

Badass Breeder Puppy Evaluation

Trait Tested	Low	Medium	High	How to Test
Assertiveness (human)	Takes time to approach and may need coaxing. May do so in an army crawl or approach tester from behind or side. Innately polite and will rarely challenge testers space.	Approaches with politeness. Crawls into lap or sits next to tester. May mouth hands. Generally, challenges testers space as they become comfortable.	Approaches tester with authority without regard to personal space. Jumps on tester - face, back, etc.	Have the tester sit on the floor in the middle of the room. Let the puppy approach on his or her own accord. Do not engage the puppy for 30 seconds. If the puppy refuses to engage because he or she lacks interest, then it will be difficult to determine assertiveness.
Confidence Belief in own abilities and approach to a new situation.	Unsure of self and abilities. Army crawls or goes and hides. May seek human reassurance. Exhibits stress throughout the test. Yawning, lip licking, avoidance, shaking, avoidance	Some hesitation or startle to test situations but stays the course or quickly returns. Overall relaxed body posture. May seek mild human reassurance.	Approaches new situations with curiosity and eagerness. Tail high, keen interest in surroundings and truly enjoys the challenge of the test.	Observe the puppy's initial reactions upon entering testing area, which is an unfamiliar person, objects and place). Additionally, observe his or her approach to situations throughout test. fear vs. confidence cues
Motivation Level Intrinsic desire to work for and with a human. Can also be called his or her workability.	Very little effort to do as asked. May not fetch, could take toys and leave. Often ignores when tester calls. Does not always follow. May be considered self-serving, disinterested or distractible. "What's in it for me?"	Shows interest in fetching, following, and bringing toys to you for more interaction. Can be just as happy playing on their own. Give and take interactions with tester is seen. "Ok, why not?"	Wants nothing more than to work, please you and be underfoot. Pup works hard to understand what you want and maintains focus and interaction with tester. Gladly fetches and returns items. "What's next?"	Build a relationship with pup thru affection and a game of fetch or tug. How hard does the tester have to work to create the relationship with the pup so that fetching, following and working through obstacles is achieved?
Nerve Strength/ Resiliency Ability to handle and manage stress in reaction to situations.	Stress is displayed frequently throughout the test. The pup needs time to recover before moving to another part of the test or is unable to recover.	Displays some stress throughout the test but recovers within three seconds.	The puppy does not exhibit any real stress during the test. The pup may startle once or twice but immediately recovers and investigates. Pup is relatively bomb proof and not bothered by much.	These characteristics are observed throughout the test. For example, you should take note of the pup's reactions to: i) the movement of objects, ii) the introduction of new testing elements, iii) how many times do you have to pause the test to avoid stacking stress so that the pup is unable to recover from stress. Pay particular attention to stress signals: yawning, lip smacking, shaking, ears pinned, vocalizing, accelerated movement, refusal to move, avoidance, seeking human reassurance, whale eyes, etc.

Touch Tolerance	Fights handling and acts annoyed. Tries to wiggle out of testers arms.	Is compliant most of the time but certain handling irritates pup and they protest. The pup may also comply to entire test but remains tense.	Pup is compliant with touch and often enjoys it.	For this portion of the test, the tester holds the pup and runs through the "10 Step Puppy Handling Exercise" – while standing. This exercise is outlined above. Stop immediately if pup struggles intensely.
Energy Level	Pup often lays down, sits or stands still during the test.	Has moments of faster movement, but just as often will slow down.	Movement is fast and fairly intense, and pup never slows down. Pup is active and "larger than life".	Observe the puppy's movement during test.
Sound Sensitivity	No startle or signs of stress resulting from sound.	Startles, takes a moment to assess the sound and then shakes it off or investigates. May need encouragement.	Startles to sound and then flees, looks to hide, barks and / or retreats, shakes, etc. Visibly stressed and may not recover.	Make a loud noise your pup will be unfamiliar with, such as a Fisher Price Toy Popper. Ensure the pup's attention is on the sound and not the movement of the object.
Sight Sensitivity	No startle or signs of stress resulting from unpredictable movement.	Startles, takes a moment to assess the sound and then shakes it off or investigates. May need encouragement.	Startles to sight and then flees, looks to hide, barks and or retreats, shakes, etc. Visibly stressed and may not recover.	Create an unpredictable movement with an unfamiliar object. Such as, opening an umbrella or jack in the box.
Prey Drive	Little to no interest is seen in toys, playing tug and or chase.	Exhibits interest in toys, tug and chase is seen, but pup is easily distracted from toys by other activity.	Immediately gravitates toward toys where shaking and chomping are seen. Pup is intensely focused and hard to distract. Drive is easily triggered by movement.	Gauge interest in toys, tug, and movement of tester that encourages puppy to chase, stalk, pounce.
Human Focus (pack drive)	Little to no interest in the tester.	Interested in tester but easily distracted by other activity.	Immediately seeks tester connection. The pup eagerly stays with tester as he and she moves about the testing area and focus is difficult to break.	Observe interaction and overall interest in tester throughout the test.

Trait Tested	Not	Moderately	Highly	Extremely	How to Test
Tenderhearted	No concern, just wants to play and/or investigate. Might mouth, pull, chew on clothes, etc. Unaware of distress and/or disinterested.	Concerned with testers well-being. May cuddle, lick or otherwise try to console, but loses interest quickly and wanders off or wants to play.	Concerned with testers well-being. May cuddle, lick or otherwise try to console, puppy stays with tester and feels responsible for their well-being.	Too overwhelmed with intense emotions, puppy tries to flee, avoids, cries, etc. Puppy may initially approach but then leaves not wanting anything to do with the tester.	Tester will "fall to ground" crying or screaming with intense emotion

Trait Tested	Submissive	Neutral	Assertive	How to Test
Dog Friendliness	May tuck tail, crouch and / or crawl to greet dog. May present belly, lick mouth and face.	Notices dog but does not approach, doesn't show signs of fear only disinterest.	Tail raised, proud posture, confident in dog's space, tugging on ears, jumping on neck trying to engage in play. May initiate interaction by sniffing dog's rear but that is not always indicative of assertiveness.	Watch how pup initially approaches and interacts with stuffed dog. Pups can quickly realize it is a toy. At that point, their reaction is no longer indicative of their friendliness toward dogs and the following observations are inconclusive.

Notes regarding the tester / testing area or any concerns:

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