

HERDING INSTINCT TEST INFORMATION

The Judge's certification of qualification for any particular dog constitutes certification to The American Kennel Club that the dog on this particular occasion has evidenced abilities at least in accordance with minimum standards and that the abilities demonstrated would justify the awarding of the title associated with the particular test class. Qualification must never be awarded to a dog, which exhibits abilities that do not meet minimum requirements.

In the Instinct Test the dog must show sustained interest in herding livestock, either going around them, gathering them and moving them toward the handler, or moving them ahead of the handler to drive them or a combination.

Instinct Tested Certificate

The American Kennel Club will issue an Instinct Tested certificate to an eligible dog that has been certified by two different Judges to have qualified by passing two separate licensed or member Herding Instinct Tests.

Instinct Test Description and Test Elements.

The dog is brought into the arena on a long line approximately 6-15 feet in length. At some point while on the line, the dog must demonstrate a stop (down, sit or stand) and a recall before the line is dropped or removed. A dog, which cannot be recalled, shall not be let off line. Dogs must be immediately removed from the ring if physical force is necessary to protect stock from the dog.

Dogs must demonstrate the ability to move and control livestock by fetching or driving, and be sufficiently trained to work at the proper balance point to move the stock forward on the course. Dogs that constantly prevent the stock from being moved in a controlled fashion, or that chase or harass the stock, will not qualify.