



4 Month Primary Cue Assessment

Set Up/Items Needed:

- Two cones or items to use as markers, vest, mat, kennel, squeaky toy, ball, clipboard, food
- Cones should be placed 5 ft from each other
- Verbal and visual cues are separated
- Clicker and kibble treats can be used (no limit)

Course Map:

1. Body Handling
 - Handler asks the puppy to get into a comfortable position and examines its eyes, ears, teeth and all four paws. Puppy should remain relaxed and easy to handle throughout the examination
2. Starting at Cone 1, the handler holds up the vest and cues the puppy with "Get Dressed".
3. Sit duration w/ handler movement; verbal cue
 - Handler verbally cues "Sit", handler moves two steps right; two steps back; two steps forward
4. Down duration w/ handler creating distance; verbal cue
 - Handler verbally cues "Down", puppy remains while handler walks to Cone 2
5. Recall from a down; verbal cue:
 - Handler verbally cues "Come" and puppy recalls to front sit
6. Move into "Heel"; verbal cue:
 - Handler verbally cues "Heel", puppy moves into the left side position.
7. Down duration with handler movement; visual cue:
 - Handler visually cues "Down", handler moves two steps right; two steps back; two steps forward
8. Sit duration with handler creating distance; visual cue:
 - Handler visually cues "Sit", puppy remains while handler walks to Cone 1
9. Recall from "Sit"; visual cue:
 - Handler visually cues "Come" and puppy recalls to front sit
10. Move into "Heel"; visual cue:
 - Handler visually cues "Heel", puppy moves into the left side position
11. Loose leash walking from Cone 2 (distractions @ 10ft)
 - a. Lap 1- no distractions
 - b. Lap 2- toy squeak/ toy toss
 - c. Lap 3- ball bounce/ ball roll
 - d. Lap 4- startle sound/ clipboard drop
 - e. Lap 5- offered food/ dropped food
12. After five laps, handler removes puppy's vest and moves to the side of the course
13. Handler verbally and visually cues "place" on the mat to the side of the course
 - a. Puppy maintains "Place" for 1 min with handler <5ft
 - b. Puppy maintains "Place" for 30 sec with handler >5ft
14. Handler verbally and visually cues "Kennel", door should be closed and latched once puppy is inside
 - a. Puppy should remain quiet and calm for 30 sec with handler in sight
 - b. Handler leaves room, puppy should remain quiet and calm for 1 min
15. Handler returns, opens the kennel door and cues the end of the assessment with "All Done".

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Primary Cues Scoring Sheet

3mo 4mo 6mo 10mo (circle one)

Puppy: _____ Handler: _____ Date: _____

Evaluator: _____ Location: _____ Puppy Age: _____

Cue	Score 0-3	Assessment Points: Overall: Level of handler support (repeating cues, excessive eye contact), luring – with or without food	Notes:
Body Handling		Manageability, duration, body sensitivity, overall behavior (mouthiness, resistance)	
Get Dressed		Forward movement into vest, stationary and standing while being buckled	
Sit		Duration, positioning	
Recall / "Come"		Quick response, front sit, duration	
Heel		Positioning, remains standing	
Down		Duration, positioning	
LLW		Ability to redirect, minimal verbal cues, response to leash pressure, rate of reinforcement	
Place		Duration, rate of reinforcement	
Kennel		Quiet, calm behavior, waits for "All Done"	
Notes:			

Scoring

Total Score: ____/27

- 0- Puppy is unable to complete cue
- 1- Puppy is able to complete cue, but requires multiple prompts (3+) and/ or lures
- 2- Puppy is able to complete cue as defined with additional cues (2) or handler support
- 3- Puppy is able to complete cue as defined without additional handler support (verbal praise and/or kibble treats are allowed)