

how to be flexible, as well as how to think clearly and rationally, when confronted with situations during handling, socializing, and training their dogs.

4-H members practice setting short-term and long-term goals for their projects and 4-H careers. Youth have opportunities to explore careers related to dogs and the dog industry. Dog projects can serve as stepping stones to future involvement with dogs and dog-related organizations, such as kennel and breed clubs, dog rescue groups, or humane societies.

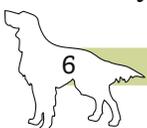
Guidelines for Completing a 4-H Dog Project

1. The *Dog Resource Handbook* contains subject matter that helps 4-H members be successful with their 4-H dog projects. Each 4-H dog project member is required to have access to the *Dog Resource Handbook*. Individual members can purchase their own copies, or one handbook may be purchased and shared among family members.
2. Complete one or more sections of the 4-H 201 *Dog Project and Record Book* that corresponds to the type of project(s) you are taking:
 - **You and Your Dog:** For youth who prefer to enjoy the companionship of their dogs without involvement in competitive events such as obedience, showmanship, and performance events. Also recommended for first-year members just learning about dogs.
 - **Obedience:** Covers beginning and advanced obedience training.
 - **Showmanship:** Includes the basics of dog showmanship.
 - **Performance Dog:** Includes agility, drill team, and other performance events.
 - **Working Dogs:** Includes assistance dogs such as Pilot Dogs, Inc., Canine Companions for Independence, and other service dog organizations.
3. Keep accurate project records for each type of project and each dog taken.

4. Assume continual care of your dog(s) throughout the project year.
5. Follow state and county guidelines for ownership, training, and showing.
6. Make sure your project registration and/or entry form is completed and submitted to the county Extension office on time.
7. If you plan to participate in pre-fair, county fair, or state fair activities, know your county's guidelines and rules, and know your state fair rules.

Benefits to a 4-H Member

1. **Life skills development.** As a dog owner, you learn many life skills that help you become a responsible and competent individual. Some of these life skills include managing resources, making decisions, solving problems, learning to learn, reasoning, thinking critically, keeping records, planning and organizing, achieving goals, communicating, cooperating, sharing, caring for others, being empathetic, learning through community service, completing a project/task, motivating yourself, and being responsible. What other skills can you think of? Refer to the Targeting Life Skills Model, extension.iastate.edu/4h/explore/lifeskills, to learn more about life skills development.
2. **Selection.** Whether you and/or your family currently own a dog, or you plan to own one in the near future, knowing what questions to ask and breed characteristics to look for make selecting the right puppy or dog a rewarding experience.
3. **Record keeping.** One requirement for completing your dog project is keeping accurate records. Inaccurate records do not reflect what you have accomplished with your project. By keeping good records from the beginning of your project, you learn how much it costs to keep your dog, including expenditures for feed, equipment, veterinary care, training, and showing. Keep records on a weekly or monthly basis. Do not wait until so much time has passed that it is hard to remem-



malia, order Carnivora, family Canidae, genus *Canis*, and species *Canis familiaris*. The 10 genera of Canidae are divided into four groups: dogs (genus *Canis*), foxes (genus *Vulpes*), culpeos (genus *Dusicyon*), and bush dogs (all other genera). The dog group includes the dhole, African wild dog, and canis. The dhole and African wild dog have no other species in their genera, while the *Canis* group includes the dingo, jackal, coyote, wolf, and domestic dog.

Dogs were the first animals domesticated by humans. History suggests that dogs became domesticated and used by humans 12,000 to 15,000 years ago. While the path of domestication of the dog is not fully documented, one theory suggests that as humans moved from primarily hunting to hunting and farming, young wolves moved into their settlements as scavengers. The farmers watched the wolves' instincts and saw characteristics that could help them hunt, protect people and property, and herd livestock. From that point, people began taming and selectively breeding these animals to serve their needs, unconcerned about the dog's appearance.



Archive photo.

These early domestic dogs evolved through selective breeding into different types of dogs with similar characteristics, which were eventually recognized as breeds. Approximately 400 breeds of dogs inhabit the world. This number varies because of the many varieties of dogs that might be classifiable as separate breeds, but are not recognized by the various international kennel clubs and breed registration groups. Dogs serve a multitude of purposes. Assistance dogs help people with hearing, sight, and mobil-

ity impairments to function more independently. Dogs perform search-and-rescue duties, detect drugs and bombs, hunt small and large game, herd livestock, guard property, and pull sleds. But most of all, dogs are our friends and companions. They are social animals that thrive on the companionship of humans and other dogs. Devoted to their owners, dogs provide countless hours of unconditional friendship, love, and fun.

How Dogs Evolved

There is speculation among scientists about the exact evolution of the dog. One recurring theory is, the domestic dog's earliest ancestor was probably a small ferret-like animal called *Miacis*. The *Miacis* lived as a forest dwelling carnivore in trees during the Eocene epoch, 38–55 million years ago. As geologic ages passed, scientists believe some of the *Miacis*' descendants evolved into running animals in order to capture prey for food. These descendants included the *Hesperocyon*, emerging during the Oligocene epoch, 26–38 million years ago and the *Leptocyon*, evolving during the Miocene epoch, 7–12 million years ago. It was during this Miocene epoch that 42 different genera of dog-like animals appeared.

The foundation stock for modern canids began to evolve about 2 million years ago at the end of the Pliocene epoch and the beginning of the Pleistocene epoch. Members of the genus *Canis* appeared in Eurasia or Asia about one million years ago, before the Eurasian continent and the Americas were separated. They migrated back and forth between these continents and the Americas, mainly in the Northern Hemisphere.

Dogs appear to be more like wolves than any other animal, inheriting the wolf's keen hearing, sight, and smell. Scientists believe the domestic dog, *Canis familiaris*, is most closely related to the gray wolf, *Canis lupus*.

Updated paragraph

Chapter 2

Breeds

Updated paragraph →

The **American Kennel Club**, also known as the AKC, is the largest of the dog recording organizations in the United States. Its mission, in part, is “to advocate for the purebred dog as a family companion, advance canine health and well-being, work to protect the rights of all dog owners, and promote responsible dog ownership.” As of January 1, 2017, AKC recognizes 189 breeds of dogs that are eligible to compete in AKC events. A total of 263 breeds are recognized by AKC across the seven dog groups, Miscellaneous Class and Foundation Stock Service®. To keep updated on recognized breeds go to the AKC website at akc.org. These breeds have been placed in seven groups according to their purpose. The groups are sporting, hound, working, terrier, toy, non-sporting, and herding. Knowing the purpose behind the development of a breed gives you an idea of the breed’s characteristics and personality traits.

Herding Group



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

The German Shepherd Dog was founded by Captain Max von Stephanitz at the end of the 19th century, as a result of a breeding program to produce strong and agile sheep herding dogs. Today they serve a variety of purposes, among which are as guide dogs for the blind and for police work.

Updated list →

The herding breeds were developed to assist humans in the herding of various species of livestock. Members of this group are typically quite intelligent and highly trainable, making them excellent companions.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Shetland Sheepdogs originated in the Shetland Islands of Scotland. These intelligent and agile dogs make excellent obedience and agility companions.

Herding Group	
Australian Cattle Dog	Entlebucher Mountain Dog
Australian Shepherd	Finnish Lapphund
Bearded Collie	German Shepherd Dog
Beauceron	Icelandic Sheepdog
Belgian Malinois	Miniature American Shepherd
Belgian Sheepdog	Norwegian Buhund
Belgian Tervuren	Old English Sheepdog
Bergamasco	Pembroke Welsh Corgi
Berger Picard	Polish Lowland Sheepdog
Border Collie	Puli
Bouvier des Flandres	Pumi
Briard	Pyrenean Shepherd
Canaan Dog	Shetland Sheepdog
Cardigan Welsh Corgi	Spanish Water Dog
Collie	Swedish Vallhund

Hound Group

Updated list



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Beagles were bred to hunt rabbits. These gentle dogs with soft brown eyes are great companions, hunters, and detection dogs, such as the beagles of the Beagle Brigade.

The hound breeds are a diverse group with the common ancestral trait of being used for hunting. Endurance, keen vision, and speed describe members of this group. Coursing or sight hounds hunt using speed and sight. Tracking or scent hounds, including the rather small Beagle and the large Bloodhound, trail by scent with diligence and patience.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Dachshunds were originally bred to scent and flush out badgers. The German name for Dachshund translates as “badger dog.”

Hound Group

Afghan Hound	Ibizan Hound
American English Coonhound	Irish Wolfhound
American Foxhound	Norwegian Elkhound
Basenji	Otterhound
Basset Hound	Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen
Beagle	Pharaoh Hound
Black and Tan Coonhound	Plott
Bloodhound	Portugese Podengo Pepueno
Bluetick Coonhound	Redbone Coonhound
Borzo	Rhodesian Ridgeback
Cirneco Dell’etna	Saluki
Dachshund	Scottish Deerhound
English Foxhound	Sloughi
Greyhound	Treeing Walker Coonhound
Harrier	Whippet

Non-Sporting Group



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

The Standard Poodle originated as a water retriever supposedly from Germany, but it is regarded as the national dog of France. The Standard Poodle is the oldest of the three poodle varieties.

The non-sporting breeds vary a great deal in their historical and physical characteristics. They also vary greatly in disposition and size. Although they were developed to perform certain purposes, today they serve chiefly as pets.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Bulldogs originated in the British Isles. They got their name because they were used in bullbaiting, which required extreme courage and ferocity.

Updated list

Non-Sporting Group	
American Eskimo Dog	Keeshond
Bichon Frise	Lhasa Apso
Boston Terrier	Lowchen
Bulldog	Norwegian Lundehund
Chinese Shar-Pei	Poodle (Standard and Miniature)
Chow Chow	Schipperke
Coton de Tulear	Shiba Inu
Dalmatian	Tibetan Spaniel
Finnish Spitz	Tibetan Terrier
French Bulldog	Xoloitcuintli

Sporting Group



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Labrador Retrievers were originally used to go over the side of fishing boats in their native Newfoundland, Canada, and drag the ends of the nets full of fish to shore.

The sporting breeds include pointers, setters, retrievers, and spaniels. The pointers and setters are hunters that cover the ground with great speed, freezing like statues at the scent of game birds. The retrievers are expert swimmers and excel at retrieving game in the field or in water. Briars do not grow too thick to keep the hard-working spaniel from flushing his game.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Golden Retrievers are popular as companions, family dogs, and working dogs because of their amiable temperament, willingness, trainability, useful size, and sturdy physique.

Sporting Group	
American Water Spaniel	Gordon Setter
Boykin Spaniel	Irish Red and White Setter
Brittany	Irish Setter
Chesapeake Bay Retriever	Irish Water Spaniel
Clumber Spaniel	Labrador Retriever
Cocker Spaniel	Lagotto Romagnolo
Curly-Coated Retriever	Nova Scotia Duck Tolling
English Cocker Spaniel	Pointer
English Setter	Spinone Italiano
English Springer Spaniel	Sussex Spaniel
Field Spaniel	Vizsla
Flat-Coated Retriever	Weimaraner
German Shorthaired Pointer	Welsh Springer Spaniel
German Wirehaired Pointer	Wirehaired Pointing Griffon
Golden Retriever	Wirehaired Vizsla

Updated list

Terrier Group

Updated list

The terrier breeds are alert, bold dogs named after the Latin word *terra*, meaning earth, into which they follow their quarry. The terrier was developed to dig out small animals chased underground by tracking hounds. Many are small and can burrow through tunnels with ease. These feisty, energetic dogs are ferocious fighters once they corner their prey.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Originating from Germany, Miniature Schnauzers are derived from the Standard Schnauzer by crossing Affenpinschers and Poodles with small Standard Schnauzers.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

The West Highland White Terrier originated from Scotland, and was bred for tracking and hunting. Westies are very hardy dogs, need little pampering, and are always on the go.

Terrier Group

Airedale Terrier	Miniature Schnauzer
American Hairless Terrier	Norfolk Terrier
American Staffordshire Terrier	Norwich Terrier
Australian Terrier	Parson Russell Terrier
Bedlington Terrier	Rat Terrier
Border Terrier	Russell Terrier
Bull Terrier	Scottish Terrier
Cairn Terrier	Sealyham Terrier
Cesky Terrier	Skye Terrier
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Smooth Fox Terrier
Glen of Imaal Terrier	Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
Irish Terrier	Staffordshire Bull Terrier
Kerry Blue Terrier	Welsh Terrier
Lakeland Terrier	West Highland White Terrier
Manchester Terrier (Standard)	Wire Fox Terrier
Miniature Bull Terrier	

Toy Group



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

Yorkshire Terriers originated in England in the 19th century. The breed traces back to the Waterside Terrier brought to Yorkshire by the Scottish weavers.

The toy breeds are the smallest of all breeds. They were developed to provide pleasure and companionship to their owners. Many of the breeds were prized by the royalty of ancient times. Although they are small in size, they are spirited and long-lived.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

In the mid-seventeenth century, dogs resembling a lion, as represented in Asian art, were introduced into China. These were the ancestors of the modern-day Shih Tzu. The word *Shih Tzu* means “lion.”

Toy Group	
Affenpinscher	Miniature Pinscher
Brussels Griffon	Papillon
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	Pekingese
Chihuahua	Pomeranian
Chinese Crested	Poodle (Toy)
English Toy Spaniel	Pug
Havanese	Shih Tzu
Italian Greyhound	Silky Terrier
Japanese Chin	Toy Fox Terrier
Maltese	Yorkshire Terrier
Manchester Terrier (Toy)	

Updated list

Working Group



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

The Boxer originated from Germany, developed from the Bullenbeisser (bull biters), which was an ancient mastiff breed once used to run down, catch, and hold wild boar, bear, and bison.

The working breeds were developed for serving humans by pulling sleds and carts, performing water rescues, and guarding property, including livestock. Members of this group are large and strong and make reliable companions.



Courtesy of Curriculum Materials Service, The Ohio State University.

As descendants of the Roman drover dog, Rottweilers drove cattle until the middle of the 19th century, at which time cattle driving was outlawed. The breed almost became extinct until its popularity grew as a police and military dog.

Working Group	
Akita	Great Pyrenees
Alaskan Malamute	Greater Swiss Mountain Dog
Anatolian Shepherd Dog	Komondor
Bernese Mountain Dog	Kuvasz
Black Russian Terrier	Leonberger
Boerboel	Mastiff
Boxer	Neapolitan Mastiff
Bullmastiff	Newfoundland
Cane Corso	Portuguese Water Dog
Chinook	Rottweiler
Doberman Pinscher	Samoyed
Dogue de Bordeaux	Siberian Husky
German Pinscher	Standard Schnauzer
Giant Schnauzer	St. Bernard
Great Dane	Tibetan Mastiff

Miscellaneous Class	
Azawakh	Nederlandse Kooikerhondje
Belgian Laekenois	Norrbottenspets
Dogo Argentino	Peruvian Inca Orchid
Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen	Portuguese Podengo

Updated list



Miscellaneous Class

Breeds eligible to participate in the Miscellaneous Class are also enrolled in the AKC Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®). The FSS® is an optional record-keeping service for all purebred breeds not currently permitted to be registered with the American Kennel Club. FSS® enrollment is maintained until the breed is accepted for regular status by the AKC Board of Directors. Breeds are admitted to the Miscellaneous Class when the AKC Board of Directors is convinced there is clear proof that a substantial, sustained nationwide interest and activity in the breed exists. Breeds in the Miscellaneous Class may compete and earn titles in companion events and select performance events. They are also eligible to compete in junior showmanship. Miscellaneous Class breeds may compete at conformation shows in the Miscellaneous Class and are not eligible for championship points. Provided the Miscellaneous Class breeds meet the expectations and standards of the AKC, they eventually become members of one of the seven recognized groups. Check akc.org for an up-to-date list of all dog breed groups.

Foundation Stock Service® (FSS®)

The AKC provides the Foundation Stock Service® to permit purebred breeds to continue to develop while giving them the security of a reliable and reputable way to maintain their records. FSS® breeds are not eligible for AKC registration, but several are approved to compete in AKC Companion Events. The following breeds have been accepted for recording in the AKC FSS® as of January 1, 2017:

American Leopard Hound	Kai Ken
Appenzeller Sennenhunde	Karelian Bear Dog
Azawakh	Kishu Ken
Barbet	Kromfohrlander
Basset Fauve de Bretagne	Lancashire Heeler
Belgian Laekenois	Mudi
Biewer Terrier	Nederlandse Kooikerhondje
Bolognese	Norrbottenspets
Bracco Italiano	Perro De Presa Canario
Braque Du Bourbonnais	Peruvian Inca Orchid
Broholmer	Portuguese Podengo
Catahoula Leopard Dog	Portuguese Pointer
Caucasian Ovcharka	Portuguese Sheepdog
Central Asian Shepherd Dog	Pudelpointer
Czechoslovakian Vlcak	Pyrenean Mastiff
Danish-Swedish Vlcak	Rafeiro Do Alentejo
Danish-Swedish Farmdog	Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka
Duetscher Wachtelhund	Russian Toy
Dogo Argentino	Schapendoes
Drentsche Patrijshond	Shikoku
Drever	Slovensky Cuvac
Dutch Shepherd	Slovensky Kopov
Estrela Mountain Dog	Small Munsterlander Pointer
Eurasier	Spanish Mastiff
French Spaniel	Stabyhoun
German Longhaired Pointer	Swedish Lapphund
German Spitz	Thai Ridgeback
Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen	Teddy Roosevelt Terrier
Hamiltonstovare	Tornjak
Hokkaido	Tosa
Hovawart	Transylvanian Hound
Jagdterrier	Treeing Tennessee Brindle
Jindo	Working Kelpie

AKC's Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) Program

The AKC's Purebred Alternative Listing (PAL) program allows unregistered dogs of registrable breeds to compete in AKC Performance and Companion Events, as well as specific breeds in the FSS® Program that are eligible for Companion Events. The AKC events that a PAL dog can participate in are agility trials (all breeds), coursing ability (all breeds), earthdog trials (small terriers and Dachshunds), herding tests and trials (herding breeds, Rottweilers and Samoyeds), hunt tests (most sporting breeds and Standard Poodles), junior showmanship (all breeds), lure coursing (sighthounds), obedience trials (all breeds), rally trials (all breeds), and tracking tests (all breeds). For more information visit akc.org/register/purebred-alternative-listing.

AKC Canine PartnersSM Program

The AKC Canine PartnersSM Program is for all dogs, including mixed breeds and dogs that are not eligible for AKC registration, so they will be eligible to participate in Agility, Rally, Obedience, Tracking Tests, and Coursing Ability events. For more information visit akc.org/dog-owners/canine-partners.

Updated paragraph

Updated list



a Poodle (commonly known as the Cockapoo). These dogs are not recognized by purebred breed organizations.

Crossbred or Expensive Designer?

Crossbred dogs are gaining in popularity, so much so that certain popular ones are becoming known as **designer dogs**.

Although introduced decades ago, designer dogs really became popular in the late 1990s, beginning with the Labradoodle, a cross between a Labrador Retriever and Poodle. Many designer dog combinations include Poodles—Cockapoo, Maltipoo, Schnoodle, and Yorkipoo, to name a few—because of their desirable non-shedding coats. Other combinations, with various design objectives, are also popular: Pushons, Chugs, Bagels (Basset Hound and Beagle), and even Sharp Assets (Shar-Peis and Basset Hound).

Designer dogs are controversial because they are essentially crossbred dogs and are often sold for very high prices. As with any crossbred dog, it is difficult to know which parent the offspring will most resemble, both in looks and behavior. There is also some resistance among purebred dog breeders, who are threatened by the popularity of designer dogs. As with other trends and fads, the demand for designer dogs may pass quickly, but not without leaving unwanted and abandoned dogs in its wake.

Mixed breed dogs are referred to in a variety of ways. A dog that is a mixture of two or more breeds, typically of unknown descent, is referred to as a mixed breed, all-American, mongrel, cur, mutt, or crossbred or random-bred dog.

The American Kennel Club recognizes 184 different breeds of dogs. Other breed recording organizations recognize the same and additional dog breeds.

Do you want a purebred or mixed breed dog? Owning a purebred allows you to enter breed shows, field trials, and tracking tests. Study different breeds that appeal to you. Attend dog shows or training clubs to see what the adult dogs look like. Talk to their owners about the

traits inherent in each breed. Find out all you can about health problems or diseases that are common in the breeds in which you are interested. Know what health testing should be expected of breeders to screen for these problems, and buy from a breeder whose dogs have been tested.



Ohio State University Extension.

Some offspring resemble both parents, some resemble just the mother or father, and some resemble neither. In this family of five, one daughter strongly resembles the father (top). None of the offspring inherited the mother's (top left, bottom) distinctive blue eye.

When selecting a mixed breed dog or puppy, you may not know the breeding of the animal's parents, or what the puppy will look like or what size he will be when he is fully-grown. In some cases, mixed breed dogs benefit from hybrid vigor, where dogs of mixed backgrounds will be healthier than those from purebred lines. Mixed breed dogs are sometimes less likely to have genetic health problems because their parents come from a more diverse genetic pool.

Updated number of breeds



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United Kennel Club Registering Offices

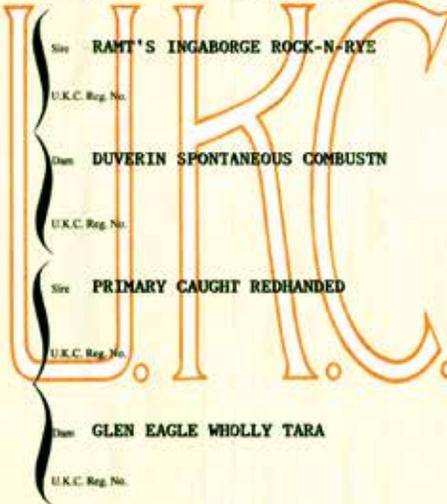
KALAMAZOO, MICH.

Pedigree Certificate

Of **ARGOSTAR TURBO** U.K.C. Reg. No. **P296-111**
 Sex **MALE** Color **RED RUST** Date of Birth **12/20/1996** **NEUTERED**
 Breed **DOBERMAN PINSCHER**

Owner of Sire **JEANNE FLORA OR LORETTA GORR / LISA CONE** Owner of Dam **JEANNE FLORA OR LORETTA GORR / LISA CONE**
 Or Sire (at the time of Breeding)

Sire **ARGOSTAR AWSTOUND** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Dam **GORRMAE FIRES IN THE DARK** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____



Sire **SHERLUCK'S CASTLE ROCK** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Dam **ELJEAN'S LIQUORISH WHISKEY** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Sire **PRIMARY CAUGHT REDHANDED** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Dam **JAN-HAR'S SONNET** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Sire **BRUNSWIG'S CRYPTONITE** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Dam **BEAULANE'S EVERYNITE JOSEPHINE** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Sire **JAN HART'S SALUTE TO DEFENDER** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____
 Dam **GLEN EAGLE ABRACADABRA** U.K.C. Reg. No. _____

The names and Championship designations of the dogs on this pedigree were those recorded on each dog's record as of this **NINETEENTH** day of **SEPTEMBER** 2000
 Witness our signature and seal,
United Kennel Club, Inc.
SKF 2 P296111 *Fred J. Walker* President

Registration Points — **One Hundred** —

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Ohio State University Extension.

Certificates of pedigree are used to determine whether or not two dogs are related.

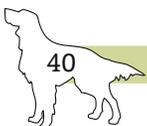
Show Type, Field Type, or Just a Good Representation of the Breed

If you intend to compete in breed shows, first become well acquainted with the standards on which the breed is judged. A standard is a verbal description of the perfect specimen of the breed. Dogs in a breed show are judged on their conformation and how close they are to the standard. A copy of these breed standards can be found in *The New Complete Dog Book*, 2014 edition, by the American Kennel Club as well as online at akc.org. Study these standards, visit shows, and seek the advice of a professional handler, if possible, before making a purchase.

Updated title

Dogs in field and obedience trials are judged on their performance. Field trials are held for dogs bred for hunting quail, pheasant, grouse, rabbits, ducks, and other upland game birds and animals. A thorough knowledge of the sport should be gained before a purchase is made.

The cost for professional training, entry fees, travel, food, lodging, and the time necessary for making a champion in either conformation or field may be more than you think. After learning about conformation shows and field trials, you may not be interested in developing a champion and may decide instead that a pet quality purebred meets your needs.



socialized before taking him out in public. Aggression, barking, and biting are socially unacceptable.

You are responsible for cleaning up after your dog when you take him outside. Carry plastic bags with you to clean up after your dog defecates. To pick up stool, place the bag inside out over your hand. Pick up the stool, pull the bag right side out, and then dispose of it in an appropriate place.

Not everyone likes dogs. Some people are allergic to them or are afraid of them. Do not allow your dog to run up to people and jump on them. Always ask before bringing your dog to visit in another home. Your friends might enjoy your dog in your home, but may not want him in theirs.

There are millions of unwanted dogs. Every pet owner has the responsibility to prevent their dogs from contributing to the overpopulation problem. Spay or neuter your dog! Spaying a female involves removing her uterus and ovaries to prevent her from having puppies. This eliminates her aggression during estrus and the necessity for you to clean up after her during this time. Spaying may prevent mood

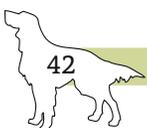
swings due to hormonal changes and reduce her chance for many different health problems, such as mammary cancer.

Neutering a male dog involves removal of the testicles so he cannot cause a bitch to become pregnant. A neutered male is less likely to roam, mark territory, and fight with other dogs. Neutering reduces the incidence of prostate cancer and eliminates the chance of testicular cancer.

Neutering or spaying a dog does not make a dog fat. A dog becomes fat from eating too much and from not receiving enough exercise.

A female does not need to have a litter or estrous cycle before she is spayed, nor does a male have to be mated before he is neutered. Ask your veterinarian at what age surgery should be done. Spayed and neutered dogs can compete in all 4-H activities. They *cannot* show in breed shows; however, they can be enrolled in the AKC Canine PartnersSM Program. They make very good pets and are less likely to have some of the medical problems that intact dogs experience. As a responsible dog owner, you do not contribute to pet overpopulation when you have your dog spayed or neutered.

Updated paragraph



Dog Bite Prevention

Responsible dog owners must make every effort to prevent their dogs from biting people. Dogs with histories of aggression should not be in a household with children. Properly socialize and train any dog that is entering a household. Use caution when introducing a dog into the home of an infant or toddler. Infants or young children should never be left alone with any dog, even the trusted family pet.

Spay or neuter your dog. Spaying and neutering often reduces aggressive tendencies. Dogs that have been spayed or neutered are less likely to bite than dogs that are left intact.

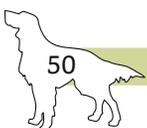
Make sure your dog is up-to-date on his rabies vaccination and on any other vaccinations recommended by your veterinarian. Follow a comprehensive wellness program to ensure your dog is healthy.

Learn how to be safe around dogs, as well as how to make sure your dog is safe when he is around other people. Teach others, especially young children, what to do to avoid being bitten by a dog. Help them learn how to act responsibly around dogs. Knowing how to act around dogs can spare a child from a dog bite and save his or her life.

This information can help you and others be safe around dogs:

- **LEARN**, and teach others, how to behave around dogs. People who know how to act around dogs are less likely to purposefully or accidentally tease or threaten dogs.
- **ALWAYS** walk your dog on a leash. This allows you to monitor your dog's behavior and remove him from a potential serious situation.
- **DO NOT** play tug-of-war and attack games or wrestle with your dog. Playing roughly with dogs may teach them to be aggressive, scratch, bite, or jump. They may not always understand the difference between play and real-life situations.

- **SOCIALIZE** your dog to friends, neighbors, children, other dogs, playgrounds, and areas where there are all ages of people, dogs, and lively activity. Exposure to children playing, other people, and activities makes your dog accustomed to the unexpected.
- **NEVER** tie a dog in a yard that is not fenced and where children could approach the dog. A dog naturally protects his territory, and children who run in front of him, for example, are teasing him without even knowing it. The dog may feel threatened and attack.
- **DO NOT** scream, run, or play rough with your friends around a dog. Screaming, hitting, and rough play could excite a dog, causing him to demonstrate his dominance. This can lead to aggressive behavior. Running can trigger a chase response in the dog.
- **IMMEDIATELY** report to an adult a stray dog or a dog displaying unusual behavior. Do not attract the dog's attention.
- **NEVER** approach a dog you don't know or a dog that is alone without his owner. If you do not know the dog's personality, you do not know how he is going to react to you, so stay away.
- **NEVER** approach a dog that is confined inside a car, behind a fence, or tied to a chain. Dogs are protective of their territory and their property.
- **ALWAYS** ask permission before petting someone's dog. This is common courtesy. The owner will tell you if it is okay to pet the dog.
- **WHEN** first approaching a dog, do not allow him to sniff your open hand. Always offer the back of your closed fist for the dog to sniff. This protects your fingers in case the dog tries to nip.
- **DO NOT** pet a dog on the back of his head after letting him sniff the back of your hand. Pet the dog on his neck or chest first.



He may interpret a pet on the head as a dominant motion.

- **NEVER** disturb a dog that is sleeping, eating, has puppies, or is guarding something. Dogs naturally protect their food, owners, and property.
- **NEVER** approach a loose dog, no matter how friendly he seems.
- **DO NOT** make eye contact with a strange dog or any dog showing dominant, aggressive, or fearful behaviors. When you stare at a dog, you are showing your dominance and may threaten an already distressed or aggressive dog, causing him to attack.
- **ALWAYS** let your own dog see you and sniff you before you pet him. Never surprise him. Even your own dog might be frightened if startled.
- If approached by a dog, **NEVER** scream or run. Screaming and/or running can excite the dog. Their prey instinct tells them to chase and catch something that is running away.
- If approached by a dog, stand like a tree. If a dog is running after you or approaches you, **STOP, DON'T RUN**. Stand like a tree—straight with your feet together. Put your fists under your neck and elbows into your chest. Do not make eye contact with the dog. Looking or staring into the dog's eyes only makes him exert his dominance. You are threatening him with that stare. Avert your eyes and lower your head, looking slightly away.
- If knocked down by a dog, roll into a ball and **LAY STILL**. Put your legs together, curl into a ball, put your face down, and put your fists covering the back of your neck and your arms over your ears. Keep quiet and lie still until the dog goes away. Lying in this position protects your vital areas and can save your life.

- **BLOCK** an attack with a backpack or jacket. If attacked by a dog, “feed” the dog your jacket, purse, backpack, jacket, bicycle, or anything else that can keep the dog's teeth away from you.
- Some people say a barking dog won't bite. This is not necessarily true; barking or growling can signal a possible attack. That is why it is very important to watch a dog's body language for signs of aggression.

AKC has a dog safety program called The Dog Listener. *The Dog Listener* DVD and accompanying activity guide teach children how to greet a dog, how to respect a dog's space, how to avoid a stray dog, and what to do when they see a group of loose dogs. To obtain *The Dog Listener: Be safe around dogs: Become a Dog Listener!* DVD and download the activity guide, visit akc.org/dog-listener.

New paragraph ↗

The American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen® Program

All dogs should be Canine Good Citizens. The AKC Canine Good Citizen® (CGC) is a two-part certification program that stresses responsible pet ownership for owners and certifies that dogs have the training and behaviors needed to be reliable and well-behaved at home and in their community. All dogs that pass the ten-step CGC test may receive a certificate from the American Kennel Club.

Both purebred and mixed breed dogs can take the non-competitive CGC Test. Dogs do not need to perform the exercises with the same precision required in formal obedience. Puppies are permitted to take the CGC test; however, they should be retested when they are adults. Also, responsible dog owners have their dogs retested every two years to make sure they still are reliable and well mannered.

Dog owners who complete CGC as a title process may have CGC appear as part of thier dog's titled name.

New paragraph ↗

The ten CGC test items are as follows:

1. Accepting a Friendly Stranger
2. Sitting Politely for Petting
3. Appearance and Grooming
4. Out for a Walk (Walking on a Loose Leash)
5. Walking Through a Crowd
6. Sit and Down on Command/Staying in Place
7. Coming When Called
8. Reaction to Another Dog
9. Reaction to Distractions
10. Supervised Separation

Three additional Canine Good Citizen opportunities include AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy, which is the puppy level of CGC, AKC Community Canine, which is the advanced level of AKC's CGC Program, and the AKC Urban CGC, which is for testing urban skills no matter how big your city is. For AKC Canine Good Citizen information, visit akc.org/dog-owners/training/canine-good-citizen.

New paragraph



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This well-mannered dog is doing a good job of accepting a friendly stranger.

New content



Ohio State University Extension.

Everyone is happy when a large dog sits politely for petting.

Farm Dog Certified

A new AKC event, Farm Dog Certified, does not require any herding or working knowledge, but instead tests a dog's aptitude to be a working farm dog. In the test, dogs are presented with livestock and other sights, scents, and sounds found on a farm. A dog must greet the judge politely, walk around the farm including through a gate and over unusual surfaces, walk past livestock and wait while the handler feeds the animals, stand politely while the handler inspects the dog and cleans off hay and debris, as well as several other test items. The Farm Dog Certified test is open to all breeds and mixed breeds. Information can be found at akc.org/events/herding/farm-dog-certified-test.

Chapter 9

Obedience

Updated paragraphs

Obedience is a way for you and your dog to become closer. It also makes your dog more socially acceptable and welcome by others. All dogs should be trained to the pre-novice level just to be a good member of the family.

The 4-H classes are modeled after the American Kennel Club (AKC) competition classes, with some modifications made for 4-H. AKC offers Regular, Preferred, and Optional Titling classes, as well as Non-regular classes. Regular classes include Novice, Open, and Utility. Preferred classes are Preferred Novice, Preferred Open, and Preferred Utility, replacing the former Pre-Novice, Pre-Open and Pre-Utility classes. The Optional Titling classes have no restrictions on them, and any dog can enter in any order. These classes are Beginner Novice, Graduate Novice, Graduate Open, and Versatility. There are no prerequisites to go to the next level. Non-regular classes include Wild Care Novice, Wild Card Open, Wild Card Utility, Brace, Veterans, and Team. A qualifying score is not required for the awarding of ribbons and prizes in these classes. 4-H classes are offered to dogs of any breed or mix of breeds, with the exception of any wolf or wolf mix.

In 4-H, the “A” classes denote inexperience for both the handler and dog. 4-H rules for the A classes have been designed to assist and encourage the exhibitor and dog while preparing for the “B” classes. A classes can never be repeated by the 4-H member or dog. When a 4-H member and/or dog participate in “sanctioned” matches or trials for any dog organization or have like training to that equivalent level, they are no longer eligible for the A classes and move to B. This is a desirable accomplishment and should be encouraged by advisors and parents.

The exercises and classes are outlined here, but the AKC rulebook is always a very good reference. You can view a copy or request a hard copy through their website at akc.org.

Preparing for your 4-H show experiences begins with a training regimen. You have learned about positive training methods and how behavior shaping and praise and rewards work in the puppy section of this book. Keeping all you have learned in mind, it is time to develop your training skills and prepare for formal training. By following an outline similar to the one used here, you and your dog have a great start!

When you are training obedience exercises, remember that they are comprised of several different steps. Teaching your dog to retrieve a dumbbell is a combination of the dog learning to take the dumbbell from your hand, learning to hold it until you tell him to let go, learning to release it to your hand rather than dropping it on the floor, learning to walk with it, learning to reach for it, and learning to pick it up from the ground. If you skip steps or try to progress too fast, problems can develop. Make sure your dog really understands what you are asking before you progress to the next step. If things are suddenly going wrong, it means your dog is confused. Back up a step or two and teach it to him again. Above all, don't lose patience with your dog. Try to end training sessions on a positive note by doing something your dog knows how to do well.

Training Tips

- Always train with a positive attitude. There is no room for harshness in training your dog, and there is a difference between firmness and harshness.
- When teaching your dog, use your voice in a positive, upbeat manner.
- Keep your training sessions short. It is better to do several short sessions rather than one long one. Training for 5 or 10 minutes

The **leash** or lead may be of fabric or leather and must be six feet in length for pre-novice classes. For other classes, the leash needs to be only of sufficient length to provide adequate slack in the heel on leash exercise. Chain leashes are not acceptable.

All dogs must be kept on leash except when in the obedience ring or exercise area, and must be brought into and taken out of the ring on leash. Dogs must be kept on leash in the ring when brought in to receive awards and when waiting before and after the group exercises. Unless designated otherwise, the handler leaves the leash on the judge's table between the individual exercises and during all exercises performed off leash.

Collars



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Starting in lower left corner: braided nylon slip collar, chain slip collar, buckle collar, quick release collar, dog halter (Gentle Leader®)

Obedience collars include well-fitting plain buckle or quick release collars, martingales, or slip collars of an appropriate single length of leather, fabric, or chain with two rings, one on each end. Fancy collars, harnesses, studded collars, pinch collars, collars with prongs or spikes on the inside or outside, electronic collars, any other special training collars, or collars that are either too tight or so large that they hang down unreasonably in front of the dogs are not permitted in the show ring. Nothing may be hanging from the dog's collar.

Slip collars are often used as it is more difficult for a dog to slip back out of them. They may be used in training to give extra signals to your

dog. There is a technique for using a slip collar as well as a right and wrong way to put it on. If the collar is kept tight, it is not effective in sending signals. The slip collar should never be left on a dog other than in a training session as it might become caught and strangle your dog.



Ohio State University Extension. Special thanks to Covington Canines.

Adjust the chain training collar so that it forms the letter P. Slip it over your dog's nose. If it is on properly, when your dog is on your left side, it will loosen as soon as pressure is released.

If you use a buckle collar the identification tags should be attached with a ring like the one used on a key chain. This allows for easy removal of the tags before showing in the ring.



Ohio State University Extension. Special thanks to Covington Canines.

A head halter such as the Gentle Leader® is a humane way to control an energetic dog.

Another item of training equipment is the head halter such as the Halti® or Gentle Leader®. These are extremely useful when you have a

These steps may take quite a few practice sessions to become reliable. Don't try to advance too quickly because you don't want to confuse your dog. After your dog stays reliably for the circles, it is time to increase the distance from him. Starting in heel position, tell your dog to stay, then step forward two steps before you turn and face him. Wait a couple of seconds and then return to your dog by walking up to him and going around his left side and coming back up to heel position, just like you were making a circle around him. When that becomes reliable, gradually increase your distance until you are able to go to the end of your six-foot leash.

After your dog becomes reliable for the distance, decrease the distance while increasing the time stayed. For pre-novice work, your dog must stay for one full minute. Wise trainers train their dogs to stay for longer than that. In advanced work, the Long Sit is increased to three minutes.



Changed to "Long Sit"

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The long sit and the long down are group exercises.

The Long Down

The Long Down is taught in the same way as the sit but with the dog in the down position. In the pre-novice class, the Long Down is done for three minutes on leash.

The Stand for Exam

The Stand for Exam is taught in the same manner as the Long Sit and the Long Down. The difference is that the dog does not have to remain standing for a specific amount of time. Rather, the dog must stay in a standing position, without moving his feet, while the judge examines the dog. You stand your dog, give the stay command, walk to the end of the leash, and turn and face your dog. The judge approaches your dog from the front, allowing the dog to sniff his hand. He then touches the dog's head, shoulders, and hindquarters. After the judge has finished his examination, he steps back and tells you to return to your dog. You go back to your dog's left side, walk around him, and return to heel position.



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In the Stand for Exam exercise your dog must remain standing while the judge goes over your dog.

There are several things to remember when doing the Stand for Exam. One is to make sure your dog is standing balanced evenly on all four feet. If he has one foot stretched out of position, he is much more likely to move it back to a square position. Another thing to remember is to not be touching your dog when giving the stay command. The last thing is to be careful with the leash both going away and returning to your dog. An accidental tug can cause your dog to break his stay.

right hand and arm must move naturally at the side, while the left hand must be held against the front of the body, centered at the waist, with the left forearm carried against the body. In either of the above circumstances, your hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast part of an exercise in order to maintain balance.

Long Sit and Long Down

Updated paragraph

These are the same as in pre-novice except the distance is greater. The leash remains attached to the dog's collar and will be placed on the ground alongside the dog, with the arm-band weighted as necessary before the exercise begins. As you are practicing this, gradually increase your distance from your dog until you are able to do it with the dog staying on one side of the ring while you are on the other.

Advanced Obedience

Dumbbells

According to the AKC, a dumbbell is made of one or more solid pieces of wood, or of a rigid or semi-rigid, firm, nontoxic, non-wooden material similar in size, shape, and weight to a wooden dumbbell. Metal dumbbells are not permitted. Dumbbells may not be hollowed out. They may be unfinished, coated with a clear finish, or painted (white or any color). They may not have decorations or attachments, but may bear an inconspicuous mark for identification. The size of the dumbbell should be proportionate to the size of the dog.

When handling the dumbbell, hold it by one of the ends, not by the bar. The dog should be taught to hold it securely by the bar.

Handling between Exercises

In the graduate novice and higher classes, a substantial point deduction is taken for a dog that is physically guided at any time or that is not controllable.

Updated paragraph

Graduate Novice

Graduate novice is classified as an Optional Tilting class by the AKC. It is designed as an

intermediate step between novice and open.

The graduate novice classes consist of:

- Heel on Leash and Figure 8
- Drop on Recall
- Dumbbell Recall
- Recall over High Jump
- Recall over Broad Jump
- Long Down (handler out of sight for 3 minutes)

Updated

All exercises are performed off leash. The handler may not use the collar to guide the dog between exercises.

Each exercise starts with a description of the exercise as performed in the show ring. It is followed by training tips and techniques.

Heel on Leash and Figure 8

This exercise is performed and scored like the novice Heel on Leash and Figure 8 except the Figure 8 is done off leash.

Drop on Recall

Before actually doing a moving drop, you must first teach your dog to down directly from a standing position without sitting first. Once that becomes fast and reliable, it's time to start doing a moving down. Heel forward with your dog and give the down signal. Use lots of enthusiastic praise as soon as your dog drops into the down position.

When your dog is doing a fast, reliable down it's time to add the stay portion of the exercise. Heel with your dog and give a Down Stay command. When your dog drops, step in front of your dog. If he stays, praise him. As in all the stay exercises, only gradually increase the distance away from your dog. When your dog stays reliably at a distance, start weaning off the verbal command to stay.

After your dog does a fast, reliable drop and stay from a moving heel you may add in the recall portion of the exercise. Once this is reliable leave your dog on a Sit Stay. Advance half-way across the ring and turn and face your dog. Call your dog and just before your dog gets to you, signal your dog down by raising your right hand in the air and telling him "down." During graduate novice you can use the hand signal



After three days, add the second board and repeat the same procedure. When your dog does two boards reliably, increase boards and distance jumped. Keep jumping with your dog as long as you can do it without danger of tripping. Once the distance is too much for you to jump, run beside the jumps with your arm stretched out to the side, keeping your dog centered on the jumps. Make sure you continue to run past the end of the last jump. This helps your dog develop the habit of jumping through the jump and not cutting it off short. Once your dog jumps with you, go back to the two board distance. Leave your dog on a sit stay in front of the jump. Go to the other side of the jump and call your dog. Make sure you lavishly praise and treat your dog for jumping. Gradually increase the distance and number of boards jumped until you reach the distance dictated by your dog's height.

Long Down (handler out of sight for 3 minutes)

← New paragraph

This exercise is performed in the same manner as the Novice Long Down, except the leash is removed and placed behind the dog with the armband weighed as necessary. When the judge calls you back to your dogs, he or she will say "Exercise finished. Put your leash on your dog and maintain control of your dog."

In preparation for out of sight stays, get your dog used to staying while you stand directly behind him. If he moves position to see you better, gently correct him by putting him back in position. Then practice by wandering around the training area. Gradually drift out of sight, being gone for only a few seconds. When you return, pause momentarily and then praise your dog.

It is important for your dog to have the confidence that you are going to return. This can be accomplished by being out of sight for short periods of time at first and then gradually extending the time. Your dog is required to stay for three minutes, so remember to practice for longer than that to ensure a stay. (The out of sight down in the open class is for 5 minutes.) It is helpful to have a spotter to tell you if your dog breaks. If a spotter isn't available, a mirror can be of assistance in helping you to see around corners. Be sure to place your dog back in the same spot that you left him if he breaks.

Open Class

The open class consists of the following exercises:

- Heel Free and Figure 8
- Drop on Recall
- Retrieve on Flat
- Retrieve over High Jump
- Broad Jump
- Long Sit (out of sight) for 3 minutes
- Long Down (out of sight) for 5 minutes

The only difference between A and B class is in the A class all of the exercises are done in order. In the B class, the judge determines in what order the exercises are completed.

Heel Free and Figure 8

You are doing the exact same heeling exercise you did in novice. The Figure 8 is done off leash as in graduate novice. Please refer to those sections for information.

Drop on Recall

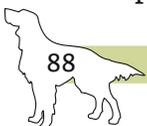
This is the same as done in graduate novice except you must use either a hand signal or a verbal command to down, not both.

Retrieve on Flat

At this point in training, your dog already has been exposed to the dumbbell and should be holding it with his mouth. The dog should also have a good solid Sit/Stay.

There is a difference between this exercise and the one in the graduate novice level. Your dog must **stay** while you throw the dumbbell. In competition the dumbbell should always be thrown at least 20 feet. Your dog must go out on your voice command, retrieve the dumbbell, return with it, and sit in front.

Before you start throwing the dumbbell, you must teach your dog to reach for it. Start with short distances of an inch or so from his nose and gradually increase the distance. Once he reaches several inches it is time to start lowering the height of the reach. Do this gradually until he picks it up off the floor on command.



Graduate Open

The graduate open class consists of these exercises:

- Signal Exercises
- Scent Discrimination
- Go Out
- Directed Jumping
- Moving Stand and Examination
- Directed Retrieve

Section
reordered
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Signal Exercises

The principal features of this exercise are the ability of dog and handler to work as a team while heeling and the dog's correct response to the signals to stand, stay, down, sit, and come.

Heeling is done as in the Heel Free, except the handler may use signals only and must not speak to the dog at any time during this exercise. While the dog is heeling at one end of the ring, the judge orders the handler to "Stand your dog." On further order to "Leave your dog," the handler signals the dog to stay, goes ten to 20 feet, then turns and faces the dog. On the judge's signal, the handler gives the signals, verbal and/or hand signals to down, sit, come, and finish as in the novice recall.

Your dog already knows about heeling; therefore, training for hand signals is relatively simple. You must start by verbally telling the dog to heel. Then, using your left hand as a signal, move your hand straight forward. You need to do many forward heeling movements and halts in order for the dog to become used to seeing your left hand move in a forward motion. Within a week, your dog should be able to start heeling when you use only your hand movement. Food treat rewards should still be used for the heeling exercise. Remember to verbally praise your dog for doing well.

You are now ready for the moving stand portion of the exercise using hand signals. Even though you leave the dog the distance of between 10 and 20 feet for the down and sit and come, you must now teach your dog exercises from a distance. Your dog must stay using the hand signal stay.

Begin the moving stand exercise with your dog directly in front of you. Have plenty of

treats in your hand. Start by raising your right hand straight up in the air and say "down." Give your dog a treat. Do not give the treat until the dog is lying completely down. Using your (left) hand with the treat between the fingers, lower your hand to the ground and, with an upward motion, give the dog the verbal command "Sit." When your dog does the sit, give him a treat and verbal praise. You need to practice this exercise repeatedly with your dog, every day for about three minutes at a time. When your dog is comfortable with this part of the exercise, you can leave him about four feet, practicing the Down and Sit with the hand signals. Next add the Come signal. Move your right hand straight out from your right side. With your hand open, bring your hand in toward your chest while saying your dog's name. Practice this exercise several times. When your dog understands the signal with both your hand and voice, stop using your voice and only use the hand signal.

When your dog is doing well with this aspect of the exercise, you can start to put some distance between you and your dog. Remember, your dog must be watching you at all times in order for this training method to work. Should your dog fail at understanding the commands, you need to return to a shorter distance. With success at each distance you can move to a longer distance.

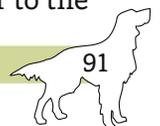
When your dog is comfortable with Sit, Down, and Come signals, you may start using the signals in your heeling pattern and the signals for Drop, Sit, Come, and Finish.

Scent Discrimination

The exercise and scoring here is the same as in the utility Scent Discrimination exercise except for the following: there are only four articles (two leather and two metal); the handler and dog remain facing the articles; and only one article is retrieved. It is the handler's discretion as to which article is retrieved. For further information on this exercise, please refer to the discussion of scent discrimination in the utility section later in this chapter.

Go Out

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog goes away from the handler to the



opposite end of the ring and stops as directed. The orders are “Send your dog” and “Return to your dog.” The handler stands in the approximate center of the ring between the jumps facing the unobstructed end of the ring. The judge orders “Send your dog,” and the handler commands and/or signals the dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet past the jumps in the approximate center of the ring. When the dog reaches this point, the handler gives a command to sit. The dog must stop and sit with his attention on the handler, but he need not sit squarely. The judge then orders the handler, “Return to your dog,” and the handler returns to the heel position.

One method of teaching the Go Out is to leave your dog on a Sit Stay. Go ten feet or so from your dog and place a treat or toy on the ground and return to your dog. Swing your arm forward and tell your dog to “Go.” If he doesn’t head to the treat on his own, start running towards it. Just as he reaches the treat or toy, call his name and tell him to sit. If he does, lavish him with rewards and praise. Keep repeating this until your dog understands that “Go” means for him to go away from you. Once your dog understands the command, gradually increase the distance that he goes away from you.



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Food may be used to lure the dog in the proper direction away from you.

Directed Jumping

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left, jumps as directed, and returns to the handler as in the novice Recall. The orders are “Leave your dog,” “Bar,” “High,” and “Finish.” The handler stands with the dog sitting in the heel position at the unobstructed end and in the center of the ring. The judge orders “Leave your dog,” and the handler

walks to the far end of the ring and turns to face the dog. The judge orders either “Bar” or “High” for the jump, and the handler commands and/or signals the dog to return to the handler over that designated jump. While the dog is in midair, the handler may turn to face the dog as he returns. The dog sits in front of the handler and, on an order from the judge, finishes as in the novice Recall. The dog is sent over only one jump, and the same jump is used for all dogs as designated by the judge at the start of the class.

Since your dog is already doing both the broad jump and the high jump, it should not be too difficult to teach this exercise. First train your dog to do the bar jump, exactly as you did the high jump, starting out with the bar very low and gradually increasing the height.

To teach the “directed” part of the exercise, start out with the bar and high jumps set up in the same positions you would have them in the graduate novice and open classes. Instead of leaving your dog directly in front of one of the jumps, sit him halfway between the two jumps and about ten feet from them. Leave him on a stay command and then position yourself between the two jumps but beside the jump that you want him to jump. It is easiest to start with the high jump since your dog already jumps this one. Start at a lower height than your dog normally jumps. Swing your arm towards the jump and give your jump command. When he jumps, praise him enthusiastically. As you practice this, gradually move yourself farther from the jump until you are the equivalent of “across the ring.” Just remember not to try to progress too quickly and give lots of encouragement. Once your dog is jumping the high jump in the correct fashion, start over again with the bar jump making the broad sweeping point to the bar jump as you give your jump command. Gradually increase the distance you stand from the jump. When your dog is jumping both jumps you can start to alternate which jump you send him over.

Moving Stand and Examination

The handler stands with the dog sitting in heel position at a point indicated by the judge. The judge asks, “Are you ready?” and then orders, “Forward.” The handler commands

or signals the dog to heel. After the handler has proceeded about 10 feet, the judge orders, “Stand your dog.” The handler commands and/or signals the dog to stand and continue forward about 10 to 12 feet. The handler then turns to face the dog, which must stand and stay in position. The judge approaches the dog from the front to examine him as he would be examined in conformation judging. The exam does not include the teeth or testicles.

After the judge goes over your dog for the exam, he gives the command to “Call your dog to heel” and you command and/or signal your dog to go to heel position. Note that your dog does not sit in front. Instead, your dog must go directly to the heel position.

You may start training this procedure by having your dog in a sit/stay about three feet from you, with the leash on. Face your dog with a food treat in your hand, say your dog’s name, and say “Heel.” Use the food treat to guide your dog to the heel position. Practice this method about three times in a row for a week. When your dog is doing well, you may take the leash off and try the same method, telling him “Heel.” Use the food reward to put your dog in the heel position. If your dog does not understand, put the leash on him and start over. Repeat the exercise with the leash on until your dog understands.

Remember, do not rush your dog. It is better for your dog to have a solid understanding of your commands than to let him slide back in his training. Once your dog understands the hand signal with your voice and food treat, start working him at a distance. Then, when your dog is comfortable with the greater distance, call his name and use the hand signal (your dog must be watching you for this to work). Once your dog is doing the coming to heel position properly, you may start heeling your dog and signal him with the Stay command and complete the finished part of exercise.

It is a good idea to have a friend or your advisor to go over your dog in the stand. Just make sure everyone knows how to go over a dog in a stand. On the stand the judge places his or her hands on both sides of your dog and moves them all the way to the back of your dog. If your dog seems fearful of others going over him, you can stay in front, reassuring him that every-

thing is okay. Then when your dog is comfortable, slowly work your way to the full distance.

Directed Retrieve

Success of Directed Retrieve with a dumbbell assures you that your dog has an understanding of retrieval techniques. Before training for Directed Retrieve with gloves, your dog should be able to retrieve the dumbbell.

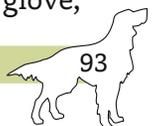
At first, play with your dog using an old glove that the dog can carry around. Playing “keep-away” with the glove usually excites the dog, and he will want to get the glove for himself.

Let your dog run and play with the glove. Call your dog to you while he has the glove in his mouth, then give a command for your dog to give the glove to you. The usual command is “Give” or “Out.” When your dog releases the glove, give a food reward and lots of verbal praise. Start playing again in the same way, allowing your dog to play with the glove. Call him to you, asking him to give you the glove, and again rewarding him with a food treat and verbal praise. Once your dog is successfully returning the glove to you, start throwing the glove and letting him bring the glove back to you. At this point you can tell your dog to sit and give the command “Out” or “Give.” Again, give a food reward and verbal praise. If your dog runs away from you with the glove, try teaching this exercise with him attached to a long line, which gives you control. Once your dog willingly comes to you, you can remove the long line. At no time should you ever jerk the glove from the dog’s mouth. Once your dog is willingly retrieving the glove when you throw it, you can begin to work on the remainder of the exercise.

Put your dog in a Sit/Stay and place the glove on the ground, about 5 feet away from him. Return to your dog and give a hand signal with your left hand, while telling him to “Get it,” “Fetch it,” or “Take it.” If your dog goes after the glove, give him lots of verbal praise. When your dog returns the glove to you, give him a release command and offer him a food treat.

If your dog drops the glove, have him take the glove again; give the release command and then give him a food reward and verbal praise.

Should your dog continue to drop the glove,



do not offer any treats. Your dog must have the glove in his mouth and give the glove to you on command. Sometimes, gently laying a hand on top of the dog's nose and under his jaw helps your dog keep the glove in his mouth. Saying "hold" will help your dog keep the glove in his mouth until you give the release command. You do not have to have the dog sit in front of you to receive the reward. However, when your dog is readily returning with the glove and holding the glove until told to release, you may start telling your dog to sit. Give the sit command when your dog is directly in front of you. Then, upon asking for the glove, remember to verbally praise and offer him a food treat. When your dog is comfortable with this retrieval, you can start to increase the distance of the placement length of the glove.



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On the directed retrieve, the dog should return to a sit front position and hold the glove until directed to release it.

Do not introduce the second and third glove to your dog until he is properly retrieving the first glove.

Once your dog is retrieving one glove properly, start training with a second glove. The second glove should be placed about 30 feet away from the first glove. With your dog sitting beside you, signal with your left hand and give the command for your dog to retrieve the second glove. You may have to run toward this glove with your dog so he goes after the correct one. Should your dog start to move towards the first glove, place a long line on him and run along beside him. Use your voice to keep your dog's attention on the new glove.

After your dog is consistently retrieving the second glove, alternate the glove you send him to retrieve, the right or the left. Do not introduce the middle glove until your dog can get the appropriate right or left gloves every time. The middle glove is not to be used in graduate open, only in utility.

Utility

The utility exercises consist of the following exercises:

- Signal Exercise
- Scent Discrimination—Article No. 1
- Scent Discrimination—Article No. 2
- Directed Retrieve
- Moving Stand and Examination
- Directed Jumping

Signal Exercise

This is the same as the graduate open exercise except there are no verbal commands and the handler goes across the ring while leaving the dog on the stand.

Scent Discrimination

The principal features of this exercise is the selection of the handler's article from among the other articles by scent alone and the prompt delivery of the correct article to the handler.

The judge asks, "What method are you using

The dog must stop and sit with his attention on the handler, but he need not sit squarely.

Next, the judge orders either “Bar” or “High” for the first jump, and the handler commands and/or signals the dog to return to the handler over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair, the handler may turn to face the dog as he returns. The dog sits in front of the handler and, on order from the judge, finishes as in the novice Recall. After the dog has returned to heel position, the judge says, “Exercise finished.”

When the dog is set up for the second half of this exercise, the judge asks, “Are you ready?” before giving the order for the second part of the exercise. The same procedure is followed for the second jump.

It is optional which jump the judge first indicates, but both jumps must be included. The judge must not designate the jump until the dog has reached the far end of the ring.

Brace

Updated paragraph

The brace class is for two dogs of any size or breed meeting the 4-H ownership and eligibility requirements. Dogs may be shown unattached or coupled (the coupling device cannot be less than 6 inches in overall length). Whichever method is used must be continued throughout all exercises. Exercises, performances, and judging are as in the Novice obedience class (pre-novice and novice). The brace should work in unison at all times.

Hint: Put the fastest dog on the outside and the slower one next to you. The outside dog has to walk quite a bit faster on the turns.

Team

This class is for teams of four exhibitors and their dogs that meet the eligibility requirements. The same four dogs perform all exercises. The dogs on a team perform the exercises simultaneously.

Updated paragraph



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In brace, two dogs perform the exercises together.

In the Figure 8 portion of the Heel on Leash exercise, five stewards are used. The stewards stand eight feet apart in a straight line. Each handler, with a dog sitting in heel position, stands about equidistant from each of two stewards with all members of the team facing the same direction. On orders from the judge, the team performs the Figure 8, with each handler starting around the steward on the left and circling only the two stewards nearby.

In the Advanced Team class there is a Drop on Recall exercise rather than a straight Recall. The handlers leave their dogs simultaneously on order of the judge. The dogs are called or signaled in, one at a time, on a separate order from the judge to each handler. Without any additional order from the judge, handlers command or signal the dogs to drop at a spot midway between the line of dogs and the handlers. Each dog remains in the down position until all four have been called and dropped. The judge gives the order to call the dogs, which are called or signaled simultaneously. The finish is done in unison on an order from the judge.

Rally

Rally is a sport that follows a course from one sign to the next, with the handler and dog performing the skill listed on each sign before proceeding to the next sign. Rally differs from



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Forging is a common dog error.

Lagging: Lagging means your dog is behind you when heeling. Lagging is frequently seen on the Figure 8 as well as in the regular heeling. Lagging also causes a tight leash. Remember, a dog off leash that lags at two feet or more behind the handler can be considered unqualified heeling, resulting in a major point deduction or a determination of zero points for the exercise in AKC.

Anticipation: Anticipation means your dog gets up when you start to say his name but you have not finished giving the command.

Crowding: Crowding means you bump into your dog when heeling because your dog is moving too close to you.

Sniffing: Error occurs when your dog habitually sniffs around when heeling. Quite often dogs sniff at the posts when performing the Figure 8.

Forging: Forging is when your dog is always ahead of you. Forging also can cause a tight leash.

HANDLER ERRORS on the Stand for Exam:

Extra commands or signals: Extra commands include telling your dog to stay more than once, or telling your dog to stay when you still have a hand on your dog's body. You can only give the command to stay once, without your hands on the dog. **HINT:** In this exercise, if you wait until your dog is comfortable and then stand straight up before telling him to stay, the exercise usually goes better.

An error occurs when not returning to heel position. If you can always return to the dog's ear, you will always be in heel position.

An error occurs when you leave your dog further than six feet away from you. (This is the judge's decision and is usually a one-point deduction.)

DOG ERRORS on the Stand for Exam:

Sits or moves away: Your dog does not stand when you leave, nor does he stay in place.

Sits or moves after exam: After a judge goes over your dog with his hands, your dog moves out of place or sits down.

Growls, snaps, or shows resentment: Your dog shows aggressive behavior by growling, snapping, or showing resentment, and does not allow the judge to go over him. Any dog that snaps, bites, or attempts to bite must be immediately excused from the ring.

Updated paragraph →

HANDLER ERRORS on the Recall:

Extra commands or signals: Calling your dog more than once, leaning forward when calling your dog, not having your arms at your sides when calling or finishing your dog, or backing

Pulling and guiding dog on leash to come or finish: Using the leash to encourage your dog to come, or using your leash to position your dog into heel position.

DOG ERRORS on the Recall:

Your dog doesn't come on first command. The deduction is usually half of your score or a determination of zero points.

Anticipated command—your dog comes before called. The deduction is usually half of your score or a determination of zero points.

Your dog does not sit in front or sits crooked.

Your dog does not finish or has a poor sit position on finish.

Your dog sniffs things as he comes toward you.

Your dog does not come all the way to you.

Your dog is slow to respond.

HANDLER ERRORS on Long Sits and Downs:

You push your dog into position.

You tell your dog to stay more than once.

You point at your dog to make him stay.

You try to break another's dog.

DOG ERRORS on Long Sits and Downs:

Your dog is whining or barking.

Your dog does not remain in place.

Your dog approaches another dog.

Your dog stands, lies down (on long sit), or sits (on long down) before you return.

Your dog gets up when you return to heel position.

Extra Points at Bottom of Ohio Score Sheets

Exhibitor's appearance: As the handler, do not be overly dressed. If wearing a dress, the dress should not interfere with working the dog. A dress should not be so long that it flaps in the dog's face. Nor should a dress be too short for

performing some of the exercises. Flat shoes should be worn in order for you to move better with your dog. (Clogs and platform shoes are not appropriate.) While in the ring, do not wear a shirt with any form of club logo on it. If jeans are the only thing you have to wear, they must be clean, free of holes, and free of any fringe on the bottom of the legs. If possible, a pair of nice slacks should be worn. Split skirts and dress shorts are permissible.

Dog's appearance: Your dog should have his toenails trimmed and be free of extra hair. A judge does not want to run his hands over your dog while in a stand and come up with a hand full of hair. Eyes should be free of matter.

Sportsmanship: Always be polite to the judge, as the judge should be polite to you. If your dog doesn't do something right in the ring, do not take it out on your dog inside or outside of the ring. Do not bait your dog in the ring or on the show floor. Be polite to all stewards and other handlers showing in your class. Do not badmouth the judge or anyone showing. Do not leave your dog unattended at the show. Someone should be with your dog at all times.

Refer to Ohio's Novice Score Sheet on page 102 as an example. AKC obedience judges' score sheets can be found at akc.org/events/obedience/judges-books-score-sheets.

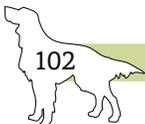
Updated paragraph

Advanced Obedience

Caution should be taken when giving hand signals. The signal should be a single smooth movement. Holding the signal results in points being deducted. Also, check the AKC rules to see if the command can be either verbal or signal. If it says "or," it must be one or the other; if it says "and/or," it can be both.

On the Sits and Downs Out of Sight, there cannot be any handling from outside of the ring from parents, friends, or advisors. This means no person associated with the dog shall be standing immediately outside the ring. If the judge sees double handling, the exercise is scored as if the dog did not perform it.

Exhibitor's Name _____		Exhibitor's Number _____			
County _____		Breed _____			
Novice Class _____ A or _____ B					
EXERCISE*	MAXIMUM POINT DEDUCTION	MINOR TO SUBSTANTIAL POINT DEDUCTION	POINTS	SCORE	COMMENTS
HEEL ON LEASH AND FIGURE 8	Heeling Fig. 8	Heeling Fig. 8	40		
	Unmanageable _____ Unqualified heeling _____ Handler continually adapts pace to dog _____ Constant tugging on leash or guiding _____	No change of pace: Fast _____ Slow _____ Improper heel position _____ Occasional tight leash _____ Forging _____ Crowding handler _____ Lagging _____ Sniffing _____ Extra command to heel _____ Heeling wide _____ Turns _____ Abouts _____ No sits _____ Poor sits _____ Sluggish pace _____ Handler error _____			
STAND FOR EXAM	Sits or lies down before or during examination _____ Growsl _____ Moves away before or during examination _____ Shows shyness or resentment _____	Moving slightly before or during _____ Moves feet _____ Moving after examination _____ Sits after exam _____ Heel position _____ Extra signal or command _____ Handler error _____	30		
HEEL FREE	Unmanageable _____ Unqualified heeling _____ Handler continually adapts pace to dog _____ Leaving handler _____	No change of pace: Fast _____ Slow _____ Improper hand position _____ Forging _____ Crowding handler _____ Lagging _____ Sniffing _____ Extra command to heel _____ Heeling wide _____ Turns _____ Abouts _____ No sits _____ Poor sits _____ Sluggish pace _____ Handler error _____	40		
RECALL	Did not come on first command or signal _____ Anticipated _____ Extra command or signal to stay _____ Moved from position _____ Sat out of reach _____ Leaving handler _____	Stood or laid down _____ Slow response _____ Touched handler _____ No sit in front _____ Sat between feet _____ No finish _____ Poor sit _____ Failure to come directly to handler _____ Poor finish _____ Failure to come at brisk trot or gallop _____ Handler arms not at side _____ Handler error _____	30		
Maximum Subtotal Points			140		
LONG SIT (1 MIN.)	Did not remain in place _____ Goes to another dog _____ Leaves ring _____ Repeated whines or barks _____ Stood or laid down before handler returns _____	Minor move before handler returns _____ Stays 1/3 time _____ Stays More than 2/3 time _____ Stood or laid down after handler returns to heel position _____ Minor whine or bark _____ Forced into position _____ Handler error _____	30		
LONG DOWN (3 MIN.)	Did not remain in place _____ Goes to another dog _____ Leaves ring _____ Repeated whines or barks _____ Stood or sat before handler returns _____	Minor move before handler returns _____ Stays 1/3 time _____ Stays More than 2/3 time _____ Stood or laid down after handler returns to heel position _____ Minor whine or bark _____ Forced into position _____ Handler error _____	30		
*A dog that snaps, bite, or attempts to bite must be immediately excused from the ring.			Maximum Subtotal Points	200	
Exhibitor's Appearance			10		
Dog's Appearance			10		
Sportsmanship			10		
Maximum Total Points			230		



grasping the stifle. This usually results in your dog's back becoming level, thus removing that dip. If the back is arched, make sure the rear legs are not too far under your dog. If that is not the cause of the problem, set the rear legs without reaching under the dog, again positioning them by grasping the stifle or point of the hock. This usually results in your dog's back becoming level.

Free stacking is a term used to describe walking your dog into a stack without using your hands to position the dog's feet. One method often used is to give your dog the command to stand, and then use the lead to move his head and shift his weight, just as you did when doing hands-on stacking. Pull the lead gently forward or back, and/or right or left, to cause different feet to move.



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If your dog does not need his tail held, you can teach him to free stack.

Once stacked, the dog's attention may be kept with the use of **bait**. This may be a small piece of food or a small toy that is no bigger than your fist. Before entering the ring always ask the ring steward if that judge permits the use of bait. Then use the bait *discreetly* to keep the dog's attention focused on you. This gives an alert posture and is helpful in keeping the ears tilted forward in prick-eared breeds. Do not throw the bait to keep your dog's attention, and do not leave pieces of food lying in the ring.

Small dogs are shown on a table. They are carefully lifted on the table and stacked the same way as a larger dog. The front feet are placed near the center front edge of the table. It takes some practice to get your dog accustomed to this. If you do not have a grooming table to practice on, use a picnic table or other sturdy table, placing a rubber bath mat on it for traction. It is permissible to carefully lift a small breed by his chest and gently set him into position. Never drop a dog into position because that can be harmful to his feet and shoulders and can cause the table to move, thus scaring the dog. Great care should be taken when lifting the dog down from the table as many get excited and try to jump.



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Small dogs are shown with their front feet centered on the edge of the short side of the table.

Keep checking the placement of the dog's feet once he is stacked. Any movement out of position needs to be corrected quickly but smoothly. The lead should be gathered neatly in your hand and not draped over the dog. If you must kneel beside your dog after he is stacked, keep only one knee on the ground so that you can change positions smoothly and with ease. You must not obstruct the judge's view of your dog; therefore, you may need to move around the dog to give a clear view. Position yourself facing slightly toward the dog's head, with the knee closest to the dog being down. The exception is if you are stacking a toy breed on the floor, then it is permissible to put both knees on the ground. However, you still must be prepared to move around your dog smoothly as needed.

Updated paragraph

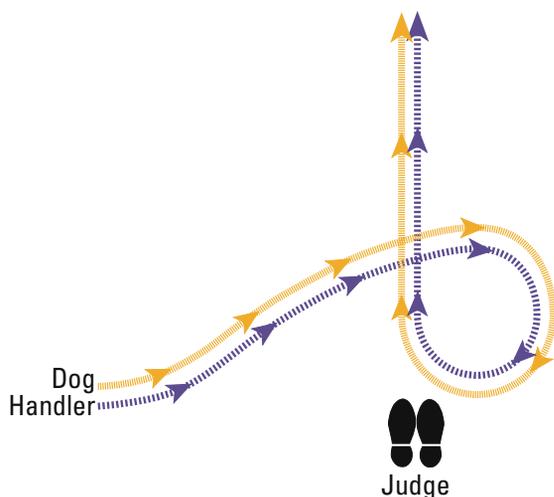
when the handler lifts the dog to the ground after being examined. It is neither necessary nor desirable to hold up the ring by making the judge wait.

When you are stacking your dog in the line, make sure you are not stacking your dog directly behind the grooming table. If you do, the judge is unable to see your dog clearly when he or she steps to the center of the ring. Therefore, leave that space empty. It is permissible to back up so that you are not in the corner, with other handlers adjusting as needed.

The judge may walk between dogs at any time. Be sure you do NOT block the judge's view of your dog. Sometimes you may need to step towards the front or rear of your dog. Other times you may need to move completely around your dog so the judge can see the dog's entire length. Do NOT step over your dog. It is helpful to practice stacking your dog from both sides so you can do it quickly and smoothly.

Courtesy Turn

← Updated section



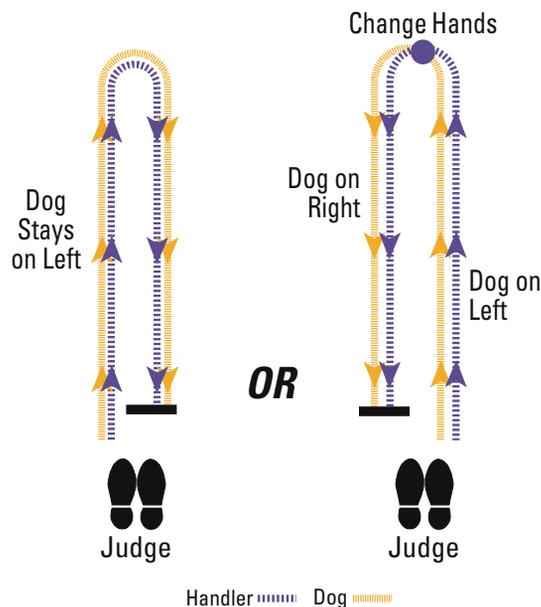
If you have a large breed dog, it is recommended that every pattern start with a courtesy turn except the Down and Back pattern with two dogs. If you do the courtesy turn properly, your large breed dog transitions smoothly to the correct speed in the smallest amount of space, and will look better.

To perform the courtesy turn, step forward past the judge, with the dog at your left side. Then turn in a very tight circle with the dog on the outside. Remember to turn, and do not stand still and just circle your dog. Make only

one circle before you start off on the pattern. After completing the circle, move your dog away from the judge in a straight line, making sure he is lined up with the judge.

Toy breeds and other small breeds are not required to do a courtesy turn. Small breed dogs are defined as breeds shown on a table.

Down and Back Pattern (One Dog)

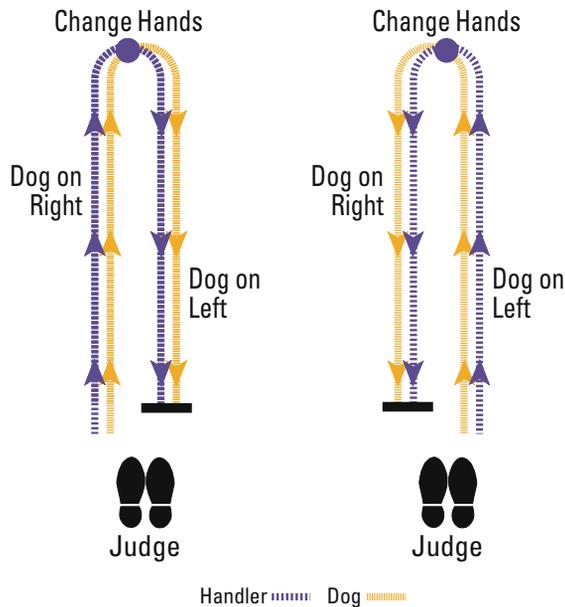


To perform the Down and Back pattern, complete a courtesy turn **if needed**, and gait your dog away from the judge. When you reach the end of the ring, turn toward the right, just as you would do an about turn in obedience, and return to the judge. The goal is to perform the turn smoothly and to make sure your dog is lined up with the judge when both leaving and returning. The Down and Back pattern may be performed on the diagonal. Pay attention to the directions the judge gives you.

You may practice the Down and Back by switching hands, therefore switching sides when you return. Go down with the dog on your left. Then switch the lead to your other hand and return with the dog on your right. This type of Down and Back could be used as a tiebreaker, with the judge requesting you to switch hands. Sometimes you may need to switch hands if you are at an outdoor trial and the ring conditions are such that your dog might step in a hole or puddle if you don't switch hands. You also need to know how to switch hands in the Senior B

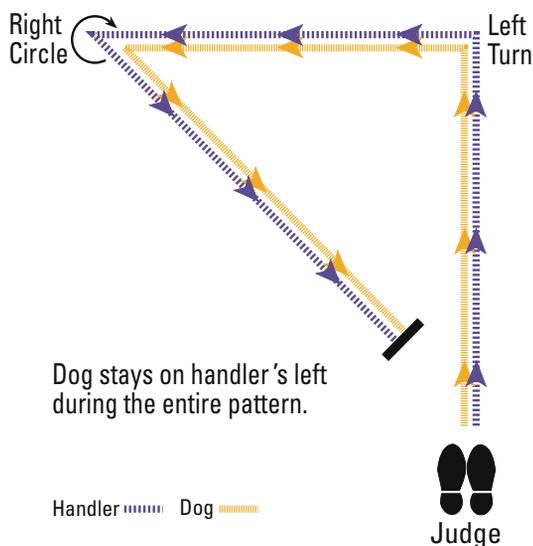
level showmanship class when performing the Down and Back pattern with two dogs.

Down and Back Pattern (Two Dogs)



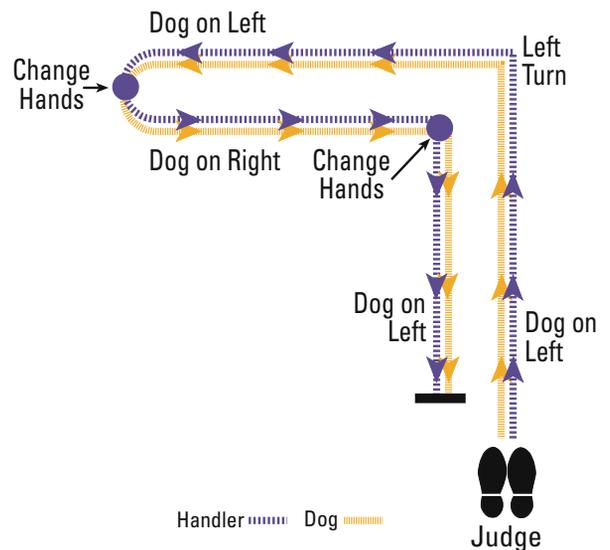
When doing the Down and Back with two dogs, the handlers step off at the same time, with the dogs in the center and the handlers on the outside. When the end of the ring is reached, both handlers turn toward their dogs, switch hands and return, stopping three to four feet in front of the judge. For safety reasons, this Down and Back pattern is done only in Senior B level 4-H classes.

Triangle Pattern



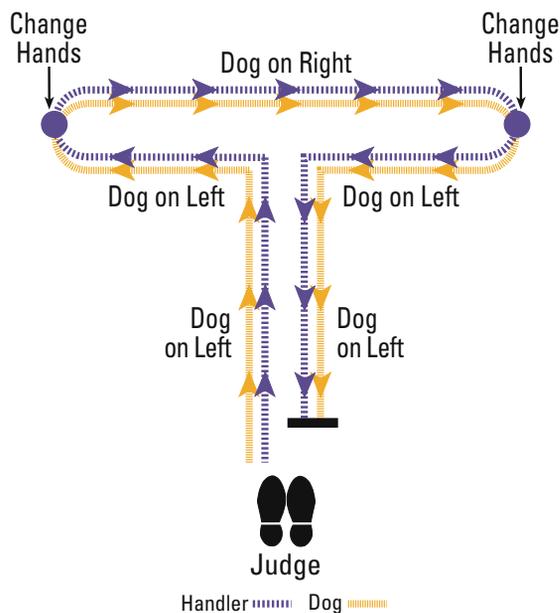
The Triangle pattern starts with the standard courtesy turn, **if needed**, and gait away from the judge. When you reach the end of the ring, make a left turn and continue to the corner. When you reach that corner, make a right circle and continue back to the judge, stopping three to four feet from the judge. To do a right circle, spin in a clockwise direction around your right hand with the dog at your left side. When facing the correct direction, step off at your normal gaing speed. This enables a large dog to make a very sharp turn in a very small space. If working with a very small toy breed, the right circle may be eliminated. There are no hand changes in this pattern.

“L” Pattern



The “L” pattern starts the same way as the Triangle pattern. Make your courtesy turn, **if needed**, gait away from the judge to the far end of the ring, and then make a left turn. When you reach that far corner, turn toward your dog and transfer the lead to your right hand. Continue turning until facing back along the way you came. Then gait back to the corner with your dog at your right side. As you approach the corner, let your dog continue past you and transfer the lead back to your left hand. Make a right turn and gait back to the judge. This puts the dog back at your left side for the final approach. The most difficult part of this exercise is at that farthest corner where you switch hands. It takes practice to make the switch and turn smoothly. You must also get your dog comfortable with gaing at your right side.

“T” Pattern



This pattern is a modified “L” pattern that is started midway down one side of the ring. After your courtesy turn, if needed, start in the same manner as the basic “L” by going across the ring, away from the judge, to the far side of the ring. Make a left turn, go across to the end, change hands, return, and continue on to the opposite side of the ring. When there, let the dog go past you, change hands and do an about turn, and continue back to the center. Make a left turn and continue back to the judge with the dog at your left side.

After Performing a Pattern

After you have finished your individual pattern, the judge sends you to the end of the line. Do an about turn, with the dog at your left at the outside of the turn, and go back around the ring to the end of the line. The judge may or may not watch you return to the end of the line. Always present yourself as if the judge is still observing you. Continue to move up and restack your dog as each dog completes his pattern.

To Table or Not to Table

Some breeds are typically shown on a table at AKC events. These dogs are usually handled by adults who are physically able to safely lift them onto the table. In 4-H dog shows, youth may show mixed breeds that could be much larger

than the breed their dogs most closely resemble. A youth may not be tall or strong enough to lift his or her dog onto the table. It is unsafe for a small exhibitor to lift a large dog on the table, which may be more than waist high. Youth, regardless of age, should be able to safely table toy breeds. But once you get past the 16-pound toy size, the exhibitor’s size in relation to the dog’s size must be considered. Ideally, the matter should be brought to the judge’s attention *before* the class enters the ring. As the exhibitor, you should know if the breed of your dog, or what breed he most closely resembles, is normally shown on the table. You should be able to explain how it is done properly, even if you are unable to demonstrate those procedures. There is no penalty for exhibitors who are physically unable to safely lift their dogs, especially if they know the correct procedure and timing. These AKC breeds are normally tabled:

Updated breed list

Sporting

- Boykin Spaniel (or Ground or Ramp)
- Cocker Spaniel
- English Cocker Spaniel

Hounds

- Basenji
- All Beagles
- All Dachshunds
- Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen (or Ground)
- Portuguese Podengo Pequeno
- Whippet (or Ground or Ramp)

Working—No Working Dogs on table.

Terriers—All Terriers on table, *except* those noted below:

- Airedale Terrier
- American Staffordshire (or Ramp)
- Bull Terrier
- Irish Terriers
- Mini Bull Terrier (or Ground or Table)
- Kerry Blue Terrier
- Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier
- Staffordshire Bull Terrier

Toy—All Toy breeds.

Non-Sporting

- All American Eskimos
- Bichon Frise
- Boston Terrier
- Coton De Tulear
- French Bulldog



Lhasa Apso
 Lowchen
 Miniature Poodle
 Norwegian Lundehund
 Schipperke
 Shiba Inu
 Tibetan Spaniel
 Tibetan Terrier
 Xoloitzcuintli (Toys and Miniatures)

Updated breed list

Herding

Cardigan Welsh Corgi
 Miniature American Shepherd
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi
 Puli
 Pumi
 Pyrean Shepherd
 Shetland Sheepdog
 Swedish Vallhund

FSS/Miscellaneous Breeds

Nederlandse Kooikerhondje
 Peruvian Inca Orchid (Small and Medium)

Refer to images.akc.org/pdf/judges/table_breeds.pdf for additional information about the use of ramps at AKC shows.

Breed Presentation

Although a handler should present the dog in the proper manner for the breed, handlers show many mixed breeds in 4-H. When showing a mixed breed, a handler should identify the breed the dog most closely resembles and show the dog as if he were that breed.

During all phases of handling, the exhibitor's concentration should be on the dog and not on the judge, but not to the extent the handler is unaware of events in the ring. Judges evaluate the handler and dog with the following in mind:

1. Is the dog responsive to the handler? Do dog and handler work as a team?
2. Does the dog appear posed or interested at all times?
3. Is the dog under control?
4. Is the dog moved correctly to the best of his ability?
5. Are the dog's main faults being minimized?
6. Do both the dog and handler appear relaxed?
7. Is the dog presented with an apparent minimum of effort?

Knowledge of Ring Procedure

Handlers must follow directions, use space wisely, and execute the requested gaiting patterns. Handlers should appear "ring wise," be alert to the judging progression, and be prepared for changes in the judging routine.

Appearance and Conduct

Excessive grooming of the dog in the ring to gain the judge's attention is inappropriate and should be faulted accordingly.

Handlers are expected to handle their dogs without distracting the dogs of other competitors, and a handler who crowds or disturbs other dogs should be faulted. A principle of showmanship is to afford the opportunity to learn the spirit of competition. Winning is important but is secondary to development of sportsmanship in competition.

Handlers should be alert to the needs of their dogs, realizing the welfare of their dogs is most important. They are responsible for the control of their dogs at all times. Handlers who exhibit impatience or heavy-handedness with their dogs should be penalized.

Use of Bait

Using bait in showmanship classes is at the discretion of the judge. The steward should check with the judge prior to the start of classes and have the announcer inform the exhibitors as to the use of bait.

Handler's Appearance

Always remember that you and your dog are a team. You should be neat, clean, and well groomed. Wear clothing that is comfortable to handle in and that complements your dog. Clothing should not hinder or detract from the presentation of the dog. Examples of *acceptable* clothing for girls are dresses, skirts, dress shorts, skorts, dress slacks, dressy capri or crop pants, collared blouses, or similar attire. Acceptable clothing for boys includes dress shirts, ties, and dress slacks. Sports jackets may be worn, but are not necessary, especially in hot weather. When wearing a tie, a tie tack should be used to hold the tie close to the shirt so it does not drape over the dog's back or get in the



way. Shoes should have non-slip soles and low or no heels. Practice running and bending over in your show outfit. Practice handling the dog in the show clothes and shoes you have chosen to wear.

Clothing that is too tight or too revealing is distracting, and you will be penalized. Do not wear short skirts, short shorts, tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, low cut blouses or shirts, shorts hanging too low on the waist, clothing with holes or tears in the fabric, any type of jeans, or other similar types of clothing. Also, do not wear excessive or oversized jewelry, sashes, and anything that will touch or distract your dog. If a skirt is worn, care should be taken so that it does not flap in the dog's face. Do not wear shirts with club names or logos, or clothing with lettering and distracting or offensive wording or designs. Do not wear hats. Do not wear items in your hair that detract from your overall presentation as a team. Do not wear sandals, open-toed shoes, clogs, or similar type shoes.

Hair that must be continually brushed out of the eyes or that falls over the dog or your face when you are stacking is distracting. Long hair should be in a braid or ponytail, or clips should be used to keep it out of the handler's face.

Armbands are worn on the left arm.

It is important for you to relax, smile, and act happy while showing! A pleasant attitude and good sportsmanship go a long way toward making you and your dog a winning team.

Equipment

A dog is shown on a lead that is proportionate to his size. The collar may be nylon, very small chain link, or a combination lead and collar, such as a martingale. Never use a chain lead. Nothing must be hanging from the collar. If you do a lot of obedience work with your dog, you may want to use a chain collar for obedience and a nylon slip collar for showmanship. Most of the working breeds are shown on a chain collar with a leather or nylon lead. Experiment with different types of equipment to find out what gives you the most control over your dog.



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Left to right: martingale lead, fine chain collar and loop lead, loop lead, nylon collar, nylon slide lead. The lead should match the dog in color and size.

Grooming

It is not necessary that a 4-H dog be shown in a show clip; however, the dog must be clean and his coat free of mats and loose hair. Ears must be clean, but it is not required that all hair be removed from the ear canal. The eyes must be free from matter, and the teeth should not have any tartar buildup. Some staining on the teeth of older dogs is permissible.

The toenails must be of proper length. This does not mean trimming the nails on the day before the show so the nails have a fresh edge. Properly trimmed nails are achieved by regularly trimming them every week or so, depending on the normal activity of the dog. If you are not sure about correct toenail length, ask someone with experience.

Hair between the pads should be trimmed evenly with the pads to prevent matting and collection of dirt and ice, unless the AKC breed standard says that the hair is to remain between the pads. It is not required that whiskers be trimmed, but if your dog's face is shaved, any stubble should be removed. Some breeds develop static flyaway when they have been freshly bathed. Pin a towel around the dog while he is still damp until he dries to help the hair lie flat.

↑
Updated paragraph

Chapter 12

Performance Events

Dogs that participate in performance events are athletes. Just like human athletes, dog athletes must be healthy and in good condition and must eat a high-quality diet. Running, climbing, swimming, and jumping put a lot of stress on a dog's bones and joints. Dogs should not have hip or elbow dysplasia, osteochondrosis dissecans (OCD), or any other congenital or hereditary bone or joint disease when participating in performance events. Dogs with arthritis should not participate unless approved by and under the supervision of your veterinarian.

All dogs should be fed a high-quality dog food. In addition to eating a premium dog food, they must have the right amount of fat in their diet to provide them with energy. Unlike human athletes who require large amounts of complex carbohydrates for energy, dogs need fats for energy. Dogs also need a high level of protein in their diet to reduce chances of injury. Overweight dogs can injure themselves more easily than dogs of optimal weight for their body frame. Be sure your dog is not overweight when beginning a performance event.

Dogs must also be in good condition to lessen their chances of injury and to perform their best. In events such as agility, where you and your dog work as a team, you must be in good shape as well. Begin conditioning your dog by taking him on long walks, playing fetch, or jogging with him. Refer to Chapter 17, Nutrition and Exercise, to learn the importance of physical activity in keeping your dog healthy.

Agility

Agility is a fun and exciting sport in which you direct your dog through and over a series of obstacles while competing for the best time. A judge sets up a course that typically consists of tunnels, jumps, contact obstacles, and other obstacles. The dog is timed as the handler and

dog maneuver through the course in a specified order. As handlers and dogs become more proficient in agility, they compete at higher levels on harder courses. Dogs that typically get bored performing obedience exercises find agility exciting and stimulating. Agility requires concentrated teamwork, creating a closer bond between you and your dog.

Your dog should know basic obedience before learning agility. When you are ready to begin agility, enroll in an agility class or learn from someone with experience in teaching agility. It is important that you and your dog learn correctly from the beginning, so neither of you pick up bad habits that are hard to relearn or retrain. It is also important to learn how to safely execute each obstacle to keep your dog from becoming frightened of an obstacle, or injured by falling from an obstacle.

Learning agility and completing various courses builds confidence in both you and your dog. Practicing and competing in agility is a good way for both of you to exercise and get into shape.

← Updated paragraph

There are many organizations that offer agility, and the rules vary from one organization to another. Several of these agility organizations include AKC (American Kennel Club), CPE (Canine Performance Events), NADAC (North American Dog Agility Council), USDAA (United States Dog Agility Association), DOCNA (Dogs On Course in North America), TDAA (Teacup Dog Agility Association), UKI (UK Agility International), UKC (United Kennel Club), IFCS (International Federation of Cynological Sports), and AAC (Agility Association of Canada). AKC, CPE, USDAA, NADAC, and DOCNA have Junior Handler Programs for youth less than 18 years old, allowing them to compete for titles. The amount of faults and number of obstacles required depend on the organization and class in which you are competing.



Agility organizations have minimum age requirements for dogs to compete to prevent bone and joint injury to puppies.

The Obstacles

In each organization, course obstacles are standardized and meet specific requirements as to height, width, color, and design. Most of the organizations use the same obstacles with variances in the specifications. Some organizations have obstacles that are used by that organization only or have optional obstacles that are used depending on the class being offered. The types of obstacles are contact obstacles, tunnels, jumps, and pause tables.

Contact Obstacles

Contact obstacles have a contact zone at the beginning and end of the obstacle. The dog is required to touch this zone when entering and exiting the obstacle with the exception of the up contact on the A-frame. Failure to do so results in elimination. The size of the zone var-

ies depending on the organization. The contact zones are painted a different color, usually yellow, from the rest of the obstacle. The three contact obstacles are the A-frame, the dog walk, and the seesaw or teeter-totter.

A-frame—This large contact obstacle has two ramps that meet in the middle forming an A. The dog must climb up the A-frame to the top and then down the other side.

Dog Walk—This contact obstacle consists of an ascending ramp, a long center plank, and a descending ramp. Dogs walk up the ramp, across the plank, and then down the opposite ramp.

Seesaw—Also known as a teeter, this contact obstacle moves up and down with the dog's weight and can be intimidating to a dog. Dogs usually do not like the movement of the seesaw and try to jump off. A "fly-off" is when the dog jumps off the seesaw before the seesaw touches the ground. Dogs that have a negative experience on the seesaw may not want to attempt the dog walk and may lose

Updated paragraph →



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Placing a treat at the bottom of a contact zone causes your dog to look down, making him less likely to launch from the obstacle and miss the contact.

confidence on other agility obstacles. Therefore, many agility instructors recommend teaching the seesaw as one of the last agility obstacles for a dog to learn.

Updated section

Tunnels

AKC, CPE, USDAA, NADAC, DOCNA, TDAA, UKI, UKC, IFCS, and AAC all offer the open tunnel, also called pipe tunnel. UKC also offers the hoop tunnel and the crawl tunnel, neither of which look like tunnels. Dogs are required to enter one end of the tunnel and exit at the opposite end.

Open Tunnel—The open tunnel is 10 to 20 feet long, with an opening of approximately 24 inches that is flexible and capable of being arranged in curved shapes. The tunnel is usually placed in a curved fashion in competition so the dog cannot see the other end.

Hoop Tunnel—This type of tunnel is used exclusively by UKC and consists of 8 PVC hoops attached to a PVC frame. It does not look like a tunnel to dogs, and therefore is easy for them to run out the side instead of going straight through the hoops.

Crawl Tunnel—The crawl tunnel is also used only by UKC and does not look like a tunnel to dogs. It is 72 inches long, 30 inches wide, with the height depending on the chest size of the dog. The tunnel is made from PVC pipes, with open sides and a piece of fabric stretched across the top. The dog enters the tunnel underneath the fabric and crawls through.

For safety reasons, most agility organizations have discontinued the use of the Chute or Closed Tunnel.



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Start with a short, straight tunnel and use a helper to hold the dog while you call him from the other side.

Broad or Long Jump—The broad jump is either four 8-inch sections or five 6-inch sections arranged in ascending order (like the obedience broad jump) or as a hogback. In a hogback arrangement, the sections ascend in height until halfway across the jump and then descend. Each section of the broad jump varies in height. The length of each section is 4 to 5 feet and either the centers or ends must be marked with a color-contrasting band. The total length of the broad jump is twice the jump height of the division. Corner markers are used to improve visibility and may be either freestanding or attached. The dog must jump all sections without touching any part and jump between the entrance markers and the exit markers.

Tire or Circle Jump—As the name implies, this is a tire suspended from a frame through which the dog must jump. The tire is 17 to 24 inches in diameter, depending on the organization, and there must be a minimum of 8 inches between the outside of the tire and sides of the adjustable frame. The jump height is measured from the bottom of the tire opening to the ground. Failure to go through the opening in the correct direction results in elimination.

Weave Poles—Weave poles are poles made of PVC pipe that is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter and 3 or 4 feet tall, depending on the sanctioning organization. This obstacle consists of 8 to 12 poles set 18 to 25 inches apart, again depending on the organization. The dog is required to enter the line to the right of the first pole, which means the starting pole is to the left of the dog as he goes between the first two poles. He weaves through the poles, hopefully without skipping any. This obstacle offers the most challenge and requires the most training.

Pause Table

A pause table is a 36 inch by 36 inch table that is covered with a non-slip surface. It has legs that can be adjusted to various regulation heights. The dog is required to pause for a continuous five seconds in a down or sit stay or the count is restarted. USDAA requires a down only on the table.

Course Requirements

An AKC agility trial requires a course area with a minimum of 5,000 square feet for Novice, 6,500 square feet for Open, and 8,000 square feet for Excellent/Master. It can be run inside or outside. Some organizations require a 10,000 square foot minimum course that must be run outside. All require relatively level sites and a non-slip surface. If inside, there should be a minimum amount of support poles in the ring, to allow for as much open space as possible. When outside, agility trials are run rain or shine, barring any conditions that pose a hazard or danger.

The number of obstacles used in a class is specified. Each class has mandatory obstacles. The remaining obstacles can be single jumps, tire jump, window jump, or open tunnel.

Standard course time, the time the handler and dog have to complete the course, is based on the number of yards in a course. The judge is responsible for measuring the course and determining the course yardage and standard course time. Lower levels, such as novice, generally have more time, and advanced levels have less time. Time differences are also generally made for different heights of dogs, with smaller dogs receiving more time as compared to bigger dogs. All times have five seconds added for the pause table.

The Course

Unlike obedience, in which the equipment and ring set-up are basically the same every time, agility course designs are never the same. Prior to the show, the judge designs a course that meets the requirements of the sponsoring organization. Each organization has specific criteria as to the number of obstacles used, obstacle design, spacing requirements, course times, and design. Course designs are kept confidential by the judge until the day of the show. Designs are posted and/or distributed to exhibitors so they can familiarize themselves with the course.

Scoring

Each organization has different requirements for qualifying. As the dog and handler perform



Courtesy of Emily's Photography.

Designing a creative routine and a lot of practice paid off for this prize-winning drill team from Hardin County, Ohio.

Canine Free Style

Some people call it “dancing with your dog.” However, that definition falls far short of all the wonderful aspects of this exciting new sport. In canine freestyle training, teamwork, creativity, and music all combine to create a unique performance. Each team uses a variety of moves chosen to illustrate their special relationship. These moves can be as traditional as basic obedience, such as heeling and attention, or more athletic moves such as spins, weaves, jumps, backing up, and side passes. Even tricks can be used.

Canine freestyle is great for people and dogs of all ages. For many older dogs, it is a really fun way to maintain strength and flexibility. Younger dogs like the variety—it’s a great way for them to “learn how to learn.”

Canine freestyle is a fun and challenging competitive dog sport. Those who do not care to go to competitions can compete by video. It is a wonderful addition to therapy dog work and

a wonderful way to entertain in just about any setting. Performances can also go into schools and other places to help educate the public about dog care and positive training methods.

Earthdog Trials Updated paragraph

Earthdog trials are instinct tests for terriers and Dachshunds. Earthdog den trials involve underground tunnels that dogs must negotiate while following a scent to their “quarry.” The behaviors tested are: willingness to follow a scent to the entrance, willingness to enter a dark den, and willingness to work the quarry. The dog may work the caged rats by barking, digging, growling, lunging, biting at the protective bars, or any work that the judge feels displays a desire to get to the quarry.

There are two major organizations that sanction earthdog tests in the United States, the American Kennel Club (AKC) and the American Working Terrier Association (AWTA).

Field Trials

Hunting dogs usually compete against each other on their ability to track, point, and retrieve in field trials, which are generally more competitive than hunt tests. A higher level of training is required for dogs to be successful in field trials than to succeed in hunt tests. Organizations such as the American Kennel Club (AKC) and various gun dog organizations hold sanctioned field trials. The AKC offers field trials for several breeds, including Bassets, Beagles, Dachshunds, Pointing breeds, Retrievers, and Spaniels.

Herding Trials

Herding dog breeds developed in response to people’s needs to move livestock. Herding offers the opportunity for teamwork between handler and dog in a variety of situations. The herding dog must use his own initiative and judgment while listening to and cooperating with his handler. There are different organizations sanctioning herding trials in the United States, some of

Chapter 13

Working Dogs

Updated paragraph

Dogs provide many services to humans. Assistance dogs are trained to help people with disabilities and include guide dogs, hearing dogs, and service dogs. Dogs are used in animal-assisted activities to provide emotional, educational, or recreational human-animal interaction. Dogs used in animal-assisted therapy help promote a person's cognitive, emotional, or physical functioning. Dogs are used in police work, in search and rescue, and as guard dogs, herding dogs, and military dogs. They are used in entertainment, photography, and public relations. If a dog that wants to work is not kept busy, he may find his own "work" to do, such as digging holes in the yard, destroying furniture, and getting into other kinds of trouble. That is why sports such as agility, rally, lure coursing, and other events to keep your dog active and engaged are important outlets for an energetic dog.

To a working dog, work is play. A search and rescue dog, for example, associates finding a missing person with getting a reward, such as a treat, toy, or play time. He doesn't know that he may have saved someone's life. He knows that he gets a reward for performing his "work." He is trained on a play and reward system. For herding dogs, the actual herding of sheep, for example, is the play and reward.

In this chapter you will learn about some types of working dogs and about the services they provide.

Assistance Dogs

Assistance dog is a modern term used to describe dogs that provide a service to their human partners. Many people are familiar with Guide Dogs, which are dogs that, for over seventy years, have been formally trained to assist people who are blind. The addition of Hearing

Dogs trained to assist people who are deaf and Service Dogs trained to aid people who are physically disabled is a more recent concept.

In addition to providing a service, Assistance Dogs greatly enhance their partners' lives with a new sense of freedom and independence. These dogs provide companionship, while reducing stress and the feelings of loneliness and isolation.

Assistance Dogs International, Inc. (ADI) has set the standards for the assistance dogs industry since 1987. ADI is a coalition of not-for-profit organizations. The organization's purpose is to improve the training, placement and utilization of assistance dogs, improve staff and volunteer education, educate the public about assistance dogs, and advocate for the legal rights of people with disabilities partnered with assistance dogs. The objectives of ADI are to establish and promote standards of excellence in all areas of assistance dog acquisition, training and partnership; facilitate communication and learning among member organizations; and educate the public about the benefits of assistance dogs and ADI membership.

ADI sets member program standards and ethics regarding Assistance Dog partners and regarding Assistance Dogs. They also provide minimum standards for training Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs, and Service Dogs, including Seizure Response/Alert Dogs. Assistance Dogs International also sets minimum standards for all Social/Therapy Dog programs affiliated with ADI.

Assistance Dogs International uses terminology established by the industry that produces Assistance Dogs. The individuals who are partnered with these dogs have adopted this terminology. Terminology used in access laws varies from state to state and in the Americans with Disability Act. ADI is working to establish consistent terminology internationally.

There are three types of Assistance Dogs:

- Guide Dogs
- Hearing Dogs
- Service Dogs

Updated paragraph

Guide dogs assist people who are blind and visually impaired by avoiding obstacles, stopping at curbs and steps, and negotiating traffic. The harness and U-shaped handle fosters communication between the dog and the blind partner. The human's role in this partnership is to provide directional commands, while the dog's role is to insure the team's safety even if this requires disobeying an unsafe command. Labrador and Golden Retrievers, German Shepherds, Standard Poodles, and other large breeds are raised for approximately one year by volunteer puppy raisers before entering a formal training program with professional trainers.



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A 4-H member experiences being led by a Guide Dog under the supervision of a trainer at Pilot Dogs, Inc., Columbus, Ohio.

Hearing dogs assist people who are deaf and hard of hearing by alerting them to a variety of household sounds such as a doorbell or door knock, telephone, alarm clock, baby cry, name call, oven buzzer, or smoke alarm. These dogs are trained to make physical contact and lead their deaf partners to the source of the sound. Hearing dogs are small to medium in size and

are usually mixed breeds obtained from an animal shelter. Hearing dogs are identified by the leash and/or vest.

Service Dogs assist people who are physically disabled and/or mobility impaired by retrieving objects that are out of their reach, by pulling wheelchairs, turning light switches on and off, barking for alert, finding another person, assisting ambulatory persons to walk by providing balance and counterbalance, and many other individual tasks as needed by a disabled person. Most service dogs are Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, or Golden-Labrador mixes. Volunteers raise them until it is time for their formal training. Service dogs can be identified by either a jacket, backpack or harness.

Raising a puppy for an assistance dog organization as a 4-H project can be a very rewarding experience for a young person. Partnering with organizations such as Pilot Dogs, Inc., in Columbus, Ohio, allows youth to raise a puppy under the guidelines of the assistance dog organization. After the puppy is socialized and trained by the 4-H member, he is returned to the organization for further training. The goal of this project is for the puppy to meet the qualifications required to be placed with a person with impaired vision or restricted mobility, to serve as their guide, or aid to a more active lifestyle. Youth learn valuable life skills such as giving and community service, caring and compassion, and empathy and concern for others, in addition to those learned while raising and training a puppy.

Therapy Dogs

Updated section

The human health benefits of interaction with companion animals are similar to accepted definitions of the effects of social support, which has been well established as a mechanism to help humans respond successfully to stressful events. Similarly, research has provided evidence of the positive effects of animal-assisted activities and animal-assisted therapy in healthcare settings with children and adults. Reduced anxiety levels and distress in stressful situations, reduced behavioral problems, and increased socialization and participation are among the many benefits reported. Contact

Updated paragraph

with animals promotes dialogue among family members, children, people with mental and physical disabilities, and lonely people.

Companion animals offer one of the most accessible enhancements to a person's quality of life. Pets can provide companionship, non-judgmental affection, and an unconditional support system. They act as a social ice-breaker, facilitate nurturing experiences, and provide opportunities for teaching and modeling responsibility to children. For adolescents, pets can serve as confidants, provide emotional support, relieve anxiety, and inspire humor and play. For the elderly, pets facilitate healthful activities, provide opportunities for socializing, and provide a buffer against stress. It is clear that animals play a major positive role in human development and quality of life for all ages.

Animal-assisted activities (AAA) and **animal-assisted therapy (AAT)** are terms that human service providers and volunteers use when referring to the involvement of animals in human treatment programs. According to Pet Partners, animal-assisted activities (AAA) are basically the casual “meet and greet” activities that involve pets visiting people. AAA provides opportunities for motivational, educational, and/or recreational benefits to enhance quality of life. The same activity can be repeated with many people, unlike a therapy program that is tailored to a particular person or medical condition. The facility staff is involved in the visits, but does not set treatment goals for the interactions. Aside from signing in and out, no records are kept.

Animal-assisted therapy (AAT) is a goal-directed intervention, directed and/or delivered by a health or human service provider working within the scope of his or her profession. AAT is designed to promote improvement in human physical, social, emotional, and/or cognitive functioning. For AAT, the professional has identified specific goals for each client and the progress is measured and recorded.

The terms **animal-assisted activities** and **animal-assisted therapy** are the preferred terms when referring to therapy dog programs. The term **pet therapy** is commonly used, but should be avoided as it is inaccurate and misleading. In AAA/AAT programs, the animal is

the catalyst that enhances treatment provided by a well-trained person. In AAA or AAT, the pet is the one helping with the therapy, not receiving it. Other incorrect terms you may hear include **pet-facilitated therapy** and **animal-assisted therapy**.

The founding organization for animal-assisted activities and animal-assisted therapy was the Delta Society, which started the Pet Partners program. Pet Partners is previously Delta Society. Information can be found at petpartners.org. Other well-known therapy dog organizations are Therapy Dogs International (TDI®) and Therapy Dogs Incorporated (TD Inc.).

Updated section

4-H PetPALS (People and Animals Linking Successfully)

The positive relationship and attachment formed between a person and an animal is called the **human-animal bond**. Human-animal interaction is the positive communication and relations between a person and an animal. Throughout this project the bond and interaction between you and your dog should become stronger.

One way to share the positive effect your dog has on you is to become involved in community service. Consider becoming a 4-H PetPAL. Ohio 4-H PetPALS is an intergenerational 4-H project connecting youth and their pets with senior adults in various types of healthcare facilities. The core curriculum relies on trained adult volunteers, called master 4-H PetPALS volunteer leaders, who teach youth skills needed to interact with residents of healthcare facilities, specifically assisted living and skilled nursing environments.

4-H members learn to select, socialize, and train appropriate pets to participate as youth-pet teams in animal-assisted activities. They learn how animals behave and communicate, and how to interpret their own pet's temperament and personality. Youth practice safe and humane animal handling techniques, involve their pets in animal wellness programs, and practice responsible pet ownership and care.

Young people learn about the physical changes associated with aging, as well as medical conditions they may encounter while visit-

ing, by engaging in sensitivity simulation activities. 4-H members apply everything they learn to expand their capacities to develop leadership and citizenship skills in an intergenerational environment. Upon successfully completing the curriculum, 4-H members and their pets, accompanied by adult volunteers, visit senior healthcare facilities, thus enhancing intergenerational relationships.

4-H PetPALS teams have expanded into hospices, hospitals, reading programs, study groups, and other venues, reaching people of all ages. The American Kennel Club recognizes Ohio 4-H PetPALS as a therapy dog organization where youth and their dogs can earn AKC therapy dog titles.



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A visit from a youth and her pet brings joy to this senior adult's day.

Police Dogs

K-9 units are common in many police departments, even those in smaller towns and cities. In the late 1800s, dogs were first officially used as police dogs in Belgium and Germany. From there, the uses for police dogs expanded to other countries, and in 1907 were first used in the United States by the New York Police Department.

Two common breeds of police dogs are German Shepherd Dogs and Belgian Malinois. They are typically patrol dogs used to detect narcotics and weapons and to pursue and apprehend

suspects. Bloodhounds are tracking dogs used to track suspects and victims as well as missing persons. Police dogs ride and usually live with their human partners.

K-9 units visit schools presenting anti-drug programs. They make public appearances to educate people about their work. 4-H clubs and other organizations raise money to buy bullet-proof vests for police dogs.

Search-and-Rescue Dogs



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This search dog is trained to find both living and dead people.

Search-and-rescue dogs search for missing persons. Some dogs are trained to find both living and dead persons, while others are trained specifically to find only the living or only the dead. Dogs trained in water searches look for drowning victims. Wilderness search-and-rescue dogs search either by trailing or air scent. Trailing dogs look for the scent of one person. Air scent dogs pick up the scent of any person in the area. Avalanche dogs search for people buried in snow. Disaster search-and-rescue dogs search for living and dead people who are trapped in buildings or under building rubble caused by a natural disaster or terrorist attack. Most search-and-rescue dogs live and retire with their handlers. They can be of any breed or mixed breed, with certain purebreds, such as the St. Bernard, originally bred to find people lost in the snow.

Military Dogs

Historically, dogs have been used in wars throughout the world. In the United States, dogs were used unofficially in every battle in American history until World War II when the official use of military dogs began. Today military dogs are used as scout and patrol dogs, as well as for detecting explosives, mines, and weapons.

Herding Dogs

Border Collies, Australian Shepherds, Australian Cattle Dogs, and Welsh Corgis are among several breeds of herding dogs. Border Collies and Welsh Corgis are better known for their sheep-herding ability, while Australian Shepherds and Australian Cattle Dogs are commonly used to herd cattle. Border Collies are now being used to keep birds and wildlife off golf courses and air fields, as a humane way to deter their existence in public places.

New paragraph

Detection Dogs

Have you heard of the Beagle Brigade? These Beagles (and their handlers), under the authority of the United States Department of Agriculture, detect certain kinds of fruits, vegetables, and meats that are not allowed in the United States. Beagle Brigade members perform their duties by sniffing baggage at airports and items in cars at border crossings.

U.S. Customs dogs are also found at airports and border crossings. These dogs look for drugs, explosives, and currency on passengers and their baggage.

Some dogs are capable of detecting people about to have seizures, either because of an odor given off by the person about to have a seizure or because dogs can pick up on electrical cues or subtle visual changes that people fail to observe.

Diabetic alert dogs are trained to smell the chemical body changes that occur as insulin levels increase or drop.

Because of a dog's very keen sense of smell, certain dogs may be trained to detect all types of odors not noticeable to humans—anything from mold in someone's house to certain types of cancer in humans.

Fun Matches

These are usually put on by clubs and organizations as fundraisers and as ways to provide experience for competitors. Many times you will be sent or given a flyer or announcement of the event with the opportunity to pre-enter. Pre-entering usually offers a lower entry fee, and helps you plan and commit to attending the fun match. Usually there is also “day-of-show” entry, which allows you to make a last-minute decision about attending. In fun matches you may have the option of entering a class for “practice only.” For example, if you are showing in pre-novice, but are working on teaching your dog to work off leash, you may want to enter novice A *for practice only*, just to get an idea of how your dog does in the ring. If you actually compete at the novice level, you would be ineligible for pre-novice classes. Also, if you are working through a problem and wish to treat, click, or talk to your dog, you would ask for a “practice only” class. Mixed breeds are encouraged and welcomed at these events.



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Sanctioned Fun Matches

These are the same as other matches, except they are sponsored, or sanctioned, by AKC or another registering organization and generally opened to breeds recognized by these groups. They are usually run more like a “trial” with the same restrictions, which includes no treating, clicking, and only certain commands. The results and your score sheets are compiled and evaluated by the organization. This aids the club presenting the match in either achieving or maintaining “sanctioning,” which gives them the right to hold regular trials.

Mixed breeds are now eligible to compete in AKC events such as Obedience, Rally, and Agility Trials under the AKC Canine PartnersSM Program.

Trials

AKC, UKC, and many other registering organizations hold trials in which members compete and title. Each has its own specific rules and regulations, and information is readily available. Challenging yourself to title your dog in any event is very rewarding. It can be expensive and involve a lot of time and travel, but you learn much about the world of showing dogs when you get to this level.

Key Dog Show People

At dog shows, whether a match or trial, there are several key people to look for.

Registration

This is where you start your day, pay your fees, choose your class(es), pick up your armband, find out your ring location, and possibly have your dog’s overall health and health papers checked.

cination protocol to follow for each dog in your household.

The following sections contain information about selected diseases and their prevention.

Rabies

Rabies is a viral infection that attacks the central nervous system in all warm-blooded animals. The most common carriers are raccoons, followed by bats, skunks, and foxes. The infected animal salivates profusely because he cannot swallow. The virus is released from the salivary glands and can be transmitted to others by a bite or through an open wound. The disease attacks nerve tissues, resulting in paralysis and death. That is why preventive vaccination is a must.

Rabies is transmitted when the saliva from an infected animal comes into contact with another animal through a bite or open wound. Animals affected with rabies behave in an erratic manner. They appear dull or are very wild, frantic, or furious. They may appear weak, have seizures, drool, and have difficulty swallowing. Rabies affects the central nervous and respiratory systems.

A vaccination shot is usually given at 16 to 26 weeks of age, then again at one year old. Current recommendations on booster shots after that vary from state to state.

The rabies virus can be transmitted to humans when the saliva from an affected animal comes into contact with broken skin, such as a scratch or bite. Rabies is rare in humans today because of pets receiving vaccinations to prevent contracting the disease. Once the symptoms of rabies develop, the disease is fatal. If a person has been bitten by a domestic animal that does not have proof of a rabies vaccination, or by a wild animal, the bite should be cleansed with soap and water immediately, and then the person should seek medical attention. The incubation period for rabies varies greatly, and may take anywhere from a week to several months to appear. Once symptoms have developed, there is no treatment or cure. Preventative treatment can be given to suspected rabies cases and bite victims if it is administered before the first sign or symptom. Do not approach any domestic

animal that is acting strangely or confused, and never approach a wild animal.

Coronavirus (CCV) ← Updated section

Canine **coronavirus** is a highly contagious viral infection specific to dogs. This virus reproduces inside the upper two-thirds of the small intestine, as well as local lymph nodes. A coronavirus infection by itself is typically considered to be a mild disease with sporadic symptoms, or none at all. However, if this infection occurs with parvovirus, or an infection caused by other intestinal pathogens, the outcomes can be very serious. Puppies are much more susceptible than adult dogs, and are at a higher risk of developing serious complications, and dying, with this virus. They can quickly become dehydrated as a result of vomiting and diarrhea, as well as develop severe enteritis (inflammation of the small intestine).

Initial symptoms may include depression and loss of appetite. Infected dogs will vomit and have diarrhea. The diarrhea is foul-smelling, varies from soft to watery, and is yellow-green or orange in color. Fever is uncommon.

Coronavirus is transmitted by exposure to feces or oral secretions from an infected dog. The virus can remain in the body and shed into the stool for as long as six months. A dog's susceptibility to coronavirus increases when exposed to unsanitary conditions, or as a result of stress caused by over-intensive training or overcrowding.

Treatment includes controlling vomiting and diarrhea, and keeping the dog hydrated. Although not commonly given, consult with your veterinarian about an available vaccine.

Distemper (CDV)

Distemper is a disease caused by a virus that attacks every tissue in a dog's body. The disease is contagious and can cause death.

Symptoms of distemper include discharges from the eyes (ocular discharges) and from the nose (nasal discharges) that become yellow and sticky. Fever, vomiting, coughing, and diarrhea are also symptoms. The dog may also show loss of appetite and depression. Severe cases progress to the central nervous system, causing



severe muscle twitching, seizures, and paralysis. There is little hope of recovery once distemper affects the central nervous system. Even if a dog does recover, he may continue to have jerking muscle contractions or seizures indefinitely.

The distemper vaccine is given as a core vaccination.

← Updated title

Hepatitis (Canine Adenovirus Type 1-CAV-1)

Canine hepatitis is a disease of the liver, kidneys, other body organs, and the central nervous system. It is caused by canine adenovirus type 1 (CAV-1). This virus is spread by body fluids, including urine and nasal discharge. The primary source of transmission is direct contact with an infected animal. Other modes of transmission are through contaminated food and water bowls, dog runs, crates, people's hands, boots, and so forth.

Hepatitis symptoms are high fever, depression, vomiting, respiratory disease, lack of appetite, and dehydration. Hepatitis is serious in young animals. Recovered animals may be affected with chronic illnesses or eye disease. This disease causes rapid death in young dogs. Older dogs take a long time to recover and are faced with a long convalescence. The resulting bluish tint to the eyes disappears very slowly. This CAV-1 virus **cannot** cause hepatitis in people.

The CAV-1 vaccine is one of the core vaccinations given to dogs.

Leptospirosis ← Updated section

Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease that infects both animals and humans. There are many different strains of the infecting organism, which is a spirochete. Vaccination against one strain does not protect against the other strains. Vaccines for dogs offer six to eight months of protection.

The disease is transmitted by contact with urine from an infected animal, including dogs, raccoons, squirrels, skunks, and cattle. It is also spread indirectly through exposure to contaminated water, food, and bedding.

Symptoms of leptospirosis include fever, refusal of food, weakness, muscle pain, bruising,

vomiting, and increased thirst. Leptospirosis attacks the liver, kidneys, and central nervous system. It is expensive to treat. Recovered animals can act as carriers of this disease.

Some dogs have reactions to the leptospirosis vaccine, more so than to any other vaccination. Therefore, consult with your veterinarian to decide if this vaccine is needed for your dog.

Leptospirosis is a zoonotic disease. Specific strains of leptospirosis contagious to humans vary with locality. Most cases occur when the soil is moist and alkaline. Symptoms in humans include fever, headache, muscular aches, inflammation of the eyelids, and occasionally jaundice. If left untreated, it can cause kidney damage or liver failure. Prevention is by vaccination of the dog, sanitation of contaminated areas, and hand washing.

Parvovirus (CPV) ← New section

Parvovirus is a highly contagious viral disease caused by a pathogen called canine parvovirus (CPV) and variations of the original strain. It is transmitted through the feces or fluids of an infected dog, and is present in the feces for up to three weeks after infestation. The virus also lives on kennel floors, food and water bowls, boots, clothing, and other inanimate objects.

Puppies are very susceptible to parvovirus. The virus attacks the gastrointestinal tract of the dog and possibly the heart muscle. Symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, bloody or dark stools, and dehydration. Fever, loss of appetite, and depression may also occur.

This disease progresses very quickly. Death can occur as early as two days after the onset of the disease, especially in young puppies. Prompt veterinary care is essential to increase an infected puppy's or dog's chance of survival.

Vaccines do not provide immediate immunity against a disease. Therefore, puppies and adult dogs have a window of susceptibility where they are at risk for getting the disease for a few days after receiving the vaccination. Once that period has passed, the vaccines effectively prevent parvovirus.

The parvovirus vaccine is one of the core vaccinations given to dogs.

an infected tick leaving the dog and attaching itself to the person. Ticks infected with Lyme disease also can attach themselves to people. Symptoms of Lyme disease in humans include a red, ring-like lesion developing at the site of a tick bite within 2 to 32 days, tiredness, fever and chills, headache, muscle and/or joint pain, and swollen lymph glands. Diagnosis of Lyme disease can be difficult because tests are not necessarily accurate.

Internal Parasites

Internal parasites commonly found in dogs are roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, tapeworms, and heartworms. *Giardia* is also an internal parasite that sometimes infects dogs.

When you purchase a new pup or dog, take him and a small, fresh specimen of stool to your veterinarian. Ask your veterinarian for the best time to bring in the stool sample, because the life cycles of parasites determine when eggs are visible. The stool sample needs to be only the size of a marble. Take it to the vet in a piece of tin foil or put it in a small plastic sandwich bag. Your veterinarian will examine the stool sample using a microscope to determine if internal parasites are present. Then he or she will prescribe the amount and type of deworming (anthelmintic) medication needed.



These roundworm, hookworm, and whipworm eggs were found in the feces of one dog. To guard against these internal parasites, have your dog checked at least annually.

Courtesy of Cliff Monahan, DVM, PhD, College of Veterinary Medicine, The Ohio State University.

The medication used for worming dogs acts by either killing the worms or causing them to go into a stupor, which releases their hold and allows them to pass through in the stool.

Because of its potential toxicity, an overdose of worm medicine can be harmful to the dog. Worming when unnecessary can also be as harmful as not worming when needed. Always consult your veterinarian for proper medication.

If you have a bitch you are going to breed, she should be worm free before breeding. Oth-

erwise, some of the internal parasites can be passed on to her puppies. Prevention is the best policy.

Updated section

Roundworms

Roundworms, or ascarids, are the most common of the internal parasites. The species common to dogs is *Toxocara canis*. Signs of roundworm infections include vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, and a pot-belly appearance.

Eggs hatch in the intestines, enter the bloodstream as young embryos, and then migrate through all the body tissues. They eventually migrate back to the intestines where they develop to maturity, lay eggs, and start the cycle again. Adult ascarids look like thin spaghetti, are up to seven inches long, and may be either vomited or passed in the stool.

Many puppies are born with roundworms. Treating bitches prior to, during, and after pregnancy, as prescribed by your veterinarian, prevents or reduces roundworm infestation.



Courtesy of Cliff Monahan, DVM, PhD, College of Veterinary Medicine, The Ohio State University.

Roundworm Eggs

Adult Roundworms

Roundworm eggs can be passed from dogs to humans through dirt and other environments. Children are especially susceptible because they play in dirt, which could be contaminated, and then put their dirty hands in their mouths. The ingested eggs turn into larvae, which migrate throughout the body causing damage to various organs. They can cause blurred vision if they end up in an eye, for example. Symptoms occur only when the infestation is heavy. Hand washing after contact with dirt or pets is the best prevention.

Vital Signs

Temperature

The normal body temperature in dogs is 100.5°F to 102.5°F. Take your dog's temperature rectally using a **mercury or digital thermometer**. Apply a small amount of petroleum jelly to the bulb end of the thermometer, to lubricate it for entry into the rectum. With someone holding the dog, grasp and lift the dog's tail, and carefully insert the thermometer into his rectum far enough to completely cover the bulb. Do not let the dog sit down. Leave the thermometer inserted for three minutes before reading it.



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With the help of another person, practice the proper way to take your dog's temperature.

Heart rate (pulse)

The normal resting heart rate for most adult dogs is 60 to 160 beats per minute (bpm). To check your dog's heart rate, do so at home when he is relaxed so you get a more accurate measurement. To find your dog's heart rate you can (1) put your hand on his chest to feel the heart beating, (2) put your finger on the femoral artery in the groin area where the leg connects to the body, or (3) put your finger behind the left elbow. Count the heart beats for 15 seconds and then multiply times four to get the beats per minute. Abnormal heart rates, unless caused by exercise or other tangible factors, may indicate a health problem.

Respiratory rate

Respiratory rate is the number of breaths per minute. The normal respiratory rate for a dog at rest is 10 to 30 breaths per minute. A dog can pant up to 200 pants per minute. Respiratory rates increase in dogs that are in pain, are suffering from heat stroke, have respiratory or heart problems, or are excited. To check your dog's respiratory rate, have him stand or lie down. Watch for signs of inhalation, such as his chest rising and falling. Using a watch with a second hand, count the number of times your dog breathes in 15 seconds and then multiply that number by 4, giving you the number of breaths per minute. If it is hard to see your dog breathing, put a tissue or mirror by your dog's nostrils and look for tissue movement or the mirror fogging.

Three ways to take your dog's heart rate.



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Put your hand on his chest; or



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Put your finger on the femoral artery; or



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Put your finger behind the left elbow.

the temporary relief of burning eyes. Call your veterinarian immediately.

Seizures (convulsions)

Many seizures appear as a shaking of the head or body with uncontrolled spasms. Most epileptic seizures are brief, lasting only a couple of minutes. The dog then appears dazed but otherwise normal. Repeated or prolonged seizures indicate poisoning and must be treated by your veterinarian immediately. A dog that has any type of seizure should be examined by a veterinarian.

Updated phone number

Heatstroke

A dog tied with no protection from the sun, left in a car when it is warm or hot outside, or exercised excessively in hot, humid weather is vulnerable to heatstroke. The dog may pant excessively or collapse. The dog must be cooled quickly by immersing in cool water, by spraying with a hose, or putting the wet dog in front of a fan. Take the dog to a veterinarian as soon as possible.

Hit by a car

When a dog is hit by a car, the first thing that must be done is muzzle the dog, since any dog in pain is likely to bite. Then, if the dog is lying in the road, move him to safety. This can be done by standing, facing the back of the dog, grasping him by the scruff of the neck and the skin over the hips, and sliding him across the ground. If you have a board or coat handy, slide him onto that to move him. Be careful not to cause further damage by moving him. Once he is off the road, you need to look for any bleeding. Blood that is spurting is from an artery and must have immediate and continuous pressure applied until it can be treated. Keep the dog warm and quiet and seek immediate veterinary attention.

Motion sickness

A dog with motion sickness drools, becomes nauseated, and vomits. If your dog suffers from motion sickness do not feed him before a trip. Unfortunately, many dogs are only in the car to go to the veterinarian or groomers, both of which can make them anxious, contributing to the motion sickness problem. Take your dog

on short trips, gradually increasing the length of time he is in the car. He should outgrow the problem. If the problem persists, your veterinarian can prescribe medication to help.

Poison

A dog may show signs of poisoning by cries, crouching, vomiting, diarrhea, trembling, hard breathing, convulsions, or coma. If you can determine the kind of poison taken and your dog is conscious and able to swallow, treat with the suggested antidote on the container. If the antidote is not on the container, call the Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) at (888) 426-4435 or your veterinarian. If vomiting is recommended, give the dog 3% hydrogen peroxide using one teaspoon per 10 pounds of the dog's body weight. Vomiting should occur shortly. After the stomach has been emptied, activated charcoal should be given to bind any remaining poison and prevent it from being absorbed. The dosage is one 5 gram tablet per 10 pounds of the dog's body weight. If the charcoal is not available, the stomach and intestines can be coated with a mixture of milk and egg white, one-fourth cup of each per 10 pounds of body weight. Rush the dog to the veterinarian even though he may appear to have recovered. Special caution should be taken to keep your dog away from antifreeze, rat poison, and other chemicals.

Skunk odor

If your dog has been sprayed by a skunk, wash his eyes with a warm boric acid solution, then bathe him completely with tomato juice or soup, taking special care with the head because that is probably where the scent is concentrated. Allow the tomato solution to remain on the coat for about 20 minutes. Then wash with pine-scented or chlorophyll soap or a commercial dog shampoo. Another method of removing skunk odor is to mix one quart of 3% hydrogen peroxide, one-fourth cup of baking soda, and one teaspoon liquid soap. Shampoo the dog with this solution and rinse thoroughly. Discard any leftover solution because the chemical reaction of the ingredients may cause a sealed container to explode.

Chapter 17

Nutrition and Exercise

Nutrition

Feeding your dog an appropriate high-quality diet is essential for maintaining his health. Poorly fed dogs lack the energy and stamina to keep up with an active training program, are more likely to suffer skin and coat problems, and are more susceptible to illness and the effects of stress.

Dogs should be fed complete and balanced commercial diets that are guaranteed to contain the nutrients they need. Dogs are best fed meat-based foods. Feeding table scraps or unbalanced homemade diets increases the likelihood of nutrient deficiencies or excesses that may be hazardous to the animal's health.

Choosing the right diet involves considering the dog's life stage, lifestyle, and body condition. Immature animals need foods that provide ample calories, protein, and minerals to fuel their growth. Because younger dogs have more limited gut volume, their foods must contain a high concentration of nutrients in each feeding.

Adult dogs generally need less concentrated nutrition, unless they are stressed, working, pregnant, or nursing. Each of these conditions increases nutrient needs and is best addressed by feeding a diet formulated with those special needs in mind.

Older dogs, like older humans, have special nutritional considerations that result from the effects of aging. They may have problems maintaining muscle mass and desired body weight, may be more picky eaters or have trouble eating, and may be more likely to develop certain diseases. When a dog approaches his golden years, it's a good idea to reassess the diet choice and make sure what's being fed is adequate to support continued good health.

Animals that are too thin should be fed diets that supply extra calories until ideal body

weight is reached. Conversely, animals that are overweight should be fed fewer calories. A veterinarian should evaluate any animal that has problems maintaining appropriate body condition.

Making sure your dog is eating an appropriate high-quality diet is a critical step in keeping him healthy, happy, and able to play and perform. Proper feeding is evident in a glossy coat, strong muscles, firm stools, and an alert, ready attitude.

New section

Body Condition Scoring (BCS)

Body condition scoring (BCS) is a way to standardize the assessment of whether dogs are underweight or overweight. Body condition scoring helps determine if a dog's growth rate and feeding amounts are correct to help prevent obesity. BCS is also used to ensure a dog is gaining the amount of weight he should be for his age, breed characteristics, and activity level.

Body condition scoring is useful as it allows veterinarians and dog owners to have a common understanding of a dog's weight. It can be used to suggest a target weight for a dog, allowing for the target weight to be customized for that specific dog rather than just suggesting a breed average, as there are a range of shapes and sizes within individual breeds. BCS is also used to define dogs at risk. There are several diseases dogs can get where risk or severity is worsened if the dog is obese.

Refer to the Body Condition Scoring Chart to help determine your dog's BCS.

Nutrients

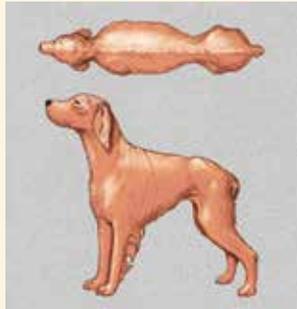
A **nutrient** is a substance that nourishes the metabolic processes of the body. Nutrients for dogs are grouped in six categories: water, carbohydrates, fats, protein, vitamins, and minerals.



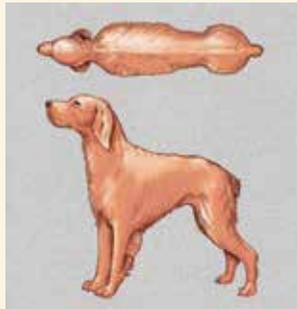
New information

Body Condition Scoring Chart**1 = Emaciated**

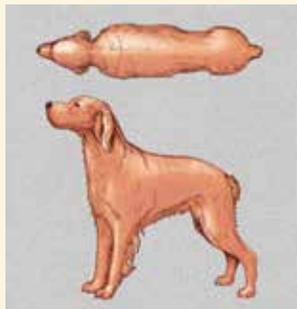
Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones, and all body prominences evident from a distance. No discernible body fat. Obvious absence of muscle mass.

**2 = Thin**

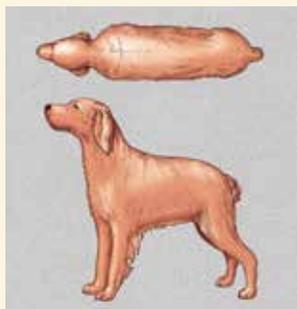
Ribs easily palpated and may be visible with no palpable fat. Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Pelvic bones less prominent. Obvious waist and abdominal tuck.

**3 = Moderate**

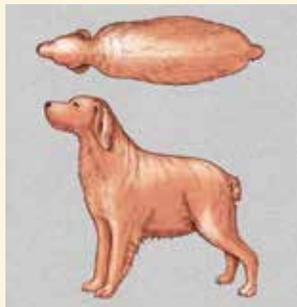
Ribs palpable without excess fat covering. Abdomen tucked up when viewed from side.

**4 = Stout**

General fleshy appearance. Ribs palpable with difficulty. Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar spine and tail base. Abdominal tuck may be absent.

**5 = Obese**

Large fat deposits over chest, spine, and tail base. Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs. Abdomen distended.



Tony Buffington, The Ohio State University, College of Veterinary Medicine.

Questions To Help With Body Condition Scoring

- What are the signs of an overweight dog?
- Is it difficult to feel his ribs or spine?
- Is it difficult to see your dog's waist?
- Is his abdomen sagging?
- Does his face look more round with larger cheeks?
- Does he often appear tired and lazy?
- Does he lag behind on walks?
- Does he pant constantly?
- Does he need help getting in the car?
- Does he resist playing games?
- Does he bark without getting up?

While any of these questions in isolation may not necessarily indicate that your dog is overweight, the questions as a whole can help you look at your total dog to make that determination. When unsure, consult with your veterinarian, who can help you adjust the amount of food you are offering as well as determine an appropriate exercise program to help your dog achieve an optimal BCS.

New paragraph

Your dog should NOT eat these foods:

Chocolate
 Raw eggs
 Raw onions
 Uncooked starches like those found in potatoes, oatmeal, and other cereals
 Grapes
 Raisins
 Sugar-free products

Avocados contain a toxin called persin, which, contrary to belief, is generally not poisonous to dogs. However, the risk when eating avocados is a foreign body obstruction, which can happen if the dog swallows the whole, large, round avocado seed. It can get stuck in a dog's esophagus, stomach, or intestinal tract.

Bones are another item that can cause serious problems in dogs. According to the FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM), allowing dogs to chew on bones is a dangerous practice. Bones are unsafe regardless of their size, and whether raw or cooked. The FDA CVM states 10 reasons why bones should not be fed to dogs: (1) They may cause broken teeth; (2) They may cause mouth or tongue injuries; (3) A bone can get looped around a dog's lower jaw; (4) Bone can get stuck in a dog's esophagus; (5) Bone can get stuck in a dog's windpipe; (6) Bone can get stuck in the stomach; (7) Bone can get stuck in intestines and cause a blockage; (8) Bone fragments may cause constipation; (9) Bones can cause severe bleeding from the rectum; and (10) Bones may cause peritonitis, a nasty, hard-to-treat bacterial infection of the abdomen caused when bone fragments puncture the dog's stomach or intestines. The FDA CVM recommends talking with your veterinarian about alternatives to giving bones to your dog, as there are many bone-like products available that are safe for dogs to chew on.

Updated paragraph

Treats

Dogs love treats and owners love to give treats to their dogs. Treats provide variety in a dog's diet. They are used as training aids to reinforce desired behaviors. Certain treats also promote dental health. Treats should be considered dietary supplements, and not as a replacement for nutritionally balanced dog food.



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Teach your dog to take his treat gently.

Exercise

Physical exercise is as important for your dog as it is for you, and for the same reasons. Exercise improves your dog's muscle tone, flexibility, cardiovascular fitness, and digestion. It strengthens your dog's immune system. Exercise also increases the production of endorphins, which are chemicals produced in the body that reduce stress, enhance moods, and help your dog to relax. Exercise has the same benefits for you, so use exercise to improve your health and the health of your dog *and* to build a relationship with your pet.

Chapter 18

Reproduction

The purpose of this section is *not* to encourage 4-H members to breed dogs. There are thousands of unwanted dogs euthanized every day. Many more are abandoned and die of starvation or are killed on the highway. There is also the very real risk of losing the family pet from whelping complications.

Most breeders do not make a large profit from the sale of a litter. The breeding fee, veterinary expenses, along with the cost of puppy food and advertising of the litter, quickly reduce any profit to a minimal amount. The amount of care, space, and sanitary facilities needed for a litter of puppies is surprisingly large. It is also difficult to find good homes for a large litter. People who say they would love to have one of your puppies suddenly vanish when the time comes to actually take one home.

Raise a litter of puppies *only* if you have a bitch with a good temperament that is healthy, structurally sound, and a good representation of the breed. Know what health problems are concerns in your breed and make sure both the male and female are screened for them. Then, breed only if you can find a male of equal or better quality. Indiscriminate breeders breed as many of their females as they can, literally turning their operation into a puppy mill. The dog's faults in conformation and disposition are multiplied and the development of the breed is set back. Only sound, quality animals should be used for breeding. Unless you own a good example of the breed, male or female, the dog should be spayed or neutered. The dog can still make a great companion and can still be shown in 4-H activities, obedience trials, drill teams, agility, and rally, as well as certain AKC events.

The Estrous Cycle

Sexual maturity, or puberty, in female dogs occurs with the first **estrous cycle**, commonly

referred to as a heat cycle. Bitches typically experience the first estrous cycle a few months after reaching adult height and body weight. Smaller breeds usually reach sexual maturity between 6 and 10 months of age, as toy and small breeds mature faster than the larger breeds. Larger, slower maturing breeds may not reach puberty until 12 to 18 months. The giant breeds, which are the slowest to mature, may not have the first estrous cycle until 18 to 24 months of age. The average interval between estrous cycles is 7 months, with some breeds cycling every 4 or 5 months, and other breeds every 10 months. The bitch's estrous cycle is not seasonal, as in many other species. Females cycle and breed throughout the year. Females of smaller breeds should be at least 2 years old before the first breeding, and larger breed females should be 3 or 4 years old before the first breeding. Allow them to go through at least two estrous cycles before being bred. When breeding females that are more than 8 years old, their fertility decreases, whelping problems increase, and there is a greater chance of birth defects.

The four stages in a bitch's estrous cycle are: (1) anestrus, (2) proestrus, (3) estrus, and (4) diestrus.

Anestrus is the period between diestrus and proestrus, when there is no hormonal activity. This interval of reproductive rest lasts an average of 5 months.

Proestrus is the stage before estrus, and lasts between 6 and 12 days, averaging 9 days. The vulva swells. A bloody discharge appears, marking the first day of proestrus. As proestrus progresses, the female becomes more restless, urinates more frequently, and is prone to wandering. Do not let her out without supervision during this time. She becomes more playful with the male, but does not accept mating.

Updated

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Dog Learning Laboratory Kit

The Dog Learning Laboratory Kit is designed for hands-on learning. It can be used for skillathon practice, interview judging, club meetings, or in any situation where information about dogs is needed. The kit contents are clear, concise, and durable.

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- Vaccination record
- Normal animal awareness and handling
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- Animal safety and sanitation issues
- Breed identification and traits

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