

Journey Awards



Awesome

AWESOME ACORNS

For dogs up to 18 months. Pass rate is 75% but points must be achieved on each exercise. Any exercise that is failed can be resubmitted without resubmitting other videos

Greets stranger appropriately (5)

Shows interest in stranger and will approach to say hello

Not overly fearful

May be cautious and take their time

Must not be alert barking or showing signs of discomfort in the situation

Owner must be supportive of the dog & reward for the right behaviours

Shows interest in unknown dog (5)

Shows interest in other dog, may be wary, but not be overly nervous or showing signs of discomfort - no alert barking, growling, hackles should not be up.

Does not need to meet the other dog

Owner should assess their dog and situation and choose an appropriate distance and greeting.

If greeting other dog - should be no more than 3 seconds

Sit (3)

Can sit when cued (verbal, hand or both)

Should not be lured

Should only be cued once

Down (3)

Can lie down when cued (verbal, hand or both)

Should not be lured.

Should only be cued once

Stand (3)

Can stand when cued (verbal, hand or both)

Should not be lured

Should only be cued once

Stay (3)

10 seconds

3 steps away

Should only be cued once

Must walk back to dog

Hand Touch (3/3)

2 touches - one left hand one right hand

Dog's nose touches owners hand when hand is presented, can be cued or not.

Should not be lured

Can treat between touches

Eye contact (3)

Dog gives owner eye contact for 3 seconds

Video should show side profile of dog and handler

Can be cued or not cued.

Cue should be given once, then owner should be quiet until time is up.

No food in hand when cuing dog

Attention on lead (5)

Dog able to focus on owner while on lead

Dog can look around but should focus mainly on owner

Done without food in hand

Owner should walk with dog for 10 steps

Can praise dog, but there should be times owner isn't talking to dog.

Recall to owner (5)

From 3 steps away

Can be with a dropped lead or off lead

Dog should be distanced from owner in some way (mooching around/ dropped treat)

Owner should call the dog and dog should come to owner

Should only be called once.

If no response after one call - owner should be able to use suitable tactics to get puppy to come to them

Owner should be able to get hold of dog via harness or collar

Video should show dog being rewarded

Play with owner (4/4)

Video should show appropriate play with puppy

Tug, chase the toy, fetch, chase the treats/chase the human.

Owner should be able to initiate the play and maintain it for 5 seconds.

2 examples of play (can be the same game twice)

Puppy should be comfortable with the play.

No force should be used

Play should be able to be stopped by owner.

Basic Grooming (5)

Video should show dog being groomed as is necessary for their breed, treats and praise may be used as frequently as needed to maintain a positive association with grooming.

If dog is a short coated breed with little grooming required, video should show dog being towelled down or accepting the start of nail trimming protocol.

Handling (10)

Video should show dog accepting formal handling (to prepare for vet checks/routine health care)

Treats can be used as frequently as needed to maintain a positive association with handling.

Teeth - Mouth should be able to be opened, gums peeled back, dog should be happy for this to happen and not trying to avoid it.

Owner should be able to read dogs body language and act appropriately if dog isn't happy with the situation.

Nails - Dog happy to have all paws handled and each nail touched, should be done in a position that can be used for nail trims in future (eg, dog on side or lying on back)
Can give dog as many breaks as needed

Body - Dog happy to have ears, eyes, mouth, tail, stomach and genitals examined.

Interaction with novel objects/people (5)

Dog introduced to a new item

Can be set up (Free Work)

Or encountered on a walk

Dog can show initial startle behaviour (on a walk wariness) but video should show progression of dog overcoming the nervousness to interact or become disinterested in item/person.

Dog should not be made to approach quicker than they are comfortable.

Settle (3)

Dog should go to and lie down on a mat/bed/in crate

Can be cued - or cue can be proximity to mat

Mat should be at least 1m from owner

Dog should remain there for 15 seconds

Verbal praise can be given twice

Cue can only be given once

Dog must not be told to stay