



# How to Prepare for the CGC Test

## **What to Bring:**

- 1) A buckle or other soft collar or harness made of fabric or leather. You cannot test in restrictive harnesses such as the front attaching or no-pull harnesses.
- (2) A 6' leash made of fabric or leather.
- (3) A dog brush. We can supply a brush if you don't have one.
- (4) You are welcome to bring treats for before and after the test but you cannot use them during the test.

## **The Ten Tests Of the Canine Good Citizen**

At all times, except for the separation test, you may talk to your dog and praise and encourage your dog. You may not reprimand or correct your dog during any test. Food and toys are not allowed during the tests but are encouraged for training.

### **1. Accepting a friendly stranger:**

Your dog must allow a neutral, friendly stranger to approach, shake hands and speak to you in a natural, everyday tone. Your dog may not show aggression or shyness and should hold a position by your side with feet on the floor.

### **2. Sitting politely for petting:**

Your dog must allow a neutral, friendly stranger to touch on the head and body without showing aggression, shyness or defensive behavior. The dog should appear to be under control during the exercise without excessive coaching by the handler.

### **3. Appearance and Grooming:**

Your dog must tolerate being groomed and examined by a stranger without showing aggression or shyness. The evaluator will pick up each foot, look in the ears and run a brush over your dog. You should not have to restrain nor force your dog to accept handling.

### **4. Out for a walk:**

Your dog must be able to walk beside you on either side you want on a slack leash. You will be asked to make a right and left turn, a 180 degree turn and some stops. Your dog should not be straining at the leash so it is pulled tight. An occasional tightening of the leash is acceptable. You may ask your dog to return to loose leash position at any time.

### **5. Walking through a crowd:**

Your dog will have to walk with you through a few people milling about. They may look unusual or have objects in their hands or on their bodies. Your dog must demonstrate the ability to walk with you without over exuberance, shyness or resentment.

### **6. Sit and Down on command/Staying in place:**

This test will demonstrate the dog's level of training. You will be asked to sit your dog, down your dog and leave the dog in a stay while you go to the end of a 20' leash. The dog must remain in place until the handler returns.

### **7. Coming when called:**

Your dog will be on a 20' long line and you will be asked to leave your dog and go to the end of the line. You may tell your dog to stay or wait. The evaluator will assist if your dog tries to follow you. You will turn and call your dog. You may use body language and encouragement. Your dog should come directly to you.

### **8. Reaction to another dog:**

This test shows that your dog can behave politely around other dogs. You and your dog and another handler and dog will approach each other from a distance of about 20', stop, shake hands, exchange pleasantries and continue on. Your dog may show mild interest in the other dog but may not go toward the other dog either as you approach or as you walk past.

## **9. Reaction to distractions:**

This test demonstrates that the dog is confident at all times when faced with common distractions such as a noise or visual distraction. Your dog may show casual interest and may appear startled, but should not panic try to get away. You may talk to your dog and give encouragement, instructions and praise.

## **10. Supervised Separation (3 minutes):**

This test demonstrates that your dog can be left in the presence of a person and will maintain his training and good manners. The dog does not have to stay in position, but may not bark, whine, howl or panic. It is a good idea to spend some time practicing for this test in places your dog is not accustomed to.

**We look forward to testing you and your dog for the CGC Certification and wish you luck.**

Please contact us at: [trainthebay@berkeleyhumane.org](mailto:trainthebay@berkeleyhumane.org) or (510) 845-7735, ext. 215 if you have any questions.