



What is a Canine Good Citizen (CGC)?

CGC is a ten-skill training program that's open to all dogs—purebred and mixed breed—that focuses on teaching the basics of good manners and obedience, instilling the values of responsible ownership, and strengthening the bond between you and your dog at home and out in the community. The CGC title is also a prerequisite for many therapy dog certifications, as well as a great introduction to more advanced dog sports and activities. Some homeowners' insurance programs even offer discounts for CGC dogs, and an increasing number of apartments and condos see CGC awards as a reason to rent to you rather than applicants without it.

What is on the CGC Test?

- 1.) Accepting a friendly stranger; Dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach the handler, shake hands, and exchange words.
- 2.) Sitting politely for petting; Dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach and touch them.
- 3.) Appearance and grooming; Dog will welcome being groomed and examined by a stranger.
- 4.) Out for a walk (loose leash); Handler is in control of the dog during walk. Includes a right turn, left turn, about turn, and a stop in the middle and at the end.
- 5.) Walking through a crowd; Dog can move about politely in pedestrian traffic and is under control in public places. Crowd of at least 3 people walking and standing still.
- 6.) Sit and down on command and staying in place; Dog needs to sit on command, down on command and stay in a sit or down while handler walks 20 feet away.
- 7.) Coming when called; Dog will come when called by handler from at least 10 feet away.
- 8.) Reaction to another dog; Dog needs to behave politely around other dogs. Two handlers will approach from 15 feet away, stop and shake hands, exchange words then carry on. Dog must not show more than a casual interest and cannot cross in front of handlers.
- 9.) Reaction to distractions; Dog demonstrates that it is confident at all times when faces with common distracting situations no closer than 5feet.
- 10.) Supervised separation; Dog can be left in the presence of a trusted person and will maintain its training and good manners. Handler will go out of sight for 3 minutes. Dog should not whine or bark excessively.



What is a S.T.A.R. puppy?

The skills in AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy classes are practical and functional. STAR stands for Socialization, Training, Activity and a Responsible owner and in six weeks of STAR puppy classes, puppies and their owners will have a great start together and earn their gold medal. AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy prepares pups to move on to Canine Good Citizen training.

What is on the S.T.A.R. puppy test?

OWNER BEHAVIORS:

1. Maintains puppy's health (vaccines, exams, appears healthy)
2. Owner receives Responsible Dog Owner's Pledge
3. Owner describes adequate daily play and exercise plan
4. Owner and puppy attend at least 6 classes by an AKC Approved CGC Evaluator
5. Owner brings bags to classes for cleaning up after puppy
6. Owner has obtained some form of ID for puppy-collar tag, etc.

PUPPY BEHAVIORS:

7. Free of aggression toward people during at least 6 weeks of class
8. Free of aggression toward other puppies in class
9. Tolerates collar or body harness of owner's choice
10. Owner can hug or hold puppy (depending on size)
11. Puppy allows owner to take away a treat or toy

PRE-CGC BEHAVIORS:

12. Allows (in any position) petting by a person other than the owner
13. Grooming-Allows owner handling and brief exam (ears, feet)
14. Walks on a Leash-Follows owner on lead in a straight line (15 steps)
15. Walks by other people-Walks on leash past other people 5-ft away
16. Sits on command-Owner may use a food lure
17. Down on command-Owner may use a food lure
18. Comes to owner from 5-ft when name is called
19. Reaction to Distractions-distractions are presented 15-ft away
20. Stay on leash with another person (owner walks 10 steps and returns)