

Canine

Good Citizen Test

FOR

DUMMIES[®]

in a
day

Jack Volhard
Wendy Volhard

Canine Good Citizen Test In A Day For Dummies®

Table of Contents

[Introduction](#)

[What You Can Do In A Day](#)
[Conventions Used in This Book](#)
[Foolish Assumptions](#)
[Icons Used in This Book](#)

[Chapter 1: Introducing Canine Good Citizenship](#)

[Looking at the AKC Certification Programs](#)
[Starting on the Right Paw with the S.T.A.R. Puppy Program](#)

[Accepting the Responsible Dog Owner's Pledge](#)
[Attending training and earning your pup's S.T.A.R. medal](#)

[Building on Your Dog's Skills with the Canine Good Citizen Program](#)
[What Exactly Does Training Mean?](#)
[Identifying a Well-Trained Dog](#)

[Defining a well-trained dog](#)
[Defining an untrained dog](#)

An Exercise to Get You and Your Pooch Started

Chapter 2: Looking at the Specifics of the Canine Good Citizen Test

What to Expect during the Test Interacting with Strangers

Test 1: Accepting a friendly stranger

Test 2: Sitting politely for petting

Test 3: Having a clean appearance and
behaving during grooming

Walking and Waiting

Test 4: Walking on a loose leash

Test 5: Walking through a crowd

Test 6: Staying in place

Test 7: Coming when called

Handling Other Dogs, Distractions, and Separation Like a Pro

Test 8: Reacting appropriately to another dog

Test 9: Reacting appropriately to distractions

Test 10: Succeeding at supervised separation

Knowing the Do's and Don'ts of Taking the Test

Chapter 3: Mastering the Basics: Sit, Down, and Stay

Sit! Good Boy

[Getting Buddy into a sitting position](#)
[Sitting on command](#)

[Introducing Down Commands](#)

[Warming up with the Long Down exercise](#)
[Teaching the Down on command](#)

[Staying in Place](#)

[Teaching the Sit-Stay command](#)
[Administering the Sit-Stay test](#)
[Holding the Down-Stay](#)

[Chapter 4: Canine Cruise Control: Walking On-Leash and Coming When Called](#)

[Walking Your Dog](#)

[Born to pull: Teaching Buddy to respect the leash](#)
[Making it real: Adding distractions](#)

[Winning the Game of Coming When Called](#)

[Teaching the Come command](#)
[Adding distractions](#)
[Advancing to off-leash distractions](#)

[Chapter 5: Refining Your Training for the Canine Good Citizen Test](#)

[Training for Interactions with Friendly Strangers](#)

[Teaching your dog to stand patiently](#)
[Teaching Buddy to accept petting from a stranger](#)

[Training for Appearance and Grooming](#)

[Teaching the Shake trick](#)
[Adding the High Five trick](#)

[Training for Reacting Properly to Another Dog](#)
[Training for Reacting Appropriately to Distractions](#)
[Training for Supervised Separation](#)
[A Final Piece of Advice: Reinforcing Training](#)

[Chapter 6: Where to Go from Here](#)

[Taking Your First Steps](#)
[Visiting dummies.com](#)

[About the Author](#)
[More Dummies Products](#)

***Canine Good Citizen Test In A Day For
Dummies[®]***

by Jack and Wendy Volhard



John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Canine Good Citizen Test In A Day For Dummies®

Published by
John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
111 River St.
Hoboken, NJ 07030-5774
www.wiley.com

Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Hoboken, New Jersey

Published simultaneously in Canada

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, scanning or otherwise, except as permitted under Sections 107 or 108 of the 1976 United States Copyright Act, without the prior written permission of the Publisher. Requests to the Publisher for permission should be addressed to the Permissions Department, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 111 River Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030, (201) 748-6011, fax (201) 748-6008, or online at <http://www.wiley.com/go/permissions>.

Trademarks: Wiley, the Wiley logo, For Dummies, the Dummies Man logo, A Reference for the Rest of Us!, The Dummies Way, Dummies Daily, The Fun and Easy Way, Dummies.com, Making Everything Easier, and related trade dress are trademarks or registered trademarks of John Wiley & Sons, Inc., and/or its affiliates in the United States and other countries, and may not be used without written permission. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., is not associated with any product or vendor mentioned in this book.

Limit of Liability/Disclaimer of Warranty: The publisher and the author make no representations or warranties with respect to the accuracy or completeness of the contents of this work and specifically disclaim all warranties, including without limitation warranties of fitness for a particular purpose. No warranty may be created or extended by sales or promotional materials. The advice and strategies contained herein may not be suitable for every situation. This work is sold with the understanding that the publisher is not engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional services. If professional assistance is required, the services of a competent professional person should be sought. Neither the publisher nor the author shall be liable for damages arising herefrom. The fact that an organization or Website is referred to in this work as a citation and/or a potential source of further information does not mean that the author or the publisher endorses the information the organization or Website may provide or recommendations it may make. Further, readers should be aware that Internet Websites listed in this work may have changed or disappeared between when this work was written and when it is read.

For general information on our other products and services, please contact our Customer Care Department within the U.S. at 877-762-2974, outside the U.S. at 317-572-3993, or fax 317-572-4002.

For technical support, please visit www.wiley.com/techsupport.

Wiley publishes in a variety of print and electronic formats and by print-on-demand. Some material included with standard print versions of this book may not be included in e-books or in print-on-demand. If this book refers to media such as a CD or DVD that is not included in the version you purchased, you may download this material at <http://booksupport.wiley.com>. For more information about Wiley products, visit www.wiley.com.

ISBN 978-1-118-37700-0 (ebk); ISBN 978-1-118-37701-7 (ebk); ISBN
978-1-118-37702-4 (ebk)

Manufactured in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



Introduction

The American Kennel Club started the Canine Good Citizen program in 1989, and the program has grown quickly in popularity, even influencing dog organizations in other countries to develop their own versions of the program. Dog owners all over the world have seen the value of recognizing dogs who are trained to behave properly at home and in their communities.

Ideally, every dog should be trained to become a Canine Good Citizen. The more dogs who are good citizens, the better the chances dog owners have of counteracting the growing antidog sentiment in many communities. Irresponsible dog ownership has been the cause for this sentiment, so only responsible pet ownership can reverse it.

When you and your dog earn a Canine Good Citizen certificate, you accomplish more than millions of other dog owners. Are you ready for the challenge?

What You Can Do In A Day

We truly want *Canine Good Citizen Test In A Day For Dummies* to be a useful tool for you. And we don't want dog training to feel like a chore that you have to slog through step by step. You can spend an entire day working with your dog, but that's probably going to be too intense for both of you. So we've structured this book in such a way that you can jump in and out of the text as necessary; you can spend a few minutes every day working on a new command and a bit more time on the weekends building on lessons learned during the week. You may be able to read this