



Dog Scouts of America
Merit Badge Check-Off Sheet

Ultimate Leave It

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 can demonstrate and describe techniques to teach the leave it, the best way to reinforce it and how they would help another person to begin
- Dog can perform a leave it when DSA is spelled out around him with biscuits
- Handler can explain the concepts of impulse control and indirect access and how these are important factors when training a solid leave it
- Handler and dog demonstrate the basic DSA title leave it with food and animal heeling past (obedience heel not required – no forging or lagging)
- Handler and dog perform an off-leash 1-minute leave it with an animal using a single cue**
- Handler and dog perform an off-leash 1-minute leave it with food using a single cue**
- Handler prepares their own (people food) dinner and sets it where the dog could, but does not eat it; this is an implied leave it and no leave it cue is given to the dog
- Dog performs a “recall gauntlet”, combining the essential leave it and recall skills using a variety of treats, toys, animatronic animals, and other dog safe items; dog must stay at one end of the gauntlet and the handler at the other end with the temptations between them and the dog is called to the handler; the gauntlet must consist of at least 6 items, must be a minimum of 20 feet in length (15 feet for small dogs under 10 pounds) and the gauntlet channel is 10 feet wide; this is an implied leave it and no leave it cue is given