



Dog Scouts of America  
Merit Badge Check-Off Sheet

Pho-DOG-raphy

Items **bolded** below are requirements that must be demonstrated to the Evaluator. Non-bolded items are training steps that may be introduced in class and are helpful for achieving the requirements. All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward-based methods.

- Dog has earned the Art of Shaping badge**
- Handler understands the concepts of operant conditioning and shaping behaviors
- Dog has learned to target on a touch stick
- Dog will 'look' at a target object, such as a ball or toy on cue with the object 1 foot in front of the dog
- Dog will 'look' at a target object on cue and will maintain the look for at least 5 seconds with the object placed on the ground 2 feet in front of the dog, then 2 feet to either side**
- Dog will 'look' at a target object on cue and will maintain the look for at least 5 seconds with the object placed on a raised surface to each side, as if to get a profile shot**
- Dog will maintain the 'look' position for several seconds regardless of the target object position**
- Dog will perform a 'stay' or 'freeze' for 20 seconds with minimal head or body movement when placed in an 'odd' position or location**
- Dog will maintain a stay while the handler uses attention words and makes exciting noises that cause the dog's ears to come forward**
- Dog will stay while the handler throws a toy or other object in the air so that the dog looks in the direction the handler wants for the photo**
- Handler understands how to use his/her camera and how light affects photos in both good and bad ways**
- Handler can take both a good and a bad photo of the dog using natural light; handler can explain why the shots are good and bad and what went wrong with the bad shot**
- Handler can take both a good and a bad photo of the dog using a flash; handler can explain why the shots are good and bad and what went wrong with the bad shot**
- Handler can take both a good action photo and a bad action photo; handler can explain why the shots are good and bad and what went wrong with the bad shot**
- Handler can take a good posed photo of the dog**
- Handler can take a good timed photo of him/herself with the dog**
- Handler will provide all photographic evidence that demonstrate the required concepts and attests that he/she took the photos him/herself**