

## 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 sign up for a Placement Test, select [Personalized Training and Consultations](#) and click on the **Other Tab** to Register. If you need additional assistance, please email [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; and
  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 signal. I can also explain how a marker signal is used in teaching my dog.                             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. My dog understands a release word such as “release” or “all done.”  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. My dog will get on and hold a position on a Mark Bucket or Platform.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. My dog will “touch” my hand on cue.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. My dog will orient to me when I cue this behavior or call his/her name.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. My dog is comfortable standing or sitting in front of me or on my side.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. My dog will “come” to me 8 out of 10 times from a distance of 20-feet. Use of a toy or treat is encouraged and they can be on a long line, but not pulling.                    | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. My dog is mostly quiet in class. (Barking occasionally is okay.)   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. My dog is able to focus on me in class and work with minimal use of visual barriers (partial barrier OK but must be able to see other dog in their stations without reacting). | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

***If you answered “yes” to at least 9 of these statements, you are likely ready for Family Dog 2 or workshops.***



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

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|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. My dog can orient to me for at least 20 seconds when cued.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. My dog will move to the side of me on a verbal/hand cue and sit.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. My dog will come from a distance of 20 feet and recall into a front sit.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. My dog can walk next to me on leash without pulling while there are other dogs and people walking nearby.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. My dog will get on and hold a position on a Mark Bucket or Platform while I step away to the end of the leash. (Reinforcement with treats or toys is okay.)   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. 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. (Reinforcement with treats is okay).                                       | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. My dog will "leave it" 80% of the time when I cue him/her to do so without leash pulling or body blocks.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. My dog will get onto a Bucket or Platform when I cue the behavior from six feet away.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. 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. My dog "waits" until he/she hears the "release" word to continue forward. | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. My dog is mostly quiet in class. (Barking occasionally is okay.)   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. My dog can focus on me and work in a group class without visual barriers.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

*If you answered "yes" to at least 8 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, with 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"/> |
| 8. My dog is mostly quiet in class and able to refocus on me if distracted.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

*If you answered "yes" to at least 6 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 with 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?***

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|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. My dog will put his front paws on a “mark bucket” and stay for 15 seconds until he/she is released.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. My dog will move from a distance of 20 feet to a Mark Bucket.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. My dog will come to me 3 out of 5 times from a distance of 10 feet with or without treats or toys.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. I can demonstrate that my dog understands “Yes” or a “click” as a marker signal. I can also explain how a marker signal is used in teaching my dog.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. My dog understands a release word such as “release” or “all done.”   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. My dog will orient to me when I cue this behavior or call his/her name.  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. 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 onto a small platform or mark bucket.                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. My leashed dog can walk with me across the agility field without significant pulling and reactivity towards other dogs at a distance.   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. 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 <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. My dog is mostly quiet in class. (Barking occasionally is okay.)  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

***Foundation Skills For Agility is a starting sport class and requires all “Yes” answers to be ready for this class. If you are missing 1 or more, you can practice those skills before being assessed or complete Family Dog 3 or above.***

