

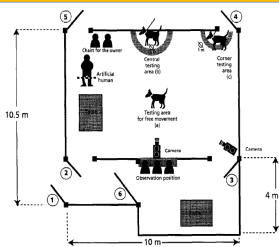
# Behavioural test for the dog's temperament evaluation and their adaptation in the domestic environment

## OBJECTIVES

- Search information about the different evaluating dog's temperament tests, especially those ones related with aggressive behavioural.
- Elaborate a test list with the most useful tests that determine dog's aggressive behaviour.
- Know how those test are developed.

## KINDS OF TESTS

<h3 style="margin: 0;">Dog's Shelter Test</h3>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Models of Unacceptable Agressivity (MUA's)</h3>
<p>– Realized for dog's shelter staff in a not familiar place.</p> <p>– Performed with physics, environment, socials and the manipulation of new stimulus.</p> <p>– Dogs have to pass the test without growling, rushing or biting. If they do some of this actions, they will not pass the test.</p>	<p>– 80 sub-tests in two places (indoor and outdoor) with 20s duration.</p> <p>– It is needed the additional collaboration of 3 foreigner dogs.</p> <p>– The evaluation is done through the Guttman scale which has a score of 5 points</p>
<h3 style="margin: 0;">Socially Acceptable Behavior test(SAB)</h3>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Canine Behavioral Assessment and Research Questionnaire (C-BARQ)</h3>
<p>– Simply version of MUA's.</p> <p>– 15 min. duration approx.</p> <p>– Consists in 16 outdoor sub-tests where dogs are exposed to different stimulus.</p> <p>– It requires 2 assistants recording and 1 judge, so 3 assistants at least</p> <p>– It determinates if dogs show any aggressive behavioural element</p>	<p>– Questionnaire developed through the mots common clinic signs described in dog's behavioural problems.</p> <p>– Based on the fact that nobody knows the dogs better that the person who lives with them, they are asked the appropriate questions in order to get information.</p> <p>– It consists in 8 elements related with sociability, 13 with training, 44 with aggressions, 22 with anxiety, 15 with separation, 12 with excitability and 9 with love and attract attention and 29 elements related with other behavioural traits.</p>



**Table 1. Characteristics of temperature and procedure and possible reaction of dogs living in a shelter modified from Christensen et al. (2009b)**

Characteristic	Possible reaction (consequences after unacceptable)
Temperature	Stressful reaction
Isolation	Isolation
Unfamiliar environment	Unfamiliar environment
Unfamiliar people	Unfamiliar people
Unfamiliar sounds	Unfamiliar sounds
Unfamiliar smells	Unfamiliar smells
Unfamiliar objects	Unfamiliar objects
Unfamiliar activities	Unfamiliar activities
Unfamiliar situations	Unfamiliar situations
Unfamiliar people	Unfamiliar people
Unfamiliar sounds	Unfamiliar sounds
Unfamiliar smells	Unfamiliar smells
Unfamiliar objects	Unfamiliar objects
Unfamiliar activities	Unfamiliar activities
Unfamiliar situations	Unfamiliar situations

**Table 2. Main characteristics and the exact order of the different subtests.**

Subtest	Description	Presence of the stressor	Attached to the stressor
1	Steadily approach by one person who tries to pet the dog with an artificial hand	Yes	Dist 1 center
2	Response to an unfamiliar visual stimulus (dogging blanket)	Yes	Dist 5 center
3	Response to an unfamiliar visual stimulus (silhouette of a person or that suddenly appears from behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
4	Response to an unfamiliar sound (bell)	Yes	Dist 5 center
5	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
6	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
7	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
8	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
9	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
10	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
11	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
12	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
13	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
14	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
15	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center
16	Response to an unfamiliar sound (start) (one behind a corner)	Yes	Dist 5 center

## CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Dog's Shelter Test is useful for dogs that lives in shelters and, in order to know better the dog, it should be realized before they are adopted
- ✓ MUA's are made to realize experimental proves to particular dogs that their development are laborious and difficult.
- ✓ SAP is a more practical evaluating system for aggressive dogs and it could be applied in breeders and shelters.
- ✓ C-BARQ is a useful tool to evaluate a big number of patients without the necessity of handle or interact with them. It would be a good tool in veterinary clinics and hospitals.

## REFERENCES

- ❖ **Aggressive behavior in adopted dogs that passed a temperament test.** Christensen, E; Scarlett, Janet; Campagna, Michael; Houpt, Katherine Albro. (2007). Applied Animal Behaviour Science, Vol. 106, Issue 1-3, pag 85-95.
- ❖ **Behavioural testing for aggression in the domestic dog.** Netto, Willem J; Planta, Doreen J U. (1997). Applied Animal Behaviour Science, Vol. 52, Issue 3-4, pag 243-263.
- ❖ **Validity of the Socially Acceptable Behavior (SAB) test as a measure of aggression in dogs towards non-familiar humans.** Planta, J. U D; De Meester, R. H W M. (2007). Vlaams Diergeneeskundig Tijdschrift, Vol. 76, Issue 5, pag 359-368.

