



Dog Scouts of America
Merit Badge Check-Off Sheet

Manners

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.

- Handler demonstrates an understanding of the use of Operant Conditioning (clicker training) to teach behaviors
- Dog demonstrates an understanding of a reward marker as a signal for delivery of rewards
- Handler can describe the usefulness of each of the required behaviors below
- Dog will go to a designated, easily portable target (like a small mat or rug) that is 10' away and lie down using a single cue, like "go to place"**
- Without luring, dog will lie on his side in response to a verbal and/or non-contact hand signal**
- Dog understands and responds to a single cue, such as "go say hi", that means the dog approaches a stranger and sits in front of them to be greeted. Handler may step up beside the dog to offer support only after the dog responds to the cue**
- Dog will stand in place on cue while another person approaches the dog and touches the top of the dog's head and back. Handler can stand in front of the dog, but not in a way that his/her position is the reason the dog remains in place**
- Dog will wait at the threshold of a doorway without moving through it when the door is opened, and the handler moves out the door**
- When both handler and dog will be going through an opened door, the dog does not move from inside the doorway until the handler gives the dog a release cue. Dog may move through the doorway either before or after the handler. Dog must reorient to the handler after passing through the door without pulling on the leash to surf the environment outside**
- Dog will target and follow the handler's hand for several steps with at least one turn (almost like the dog's nose is stuck to the handler's hand) as they would in order to maneuver the dog onto a scale or grooming table, or into a bathtub**
- From a down position the dog moves out of the handler's line of travel when given a simple cue like "excuse me"**
- Dog will get his paws or body off an object or person when cued**