



# Dog Talent Association

List of Expert tricks and *behaviours*

<b>Read and do</b>	Dog performs a trick written on a card or according to what is pictured on a card — at least with 3 cards requiring a different trick each.
<b>Stack the cups</b>	Dog picks up cups then stacks them one by one and places each neatly inside the previous or on the top of the previous, stacking them all up. At least 3 cups.
<b>Sort things out</b>	Dog picks objects from the floor and sorts them into 2 boxes according to handler's verbal instructions. At least 6 different objects. This could be plastic vs metal for recycling, dog toys vs clothes, balls vs everything else, etc.
<b>Bring me</b>	On a verbal cue dog brings the requested object out of a choice of at least five objects, repeat 3 times with different objects. All objects are stationary at the point of command and are not thrown for the dog to fetch.
<b>Tidy up</b>	Dog opens up dog's toy box or any other box, picks up at least 3 toys or objects one by one, puts them into the box and closes the lid. The lid can be of any design.
<b>Go and call</b>	On request dog goes to a named family member or a familiar person and nudges or barks at them or uses another safe and clear communication method. Dog keeps doing this until they follow the dog to you. The handler needs to say before the start of the exercise what is the dog's way of letting the other person know that they are being called. Dog needs to perform the whole sequence on its own after the first cue.
<b>Carry at heel position</b>	Dog carries an object while remaining at handler's heel position. Together they need to walk for 8 steps, make a 180° turn and walk back 8 steps. Dog must remain in the heel position and carry the object with care. Object is then released to handler's hand.
<b>Military marching</b>	Dog lifts front paws high one by one in synchrony with the handler's legs in a marching fashion. Dog can stand in any position. Dog needs to maintain the synchrony and the coordination of the paw lifting with the handler's leg rises. This can be done with forward movement or without for 6 steps.
<b>Counting dog</b>	Dog barks the required number of barks and stops at a subtle signal from handler. Repeat twice.
<b>Point me</b>	Dog indicates by giving a focused look, barking, pawing or in any other clear way an object named by the handler among 5 or more objects in front of it. Repeat 3 times with different objects.
<b>Find the object with the handler's scent</b>	Handler briefly holds an object that is then placed at an equal distance of one foot apart among 5 other objects. Dog must not see which object the handler touched. Dog needs to find and clearly indicate the object with handler's scent on it.
<b>Bring the tissue</b>	When the handler sneezes dog takes a tissue out of a tissue box, brings it to the handler, and then without additional prompt takes it to a bin.
<b>Circle backwards while moving</b>	Dog performs a full circle going backwards around a moving object, a moving handler or alternating between a moving handler and an object. Demonstrate in both directions.
<b>Go up stairs backwards</b>	Dog goes backwards up at least 5 steps on stairs.
<b>Marching on the spot</b>	Dog lifts its legs up sequentially like walking while marching on the spot — perform 6 lifts, counting front paws.
<b>Reverse leg weaves</b>	Dog reverses and performs 5 weaves moving backwards through the legs of walking handler. The handler could be moving backwards or forwards.

<b>Merry go round</b>	Dog goes around the outside leg of a handler who circles by keeping the inside leg on the same spot, while making steps around a circle with the outside leg. Dog circles the handler's outside leg after each handler's step around the circle. Together dog and handler perform a full circle in both directions.
<b>Double hoop sequence</b>	Handler holds 2 hoops, dog performs a sequence of 6 hoop jumps as instructed by the handler through the same hoop, alternating the hoops and changing the direction of the jump.
<b>Skip</b>	Dog skips over a moving rope or skipping rope with or without the handler 3 times in a row.
<b>Figure of 8 over jumps</b>	Dog performs a figure of 8 over a jump by going over it, turning one direction, then going over and turning another direction. Repeat twice. Handler can indicate the direction of the turn each time, but it needs to be performed as flowing sequence without stopping in-between the jumps.
<b>Climb a ladder</b>	Dog climbs onto a secure, acceptable for dog use ladder. The ladder can be placed horizontally on a flat between raised objects or standing at an angle. Handler must be ready to support the dog where necessary. If required the dog needs to be picked up and safely put back on the floor by the handler.
<b>Skateboard</b>	Dog places at least 3 feet on a skateboard and moves with it for at least 1 meter.
<b>Roll while handler steps over</b>	On cue dog rolls over while handler steps over it. Repeat twice, once in each direction, or as a sequence in one direction.
<b>Sort by colour</b>	Dog selects yellow objects from the selection of objects in front and puts green into one box/container and blue objects into another container. Alternatively, there could be yellow and blue container and the dog sorts the objects according to the colour of the container and put them there. Perform with 4 objects.
<b>Search for hidden object on a person</b>	Dog is given a toy or an object to sniff and then an assistant hides this object somewhere on them without the dog seeing. On command dog carefully searches the assistant for the object and appropriately indicates the find to the handler.
<b>Search for a hidden object in a room</b>	Assistant shows an object (non-food type) to the dog and then hides it somewhere in the room without the dog or the handler knowing where it is. On command from the handler the dog performs a focused search of the room looking for that object. When the dog finds the object it needs to indicate to the handler or to bring the object to the handler.
<b>Pick card of right colour</b>	Handler shows the dog a number of cards of a different colour. The dog, on the handler's command, needs to pick up or indicate by touch cards of a specified colour (yellow or blue) out of the selection — at least 3 accurately picked cards from the selection without any mistakes.
<b>Hold while sitting pretty</b>	Dog holds an object in mouth while sitting pretty for 3 seconds. Dog must sit pretty without support for the duration of this trick and then release the object into the handler's hand.
<b>Shy while sitting pretty</b>	Dog covers its eyes with one or two front paws while sitting pretty and holds this position for 2 seconds.
<b>Hand signals expert</b>	Dog performs 10 different behaviours/skills on hand signal from the handler. The behaviours can be from any category.
<b>Fill the piggy bank</b>	Dog picks up a coin and puts it through the coin slot in the piggy bank. Repeat 3 times.
<b>Upright spin</b>	Dog spins or hops around itself in a full circle in both directions while standing on hind legs without support.
<b>Jump into handler arms</b>	Dog jumps into the handler arms.
<b>Tic tack off the handler</b>	Dog jumps up, performs a tight turn, rebounds off the handler and lands straight down. Each foot should touch once.

<b>Balance beam with turn</b>	Dog walks on a long raised object, plank or tree trunk which is narrower than the dog's shoulder width for at least 5 steps then makes a turn without stepping off the object and walks 5 steps back.
<b>Help me to tidy</b>	Handler puts in front of the dog 2 or more different household items and dog picks them up and puts them in the places where they are meant to be.
<b>Bring phone when it rings</b>	Dog finds and brings the handler the phone, after it rings or vibrates.
<b>Help to fill the washing machine</b>	Handler opens the washing machine door and the dog puts the clothes from a nearby washing basket inside. Dog pushes the washing machine door, but does not necessary need to completely close it.
<b>Sing</b>	Dog howls alongside a musical instrument, handler's song or a piece of music. It does not have to follow the rhythms or the tune.
<b>Build a tower</b>	Dog builds a tower of at least 3 blocks (or other objects that require precision of placement and some balance).
<b>Distance work expert</b>	Dog performs 10 tricks at a distance of approximately 5 m away from the handler. Voice or hand commands or both are allowed. Any tricks are permitted.
<b>Find the hidden object</b>	Handler shows the dog an object and then hides it. The dog must be in another room or an area where it can't see or hear where the handler hides the object. On cue the dog enters the room or area and performs a focused search for the object. The handler must not help the dog with voice commands or body directions. When the dog finds the object it needs to indicate its location to the handler or fetch it to the handler's hand.
<b>Ride a scooter</b>	On a flat surface in a safe area dog stands on a stable scooter (not a 2 wheeled variety) with two front feet on the handle bars and one foot on the foot board and pushes from the floor with the other back foot. Perform 3 strides. Handler needs to ensure that the area is safe, that they are ready to support/stop the dog, and that the scooter is of appropriate height for the dog.
<b>Push the swing</b>	Handler sits on a swing and dog carefully pushes the handler's back using its back feet so the swing with the handler gently swings. Repeat 3 times.
<b>Play the drum</b>	Dog carefully holds in its mouth a drumming stick and in a rhythm indicated by the handler taps the drumming stick on the drum. Alternatively the dog can use its paw on the drum pedal. It has to be in a rhythm set by the handler.
<b>Deliver an object</b>	Dog picks up an object pointed at by the handler and delivers it to hand to another familiar person. The assistant needs to be nearby in the same house or in an area safe for dog to cross by itself.
<b>Deliver a food item</b>	Dog is given or pick up a food item such as a sausage, a large treat, etc and delivers it to the handler, who is at least 2 m away, uneaten, and gives to hand on command.
<b>Backwards reverse between handler feet from distance</b>	Dog reverses backwards into a position between handler's feet from a distance of 5 m or more.
<b>Row of hoops jump weave</b>	Dog sequentially jumps through a minimum of 3 hoops that are positioned alongside each other in a weaving fashion by alternating the side of entry between the subsequent hoops. The hoops can be held by a stationary assistant, and any object resembling a hoop will be accepted including tires, hand circles, etc.
<b>Walk backwards on hind legs</b>	Dog stands tall on its hind legs and takes at least 3 steps backwards, maintaining a good balance without any external support.
<b>Do as I do</b>	Dog copies the handler's actions without the handler giving a specific cue for those actions. Demonstrate with 3 different tricks. Handler can use a command to indicate that the dog needs to repeat the action, but it has to be the same for all of the tricks.