



DOG TRAINING

# Journey Awards



Strong  
Roots

# STRONG ROOTS

Pass rate is 75% but points must be achieved on each exercise. Any exercise that is failed can be resubmitted without resubmitting other videos. Remember it's all about the journey and not the destination, points are awarded for helping and supporting your dog.

## **Strangers (5)**

Notifies stranger and either wants to approach or ignores them

Not overly fearful

May be cautious and take their time

Must not be alert barking or showing signs of discomfort in the situation

Owner should assess their dog and situation and choose an appropriate distance and greeting, or can choose to ignore/ pass stranger

Owner must be supportive of the dog & reward for the right behaviours

Dog must not jump up at stranger

## **Unknown dog (5)**

Shows interest in other dog, may be wary, but not be overly nervous or showing signs of discomfort - no alert barking, growling, hackles should not be up.

Does not need to meet the other dog

Owner should assess their dog and situation and choose an appropriate distance and greeting.

If greeting other dog - should be no more than 3 seconds

## **Sit (3)**

Can sit when cued (verbal, hand or both)

Should not be lured

Should only be cued once

## **Down (3)**

Can lie down when cued (verbal, hand or both)

Should not be lured.

Should only be cued once

## **Stand (3)**

Can stand when cued (verbal, hand or both)

Should not be lured

Should only be cued once

## **Stay (3)**

30 seconds

5 steps away

Should only be cued once

Can be praised 3 times

Owner must walk back to dog

### **Hand Touch (3/3)**

2 touches - one left hand one right hand

Dog's nose touches owners hand when hand is presented, can be cued or not.

Should not be lured

Can treat between touches

Hand must be at least 30cm away from dogs face

### **Eye contact (3)**

Dog gives owner eye contact for 3 seconds

Video should show side profile of dog and handler

Can be cued or not cued.

Cue should be given once, then owner should be quiet until time is up.

No food in hand when cuing dog

### **Heel position (3)**

Dog should orientate to a side position to start loose lead walking

Dog can be cued

No force or lead pressure to be used

Can use hand touch/signals but not with food in hand

### **Loose Lead Walking (5)**

Dog able to focus on owner while on lead

Dog can look around but should focus mainly on owner

Done without food in hand

Owner should walk with dog for 30 steps

Can praise dog, but there should be times owner isn't talking to dog.

### **Recall to owner (5)**

From 5m away

Can be with a dropped lead or off lead

Dog should be distanced from owner in some way (mooching around/ dropped treat)

Owner should call the dog and dog should come to owner

Should only be called once.

Owner should be able to get hold of dog via harness or collar

Video should show dog being rewarded

### **Play with owner (4/4)**

Video should show appropriate play with dog

Tug, chase the toy, fetch, chase the treats/chase the human.

Owner should be able to initiate the play and maintain it for 5 seconds.

2 examples of play (can be the same game twice)

Dog should be comfortable with the play.

No force should be used

Play should be able to be stopped and initiated by owner.

### **Basic Grooming (5)**

Video should show dog being groomed as is necessary for their breed, treats and praise may be used as frequently as needed to maintain a positive association with grooming.

If dog is a short coated breed with little grooming required, video should show dog being towelled down or accepting the start of nail trimming protocol.

### **Handling (10)**

Video should show dog accepting formal handling (to prepare for vet checks/routine health care)

Treats can be used as frequently as needed to maintain a positive association with handling.

Teeth - Mouth should be able to be opened, gums peeled back, dog should be happy for this to happen and not trying to avoid it.

Owner should be able to read dogs body language and act appropriately if dog isn't happy with the situation.

Nails - Dog happy to have all paws handled and each nail touched, should be done in a position that can be used for nail trims in future (eg, dog on side or lying on back)

Can give dog as many breaks as needed

Body - Dog happy to have ears, eyes, mouth, tail, stomach and genitals examined.

If dog has had a negative experience/pain with any part of body please include a brief description in video and only do what your dog is comfortable with.

### **Interaction with novel objects/situation/person(5)**

Dog introduced to a new item/situation/person

Can be set up (Free Work)

Or encountered on a walk

Dog can show initial wariness but video should show progression of dog overcoming nervousness to interact or become disinterested in item/person.

Dog should not be made to approach quicker than they are comfortable.

If dog isn't ready to approach owner should respect that and work in a way to make dog comfortable.

### **Settle (3)**

Dog should go to and lie down on a mat/bed/in crate

Can be cued - or cue can be proximity to mat

Mat should be at least 2m from owner

Dog should remain there for 30 seconds

Verbal praise can be given 3 times

Cue can only be given once

Dog must not be told to stay