



National Dog Training Academy: Gun dog grade 1

<p>Recall You will be asked to recall your dog twice. This is to show your dog understands both verbal and whistle recall commands.</p> <p>Heel The first recall will be using a verbal command and you will be expected to show your dog understands the 'heel' command. This can be demonstrated by instructing your dog as he returns to you or asking for the 'heel' position once he has recalled.</p> <p>Whistle The second recall will be using your whistle.</p>	 	
<p>Lead Lead work (Line) You will be asked to walk with your dog on a loose lead, in a group of up to 4 dogs, to a 20 paces marker. At the marker you will do an about turn and walk back to the marker you started at. At this marker you will do an about turn and put your dog into a sit, using a verbal command.</p> <p>Loose Lead with Distractions (Circle) You will be expected to walk your dog on a loose lead, keeping his attention and control while weaving in and out of a group of dogs and handlers.</p>	 	
<p>Sit stay Line You will be asked to instruct your dog to 'stay or wait' using hand and verbal commands. You will then be expected to return to the start marker (20 paces away) and your dog must stay for 2 minutes. You can reiterate the stay command verbally and by hand signal as you leave your dog and as your dog is in the 2-minute stay. All commands must be calm and quiet and not disturb the other dogs. After 2 minutes you will be instructed to return to your dog.</p> <p>Circle Within a circle of other dogs and handlers, you will be expected to put your dog in a sit stay and walk a full circle away from and back to your dog. Points will be awarded for the steadiness of the stay. You can reinforce the stay using verbal and hand signals if required.</p>	 	
<p>Eye Contact The handler will be given a bowl of food and expected to put the food on the floor, in front of the dog, using no commands. The dog should give eye contact within 10 seconds, demonstrating that he has learned he does nothing without checking in with you first. Eye contact will be held for a count of 5, when the handler will give the dog a command to eat the food in the bowl.</p>		
<p>Sendaway to Mat The handler will be asked to send their dog 'to bed' at 5 paces away. The 'bed' can be a mat or other item as supplied by the handler.</p>		
<p>Sendaway Round a Marker (Cone) The handler will be asked to send their dog around a marker by verbal command & hand gestures at 5 paces away.</p>		

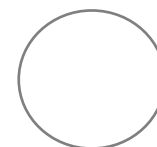


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Whistle Sit

You will be asked to take your dog around a course of 6 markers and at each marker you will be expected to stop and use your sit whistle to get your dog to sit without any verbal commands. Points will also be given for remembering to give your dog a moving on command as you move from each marker. Points will be awarded for the speed of sit at each marker.

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Retrieves

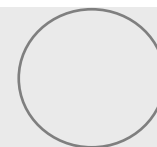
You will put your dog in a sit and the trainer, 20 paces away, will throw the dummy (or item of your choice). When it lands on the floor you will send your dog to retrieve the dummy.

You will put your dog in a sit to heel, step out in front of your dog, throw the dummy at least 10 paces away. Your dog must remain seated until you return to stand in heel position and give the instruction to go for the retrieve.

Points will be given for a good sit/wait while the dummy is thrown, a straight line run out, picking the dummy up correctly, returning with the dummy and delivering the dummy to the handler into the hand.

There must be at least one retrieve with handler and trainer throwing the dummy.

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Marking Explanation

- Each activity highlighted in bold above will be marked with 3 good, 4 very good, 5 excellent. Dogs will need to achieve a 4 or 5 in several sections in order to gain a pass.
- All activities will require 3 marks of competence, completed on different days.
- On marking, each section will be given an average score of the total 3 marks.
- If a dog has completed an activity competently more than 3 times, the 3 highest marks will be used as the test total.
- There is a total of **50 marks** available not including the questionnaire which, although needs to be completed for the handler to pass the grading, will not count towards the total grading score.

42.5 = distinction (85%)

37.5 = merit (75%)

30 = pass (60%)