



HANDLER'S NAME: _____

DOG'S NAME: _____

BREED/COLOR: _____

DOG'S SEX: _____

THE CANINE THERAPY CORPS CERTIFICATION TEST IS PASS/FAIL. THIS MEANS YOUR DOG MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE ALL TEST EXERCISES IN ORDER TO BECOME A CANINE THERAPY CORPS CERTIFIED THERAPY DOG.

- TEST DOGS MUST BE ON A **FLAT, BUCKLE COLLAR (NO TRAINING COLLARS OR HARNESSSES)** DURING THE CERTIFICATION TEST AND A **SIX-FOOT LEAD** DURING BOTH THE PRACTICE SESSION AND CERTIFICATION TEST. NO TRAINING AIDS (COLLARS, FOOD, CLICKER, ETC.) OF ANY SORT MAY BE USED DURING THE CERTIFICATION TEST, THOUGH THESE AIDS ARE PERMITTED DURING THE PRACTICE SESSION.
- THE HANDLER MUST EXHIBIT VERBAL CONTROL OVER THE TEST DOG, MEANING THE TEST DOG RESPONDS TO THE HANDLER'S VOICE COMMANDS - COME, SIT, STAY, HEEL, DOWN, ETC. - WITHOUT THE NECESSITY OF USING THE LEASH, TRAINING AIDS OR BODY LANGUAGE (HAND COMMANDS EXCLUDED) TO ENCOURAGE THE REQUIRED BEHAVIOR. **THE HANDLER MUST BE UPRIGHT WHEN COMMANDING THE TEST DOG.**

In the exercises described below, you are the Handler, your dog is the Test Dog, CANINE THERAPY CORPS volunteers assisting at the practice and test are the Assistants and the person who ultimately makes the decision regarding each Test Dog's performance is the Evaluator.

1. TOLERANCE TO HANDLING BY A STRANGER	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog will welcome being groomed and examined and will permit a stranger, such as a CANINE THERAPY CORPS client, another volunteer or someone other than the Handler, to do so.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. While the Evaluator observes, an Assistant softly brushes or combs the Test Dog in a forward and backward direction, using a soft brush provided by CANINE THERAPY CORPS (not the Handler). The Assistant lightly examines the Test Dog's ears and gently picks up each front foot. It is not necessary for the Test Dog to maintain a specific position during grooming.</p>		
<i>Test Dog showed no sign of shyness or resentment.</i>		
<i>Test Dog accepted handling by the Assistant.</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		

2. ACCEPTING A STRANGER	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog will allow a CANINE THERAPY CORPS client to approach and speak to the Handler in a natural, everyday situation.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. After the Handler puts the Test Dog in a sit-stay or a down-stay, the Evaluator approaches the Test Dog and Handler and shakes the Handler's hand, exchanging pleasantries and ignoring the Test Dog.</p>		
<i>Test Dog showed no sign of shyness or resentment.</i>		
<i>Test Dog maintained sit-stay or down-stay position throughout the exercise.</i>		
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3. WALK ON LOOSE LEAD	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Handler exhibits verbal control of the Test Dog and that a CANINE THERAPY CORPS client, who may be using crutches or a walker, will be able to walk the Test Dog without the Test Dog pulling on the leash.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. On the Evaluator's command, the Handler begins to walk the Test Dog on-leash next to him or her, along a pre-plotted course (usually marked with traffic cones). The Handler will change speeds, make turns and halt, as directed by the Evaluator. The exercise will require a change in pace, one right turn, one left turn, one about-turn and two halts, as well as passing within three feet of another dog (the Down Dog).</p>		
<i>Test Dog remained at Handler's side throughout the exercise (within half the dog's body length).</i>		
<i>Test Dog sat at Handler's side when Handler halted.</i>		
<i>Test Dog was attentive, responding to Handler's movements, voice and changes in direction and pace.</i>		
<i>Leash was loose, not taut.</i>		
<i>Test Dog did not approach or attempt to approach the Down Dog.</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		

4. SIT ON COMMAND; DOWN ON COMMAND	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog has training and will respond to Handler's commands. This exercise demonstrates that the Test Dog will take verbal commands from a CANINE THERAPY CORPS client.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. At the Evaluator's request, from a standing, upright position, the Handler will give a verbal command for the Test Dog to sit. After the Test Dog is in a sitting position, at the Evaluator's request, (again, from an upright position) the Handler will give a verbal command for the Test Dog to down. Each command may be repeated.</p>		
<i>Test Dog responded to sit command within a reasonable amount of time.</i>		
<i>Test Dog remained in sit command until down command was given or Test Dog was released.</i>		
<i>Test Dog responded to down command within a reasonable amount of time.</i>		
<i>Test Dog remained in down command until released.</i>		
<i>Handler gave Test Dog sit and down commands from an upright, standing position.</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		

5. SIT STAY FOR EXAM	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog will allow a CANINE THERAPY CORPS client, health care worker or another CANINE THERAPY CORPS volunteer to approach and pet it.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. After Handler puts Test Dog in a sit-stay and, while continuing to hold the leash, proceeds to a distance of not more than three feet as directed by Evaluator, Evaluator will approach Test Dog and pet it on the head and body.</p>		
<i>Test Dog showed no sign of shyness or resentment.</i>		
<i>Test Dog maintained sit position throughout the exercise.</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		



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6. SHORT STAY IN POSITION/RECALL SEQUENCE	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog will assume and remain in the position commanded by Handler, and that, when commanded to come, the Test Dog will come directly to the Handler. These are commands frequently used by CANINE THERAPY CORPS clients in session.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. At the Evaluator's request, the Handler gives a verbal command to the Test Dog to sit or down. When the Test Dog has assumed the sit or down position, the Evaluator will then instruct the Handler to leave the Test Dog. At this time, the Handler may command the Test Dog to stay. The Handler will proceed, with his or her back to the Test Dog, approximately 20 feet and turn around to face the Test Dog. Upon the Evaluator's instruction, from a standing, upright position, the Handler will call the Test Dog, using the come command.</p>		
<i>Test Dog assumed sit or down position as commanded by Handler.</i>		
<i>Test Dog remained in position and in place (only minor position shifts for comfort are acceptable).</i>		
<i>Handler gave Test Dog its come command from an upright, standing position.</i>		
<i>Upon command (which may be repeated), Test Dog came directly to Handler's front (within arm's length).</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		

7. REACTION TO A STRANGE DOG (MEET AND GREET)	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog can behave politely around other dogs at CANINE THERAPY CORPS programs.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. An Assistant and the Meet and Greet Dog, which is on-leash and in a sit-stay, are positioned approximately 20 feet from the Handler and the Test Dog. At the Evaluator's request, the Handler and the Test Dog approach the Assistant and Meet and Greet Dog, stopping within a social distance for shaking hands (in front of the Assistant, at approximately one and a half arm's lengths). The Handler puts the Test Dog on a sit-stay and shakes hands and exchanges pleasantries with the Assistant. At the Evaluator's request, the Handler will resume walking in a path that requires the Test Dog to pass directly next to the Meet and Greet Dog at a distance of no more than five feet.</p>		
<i>Test Dog showed no more than casual interest in and did not approach the Meet and Greet Dog and Assistant.</i>		
<i>Leash was loose, not taut, both on the approach and passing the Meet and Greet Dog.</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		

8. REACTION TO DISTRACTIONS	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog is confident at all times when faced with distracting conditions and noises that might occur in a program setting.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. As the Handler walks the Test Dog in a direction indicated by the Evaluator, an Assistant, positioned 10 feet behind the Handler and Test Dog, will drop a metal pan, crutch, can, or other loud wood or metallic object.</p>		
<i>Test Dog reacted appropriately to the distraction (whether interested, curious or startled).</i>		
<i>Test Dog did not panic, try to run away, show aggressiveness or bark at the distraction.</i>		
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9. WALK THROUGH A CROWD

Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog can move about politely and comfortably in simulated hospital traffic and equipment.

Description of Exercise. Assistants will assemble a chair and hospital equipment, such as a walker, wheelchair and crutches, and will congregate and move about, using the equipment, talking to each other and greeting the Test Dog by name in an animated, but friendly, manner. The Test Dog and Handler will walk around and pass close to the Assistants, one of whom will pet the Test Dog, possibly with a closed fist, and another of whom will tug on its tail. One of the Assistants will give the Test Dog a command, imitating the basic verbal commands given by clients in a therapy session in order to evaluate its behavior (if the Test Dog does not obey the command, this is not a failure). The Handler and Test Dog will proceed through the crowd, and may be asked to pass through the crowd a second time.

<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>

Test Dog showed no sign of shyness or resentment.

Test Dog was comfortable with the medical equipment.

Test Dog's demeanor was appropriate, not over-exuberant.

Test Dog did not strain the leash.

Test Dog did not jump up on medical equipment or Assistants.

Evaluator Notes:

10. EXHIBITING PATIENCE (WITH TOY DISTRACTION)

Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog is able and willing to wait patiently for direction from sitting and standing clients under distracting circumstances. Many CANINE THERAPY CORPS clients take longer than the normal reaction/response time to mentally sequence tasks or concentrate on movements or speech. The Test Dog must be able to tolerate the wait and show steady expectancy.

Description of Exercise. The Handler and the Test Dog approach two Assistants, one standing and one sitting in a wheelchair. The seated Assistant will hold a squeaky toy in his or her hand, visible to the Test Dog. The Assistant will squeak the toy twice and then hand the toy to the Handler, who will not squeak the toy. After a few seconds, the Handler will hand the toy to the standing Assistant. The standing Assistant will hold the toy in his or her hand for a few seconds in front of the Test Dog, squeaking the toy twice. The Evaluator will announce exercise finished.

<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>

Test Dog did not attempt to grab the toy from or paw at the Assistants' hands.

Test Dog did not bark at the Assistants.

Test Dog did not jump at the toy during any part of the exercise.

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11. GENTLY TAKING A TREAT FROM THE HAND	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog is able to accept a treat from a client in a friendly, gentle, patient and non-threatening manner.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. The Handler will approach two Assistants, one sitting in a wheelchair and one standing on crutches. The Handler and Test Dog will approach one of the Assistants. The Assistant will shakily lower his or her closed hand with a treat in it until it is within the Test Dog's reach. The Assistant will not deliver the treat right away. When the Evaluator directs, the Assistant will slowly open his or her hand, offering the treat to the Test Dog. After the Handler and Test Dog have finished with the first Assistant, the Handler and Test Dog may be asked to approach the other Assistant and repeat the process.</p>		
<i>Test Dog exhibited reasonable patience waiting for the treat (gentle bumping, nuzzling or licking is okay).</i>		
<i>Test Dog took the treat gently from one of the Assistants.</i>		
<i>Test Dog did not bark at the Assistants.</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		

12. LONG GROUP SIT STAY	<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>
<p>Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog, when commanded, will remain sitting for a long period of time, even when distractions are present. In the therapeutic setting, this is important when the CANINE THERAPY CORPS volunteer is working with the client, not the dog. It is also important in the event of a medical emergency at the facility, when the dog must be trusted to stay where commanded in spite of environmental distractions.</p> <p>Description of Exercise. This is a group exercise, with all Test Dogs. The Evaluator will assemble the teams in a line with the Test Dogs at the Handler's sides. When requested by the Evaluator, all Handlers will, at the same time, put their dogs in a sit-stay. When instructed by the Evaluator, all Handlers will proceed, with their backs to the Test Dogs, approximately 20 feet and turn around to face their Test Dog. The Handlers may reinforce their initial command with hand signals, but, to prevent distraction to the other Test Dogs, no Handler may use verbal coaching. If a Test Dog gets up and starts to wander, go to its Handler or moves to interfere with another Test Dog, the Evaluator will promptly instruct the Handler to retrieve his or her Test Dog and keep it in front of him or her, away from the other Test Dogs, for the duration of the exercise. After 60 seconds have passed on the Evaluator's watch, the Evaluator will quietly instruct the Handlers to return to their respective Test Dog. The Handlers will walk back to their Test Dog without speaking, and assume a position to the right or left of his or her Test Dog. When the Evaluator says "exercise finished," Handlers may release and praise their Test Dog.</p>		
<i>Test Dog did not go to its Handler or another Test Dog or wander.</i>		
<i>Test dog maintained a sit position for the entire 60-second exercise.</i>		
Evaluator Notes:		



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13. DOWN STAY WITH DISTRACTIONS

Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog, when commanded, will remain in the down position for an extended period of time, even when distractions are present. In a therapeutic setting, this is important when the **CANINE THERAPY CORPS** volunteer is working with the client, not the dog. It is also important in the event of a medical emergency at the facility, when the dog must be trusted to stay where commanded in spite of environmental distractions.

Description of Exercise. This is a dual exercise between two Test Dogs (the Down Dog and the Heeling Dog); it occurs simultaneous to the "Walk on Loose Lead" exercise. The Evaluator will assign a position for the "Down Stay With Distractions," which will be within three feet of the location where the Heeling Dog will make its about-turn during the "Walk on Loose Lead" exercise. Prior to the Heeling Dog team commencing the "Walk on a Loose Lead" exercise, the Evaluator will instruct the Down Dog Handler to proceed to the assigned location and put his or her Down Dog on a down-stay. The Evaluator will then instruct the Down Dog Handler to leave the Down Dog. The Handler may command the Test Dog to stay and will turn away from the Down Dog, proceed approximately 20 feet and turn around to face the Down Dog. At this time, the Heeling Dog team will proceed with its "Walk on Loose Lead" exercise. The Down Dog Handler may reinforce his or her initial command with hand signals, but may not use verbal coaching. Upon completion of the "Walk on a Loose Lead" exercise, the Evaluator will instruct the Down Dog Handler to return to his or her Down Dog. The Down Dog Handler should return to his or her dog without speaking and assume a position to the right or left side of the Down Dog. When the Evaluator informs the Down Dog Handler that the exercise is finished, he or she may release and praise their Down Dog

<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>

Test Dog assumed the down position as commanded by its Handler.

Test Dog did not break to its Handler, the Heeling Dog team or any other person present or wander.

Test Dog maintained a down position (minor comfort shifting only is acceptable) for the entire exercise.

Evaluator Notes:

14. DOG LEFT ALONE

Purpose. Demonstrates that the Test Dog behaves well when left alone for three minutes without the Handler present, for example, in the event of a medical emergency.

Description of Exercise. When instructed by the Evaluator, all Handlers will tether their Test Dogs to structures in the site suitable to each Test Dog's size. When requested, all Handlers will leave the room together, out of the Test Dogs' sight and hearing. At the Evaluator's request, the Handlers will re-enter the room and go to their Test Dogs and release them.

<u>PASS</u>	<u>FAIL</u>

Test Dog did not tug at its leash, exhibit extreme agitation, howl or bark uncontrollably upon being left alone.

Test dog was relatively calm during separation (did not register angst beyond mild agitation or nervousness).

Evaluator Notes:

<p>PASS <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> FAIL</p>

Evaluator: _____

Evaluator's Signature: _____

Date: _____