

## Pre-screening Appointment Information (& Self Test - which class should I take next?)

Thank you for your interest in dog-training classes at Marin Humane. If you haven't had classes with us before, in order to join us for an Intermediate, Advanced, or Specialty class, we ask that you schedule a pre-screening test. **The fee for the pre-screening appointment is \$60 and is due at the time the appointment is scheduled.**

Review the descriptions of the required behaviors outlined on the following pages for the class level in which you wish to register so that you may assess your and your dog's readiness for that level.

To schedule an appointment, please call 415.506.6280 or e-mail [OhBehave@MarinHumane.org](mailto:OhBehave@MarinHumane.org).

### What Happens?

- **You bring your dog to a pre-screening appointment** with one of our trainers. Appointments usually take 30-45 minutes, during which we will ask you and your dog to demonstrate the behaviors described below for the class you are interested in taking.
- You may bring your dog to the appointment wearing its regular walking equipment. A flat snap or buckle collar and a six-foot leash are required for use during the test.
- If you are planning on attending a Family Dog class series, after your Pre-screening appointment, a **Family Dog 1 or Small Dog 1 Orientation is required prior to taking any class**. This is needed to bring you up-to-speed on our training methodology and vocabulary. We will schedule you for an orientation after you have successfully completed the pre-screening appointment.
- An Orientation is **not** required for **Agility class placements**.
- When scheduling your appointment, please be prepared to answer the following questions:
  1. Age and breed (or size and best guess of mix) of Dog;
  2. Length of time with guardian;
  3. Previous dog training experience of guardian (years, type of training, type of dogs);
  4. The dog's previous training experience (with guardian or other);
  5. Your reasons for wanting to skip the formal pre-requisites;
  6. Which class you are hoping to take.



**Is My Dog Ready for Family Dog 2 (FD2)**

1. I can demonstrate that my dog understands “Yes” or a “click” as a marker word.  
I can also explain how a marker signal is used in teaching my dog. Yes  No
2. My dog understands a release word such as “release” or “all done.” Yes  No
3. My dog will “touch” my hand on cue. Yes  No
4. My dog will orient to me when I cue this behavior or call his/her name. Yes  No
5. My dog will sit in front and move to my left side for a sit at the side.  
(The use of a lure to get the dog into position is okay.) Yes  No
6. My dog can hold a 1 minute sit/stay or down/stay with reinforcement  
(treats/toy) when there are no distractions. No lure for the sit/down. Yes  No
7. My dog can walk next to me on leash without pulling as I walk the length of  
the Pavilion and back (using treats/toy ok). Yes  No
8. My dog will “wait” at a door while I go through first with my dog only coming  
to my side of the door when I give him/her the release word. Yes  No
9. My dog will come to me 8 out of 10 times from a distance of 20 feet if I either  
have him/her on a long line and/or have treats/toy. Yes  No
10. My dog is mostly quiet in class. (Barking occasionally is okay.) Yes  No

*If you answered “yes” to at least 7 of these statements, you are ready for Family Dog 2 or workshops.*

**Is My Dog Ready for Family Dog 3 (FD3)?**

1. My dog can orient to me for at least 10 seconds when cued. Yes  No
2. My dog will move to the left side of me on a verbal/hand cue and sit. Yes  No
3. My dog can walk next to me on leash without pulling while there are other  
dogs and people walking nearby. Yes  No
4. My dog can hold a 1 minute sit/stay and a 2 minute down/stay with  
distractions (dogs, toys, squeaky toys, food) within 10 feet of him/her. Yes  No
5. My dog will come to me 8 out of 10 times while other dogs are walking or  
running nearby if I have him/her on a long line and/or have treats/toy. Yes  No
6. My dog will “leave it” 80% of the time when I cue him/her to do so without  
leash pulling or body blocks. Yes  No
7. My dog will do a down and a sit for me when I cue the behavior from  
six feet away. Yes  No
8. When given the cue to “wait”, my dog will do so even without the presence of  
a physical threshold, on a verbal or hand cue. My dog “waits” until s/he hears  
the “release” word to continue forward. Yes  No

*If you answered “yes” to 5 or more of these statements, we suggest you consider Family Dog 3 or workshops.*



**Is My Dog Ready for Family Dog 4 (FD4)?**

- |   |                              |                             |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. My dog will come to me when two or more dogs are being recalled at the same time (no long line needed).  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. My dog can move into a heel (ready) position with minimal visual cue and no lure.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. My dog can walk next to me on leash without pulling, the leash dragging on the ground or draped over my shoulder without me using treats/toys. | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. My dog will do a sit or down for me when I am 4 feet away and when I use a verbal cue only (no hand signals needed).                           | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. My dog can hold a 3 minute down/stay with substantial distractions (Toys, dogs running by, food, and people, knocking on door, rattling keys). | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. My dog will "leave it" with a verbal cue or minimal body block, when I ask him/her to leave the object.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. My dog will do a "wait" with a verbal cue only (no hand signals needed).   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

*If you answered "yes" to at least 5 of these statements, we suggest Family Dog 4, SHARE or workshops.*

**Is My Dog Ready for Family Dog 5 (FD5)?**

- |   |                              |                             |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. My dog will come to me when two or more dogs are being recalled at the same time (no long line needed).  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. My dog can move into a heel (ready) position with no lure.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. My dog can walk next to me off leash or the leash dragging on the ground with minimal use me using treats/toys.                                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. My dog will do a sit or down for me when I am 6 feet away and when I use a verbal cue only (no hand signals needed).                           | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. My dog can hold a 3 minute down/stay with substantial distractions (Toys, dogs running by, food, and people, knocking on door, rattling keys). | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. My dog will "leave it" with a verbal cue only when I ask him/her to leave the object (no body blocks or leash pulling needed).                 | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. My dog will do a "wait" in front of me with a verbal cue only (no hand signals needed).  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

*If you answered "yes" to at least 5 of these statements, we suggest Family Dog 5.*



***Is My Dog Ready for Foundation Skills For Agility?***

1. My dog will put his front paws on a “mark bucket” and stay for 5 seconds] until released. Yes  No
2. My dog will come to me 3 out of 5 times from a distance of 10 feet with or without treats or toys. Yes  No
3. I can demonstrate that my dog understands “Yes” or a “click” as a marker word. I can also explain how a marker signal is used in teaching my dog. Yes  No
4. My dog understands a release word such as “release” or “all done.” Yes  No
5. My dog is comfortable in a crate and can handle another dog moving around or being handled in the same area (or handler understands that this is required and is committed to working on it). Yes  No
4. My dog will orient to me when I cue this behavior or call his/her name. Yes  No
5. I can cue my dog to sit and they can maintain a sit stay for 5 seconds while I am at a distance of 6 feet away. Yes  No
6. My off-leash dog will remain focused on me (with toys or treats if necessary) when being asked to walk across the Agility Field and being lured up onto a small platform or mark bucket. Yes  No
7. My leashed dog can walk with me across the agility field without significant pulling and reactivity towards other dogs at a distance. Yes  No
8. My dog is not aggressive nor overly focused on other dogs (ability to function in a class setting and not be disruptive or significantly take away from class time because of their behavior challenges). Yes  No
9. My dog is mostly quiet in class. (Barking occasionally is okay.) Yes  No

*Introduction to Agility is a starting sport class and requires all of the above criteria or all “Yes” answers to be ready for this class. If you are missing 1 or more, you can practice those skills before being assessed and/or register for Family Dog 1 & 2.*

