

Volhard Puppy Aptitude Test (PAT)

Puppy Mr. Red

Age 6wks

TEST	PURPOSE	SCORE	#
SOCIAL ATTRACTION Place puppy in test area about four feet from the tester. Tester kneels, leans backwards and coaxes the pup to him/her by clapping hands gently.	Degree of social attraction to people, confidence, or dependence.	Came readily, tail up, jumped, bit at hands	1
		Came readily, tail up, pawed, licked at hands	2
		Came readily, tail up	3
		Came readily, tail down	4
		Came hesitantly, tail down	5
		Didn't come at all	6
FOLLOWING The tester stands up and slowly walks away encouraging puppy to follow. Make sure the pup sees you walk away. Coax the puppy to follow by talking to it and attracting its attention.	Willingness to follow a person.	Followed readily, tail up, got underfoot, bit at feet	1
		Followed readily, tail up, got underfoot	2
		Followed readily, tail up	3
		Followed readily, tail down	4
		Followed hesitantly, tail down	5
		Did not follow at all	6
RESTRAINT The tester crouches down and gently rolls the pup on its back and holds it down with light pressure with one hand for 30 seconds.	Degree of dominance or submissive tendency, and ease of handling in difficult situations.	Struggled fiercely, flailed, bit	1
		Struggled fiercely, flailed	2
		Settled, struggled, settled with some eye contact	3
		Struggled, then settled	4
		No struggle, no eye contact	5
		No struggle, strained to avoid eye contact	6
SOCIAL DOMINANCE Puppy sits or stands on crouching tester's left side and tester gently strokes it from the head to back. Continue stroking until a recognizable behavior is established.	Degree of acceptance of social dominance by a person.	Jumped, pawed, bit, growled	1
		Jumped, pawed	2
		Cuddled up to tester and tried to lick face	3
		Squirmed, licked at hands	4
		Rolled over, licked at hands	5
		Went away and stayed away	6
ELEVATION DOMINANCE The tester cradles the pup under its chest, with both hands, fingers interlaced, palms up and gently lifts it two feet off the ground, and holds it there for 30 seconds.	Degree of accepting dominance while in a position of no control.	Struggled fiercely, tried to bite	1
		Struggled fiercely	2
		Struggled, settled, struggled, settled	3
		No struggle, relaxed	4
		No struggle, body stiff	5
		No struggle, froze	6

RETRIEVING The tester crouches and attracts its attention with a crumpled up piece of paper. When the pup shows interest, the tester tosses the paper no more than four feet in front of the pup, encouraging it to retrieve the paper.	Degree of willingness to do something for you. Together with social attraction and following, a key indicator for ease or difficulty in training.	Chased object, picked it up and ran away	1
		Chased object, stood over it, did not return	2
		Chased object, picked it up and returned with it	3
		Chased object and returned without it to tester	4
		Started to chase object, lost interest	5
		Did not chase object	6
TOUCH SENSITIVITY The tester lightly squeezes the front paw webbing. The tester gradually increases pressure while counting to 10 and stops the pressure when the puppy pulls away or shows discomfort.	Degree of sensitivity to touch and a key indicator to the type of training required.	2-3 counts before response	1
		3-4 counts before response	2
		4-5 counts before response	3
		5-6 counts before response	4
		6-7 counts before response	5
		7-8 counts before response	6
SOUND SENSITIVITY The puppy is placed in the center of the testing area and an assistant stationed at the perimeter makes a sharp noise, such as banging a metal spoon on the bottom of a metal pan.	Degree of sensitivity to sound.	Listened, located sound, went toward it barking	1
		Listened, located sound, barked	2
		Listened, located sound, showed curiosity	3
		Listened, located sound	4
		Cringed, backed off, hid	5
		Ignored sound, showed no curiosity	6
SIGHT SENSITIVITY The puppy is placed in the center of the testing area. The tester ties a string around a bath towel and jerks it across the floor two feet away from the puppy.	Degree of response to a moving object, such as chasing bicycles, children, or squirrels	Looked, attacked, and bit	1
		Looked, barked and tail up	2
		Looked curiously, attempted to investigate	3
		Looked, barked, tail-tuck	4
		Ran away, hid	5
STABILITY An umbrella is opened about five feet from the puppy and gently placed on the ground.	Degree of response to a strange object.	Looked and ran to umbrella, mouthing it	1
		Looked and walked to umbrella, smelling it	2
		Looked and went to investigate	3
		Sat and looked, but did not move toward it	4
		Ran away from the umbrella	5
		Showed no interest	6

Totals	
1	4
2	5
3	
6	

Red