

DTA Novice Thinker list of behaviours

	Trick name	Description and assessment criteria
1	Differentiate front paws	Dog gives left or right front paw on verbal cue alone irrespective which hand if offered by the handler. Demonstrate in random order with both front paws - at least twice with each of the front paws.
2	Differentiate hind paws	Dog gives or lifts left or right hind paw on verbal cue alone irrespective which hand if offered by the handler. Demonstrate in random order with both hind paws - at least twice with each of the hind paws.
3	Specific front paw touch	On cue dog touches an object with specific front paw on a verbal cue specific for this paw. There should be a different cue word used for front right and front left paw. Demonstrate with both paws at least twice in random order
4	Front paw on	On cue dog places one front paw on an object which is not handler's hand. Repeat with 3 different objects. Hold still for 3 seconds
5	Sustained nose touch	On cue dog touches an object with it's nose and holds it there for at least 3 seconds or until release cue
6	Close the door	On cue dog closes a door using paws. Repeat 3 times with the same or different door. Handler must not lure the dog up the door
7	Get inside the box	Dog hops in 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.
8	Ring the bell	Dog rings the bell either using its mouth/nose or paw. Repeat twice
9	Bark	Dog gives a single bark on cue. Repeat twice
10	Bring it	Dog fetches an object that the handler points at and delivers it to hand. The object must not be thrown by the handler before sending the dog to fetch.
11	Bring and drop	Dog fetches an object that the handler points at. Delivers it to the handler waits and drops the object down on cue rather than delivering to hand
12	Ear target touch	Dog touches a target or handler's hand with its ear on cue. The handler must not simply move the hand towards the dog. The dog must step towards the target. Demonstrate twice.
13	Which hand	Handler holds a treat or a small object in one of the closed hands and the dog indicate either by nosing, a focused look or with paw which hand the treat is hidden. Repeat twice. The indication needs to be very clear.
14	Find all the treats	Handler hides 10 small treats around a room or a defined small outdoor space while 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 of just picks them up when it's find them

	Trick name	Description and assessment criteria
15	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.
16	Go to bed	On cue dog goes to it's bed or a specific place where it sits or lies down and stays for at least 5 seconds.
17	Open the door	Dog opens the door by pulling on a rope or a string attached to it. Repeat 3 times with the same door
18	Hold and give	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
19	Give or drop	Dog holds an object. On specific cue the dog either gives the object to handler's hand or drops it. Repeat twice with each action in a random order.
20	Tug	Dog tugs on a rope on handler's cue. This must not be as a part of a play session
21	Hand signals novice	Dog performs 3 different behaviours on silent hand signals from the handler. The behaviours can be from any category.
22	Go right	Dog starts facing forward, on a verbal command from the handler without hand cue the dog goes right for at least 3 steps or turns right
23	Go left	Dog starts facing forward. On a verbal command from the handler without a hand cue goes left for at least 3 steps or turns right
24	Go straight	Dog goes straight forward away from the handler for at least 5 steps. This must not be towards an object or a mark or in response to handler pretending to throw an object for the dog. The action needs to be performed on a flat and to a specific cue.
25	Look up	Dog looks upwards. There should be no luring involved. The handler must stand in front of the dog to demonstrate this action. Demonstrate twice
26	Pick up	Dog picks up the object and holds it for at least 2 seconds. Handler must then take the object from dog's mouth.
27	Look down	On command dog looks down onto the floor or the ground. Demonstrate twice.
28	Make friends	On command dog places head onto the helper's or handler's lap and keeps it there for at least 2 seconds
29	Nose in	Handler holds fingers making a ring with them or an object with a hole (this could be a pot, a cup, box or similar). On command the dog puts the nose into the hole and holds it there for at least 2 seconds. Demonstrate twice.
30	Distance work novice	Dog performs 3 tricks at a distance of approximately 5m away from the handler. Dog can be either on a flat surface or a raised platform. Voice or hand commands or both are allowed. Any tricks are permitted
31	Bring your leash	On command dog brings handler the leash and delivers it to hand. The leash must be out of dog's sight and must not be simply pointed at by the handler.

	Trick name	Description and assessment criteria
32	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.
33	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.
34	Relaxed heel off leash	Dog walks at heel position close to handler’s leg but not necessary touch it but with a relaxed natural head position. Handler must demonstrate a change of direction with dog maintaining the position.
35	Right and left heel	On cue dog walks on the right of the handler at a heel style position then switches and walks on the left of handler at a heel style (competitive or relaxed). Demonstrate both position for at least 10 steps
36	Woof	On cue dog makes a quiet whisper bark like sound. Repeat twice
37	Voice only commands novice	Dog performs 3 different behaviours on voice command only without any visual cues, hand or body signals. The behaviours can be from any category.
38	Facing away novice	Dog performs 3 different behaviours on cue while facing away from handler or with the handler being completely out of sight
39	Mark	On command dog goes to a mark (which can be raised off the ground or level with the ground). Dog needs to stay at the mark for at least 3 seconds or wait for the next command at the mark. Demonstrate with two different marks
40	Across front	On cue dog stands centrally in front of the handler with its side by the front of handler’s leg facing either to the left or to the right of the handler. Handler must not lure the dog into this position.
41	Across back	On cue dog stands centrally behind handler with its side touching the back of handler’s leg facing either to the left or to the right of the handler. Handler must not lure the dog into this position.
42	Scratch	On cue dog scratches itself as if itching
43	Fireman carry	Handler will safely pick up the dog and carry it over the shoulders with front feet over one shoulder and the back feet over the other shoulder. Handler then safely puts the dog back onto the ground. Dog needs to look comfortable and relaxed up there and remain in this position for at least 3 seconds. Not all dogs are suitable and it needs to be delivered safely for both the dog and the handler.
44	Look to the left facing handler	Dog stands or sits initially facing the handler, on cue dog turns and looks to the left. Repeat 3 times
45	Look to the right facing handler	Dog stands or sits initially facing the handler, on cue dog turns and looks to the right. Repeat 3 times
46	Look behind you	Dog stands or sits initially facing the handler, on cue dog turns and looks behind itself while maintaining the same body position. Repeat 3 times
47	Double trick novice	Dog performs two tricks simultaneously from Foundation or novice lists of tricks for example holding an object while walking at heel etc.
48	Read book	On cue dog looks into an open book in front of it, maintaining the direction of gaze for at least 3 seconds or until release command. Handler needs to demonstrate beforehand that the book is unmarked and there is no food or treats on the page.

	Trick name	Description and assessment criteria
49	Find a hidden person	A person that dog knows hides out of dog's sight. Dog is released 10 seconds after the person is fully hidden and instructed to find the person. Dog then performs search and finds the person.
50	Settle down	On cue dog settles in its bed or on the floor and demonstrates relaxed body language.
51	Pick up the leash	Handler walks with the dog holding the leash then drops it. Dog needs to stop, pick up the leash and either hand it to the handler or carry the leash walking alongside the handler.
52	Emergency recall	Dog got its attention fully onto a distraction (this could be a squirrel, running away person, ball and anything else that dog is tempted to chase). After the dog started to move into this direction the handler calls. The dog stops the chase, turns around and arrives back to handler.
53	Lift front paw	On cue dog lifts and holds one of the front paws in the air without putting it down. Dog needs to hold independently the paw up off the floor for at least 3 seconds. Demonstrate twice
54	Put an object into open box	Dog picks up a thrown object and puts it into an open box which is in front of the handler. Repeat twice
55	Hide from me	On cue dog hides behind an object away from handler. Demonstrate twice