



Dog Talent Association

List of Novice tricks and *behaviours*

Give specific paw	Give left or right paw as requested.
Paw on	On cue dog places one paw on an object which is not the handler's hand. Repeat with 3 different objects.
Close the door	On cue dog closes a door using paws. Repeat 3 times.
Get inside the box	Dog hops or steps into a box with 4 sides at least the height of dog's elbow. The box length needs to be smaller than the dog's body length. All 4 paws of the dog need to be in the box for minimum of 3 seconds.
Take a bow	Dog takes a bow or curtsy by lowering the front feet to the ground while back legs remain upright. Hold this position for 3 seconds.
Lie down	On cue dog lies down flat on its front like in down position but with head resting on the floor and maintains this position for 3 seconds.
Ring the bell	Dog rings the bell either using its mouth, nose or paw. The bell can be hanging or on the floor as a button.
Spin (both ways)	Dog spins around itself in a full circle in both directions.
Wave	Dog lifts paw up and either moves it from side to side or up and down several times in succession.
In front	On cue dog moves and stands in front of the handler, facing the handler, and stays there for at least 3 seconds.
Make it better	Dog responds to handlers crying by coming and trying to console by licking, nosing or other positive means to stop the crying.
Balance on nose	Balance an object or a treat on the nose or muzzle for 5 seconds. After that, the object can be either picked up by the handler, or the dog can flip it up and catch it.
Sit pretty	Sits on back legs with both front paws and the body raised up for 3 seconds without any support.
Play dead	On cue dog lies down flat on its side and stays there for at least 3 seconds.
Kiss	Dog gives the handler a kiss on cue by licking or touching the handler's cheek with their nose.
Bark	Dog gives a single bark on cue.
Sing	Dog howls (sings) on cue.
Center position	On cue dog positions itself between handler's legs with all 4 feet on the floor, facing the same way as the handler.
Fetch	Dog brings a thrown object and delivers it to hand.
Crawl	Dog crawls on belly for at least 5 strides.
Touch the target	Dog demonstrates that on cue it is able to consistently touch an object other than a hand with its nose. This needs to be done as a flowing sequence of at least 4 nose to target touches in different positions. The target can be a target stick or any other non-food object.
High 10	Dog raises both front paws and touches the vertically held handler's hands in front of it, resembling high 10. Perform twice.
Stand tall	Dog stands tall on its back legs for at least 3 seconds.

Through legs	Dog starts facing the handler and on cue goes forward all the way through the handler's legs.
Which hand	Handler holds a treat or a small object in one of their (closed) hands and the dog indicates which hand it is in either by nosing, a focused look or with a paw, by prodding. Repeat twice.
Play football	On cue the dog rolls a football or another ball with either the nose or paw(s). Repeat 3 times.
Give a hug	On cue dog approaches and places both feet on the handler shoulders. The handler is in a kneeling, squatting position or sitting on the floor to be at the dog's height. Maintain the hug for at least 2 seconds.
Catch it	On cue dog gets ready and catches a toy thrown towards it.
Find all the treats	Handler hides 10 small treats around a room or a defined small outdoor space while the dog is not watching. Invite the dog in and on cue the dog actively searches for and finds at least 9 of the 10 hidden treats without help from the handler. Dog must not pause and do something else while doing the exercise. Treats need to be places on or below dog's nose level. Dog can use any indication method to show location of the treats or just pick them up when it finds them.
Pots search for treats	Handler hides a treat underneath one of 5 objects and dog indicates where it is. The objects could be flower pots with drainage holes on the top, cardboard boxes or containers with loosely covered leads etc. Dog must not turn the pots over or open the containers to search for the hidden treat. It needs to examine all of the containers and indicate the one with the treat. Repeat twice.
Back up on flat	Dog backs up for at least 3 dog body lengths on a flat surface.
Hoop jump	Dog jumps through one hoop - once in each direction.
Jump	Dog jumps over a raised stationary object. The handler needs to choose a safe object at safe for the dog height.
Jump up	On cue dog jumps up on a spot 3 times.
Jump over leg	Dog jumps over the handler's legs while the handler is sitting or standing once in each direction.
Hold	Handler gives dog an object or a toy to hold. The dog holds the object in the mouth for 5 seconds and then releases it to the handler's hand on command. Demonstrate with 3 different objects.
Tug	Dog tugs on a rope on handler's cue.
Hand signals novice	Dog performs 3 different behaviours on silent hand signals from the handler. The behaviours can be from any category.
Balance	Dog walks on a long raised object, plank or tree trunk which is narrower than dog's shoulder width for at least 5 steps. The handler should be ready to support the dog if required.
Head tilt	Dog tilts head on cue and holds it in that position for 2 seconds.
Circle the handler	Dog performs a full circle around the handler (in both directions).
Press the button	Dog uses paw or nose to press an large button which is within easy reach of the dog.
Go right	Dog, on a verbal command from the handler, without hand cue, goes right for at least 3 steps or turns right.
Go left	Dog, on a verbal command from the handler, without hand cue, goes left for at least 3 steps or turns right.
Go straight	Dog goes straight forward from the handler for at least 5 steps.
Look up	Dog looks upwards.

Whisper into my ear	Dog comes to the handler and holds its nose close to the handler's ear like it is sharing a secret.
Fetch remote	Dog fetches the remote, brings it to handler and delivers it to hand.
Hands up!	On cue dog lifts both of its front paws up and holds them for at least 2 seconds.
Quiet	Dog stops barking.
Pick up	Dog picks up the object and holds it for at least 2 seconds.
Jump over me	With handler on their hands and knees, the dog jumps over the handler's back. It's OK for the dog's feet to touch the back and for the dog to jump up and then down.
Ground	On command dog looks down onto the floor or the ground.
Make friends	On command dog places head onto the helper's or handler's lap and keeps it there for at least 2 seconds.
Touch your nose	Dog lifts paw and touches its nose. A quick touch or a swipe is OK.
On it	On command the dog walks, jumps or hops onto the object, placing all 4 feet there and staying for at least 3 seconds.
Crawl under	Dog crawls all the way under a horizontal object which is lower than the dog's shoulder height.
Dig	On command dog makes a digging movement on the ground.
Faster	Dog goes faster. This can be off the lead or on the lead.
Slower	Dog goes slower. This can be off the lead or on the lead.
Get into the car	Dog gets in to the car without pulling or resistance.
Nose in	Handler holds fingers, making a ring with them, or gets an object with a hole. On command the dog puts the nose into the hole and holds it there for at least 2 seconds.
Cross road safely	Dog sits down by the road crossing and stays seated on a loose lead until the handler gives the cross the road command. Then dog walks quietly on a loose lead without pulling or stopping next to the handler across the road.
Distance work novice	Dog performs 3 tricks at a distance of approximately 5m away from the handler. Voice commands, or hand commands, or both are allowed. Any tricks are permitted.
Bring your leash	On command dog brings handler the leash and gives it to hand.
Light up the way	Dog carries a switched on torch in its mouth while walking next to handler for 10 steps. The dog needs to be next to handler on the lead or off the lead, but not necessary in the heel position. At the end of the exercise dog gives the torch to the handler's hand.
Jogging	Dog jogs sufficiently close to the handler on a loose lead without pulling, stopping, or running across the handler's path for approximately 25 m. Dog's pace matches that of the handler.
Mop the floor	Dog takes the handle of a mop and moves the mop across the floor several times.
Knows other words	Handler demonstrates that dog knows/understands 3 non-trick command words which could be things that you tell dog such as "dinner time" or "walk", "no" or names of objects, people, animals or activity.
Close sliding draws	Dog uses the nose or paw to push closed a sliding draw.
Pull untie shoelaces	Dog carefully pulls to untie single bow tied shoelaces.

Hug-hold	Dog puts one or two feet around a vertical object (stick, leg, umbrella etc) like if holding in a hug position and holds the position for 3 seconds. The object needs to be supported by the handler.
Wear sunglasses or hat	Dog is able to wear, in relaxed way without trying to take off, sunglasses or a hat for 5 seconds.
Simple frisbee catch	Dog is able to catch frisbee.
Do the dusting	Dog holding dusting cloth in its mouth and moves it across a raised surface to “dust”.
Go up the stairs	On command the dog climbs to the top of the flight of stairs.
Shuffle	Dog places its front feet on a horizontal long object and shuffles sideways along the object on the back legs while keeping the front paws moving on the top of the object. The object can be vertical such as wall or lower such as bench. Demonstrate in both directions.