It's been cold and snowy in the Midwest, so the two daily walks my pups get, just haven't been happening! I know I miss the exercise, and I can imagine they do as well. To help pass the days inside, keep them alert, and give them a bit of exercise we've been playing a fun "ball-game" that's easy to put together and they really seem to enjoy it.

You'll need an old muffin tin, a dozen tennis balls and some dog treats. I started by putting a treat in each muffin cup and topped it with a tennis ball to "hide" it. Sometimes I only put 2-3 treats in a couple of the cups, so they have to hunt down their treats! Since we have hardwood floors, I put a small dot of flannel on the bottom of the four corners of the muffin tin, so that it doesn't scratch the floor as it's scooted around by battling pups!



They seem to enjoy using their noses to dig out the tennis balls and see if there's a reward or not. Fairly soon they're able to tell whether or not there's a treat in an individual cup, without digging out the ball. Impressive!

If your dog loves tennis balls they may also enjoy pushing them around the room, even after the game ends. My younger dog will usually take one of the balls up to her bed, which is adorable. One word of warning is in order. Be sure to watch your step as they play. The balls will go everywhere. You'll also have to search around a bit to collect them all. I consider this my part of the game! It gives me some much needed exercise, until the weather breaks and we can get back out for a long walk!

[www.ComforForCritters.org](http://www.ComforForCritters.org)



