



Doberman Pinscher Club of America

Handling Your Doberman Through the Working Aptitude Evaluation

The purpose of this test is to help determine if your Doberman has the aptitude to do the work for which the breed was intended- that of companion and protector. We congratulate you on your willingness to test your Doberman and hope the following will be helpful.

General Suggestions

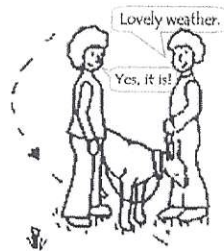
- Arrive early. Watch other teams so you will know what to expect.
- When your turn comes, move in a brisk confident manner.
- Focus on the stimulus of each part of the test, not on your dog.
- Encourage your dog, but if he keys on you rather than the stimuli, keep words to a minimum.
- Follow the tester's instructions for each part of the test.
- Ask the tester for an evaluation of your dog's responses for each part of the test.
- Realize that test results do not reveal your dog's total temperament. They do make a valuable contribution to what you know about your dog and give you important reference points for planning your dog's future.



START - The loop of the leash should be secure in your hand and your dog on a loose lead. Do NOT use obedience commands. Follow the tester's direction; maintain a positive, confident manner throughout.

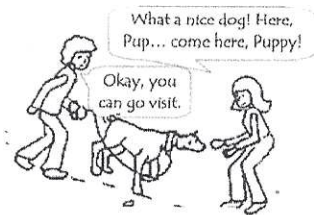
NEUTRAL STRANGER

- Keep a loose lead.
- Stop and speak with the "stranger" while ignoring your dog.



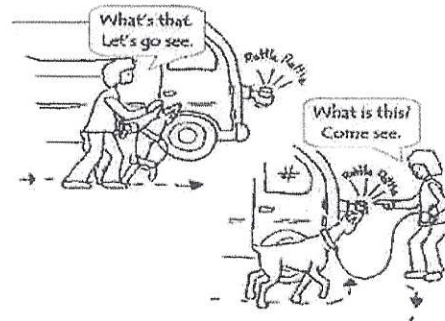
FRIENDLY STRANGER

- Keep a loose lead. You may encourage your dog to visit with the "stranger" this time.



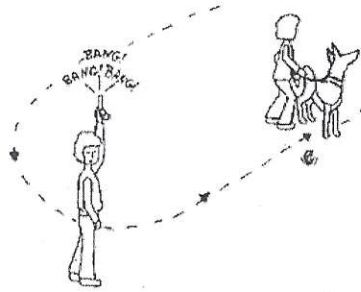
HIDDEN CLATTERING

- Keep dog on a loose lead.
- When the noise begins, encourage your dog to investigate.
- Go up to the can, inviting a CLOSE inspection.



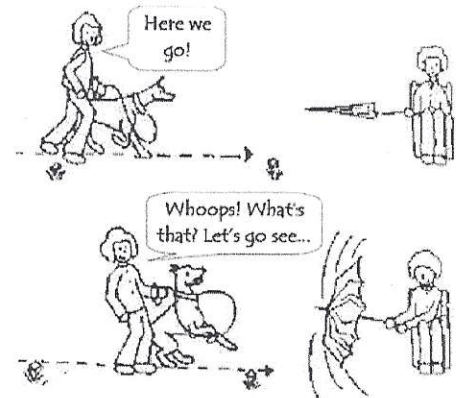
GUNSHOT

- Keep a loose lead. Head to the spot indicated by the tester.



UMBRELLA

- Walk directly toward the closed umbrella in a positive manner.
- When the umbrella opens your dog will startle.
- Move forward immediately.
- Encourage your dog to investigate the front of the umbrella. Invite a CLOSE inspection with words and gestures.



FOOTINGS

- Your dog should be at your side but on a slack lead.
- Walk with your dog down the length of footing.



THREAT

- Loop of leash must be wrapped securely around your hand.
- Keep a loose lead.
- STOP when the decoy appears and encourage your dog to watch as the decoy crosses the path.
- Focus your dog's attention as the decoy approaches.
- When the threat comes encourage your dog to deal with it.

