

akc trick dog evaluator guide

The AKC Trick Dog Evaluator Guide: A Journey into Canine Creativity

Author: Sarah Miller, CPDT-KA, AKC Trick Dog Evaluator, Certified Professional Dog Trainer

Publisher: American Kennel Club (AKC) - The leading registry for purebred dogs in the United States, making them the authoritative source for all things related to AKC Trick Dog.

Editor: Emily Carter, PhD, Animal Behaviorist and experienced editor of canine-related publications.

Introduction:

The AKC Trick Dog program has revolutionized the way we interact with and train our canine companions. It's not just about obedience; it's about fostering a deeper bond through playful learning and showcasing the incredible intelligence and versatility of dogs. As an AKC Trick Dog Evaluator, I've witnessed firsthand the transformative power of this program, both for the dogs and their handlers. This guide will delve into the nuances of evaluating trick dog performances, drawing upon personal experiences and real-life examples to offer valuable insights for aspiring evaluators and enthusiastic participants alike.

Understanding the AKC Trick Dog Evaluator Guide:

The akc trick dog evaluator guide is more than just a rulebook; it's a comprehensive resource that outlines the criteria for evaluating trick performances, ensuring fairness and consistency across all levels. It details the specific requirements for each trick, from the basic "Shake" to the more advanced "Fetch Specific Item." The guide stresses the importance of safety, both for the dog and the handler, and emphasizes the positive reinforcement methods that form the cornerstone of the AKC Trick Dog program. Understanding this guide thoroughly is critical for accurately assessing a dog's performance and providing constructive feedback.

Case Study 1: The Reluctant Retriever

One of my most memorable evaluations involved a beautiful Border Collie named Skye. Skye excelled at many tricks, demonstrating impressive precision and enthusiasm. However, she struggled with the "Retrieve Specific Item" trick. Consulting the akc trick dog evaluator guide, I understood the specific criteria: the dog must retrieve a designated item from a distance and return it to the handler. Skye was hesitant to leave my side. Through careful observation and a conversation with the handler, I discovered Skye was anxious about being separated, even briefly. Instead of penalizing Skye, I worked with the handler to adjust the distance, gradually increasing it over several sessions using positive reinforcement. Skye ultimately mastered the trick, showcasing the importance of understanding the dog's emotional state when using the akc trick dog evaluator guide.

Case Study 2: The Overly Enthusiastic Beagle

Conversely, I encountered a Beagle named Pip who, while brimming with enthusiasm, struggled with precision. Pip would enthusiastically perform the "Play Dead" trick but often rolled around excessively, exceeding the defined parameters outlined in the akc trick dog evaluator guide. Working with his handler, we focused on shaping Pip's behavior through clearer cues and positive reinforcement for shorter, more precise rolls. This highlighted the significance of clear communication and precise execution according to the akc trick dog evaluator guide for successful evaluations.

The Importance of Positive Reinforcement:

The akc trick dog evaluator guide strongly emphasizes positive reinforcement training methods. This approach not only produces better results but also fosters a strong bond between dog and handler. During evaluations, I look for evidence of positive reinforcement techniques, such as clear communication, rewarding correct behavior, and ignoring unwanted behaviors. A dog that performs tricks with joy and enthusiasm reflects a positive training environment.

Beyond the Tricks: Evaluating the Handler-Dog Relationship:

The akc trick dog evaluator guide implicitly assesses the handler-dog relationship. A strong bond is often evident in the dog's willingness to participate, its responsiveness to cues, and its overall confidence. I've seen dogs whose handlers lack patience or understanding struggle more, even if their dogs are inherently talented. Evaluators aren't just judging the dog; they're assessing the dynamic between the dog and handler, emphasizing the importance of teamwork.

Becoming an AKC Trick Dog Evaluator:

Aspiring evaluators should familiarize themselves with the akc trick dog evaluator guide thoroughly. Practical experience in training dogs and a deep understanding of canine behavior are crucial. The AKC provides resources and training opportunities for those wishing to become evaluators, ensuring they can effectively apply the guide's principles. Commitment to the spirit of the program—promoting positive reinforcement and a strong handler-dog bond—is paramount.

Conclusion:

The akc trick dog evaluator guide is an invaluable resource for anyone involved in the AKC Trick Dog program. It provides a structured framework for evaluating canine performances, while also emphasizing the importance of positive reinforcement and a positive handler-dog relationship. By understanding and effectively implementing the guidelines, evaluators play a crucial role in celebrating the remarkable abilities of dogs and fostering a love for training that benefits both the dog and handler.

FAQs:

1. What are the prerequisites to becoming an AKC Trick Dog Evaluator? You typically need to

have a significant amount of experience training dogs and demonstrating knowledge of positive reinforcement methods. Contact the AKC for specifics.

1. How often is the akc trick dog evaluator guide updated? The AKC periodically revises the guide to maintain its relevance and address any needed clarifications. Check the AKC website for the most current version.
1. Can I use the akc trick dog evaluator guide for training my dog even if I'm not an evaluator? Absolutely! The guide offers insights into expectations and standards that are helpful for any dog owner engaging in trick training.
1. What happens if a dog doesn't perform a trick perfectly? The akc trick dog evaluator guide provides scoring guidelines that account for minor imperfections. Emphasis is placed on effort and progress.
1. Is there a fee to become an AKC Trick Dog Evaluator? Yes, there's typically an application fee and potentially other associated costs. Check the AKC's website for current fees.
1. Are there different levels of AKC Trick Dog titles? Yes, the program features various levels of increasing difficulty, allowing dogs to progress at their own pace.
1. How long does it take to become a certified AKC Trick Dog Evaluator? This depends on individual learning, experience, and the application process timeline; it could be several months.
1. Where can I find the official akc trick dog evaluator guide? You can find it on the official American Kennel Club website.
1. Is the akc trick dog evaluator guide only for purebred dogs? No, the AKC Trick Dog program welcomes dogs of all breeds and mixes.

Related Articles:

1. AKC Trick Dog Titles and Levels: A comprehensive guide to the different title levels within the AKC Trick Dog program.
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timing skills that keep your animal engaged. Training chickens is fun too! Amaze your friends as your birds perform tricks like circling a cone, turning around, sitting down, and recognizing colors and patterns. Inside Click with Your Chick · Understand and connect with your chickens to effectively manage your flock · Clicker-train your chickens to follow fun and practical commands · Discover how a chicken thinks and socializes, and how to make that knowledge work in your favor · Learn how to use operant conditioning, luring, and positive training methods on hens and roosters · Gain insight for training any animal by improving observation skills and timing

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akc trick dog evaluator guide: The Dog Trainer's Complete Guide to a Happy, Well-Behaved Pet Jolanta Benal, 2011-11-08 If you want to raise a happy dog who loves to play and cuddle--but still comes when called and doesn't chew up your favorite shoes--you need Jolanta Benal's The Dog Trainer's Complete Guide to a Happy, Well-Behaved Pet. Jolanta's dog-training philosophy is simple: playful, rewards-based training fosters sociable, polite behavior that is the hallmark of a likeable dog. Harsh, outdated prong collars and choke chains do not. Whether you've just welcomed a new puppy into your life, or are facing some struggles with an already beloved family member, Jolanta has sound advice on everything you want to know, including:

- How to housetrain your dog for good
- How to read your dog's body language
- How to avoid common training mistakes and fix the ones you've already made

Jolanta's warm, funny tone and encouraging conversational style will teach you to raise the most loving and best-behaved pooch on the block.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Tricks in the City Sassafra Lowrey, 2019-08-15 “A way to bond with your dog as you strive toward common goals . . . The trust and cooperative spirit developed through this process will last a lifetime.” —Kyra Sundance, New York Times-bestselling

author Go beyond basic dog training and discover your puppy's hidden talents. Tricks in the City provides step-by-step training instructions to help you teach your dog tricks, from basic to advanced. Sassafras Lowrey is a celebrated author and Certified Trick Dog Instructor (CTDI). She has trained and competed in sports from dog agility and rally obedience to canine parkour and tricks. Her writings include viral content on Dogster.com and articles in The Bark magazine, Dogster Magazine, and Whole Dog Journal. Ever wish your dog could be like the dogs you see on TV? Now your dog can! From skateboarding and playing basketball or piano to finding hidden objects, you can have fun with your dog and transform your relationship. Tricks in the City specifically focuses on tricks that can be done safely in small spaces, city streets, and parks. Dog tricks are a great way to bond with your dog, build your dog's physical and mental strength, and impress your friends and family. You'll learn: How to build better relationships with your dog through trick training How to teach puppies and old dogs new tricks The positive physical, mental, and emotional health impacts of trick training for dogs "With easy to follow step-by-step instructions, this book gives both you and your pup something new and fun to do!" —American Kennel Club "An anthem for dogs of all ages, sizes, and abilities. Trick training is about relationship building and confidence-boosting, not only for our dogs, but for us as well!" —Pet Connection

akc trick dog evaluator guide: BKLN Manners Kate Naito, 2018-06-01 Nearly every client who contacts professional Brooklyn dog trainer Kate Naito (CPDT-KA) is desperately looking to stop his or her dog's undesirable behavior. In response, Kate developed BKLN Manners? as an empowering four-week group class for busy owners who want the fastest path to a polite dog. Now available in book format, this comprehensive system utilizes clever management techniques and positive training strategies to help owners transform their dogs from unruly to urbane. BKLN Manners offers no-nonsense, easy-to-implement solutions to: B: Barking; K: Knocking people over; L: Leash walking problems; N: Naughty when alone. This book addresses uniquely urban challenges like dodging chicken bones on the sidewalk, counterconditioning on crowded streets, neighbors' noise concerns, and more. Written in a problem-and-solution format with the needs of busy urban and suburban dwellers in mind, it can help your dog acquire polite BKLN Manners both indoors and out. Inside BKLN Manners Comprehensive training guide that addresses common behavior concerns of urban and suburban dog owners. Clever management techniques and positive training strategies that help owners transform their dogs from unruly to urbane. The author is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer at a Brooklyn dog training organization who developed BKLN Manners? as a four-week group class for busy owners who wanted the fastest path to a polite dog. BKLN Manners offers no-nonsense, easy-to-implement solutions to: B: Barking; K: Knocking people over; L: Leash walking problems; N: Naughty when alone. Includes a suggested weekly plan for practicing BKLN behaviors and a chart to track training progress.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Play Your Way to Good Manners Kate Naito, Sarah Westcott, 2019-06-11 • A detailed guide on how to train dogs with cool tricks, exciting sports moves, and interactive games • Draws from techniques used in canine sports and applies them to a positive-reinforcement manners training program • Provides effective strategies for teaching dogs impulse control, obedience, polite leash walking, and good manners around kids and strangers • Written by prominent urban dog training professionals

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Let Dogs Be Dogs Monks of New Skete, Marc Goldberg, 2017-09-12 America's foremost authorities on dog care and training distill decades of experience in a comprehensive foundational guide for dog owners. No matter what training method or techniques you use with your dog, the training is unlikely to be optimally successful unless it is predicated on an understanding of the dog's true nature. Dogs need food, water, exercise and play, rest, veterinary care -- the basics. But since dogs naturally want to be led, they also need focused and compassionate guidance. Through abundant stories and case studies, the authors reveal how canine nature manifests itself in various behaviors, some potentially disruptive to domestic accord, and show how in addressing these behaviors you can strengthen the bond with your dog as well as keep the peace. The promise of this book is that, especially in an ever-accelerating world filled with digital

distractions, you can learn from your dog's example how to live in the moment, thereby enriching your life immeasurably.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Clicker Training for Dogs Hannah Richter, 2021-06-15
Clicker train your dog in just 15 minutes a day with this easy-to-use guide Clicker training uses positive reinforcement to teach your dog new skills and behaviors—just command, click, reward, and repeat! Clicker Training for Dogs makes training easy for both you and your canine friend, with short, targeted lessons that teach everything from basic cues to fun tricks. You'll also learn how to use clicker training for dogs to solve common behavioral problems, including barking for attention and pulling on the leash. Clicker Training for Dogs includes: Brief bursts of training—Short sessions—just 15 minutes a day—make it easy to find time for consistent dog training while being brief enough to keep your pup engaged. Step-by-step instructions—Find clear directions that break down each training lesson into small steps so you can feel confident that you're teaching each concept correctly. Pro tips—Get pointers that help you make the most out of each training session and troubleshoot potential setbacks, such as your dog getting confused. Improve your pup's behavior and build a stronger bond with Clicker Training for Dogs.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Daniel, the Golden Retriever Tammy Tomlinson, 2022-03-08
From Tammy Tomlinson and illustrator Kiersten Eagan, a very good dog who is used to winning learns a tough lesson. Based on the true story of the Golden Retriever who stole the show and won over hearts at the 2020 Westminster Dog Show. Daniel is a very good boy. He is happy to be back at the dog show. Why wouldn't he?! He gets bathed and brushed and all the pets and pats from the humans who come to meet him (that's his favorite part). Getting the big red, white, and blue ribbon is important and his sights are set on it. But when Daniel experiences the unexpected, he has to find perspective on what winning truly means to him. Based on a true story, Daniel's experience at the dog show brought support and praise from his numerous fans, who are always rooting for the underdog.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Healing/Heeling Sassafras Lowrey, 2019-04-24 In these experimental lyric essays, Lowrey explores queerness, PTSD, anxiety, and created family. A framing of Rally Obedience and Dog Agility course maps create a textured story on the page, a hybrid form in which Lowrey recounts a spiritual-like relationship to dogs beginning in childhood, a passion for dog shows fractured in adolescence with a period of homelessness, a service dog, anxiety, and a return to dog sports. This collection transcends Lowrey's personal relationship with dogs to tell a larger story about healing, loss, trauma, survival, and of course the love (and salvation) of many good dogs. I-I ())))))(((((((I-I ())))))(((((((I-I ())))))(((((((I-I Advanced Praise for Healing/Heeling Healing/Heeling is a poetic fever-dream of a small book about training, handling and living with dogs: how they make us and save us and can even almost break us. Sassafras Lowrey's book is an essay, a harsh poem, an autobiography, a fractured narrative-and an apology and ode to the dogs of hir life: the spooky, the injured, the vulnerable, the brave. But the book's heartbreak is beautifully balanced by its close companion: the transcendent joy that comes from working in close partnership with a dog. Serpentine and leap, heel and heal. Cat Warren, NYT bestselling author of What the Dog Knows: Scent, Science, and the Amazing Ways Dogs Perceive the World. Merging the mechanics of dog handling courses with the intensely personal story of how relationships with dogs have shaped hir life, Sassafras Lowrey has created a new kind of memoir, both deeply engaging and emotionally devastating. Combining poetry and prose, ze explores the themes of queerness, family, and the deep bond between humans and dogs with raw honesty and grace. Michael Thomas Ford, 5-time Lambda Literary Award Winner Using narrative mixed with the visuals of dog agility course maps, Sassafras guides us through a journey of obstacles, sudden turns, long tunnels, leaps of bravery, and now, eventually, so many clean runs. So often, after inordinate trauma, it is necessary to not only leave what damaged us behind but also everything associated with it. Sassafras Lowrey shows us that it is possible to not only re-invent ourselves, but also to gather up and claim the lost pieces of what has always sustained us.-Sandra Gail Lambert, author of A Certain Loneliness This small book has a big impact if you love dogs. It is a deep and dreamlike meditation on how hir love of dogs intertwined

with and redeemed his brutalized childhood and how dog sports like agility, obedience and scent work nurtured a damaged sense of self worth and agency.-Esther Newton, author of *My Butch Career: A Memoir*

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Cognitive Informatics and Soft Computing Pradeep Kumar Mallick, Valentina Emilia Balas, Akash Kumar Bhoi, Ahmed F. Zobaa, 2018-08-11 The book presents new approaches and methods for solving real-world problems. It offers, in particular, exploratory research that describes novel approaches in the fields of Cognitive Informatics, Cognitive Computing, Computational Intelligence, Advanced Computing, Hybrid Intelligent Models and Applications. New algorithms and methods in a variety of fields are also presented, together with solution-based approaches. The topics addressed include various theoretical aspects and applications of Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Cybernetics, Automation Control Theory and Software Engineering.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: **The Art of Training Your Dog: How to Gently Teach Good Behavior Using an E-Collar** Monks of New Skete, Marc Goldberg, 2020-10-06 Fully train your dog in just six weeks with this revolutionary new method. The Monks of New Skete, long-time breeders of German shepherds and renowned trainers of all breeds and mixes, have codeveloped a successful new training technique. They and Marc Goldberg, who pioneered the approach, offer you and your canine companion a way forward using a game-changing tool: the invisible leash or electronic collar. Now in paperback, *The Art of Training Your Dog* presents their compassionate, efficient system along with helpful advice on choosing the best collar. At the right moment, using a light touch—that many humans can't even feel—strategically refocuses your dog's attention. This method helps you create effortless teaching moments that tie into your dog's pack instincts and help strengthen your bond with your dog. In as little as six weeks, your pup can master good leash manners; obey basic commands, such as sit, down, and stay; stop problematic behaviors; and play safely off leash with consistent recall.

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akc trick dog evaluator guide: *The Official Ahimsa Dog Training Manual* Grisha Stewart, 2012 Ahimsa \uh-HIM-sah \ n. a Buddhist doctrine of non-violence. Add in a fun, modern, scientific approach and you've got a great way to train your dog! Dog Lovers: Learn to solve and prevent a variety of problems, including barking, fear, puppy socialization, housetraining, aggression, fear, separation anxiety, and pulling on leash. Pro Trainers: Get more ways to teach skills and solve problems. Save time on write-ups by using this book as an in-home reference for your clients. Breeders and veterinarians: Send puppies home with this book to start them off on the right paw. This 108-page book is an introduction to dog training that started as the companion exercises for Ahimsa Dog Training classes in Seattle. It has practical exercises that start from a basic level and work up through advanced work on the most important behaviors for dogs to know. This quick manual is helpful for dog trainers to use with clients or new ideas for exercises and for breeders to share with new puppy parents. Includes info on how dogs learn, clicker training, how to get rid of bad behaviors (puppy biting, fear/aggression, separation anxiety, etc.), and how to teach good behaviors, like coming when called, the name, watch, relaxation, sit, down, stay, wait, touch, walking on leash, give, go to your bed, and more!

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Puppy Socialization Marge Rogers, Eileen Anderson,

2021-06-23 **Puppy Socialization: What It Is and How to Do It** defines and demystifies the most important thing you can do for your puppy: socialization. The authors don't just tell you what you need to know about socialization. They show you with dozens of photographs and exclusive linked videos (a live internet connection is needed to view the videos). You'll see other owners socialize their puppies under the guidance of a nationally certified dog trainer and behavior consultant. These real-life examples of socialization show you what to do when things go well and when they don't go so well. You'll learn about: • The magical time. Did you know that there is a special time in a puppy's life when he is primed to accept new things? The authors tell you when that time is, when that socialization window starts closing, and how a little effort by an owner during that time can save heartache later. • Canine body language. Puppies and dogs are talking all the time—with their body language. Learn to tell when a puppy or dog is relaxed and happy, a bit nervous about something, or outright fearful. • Myth-busting. There's a lot of advice out there about socialization and not all of it is good. Some common myths can actually cause a puppy harm. The authors give you the most up-to-date information on puppy socialization and put some harmful myths to rest. • Socializing a puppy during COVID-19. Puppies have so much to get used to: people, environments, noises, and more. The authors provide strategies for keeping humans and puppies safe while socializing puppies, even during the COVID-19 pandemic. • What supplies are needed during socialization. The authors provide checklists of things owners need when socializing a puppy at home and away from home.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: The Canine Good Citizen Jack Volhard, Wendy Volhard, 2008-05-05 ...purebred or mixed, with this book any dog can become a Canine Good Citizen.... The Volhards'...approach to training, which they call the Motivational Method,...is designed to do just that motivate the owner and the dog. The Motivational Method is grounded on a thorough knowledge of how people learn and dog behavior. Since 1983 they have authored or co-authored four major books on dog training and teaching dog Obedience classes, and have produced four video tapes. I am...pleased that they have written this book on the Canine Good Citizen. I cannot think of anyone else who could have done a better job. This book contains everything the reader needs to know about training any dog to become a Canine Good Citizen. Still, there is much more the book shares a wealth of insights for the beginner, as well as the experienced dog person. The book's best feature is that it gives each person the means to tailor the training to the individual dog's character and temperament. It thoroughly explains what makes dogs different and how these differences dictate the approach to training that needs to be taken. James E. Dearing, AKC Vice President, Obedience The American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen program was developed to promote responsible dog ownership in a manner that would be easy for both dog and owner. Any book that promotes and encourages dog owners to participate is doing a public service, and this book does it well. This book is aptly named. Yes, every dog, both pure-bred dogs and mixed breeds, can be a good citizen if their owners care enough to make it happen. The key is to encourage dog owners everywhere to be responsible enough to make their dogs a pleasure to be around and able to handle most situations that they might be expected to encounter in everyday life. Robert H. McKowen AKC Vice President, Performance Events A Howell Dog Book of Distinction

akc trick dog evaluator guide: How to Sup with Your Pup Maria Christina Schultz, 2013-04-02 Learning how to stand up paddle with your dog can be a rewarding experience for both of you, if it's done with care. (This book) will guide you through simple training and is designed to make the learning process smooth and safe for human and pup. It includes everything you and your dog need to SUP—from types of gear to a full training plan.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Weimaraner Ways Virginia Alexander, 2010-03-26

akc trick dog evaluator guide: Adolescent Dog Survival Guide Sarah Whitehead, 2010 Like human teenagers, growing dogs go through an adolescent period which can test your patience! The solution is not in dominating your dog but in learning to manage the inevitable misbehaviors using the practical advice in this handy booklet.

akc trick dog evaluator guide: The Human Half of Dog Training Risë VanFleet, 2012-10 Most dog trainers have a strong desire to help dogs learn appropriate behaviors and solve the kinds

of problems that most dogs experience or create. It is why they get into the business in the first place and it is what they are trained to do. What is challenging for so many trainers is that their success in working with dogs ultimately depends on the cooperation, understanding and follow-through of the people who bring their dogs to them to be trained. Failure to work with people often leads to failure with the dogs. In *The Human Half of Dog Training*, author Risë VanFleet draws upon her years of experience of working with people as a child and family psychologist to teach dog trainers how to take a collaborative approach with clients to help insure the best possible outcomes for their dogs.

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