

## Part 1: Behavior Evaluation

### Sociability

Dog willingly interacts with stranger (shows no fear or lack of confidence). Dog should show interest in visiting without handler forcing the dog towards person. Dog should not show any stress signals. Visiting should be rewarding for the dog and the dog should visit in a calm manner.

### Handling Assessment

Dog allows paws to be handled, ears to be touched and tail to be gently tugged. Dog should not show signs of shutting down or demonstrate any type of aggression. Dog will allow petting from behind and overhead. Dog should be able to handle petting that may or may not be appropriate.

### Coping with Unpredictability

Dog's response to loud noises and unpredictable movements will be assessed. Dog should recover very quickly. Dog should not shut down or show any signs of stress when unexpected things happen. Recovery at most should take 10-15 seconds.

### Reaction to Another Dog

Dog should be able to continue visiting and/or move about facility with other dogs present. Dog should remain under control of handler and not interact with any dog. Dog should not pull, bark, or engage with other dogs in any way.

### Hug/Restraint

Dog is hugged using vet restraint method. Acceptable responses are dog leans into hug or dog remains neutral. Dog is disqualified for snapping or growling.



**AnimalFriends**

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## Part 2: Skills

### Sit or Down on Cue

Dog will sit on cue or down on cue with other dogs present with a 3ft. distance between them. Up to 5 other teams will be present during this exercise.

### Stay

Dog can remain in a sit or down until released from position with other dogs at a 3ft. distance while owner moves to end of 6ft. leash

### Walk on Loose Leash

Handler is always in control of dog. Leash is loose and dog follows verbal prompts when necessary.

### Leave-It

Various items are placed on ground as well as in a person's hand. The dog may show interest, but must leave-it when cued. Leash prompt cannot be used.

### Come When Called

Dog will be held at a distance of 6ft. and should return to owner when cued. Dog should be comfortable with being away from owner when owner is in sight.

### Teamwork

At all times during the Therapets test the handler controls the dog's interactions using cues and praise. No treats, leash prompts, training collars or no-pull harnesses are used.



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# Testing Criteria

## Part 3: Visiting Skills

### Wait at Door

Dog will wait patiently at doorway of patients' room while handler asks if they would like a visit.

### Checking In

Dog is either sitting or standing patiently upon check-in at facility. Handler should be able to complete sign-in without dog jumping up onto counter or trying to visit with other staff.

### Positioning

Dog is able to be positioned in order to allow patient easy access to petting. Dog will be tested with wheelchair patient, walker patient, person sitting on floor and person in bed. Depending on size of dog positioning may vary, however dog should remain calm and engaged in all circumstances.

### Grooming

Dog should be clean, freshly brushed and nails short in length.

### Handler

Able to recognize stress signals in dog and help facilitate appropriate petting with patient.



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