



The Evolving Equestrian
Evolve Challenge
For Starters Lesson 11

-Schedules of Reinforcement



Continuous Schedule of Reinforcement: Reinforcement is delivered after every single correct response. We use a continuous schedule of reinforcement or what we call a high rate of reinforcement when we are training new behaviors.

Intermittent Schedule of Reinforcement: Reinforcement is delivered after some correct responses, but not after every single one. We use an intermittent schedule of reinforcement after a behavior is well known.

Other schedules of Reinforcement are:

Fixed Ratio- Reinforcement is delivered after a fixed number of correct responses.

Variable Ratio- Reinforcement is delivered after a varying number of correct responses.

Fixed Interval- Reinforcement is delivered for the first response after a fixed amount of time.

Variable Interval- Reinforcement is delivered for the first response after a varying amount of time.

	Fixed	Variable
Ratio	Completion of a constant number of responses	Completion of a changing number of responses
Interval	Reinforces the first response after a constant amount of time	Reinforces the first response after a changing amount of time

Behavior Chain/Training Loop



The Evolving Equestrian

-Behavior Chains

Behavior chains or training loops are sequences of behaviors that follow one after the other. The primary reinforcer is delivered after the chain has been completed.

-Phasing Out Clicks and Food

1. Reward well known behaviors less. Switch over to an intermittent schedule of reinforcement.
2. Practice building behavior chains.
3. Work for short periods without food. Jackpot at the end.