

MDTC Basic Obedience - Graduation Test

As of April 9, 2024

| Task | Condition | Standard |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| 1. Sit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog and Handler are next to each other (side by side or facing each other) - Dog is a position other than a Sit. - Handler is standing in a normal upright position during the exercise. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog responds to the handler's one time Sit command. - Dog remains in position until the evaluator releases. (Approx. 5-10 seconds) |
| 2. Down | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog and Handler are next to each other (side by side or facing each other) - Dog is on a position other than a Down. - Handler is standing in a normal upright position during the exercise. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog responds to the handler's one-time Down command. - Handle may lean forward to command the dog "Down" or - Dog remains in position until the evaluator releases. (Approx. 5-10 seconds) |
| 3a. Sit-Stay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog and Handler are next to each other (side by side or facing each other) - Dog is on a position other than a Sit. - Handler is standing. - Upon the evaluators cue, the Handler walks away from the dog to a position at least six feet away from the dog and faces the dog. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog responds to the handler's one time Sit command. - Dog responds to the handler's one time Stay or Wait command. - Dog remains in position until the evaluator cues the Handler to return to the dog. (Approx. 5 - 10 seconds). - Dog does not break position after the Handler returns and the evaluator gives the command Exercise Finished. |
| 3b. Down-Stay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog and Handler are next to each other (side by side or facing each other) - Dog is on a position other than a Down. - Handler is standing. - Upon the evaluators cue, the Handler walks away from the dog to a position at least six feet away from the dog and faces the dog. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog responds to the handler's one-time Down command. - Dog responds to the handler's one time Stay or Wait command. - Dog remains in position until the evaluator cues the Handler to return to the dog. (Approx. 5 -10 seconds). - Dog does not break position after the Handler returns and the evaluator gives the command Exercise Finished. |
| 3c. Stand-Stay | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog and Handler are next to each other side by side. - Dog is on a position other than a Down. - Handler is standing. - Upon the evaluators cue, the Handler walks away from the dog to a position at least six feet away from the dog and faces the dog. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog responds to the handler's one-time Down command. - Dog responds to the handler's one time Stay or Wait command. - Dog remains in position until the evaluator cues the Handler to return to the dog. (Approx. 5 -10 seconds). - Dog does not break position after the Handler returns and the evaluator gives the command Exercise Finished. |
| 5. Recall | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog and Handler are next to each other side by side. - Dog is on a Sit, Down or a Stand position (Handler's Choice) - Handler is standing. - Upon the evaluators cue, the Handler walks away from the dog to a position at least eight feet away from the dog and faces the dog. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog responds to the Handler's one time "Stay" or "Wait" command before leaving the dog. - Handler may use a second command to "Stay" or "Wait" after turning to face the dog (or just before recalling" the dog). - Dog does not break position before the Handler calls him. (Approx. 5 -10 seconds). - Upon the evaluator's cue, the Handler uses recall command. - Dog responds to the Handler's recall command. |

MDTC Basic Obedience - Graduation Test

As of April 9, 2024

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog returns within arm’s reach of the Handler when the evaluator may state “Exercise Finished”. - Handler is standing in a normal upright position during the exercise. |
| <p>6. Heel on Leash</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog and Handler are next to each other side by side. - Dog may be on either side of the Handler (Handler’s Choice) but should NOT permanently switch sides (i.e., after a about turn) - Dog may start from a Sit, Down or a Stand position. (Handler’s Choice) - Handler is standing/traveling in a normal upright position. - Upon the evaluators cue, the Handler and Dog will travel together on a predetermined course. - Course is at least 50 long and includes at least one left turn, one right turn, and one about turn, and one halt/stop. - Leash should loosely hang between the dog and Handler while held in either hand, or both hands in a natural position. - Upon the Evaluator’s cue, the Handler gives the Dog a command to “Heel”. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Dog moves with the Handler after the Handler gives the command to Heel. - Handler walks briskly and naturally with the Dog on a loose leash (a “J” in the leash between the handler hand and the dog’s collar). - The Dog need not to be perfectly aligned with the handler. - If the dog should move away from the handler causing a tightening of the leash, the dog should automatically correct to “slack” when the leash becomes tight. (Within approximately 5 -10 seconds). - Dog should not excessively sniff the ground the Heeling exercise. - The Handler may speak to and encourage the dog verbally but should NOT yell or physically intimate the dog during the exercise. - The Handler may only use the leash as a correction aid ONCE during the exercise. |

Handler Notes:

- 1) At least three other dogs must be present during the test even if not all are dogs are testing.
- 2) Handlers may treat/reward the dog after completion of the task but not lure the dog with treat to perform the task during testing.
- 3) Any language or phrase may be used instead of “Heel”, “Down”, “Sit”, etc. so long as they are used consistently throughout testing
- 4) Handlers may use verbal, visual or both type commands during any of the exercises.
- 5) Handler teams are required to successfully perform any 2 of the 3 stay position exercises: Sit-stay, Down-Stay or Stand-Stay.
- 6) If a task is not successfully completed, it may be retested no more than three times.
- 7) When leaving your dog on Sit-Stay, Down-Stay or Stand-Stay the Handler must walk away turning their back to the dog – handlers may not walk backwards away from the dog.
- 8) Dogs may heel on either side of the handler; however please note that the left side position is required in all AKC Obedience competitions.
- 9) Any dog that aggresses toward a human or another during testing will not receive a passing score.
- 10) Any dog that eliminates (urinates or defecates) during testing will not receive a passing score.