

## AKC CGC Responsible Dog Owner's Pledge

*I will be responsible for my dog's health needs. These include:*

- Routine veterinary care including check-ups and vaccines
- Adequate nutrition through proper diet; clean water at all times
- Daily exercise and regular bathing and grooming

*I will be responsible for my dog's safety.*

- I will properly control my dog by providing fencing where appropriate, not letting my dog run loose, and using a leash in public.
- I will ensure that my dog has some form of identification when appropriate (which may include collar tags, tattoos, or microchip ID).
- I will provide adequate supervision when my dog and children are together.

*I will not allow my dog to infringe on the rights of others.*

- I will not allow my dog to run loose in the neighborhood.
- I will not allow my dog to be a nuisance to others by barking while in the yard, in a hotel room, etc.
- I will pick up and properly dispose of my dog's waste in all public areas such as on the grounds of hotels, on sidewalks, parks, etc.
- I will pick up and properly dispose of my dog's waste in wilderness areas, on hiking trails, campgrounds and in off-leash parks.

*I will be responsible for my dog's quality of life.*

- I understand that basic training is beneficial to all dogs.
- I will give my dog attention and playtime.
- I understand that owning a dog is a commitment in time and caring.

To find an evaluator near you:  
[http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/  
cgc\\_bystate.cfm](http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/cgc_bystate.cfm)

For more information about the  
AKC Canine Good Citizen Program online:  
[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)  
[cgc@akc.org](mailto:cgc@akc.org)  
919-233-9767



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**Bulldog Club of  
America Division III  
Performance  
Committee**



*A well-mannered dog is a happy dog.*

**AKC® Canine Good  
Citizen® Program**



**Dogs may be any age.  
Dogs need not be registered.  
Non-competitive test — 'pass' or 'fail'.**

## What Is The Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Program?



The CGC Program is designed to build good manners in our dogs both at home and in the community. The 10-step program stresses responsible dog ownership for dog owners and basic

training for dogs. The American Kennel Club provides a CGC certificate to all dogs who pass the CGC test.

### How Does It Work?

You and your dog attend any basic training or CGC class to learn and teach the behaviors, or you can teach your dog the 10 skills on your own. The pet may be any age and does not need to be registered with the AKC or another registry; rescue dogs and pets are welcome! When the dog knows the behaviors and is ready for testing, you sign up for a CGC test with an AKC Approved CGC Evaluator. Your dog club, pet store or local dog show may hold CGC tests in your area; some evaluators make appointments to test dogs as well. When your dog passes the CGC test, the evaluator will give you a form to send to the AKC to request your CGC certificate. (To find an evaluator near you, go to [http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/cgc\\_bystate.cfm](http://www.akc.org/events/cgc/cgc_bystate.cfm).)

Before receiving your certificate you will be asked to sign the “Responsible Dog Owner’s Pledge” printed on the reverse side of this brochure.

### The CGC Test

The CGC is a non-competitive test that consists of 10 skills or behaviors that all well-mannered dogs should know. All exercises are done on lead. The test is pass or fail; no points are awarded. Supplies: you will need to bring your dog’s brush or comb to the test, and the dog will need to wear a slip or buckle collar.

### The Ten Skills

#### Test 1: Accepting a friendly stranger

The dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach it and speak to the handler in a natural, everyday situation.

#### Test 2: Sitting politely for petting

The dog will allow a friendly stranger to pet it while it is out with its handler.

#### Test 3: Appearance and grooming

The dog will welcome being groomed and examined and will permit someone, such as a veterinarian, groomer or friend of the owner, to do so.

#### Test 4: Out for a walk (walking on a loose lead)

The handler/dog team will take a short “walk” to show that the dog is in control while walking on a leash.

#### Test 5: Walking through a crowd

The dog and handler walk around and pass close to several people (at least three) to demonstrate that the dog can move about politely in pedestrian traffic and is under control in public places.

#### Test 6: Sit and down on command and staying in place

The dog will respond to the handler’s commands to 1) sit, 2) down, and will 3) remain in the place commanded by the handler (sit or down position, whichever the handler prefers).

#### Test 7: Coming when called

The dog will come when called by the handler. The handler will walk 10 feet from the dog, turn to face the dog, and call the dog.

#### Test 8: Reaction to another dog

To demonstrate that the dog can behave politely around other dogs, two handlers and their dogs approach each other from a distance of about 20 feet, stop, shake hands and exchange pleasantries, and continue on for about 10 feet.

#### Test 9: Reaction to distraction

To demonstrate the dog is confident when faced with common distracting situations, the evaluator will select and present two distractions. Examples of distractions include dropping a chair, rolling a crate dolly past the dog, having a jogger run in front of the dog, or dropping a crutch or cane.

#### Test 10: Supervised separation

This test demonstrates that a dog can be left with a trusted person, if necessary, and will maintain training and good manners. Evaluators are encouraged to say something like, “Would you like me to watch your dog?” and then take hold of the dog’s leash. The owner will go out of sight for three minutes.



## What Are the Benefits of CGC Testing?

For one, it produces a more sociable dog that is fun to live with; secondly, it provides a good foundation for other fun activities and further training in Rally, Obedience or Agility. Increasingly, apartments and condos in some states require CGC training for residents’ dogs; some insurance companies recommend CGC training; and some therapy dog groups require therapy dogs to pass the CGC test as a prerequisite.

Your responsibility as a pet owner begins the moment you add a new dog or puppy to your family — get your dog off to a good start!



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Performance Committee