

Dog Scouts of America Dog Scout Badge Check off/test

All behaviors must have been taught or re-taught to the dog (preferably using a new cue), using only positive reward based methods.

Passing this test is not meant to be easy, but rather something for which you can be proud! The Dog Scout badge and title represents a significant amount of training time and the bond you have with your dog. Not all dogs can be Dog Scouts and those that want to hold the title need to prove that they have sufficient training and the proper temperament to represent Dog Scouts of America. The humans need to prove they will be responsible owners that understand how to be “the smart end of the leash.” In most of the situations below, both the dog and the owner’s actions are being evaluated.

Certification behaviors need to be performed in accordance with the detailed DSA **evaluation criteria** set forth for the Dog Scout badge test. These guidelines spell out what is allowed and not allowed during the testing phase. Be SURE to review these guidelines completely before starting your testing or videotaping. Exercises not shown to the specified DSA criteria will need to be re-submitted. The Dog Scout test is not like any other test, because DSA evaluates both ends of the leash. The testing guidelines are clearly spelled out so that the testing will be as consistent as possible regardless of where the test is taken or who is administering the test.

The following items may be demonstrated in any order and should all be shown within a 6 month time frame.

Date completed:

- ___ ___ Greeting a friendly stranger
- ___ ___ Safe around dogs - on leash
- ___ Safe behavior around dogs - off leash
- ___ ___ Heeling
- ___ ___ Sit
- ___ ___ Down
- ___ ___ Stay
- ___ ___ Come
- ___ ___ ___ Leave it with food- three correct passes in a row
- ___ ___ ___ Leave it with another animal - three correct passes in a row
- ___ Owner demonstrates the proper way to clean up their dog’s waste
- ___ Submit (to your Scoutmaster) the written Dog Scout handler’s test found here:
http://www.dogscouts.org/Certification_Program.html

If submitting a video for evaluation, please also include the following on the video:

- ___ Brief explanation and demo of how you taught your dog the “leave-it” behavior
- ___ Brief explanation and demo of how you taught your dog to move into and maintain heel position
- ___ Submit the written Dog Scout handler’s test found here:
http://www.dogscouts.org/Certification_Program.html (Submit test and your video at same time)