
Assembling Your ATT Test Materials





Welcome to the AKC Temperament Test!

If you are working on becoming an ATT Evaluator or gathering materials for your club's ATT, welcome to the AKC Temperament Test!

There are 4 modules (plus an online test) that must be completed to become an ATT Evaluator.

Those modules are:

1. Overview of the AKC Temperament Test
2. Video of the ATT in action
3. ATT Evaluator Guide
4. Assembling Your ATT Test Materials

The purpose of this module, "Assembling Your ATT Test Materials" is to describe the materials that are needed for the ATT.



The Test Items

The ATT includes 6 main categories that are: Social, Auditory, Visual, Tactile, Proprioceptive, and an Unexpected Stimulus.

Under each of these categories, there are 4 possible test items. At each test, dogs are tested on 3 of the 4 choices for each category.

SOCIAL (do this section first)

- S1. Greets handler, pets dog
- S2. Evaluator approaches, brief exam
- S3. Approach standing person who pets dog
- S4. Person approaches (carrying item), pets

AUDITORY

- A1. Shake large plastic bottle w/coins
- A2. Vacuum cleaner (hand held)
- A3. Loud whistle
- A4. Bike horn (bulb)

VISUAL

- V1. Umbrella opened (REQUIRED)
- V2. Roller bag, wagon, crate dolly, cooler
- V3. Streamers on stick
- V4. Shake hand towel

TACTILE

- T1. Walks on wire grate (REQUIRED)
- T2. Plastic tarp
- T3. Plastic lattice over memory foam
- T4. Pegboard over air mattress

PROPRIOCEPTIVE (motion, position)

- P1. Cavaletti (pvc ladder or low bars)
- P2. Intersecting hoops (8)
- P3. Low teeter
- P4. Up and over low platform (e.g., Klimb ™)

UNEXPECTED STIMULUS

- U1. Approach, carries large box & objects
- U2. Approach, drops chair
- U3. Uses walker, crutches, or wheelchair
- U4. Approach briskly - unusual clothing



SOCIAL

SOCIAL (do this section first)

- S1. Greets handler, pets dog
- S2. Evaluator approaches, brief exam
- S3. Approach standing person who pets dog
- S4. Person approaches (carrying item), pets

In the Social category, the test item choices involve the ATT Evaluator greeting the handler, petting or examining the dog, or having an assistant pet the dog.

The only equipment in this category is the item (e.g., bag, backpack) the person is carrying in S4.

This may be any style of a large shopping bag, backpack, etc. The item is held in front of the person so the dog can see it.





AUDITORY

AUDITORY

- A1. Shake large plastic bottle w/coins
- A2. Vacuum cleaner (hand held)
- A3. Loud whistle
- A4. Bike horn (bulb)

A1. Shake large plastic bottle with coins

For this test item, use a large (1-gallon) plastic milk/water jug.



About 20 coins...

A2. Vacuum cleaner (handheld)

A club member might loan a handheld vacuum cleaner to the club or one can be purchased at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or stores such as Home Depot, Walmart or Target.





AUDITORY

A3. Loud whistle

For this test item, you can use metal, plastic or battery operated whistles. These can be purchased online or at a sporting goods store.



A word about whistles:

A steward may have his or her own whistle to use in the test. Otherwise, multiple whistles that are sold in packets can be purchased. The idea here is not to put one mouth-type whistle in a test kit to be used repeatedly by multiple people. We suggest using an electronic, battery-operated whistle.

A4. Bike horn (bulb type)

For this test item, use a bike horn with a bulb.





VISUAL

VISUAL

- V1. Umbrella opened (REQUIRED)
- V2. Roller bag, wagon, crate dolly, cooler
- V3. Streamers on stick
- V4. Shake hand towel

V1. Umbrella opened (REQUIRED)

The umbrella should be a standard sized umbrella (as opposed to a child's small umbrella or an oversized golf umbrella).



V2. Roller bag, wagon, crate dolly, cooler

For this test item, you can use a roller bag, wagon, crate dolly or rolling cooler. The item will be used to circle the dog in the test. Wagons of the "sports wagon" type (see photo below) are especially useful for transporting test materials.





VISUAL

V3. Streamers on a stick

This visual test item uses streamers. To find these on amazon.com or on other internet locations, you can look under “gymnastics streamers.” These could also be made with dowels and wide ribbon. In the ATT, as the dog approaches, the steward twirls the streamer. Unfolded, most of the streamers are about 6-ft. long.



V4. Shake hand towel

A terry cloth hand towel measuring approximately 16 inches x 25 inches is used for this exercise.





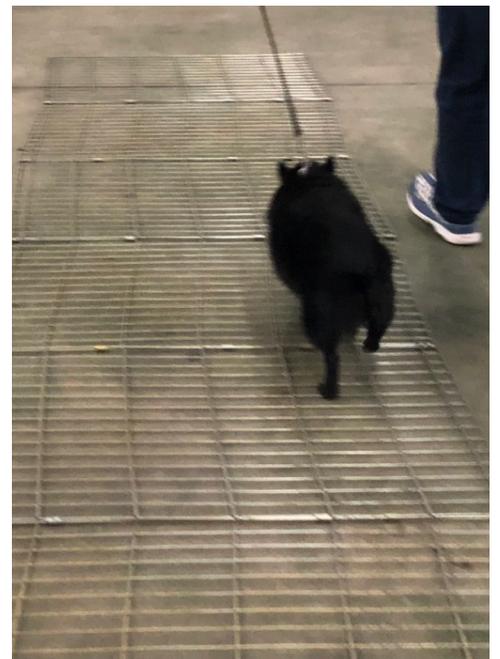
TACTILE

TACTILE

- T1. Walks on wire grate (REQUIRED)
- T2. Plastic tarp
- T3. Plastic lattice over memory foam
- T4. Pegboard over air mattress

T1. Walks on wire grate (REQUIRED)

In this test item, the dog walks on a wire grate. An exercise pen (at least 24 inches wide, at least 6 sections) is opened and placed on the ground.





TACTILE

T2. Plastic tarp

A plastic tarp (approximately 9 x 12 ft or larger) of any color is used in this test item. The tarp is not flat; it has wrinkles. The handler does not walk on the tarp, so there is no chance of the handler tripping.



T3. Plastic lattice over memory foam

In this test item, the materials are layered to make the test item more complex- the surface will change for the dog.

The memory foam should be at least 1-inch thick with the plastic lattice on top.

Lattice can be purchased at Home Depot, Lowes, etc. Lattice is approximately 2-1/2 x 4 ft.

Foam is longer than the lattice (about 6-ft).

Sizes of lattice and foam may vary slightly depending on cutting size at your supply store.

Do not use wooden lattice; it has splinters.





TACTILE

T4. Pegboard over air mattress

This is another test item in which the materials are layered.

Pegboard is placed over an air mattress.

The air mattress (about 26" x 72") is a camping mattress. This is not a plastic pool float that could easily be punctured.

The pegboard is approximately 30" x 46" (shorter than the air mattress requiring the dog to change surfaces).

In this photo, cones were used to guide the participants. The cones are optional.

Sizes of pegboard and foam may vary slightly depending on cutting size at your supply store for pegboard and the mattress that is available.





PROPRIOCEPTIVE

PROPRIOCEPTIVE (motion, position)

- P1. Cavaletti (pvc ladder or low bars)
- P2. Intersecting hoops (8)
- P3. Low teeter
- P4. Up and over low platform (e.g., Klimb ™)

P1. Cavaletti (PVC ladder or low bars)

This is not a jumping exercise; the dog simply needs to step over the bars. Equipment may be purchased or self-constructed.

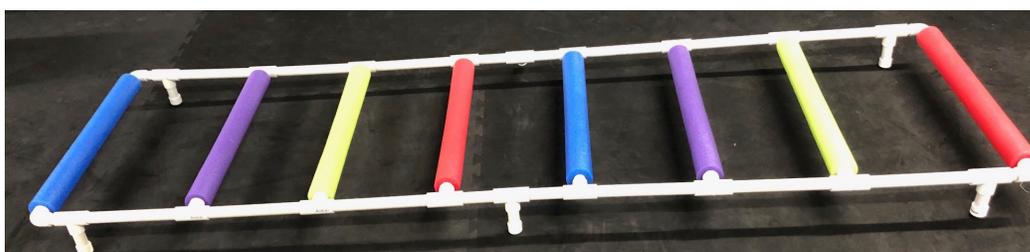


This is the "Rainbow ladder" from domorewithyourdog.com
Legs are removed for the ATT.

Low bars from amazon.com. Type in "hurdle cone set."
You can also make this using small soccer cones (from a sporting goods store) and dowels.



Self-constructed ladder from PVC and foam pool noodles.





PROPRIOCEPTIVE

P2. Intersecting hoops (8)

The intersecting hoops are 8 standard sized hula hoops.



P3. Low teeter

The low teeter is a 2-1/2 ft x 4 ft. piece of 3/4 inch plywood. Be sure that you purchase wood that does not have splinters (or sand the wood). When cut, sometimes the edges of plywood are rough. Tape the edges so the person moving the teeter does not get splinters.

The teeter is placed over a foam pool noodle that has been cut in half. The flat side is down. The pool noodle can be trimmed and attached with velcro to the bottom of the board.

SIZE OF TEETER MAY VARY A FEW INCHES DEPENDING ON STANDARD CUTTING SIZES AT YOUR SUPPLY STORE.





PROPRIOCEPTIVE

P4. Up & over low platform (e.g., Klimb™)

The platform is very low. The dog simply needs to walk “up and over” the platform. The platform may be purchased or self-constructed.



This is the Klimb™ (see [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))

It is used for canine conditioning, tricks training and other training purposes. In the ATT, the removable legs are removed to make a low platform.

A benefit of this equipment is it is very lightweight and easy to move.

Self-constructed platform





UNEXPECTED STIMULUS

UNEXPECTED STIMULUS

- U1. Approach, carries large box & objects
- U2. Approach, drops chair
- U3. Uses walker, crutches, or wheelchair
- U4. Approach briskly - unusual clothing

The 4 Unexpected Stimulus test items involve a person coming out from behind a screen. The screen may be self-constructed (e.g., PVC and a tarp), or it may be a “pop-up” tent (e.g., E-Z Up). When indoors, rather than a screen, the person may enter the test area from a connecting room. When outdoors, a car (e.g., SUV) may be used as the screen.

- U1. The objects will be a large doll or large stuffed animal.
- U2. The chair may be a folding chair or a collapsible chair in a carry bag.
- U3. When using the walker, crutches or wheelchair, the person does not also wear the unusual clothing.
- U4. Unusual clothing = raincoats, ponchos, hats, etc.

U1



U2





Checklist for Materials

- ___ Item to carry in S4 - large shopping bag, etc.
- ___ 1 gallon plastic bottle (milk jug)
 - ___ 20 coins for bottle
- ___ Vacuum cleaner - handheld
- ___ Whistle
- ___ Bike horn
- ___ Umbrella
- ___ Wagon, roller bag, etc.
- ___ Streamers on stick
- ___ Hand towel
- ___ Wire grate (exercise pen)
- ___ Plastic tarp
- ___ Memory foam
- ___ Plastic lattice
- ___ Pegboard
- ___ Air mattress
- ___ PVC ladder or low bars
- ___ Hula hoops (8)
- ___ Low teeter (plywood)
 - ___ Pool noodle
- ___ Low platform (Klimb™ or alternative)
- ___ Large box
- ___ Large stuffed animal or doll
- ___ Folding chair or collapsible chair in carry bag
- ___ Walker, crutches or wheelchair
- ___ Unusual clothing (costumes, rain coat, hats, etc.)
- ___ Screen to hide Unexpected Stimulus person (pop-up tent, etc.)



Miscellaneous Materials

Other things to think about for your AKC Temperament Test are:

- Tape for taping direction arrows on the floor
- Signs for the 6 categories (optional)
- Signs to direct the participants - (optional)
(Rally signs for Stop, About Turn, Left & Right Turn can be used)
- Sign holders or cones
(You can also put numbers on cones)

Don't forget the paperwork, clipboards and pens!

