



EXPERT DOG TALENT SHOW TITLE REQUIREMENTS

Part 1: Five sequences of 2 Expert or Advanced level tricks each

Each of the sequences need to include 2 Expert or Advanced level tricks from any of the talent pathways (Thinker, Performer, Athlete, Helper). Instead of the suggested tricks you can use your own tricks, but please make sure they are at the same level of difficulty or above. If in any doubt please contact us first.

You can combine tricks from different talent pathways in the same sequence. You can re-use the tricks from your Thinker, Performer, Athlete or Helper titles submissions but they need to be in a different environment.

You can't use exactly the same trick more than once in Part 1, but it is OK if it is performed in a different way. Please use sequences that you have not used in your Advanced Dog Talent Show title submission and different tricks.

The transition from one trick to another in the sequence should be fluid and without undue delay or hesitation.

Part 2: Perform 5 tricks with props

Choose any Expert or Advanced level tricks from any of the talent pathways or your own. If using your own tricks please make sure they are on the Expert or Advanced level of difficulty or above. If in any doubt please contact us first. Please use different tricks from your Advanced Dog Talent Show title.

For props you can use any household objects, tools, musical instruments, clothes, sports equipment, recycled boxes, re-purposed items etc. Please do not use dog agility or obedience equipment. You can re-use the props.

Part 3: Perform 2 Creative sequences of 7 different tricks with props and themes. One or more of the tricks in each sequence needs to include a prop.

Each of the sequences should have a theme, a mini-story or be logically connected. For example a football match, shopping, helper, trip to Paris, getting late to work, pirates, school etc.

Choose any level tricks from any of the talent pathways or your own. Include at least two Advanced or Expert level tricks into each of the sequences. You can re-use tricks submitted for Advanced or Novice titles.

Only one trick in each sequence needs to include a prop. You can have a prop for other tricks in the same sequence, or they can be performed without a prop. You can re-use the props, but please use different tricks from those in Part 2 of this submission.

The transition from one trick to another in the sequence should be fluid and without undue delay or hesitation.

No lures, food or toys are allowed to encourage dogs to perform the tricks or the sequence. The sequences do not need to be performed straight one after another- they can be recored separately.

Submit your videos for the Title on www.DogTalentAssociation.com
All successful submissions will receive DTA rosette and certificate

Other key rules and requirements:

1. All behaviours or tricks need to be taught using a **positive approach** and the dog should clearly enjoy performing them.
2. Handler must ensure the **safety** of the dog and the people around at all times. All tricks need to be performed in a safe area where dogs are allowed. The handler needs to assist the dog and stop any tricks that may cause any harm to the dog, people or the environment. If your dog has any disabilities, then contact DogTalent Association in advance to discuss and agree an amended list of tricks/ requirements to accommodate your dog.
3. The **handler must be ready to spot or support the dog at any point**. For safety reasons some of the behaviours may need to be performed on a harness and lead to allow more effective support. Any jumping has to be done safely and only at appropriate height to the dog and never higher than 2 dog's shoulder heights. Avoid asking your dog to jump higher than a dog's shoulder height on any hard surface. You may need to reduce those heights further for young, old dogs or for health reasons. Plan all tricks with your dog's health in mind.
4. Both the **handler and the dog need to be fully visible** in each video for the whole duration of the assessed behaviour. Each video must not be manipulated, edited and need to have the original sound track. The only editing allowed is trimming the start and the end of the video.
5. **No physical manipulation of the dog** in the position is allowed during the behaviour. Dog needs to perform all tricks willingly and independently. **No harsh dog handling or correction** is allowed at any time.
6. Hand shaping is allowed, but **no treats or toys can be used as lures** to perform the behaviour. Treats and other rewards can be given after the trick is completed. When performing the sequence of behaviours the reward can be given after completion of the sequence.
7. **Handler must not touch the dog** in order to entice the dog to perform the behaviour, unless the dog has some physical restriction or disability requiring the handler to touch the dog.
8. The handler needs to **aim to give only one command or a verbal command and a visual cue**. Either a verbal command or a visual cue may be repeated once more for no more than a quarter of the assessed behaviours. If the dog routinely requires more than one repetition of the command, or the cue, or both, then more work needs to be done before the dog is ready for the title submission.
9. The videoclips **do not need to be recorded on the same day** or in one take/place.
10. Both the dog and the handler should respect the environment, people around them and present a **positive and inspirational example** of a partnership.
11. **All behaviours and tricks are performed at your own risk** and the Dog Talent Association or anyone associated with it are not liable in any way whatsoever for any harm or injury, or potential injury. The Handler has full responsibility for assessment and management of any risks, suitability, safety and harm prevention.

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