

Criteria for Badges Guidelines for Scout Evaluator

Therapy Dog Badge

This badge shows that the handler has taught his or her dog to act mannerly in public, controlling his exuberance around elderly people or young kids.

Dog Requirements: Dog must have passed any certified Therapy Dog test, showing that he is not easily frightened by sudden or erratic movements, loud noises and strange people. In addition, dog must have put in a minimum of 10 hours of therapy visitations in the community.

Owner Requirements: Handler knows how to keep his dog safe and avoid potential mishaps. Handler manages dog's actions, preventing dog from scratching elderly peoples' skin, knocking down small children, or otherwise not acting in a gentle and controlled manner. Handler keeps a log of all therapy visits, complete with a contact phone numbers for verification. Handler keeps his dog clean, groomed, and free from parasites at all times when greeting public. A handler may only handle one dog at a time during a therapy visit. Multiple dogs are not allowed if handled by only one handler.

Equipment Needed: None necessary. The Therapy Dog log sheet is done on the honor system. However, the Evaluator may need to verify visits or certification in some situations.

Allowable:

- Proof of certification through any nationally recognized registry as a Therapy Dog.
- A visit log, based on the honor system, provided contact names and numbers are provided.

Not Allowable:

- Poorly documented therapy visit log.
- Registration with groups we have never heard of.