



HANDLERS NEED TO KNOW:

These badges require imprinting two new scent odors for your dog. Review imprinting odor under Scent Discrimination badge.

It is advisable to review the materials posted for Scent Discrimination and Advanced Scent Discrimination before beginning to work on the Expert badges.

EXPERT SNIFFER - INTERIORS BADGE

MULTIPLE HIDES, MULTIPLE SCENTS, IN SAME ROOM: Review imprinting odor under Scent Discrimination. You can make a “cocktail” or “stew” of the scents you will be using for this badge. Make a Q-tip for each scent. You can imprint using both scents same as you did for Scent Discrimination and Advanced Scent Discrimination badges. It is amazing how the dog’s smell can distinguish between the odors. Practice with each scent. When starting to put multiple scents in a room make sure they are spaced apart and keep in mind the environmental attributes.

Also, you can have the dog sniff the scent (“Take Scent”) then move forward and have them find more of the same scent directly in front of you. Reward. As they get the idea, add distance, make it non-visible, etc. At some point you will not have to pre-scent them on known scents. This will come in handy when finding the owner of a lost article.

HIDES WITH DISTRACTIONS: This badge has an advanced or implied “leave it.” You will not know where it is, so how do you know your dog isn’t indicating on say food or a favorite toy? How are your dog’s “leave its”? Will your dog leave things without you telling them to? Can you drop something on the floor without your dog rushing to get it? Make sure you train the “leave it” outside of scent training before adding it in as a distraction.

ADDING DISTRACTIONS: Once your dog is successfully finding and indicating the scent, add a distraction one at a time (toy, food, a room you recently cooked in, gradually add whatever it is your dog really wants).

FINDING OWNERS ARTICLE: This is particularly useful if you continually lose your keys, phone, gloves, etc. Start by naming your things (my phone, my hat, etc.). Place the object in front of the dog and ask them to find it. Take a walk, drop a glove or something, have your dog return steps to find it. Next send your dog to find it. Having him retrace the steps will help with pairing a person & an article together.

FIND OWNER OF A LOST ARTICLE: Have someone drop an article and then take a few steps. Scent the dog on the article. Give the cue to “find person.” Cue the indication, reward, and repeat, increasing distance or adding a person up to 3.

Final Test: Make sure all helpers have clean clothes and no treats (or residual) or treat bag on them. Start with 3 people together. One drops an article, and they all walk away, with one person going



straight, one going to left and other to the right at an approximate 45-degree angle from the start. About 10' away, all helpers stand or sit with their backs to the dog. The helpers do not move or say anything to the dog.

BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN WORKING WITH PEOPLE: Hide your dog's favorite toy on yourself and ask him to find it. Next hide it on someone he knows. Repeat using one of your "scents." Repeat till dog is doing an automatic indication.

EXPERT SNIFFER – EXTERIORS BADGE

WATER, SAND, GRASS, OR LOW VEGETATION: Some dogs struggle with this at first because there is no visible container. Pick an area 72" by 72" and mark the corners with cones, flags, etc. The hide should be within the marked area buried in sand, grass, or low vegetation. Make sure the grass or vegetation hasn't been recently cut in any areas used.

EXTERIOR VEHICLES SEARCH: Review the exterior environmental attributes. Keep these in mind when having your dog searching outdoors. If it were very windy outside during your search, what would the effect be on the scent? What about if it has rained recently, or temperatures have been unseasonably warm for an extended period of time? All of the environmental factors come into play when doing vehicle searches. As a matter of safety, never allow a dog to search on or around a vehicle that is still hot from use.