



GOOD COMPANION AWARDS

STAGE 1 PUPPY GOALS

Puppy (up to 8 months at end of the course)

NOTES:

All exercises must comply with the APDT, UK Code of Practice and positive, motivational methods must be employed at all times.

Clickers, food and toys may be used wherever needed and appropriate at this stage for reward purposes but not as a lure.

Assessment to be made of handler's ability to deal with any problems that may occur in a kind, fair and effective manner while encouraging the puppy to go through the assessment criteria.

These exercises can be assessed at any time during the training course and can be attempted as many times as is deemed appropriate.

The assessment will be made of the handler's attitude and ability to deal with the puppy in the event of a failure and how they encourage the puppy to achieve success.

The puppy should complete all the criteria without a food or toy lure but may be rewarded at any time.

If the handler is having difficulty and it is necessary for a lure to be used to remind the puppy of the exercise, the puppy should not jump up to snatch the food/toy from the handler.

Should the puppy become over-excited and start to jump up the manner in which the handler deals with this will be assessed.

Handler should have poo bags and dog should be wearing a legal ID tag.

| EXERCISE | GOAL |
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| Response to name or touch | When requested the puppy should look at the handlers' eyes/face for 1-2 seconds. Hearing impaired to respond to signal or gentle touch. |
| Handling | The puppy should be comfortable with the handler or instructor gently touching them preferably all over (ears, teeth, eyes, under tail). Handler to recognise (body language) if puppy is not comfortable with handling. Strategies to help with grooming or handling, eg licki mat allowed. The puppy should be comfortable having its lead attached and removed. |
| Positions - Sit, Down, Stand, Hand Touch/Target. | The puppy should be able to perform 2 out of three of the criteria on verbal or visual cue. The handler should say the cue only once and allow the puppy 4-5 seconds to respond. |

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| Leave it from hand | <p>When cued, the puppy should be able to either turn or come away from a toy or food held in one hand and be rewarded from the other hand.</p> <p>Puppy may be on a loose lead</p> |
| Lead Walking | <p>The handler should demonstrate bringing the puppy into position at their side ready to walk on a loose lead.</p> <p>The handler should demonstrate the ability to encourage the puppy to walk on a loose lead for 3-4 strides.</p> |
| Recall | <p>The puppy should recall with enthusiasm to the handler from 5 metres – puppy may be held by the instructor or assistant before being recalled.</p> |
| Self-Control | <p>The puppy should stay calmly in either a sit or down at the side of the owner for approximately 10 seconds.</p> <p>Be able to demonstrate 10s settle on or off a bed/mat with other dogs in the room.</p> <p>The puppy should show self-control when greeting people.</p> <p>The puppy should demonstrate self-control when, for example, jumping out of a car, going through a gateway or doorway.</p> |
| Play | <p>Demonstrate being able to play with the puppy as part of the relationship building eg: tug, scent work (find a toy or treats), retrieve, interactive toys.</p> |