

Puppy Aptitude Test

The New Concise Chart and Score Sheet

<p>Social Attraction</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of attraction to people.</p> <p>Method: Place pup in testing area 4 feet from tester, who coaxes puppy to her/him.</p>		
<p>Following</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of willingness to follow human leadership</p> <p>Method: Stand up and walk away from puppy, encouraging verbally.</p>		
<p>Restraint</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of dominance or submission. Response to social/physical dominance.</p> <p>Method: Gently roll the pup on his back and hold it for 30 seconds.</p>		
<p>Social Dominance</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of acceptance of human social dominance. How “forgiving” the pup is.</p> <p>Method: Pup sits facing tester at a 45 degree angle. Tester strokes pup and puts his/her face close to pup.</p>		
<p>Elevation Dominance</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of accepting dominance while in position of no control.</p> <p>Method: Cradle pup under its belly, fingers interlaced, and elevate just off ground for 30 seconds.</p>		
<p>Retrieving (Obedience and Aptitude)</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of willingness to work with humans. High correlation between ability to retrieve and successful guide dogs, obedience dogs, and field trial dogs.</p> <p>Method: Attract pup’s attention with crumpled paper ball. When he is watching, toss paper 4 feet away. When pup goes after it back up two feet and encourage him to come back.</p>		
<p>Touch Sensitivity</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of sensitivity to touch.</p> <p>Method: \take webbing of one front foot and press between finger and thumb lightly, gradually increasing pressure on a scale from 1-10. Stop as soon as the puppy shows discomfort.</p>		
<p>Sound Sensitivity</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of sensitivity to sound.</p> <p>Method: Place pup in the center of testing area and make a sharp noise a few feet away. A large metal spoon struck sharply on a metal pan twice works well.</p>		
<p>Chase Instinct</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of response to moving object; chase instinct.</p> <p>Method: Tie a string around a towel and drag it in front of the puppy from left to right.</p>		
<p>Stability</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of intelligent response to strange object.</p> <p>Method: Place up in center of testing area. Close umbrella is held 4 feet away and pointed perpendicular to the direction the pup faces. The umbrella is opened and set down so the pup can investigate.</p>		
<p>Energy Level</p> <p>Purpose: Degree of physical energy.</p> <p>Method: Observe pup on the other sub-tests and score according to the most frequent activity observed. Check with breeder for confirmation.</p>		