



Dog Scouts of America Evaluation Criteria

Tricks

PURPOSE: This badge demonstrates that the handler has taught the dog new behaviors using operant conditioning and shaping. These behaviors are combined into a skit that is performed in front of an audience.

DOG REQUIREMENTS: The dog must perform at least 5 behaviors and perform them in a skit. Three of the behaviors must be completely new, taught for this badge. The skit must be as dynamic as possible and should use complementary costumes, props, music, etc.

HANDLER REQUIREMENTS: Handler demonstrates an understanding of operant conditioning and shaping through the performance of a skit. The handler is safety conscious and keeps the physical and mental well being of the dog as a top priority.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: The handler provides all equipment for the team. An audience of at least 3 people is required for the skit. If the handler needs ideas for his/her skit, please see the [101 Tricks](#) document on our web site.

PROCESS:

ALLOWED:

- ☐ Using an old trick in a new context; modifying a trick the dog knows and making it more complex

NOT ALLOWED:

- ☐ Using any behaviors that have been taught where punishment has been used as the primary method to get the behavior
- ☐ Any behavior or chain that is unsafe