

## Two-Star Level

The exercises at TWO-STAR level build on the exercises from ONE-STAR level. The front and heel positions are again tested, along with pivoting in the heel position. There is a slight overall increase in the degree of difficulty.

Additional verbal and physical cues can no longer be given throughout each exercise. Just a single verbal and/or physical cue for each exercise (or additional single cues as stated in specific exercises). Dog cannot be physically manipulated into position or lured with a toy or food.

A tug toy or food can be used at the conclusion of each exercise. Food can either be kept in a container nearby or in the handler's pocket. No treat pouches to be worn.

All exercises are to be completed off leash.

This level requires minimal space and can be conducted indoors or outdoors.

There are two separate tests available at this level – Test A and Test B. You can choose to complete either one or both.

The video should be unedited, **it should show all 6 exercises in that Test**, and the dog and handler should remain in view the entire time.

### Test A

Exercise 1 – Find front

Exercise 2 – Find heel

Exercise 3 – Change of position (in heel position)

Exercise 4 – Pivot

Exercise 5 – Sit or stand stay

Exercise 6 – Down stay

### Test B

Exercise 1 – Find front

Exercise 2 – Find heel

Exercise 3 – Change of position (in front position)

Exercise 4 – Pivot

Exercise 5 – Sit or stand stay

Exercise 6 – Down stay

## **DESCRIPTION OF EXERCISES**

### Test A

*Exercise 1. – Find front (from front angle)*

Call front from a minimum of 45-degree angle (i.e. dog not coming in a straight line directly to front position). Call from either treat toss or from a stay. Dog can maintain

either a sit or stand in the front position once arrived but must maintain the position for 1 second. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

**EXERCISE START:** Handler standing still. Dog either on a stay a minimum of 1.5 metres in front of and facing handler (minimum of 45-degrees off centre – right or left); or dog heading out to a treat toss thrown a minimum of 1.5 metres in front of handler (minimum of 45-degrees off centre – right or left).

**EXERCISE FINISH:** Dog sitting or standing straight in front position maintained for a minimum of 1 full second.

#### *Exercise 2. – Find heel (from straight behind handler)*

Call to heel from a minimum of 2 metres behind handler. Call from either a treat toss or from a stay. Dog can maintain either a sit or stand in the heel position once arrived but must maintain the position for 1 second. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

**EXERCISE START:** Handler standing still. Dog either on a stay a minimum of 2 metres behind and facing handler, or dog heading out to a treat toss thrown a minimum of 2 metres behind handler.

**EXERCISE FINISH:** Dog sitting or standing straight in heel position maintained for a minimum of 1 full second.

#### *Exercise 3. – Change of position (in heel position)*

Change of position from down to sit in heel position (no treat until person has stood up and dog remained in sit position for a full 2 seconds). Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

**EXERCISE START:** Handler standing still. Dog down in heel position.

**EXERCISE FINISH:** Dog in sit next to handler. Handler standing upright and dog maintaining position for a minimum of 2 full seconds.

#### *Exercise 4. – Pivot*

Dog to move hindquarters to maintain heel position for a minimum of 90-degree left turn. Handler to step on the spot to complete the 90-degree turn. Dog can commence and end with a stand or sit but must be either stand to stand, or sit to sit. Maintain a steady rate of speed during the pivot so dog does not overshoot or undershoot at conclusion of pivot, but rather stops in an accurate heel position. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

**EXERCISE START:** Handler standing still. Dog either sitting or standing still in heel position.

EXERCISE FINISH: Handler standing still. Dog to be in precise heel position, in the same position (stand or sit) as starting position.

*Exercise 5. – Sit or stand stay (walk around dog)*

Sit or stand stay – Handler to walk once around dog and return to the heel position. Dog must remain in position from when the handler leaves to a minimum of 1 full second after the handler returns. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

EXERCISE START: Handler standing still. Dog in heel position in either a sit or stand position.

EXERCISE FINISH: Handler returned back to heel position and maintains stillness for a full 1 second.

*Exercise 6. – Down stay*

Handler to leave dog in a down stay. Handler to leave to approximately 2 meters distance. Dog to maintain position for a minimum of 15-seconds. Handler to return by walking around back of dog to return to heel position. Dog must remain in position from when the handler leaves to a minimum of 1 full second after the handler returns. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

EXERCISE START: Handler standing still. Dog in down position next to handler.

EXERCISE FINISH: Handler returned back to heel position and maintains stillness for a full 1 second.

## Test B

*Exercise 1. – Find front (from front angle)*

Call front from a minimum of 45-degree angle (i.e. dog not coming in a straight line directly to front position). Call from either treat toss or from a stay. Dog can maintain either a sit or stand in the front position once arrived but must maintain the position for 1 second. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

EXERCISE START: Handler standing still. Dog either on a stay a minimum of 1.5 metres in front of and facing handler (minimum of 45-degrees off centre – right or left); or dog heading out to a treat toss thrown a minimum of 1.5 metres in front of handler (minimum of 45-degrees off centre – right or left).

EXERCISE FINISH: Dog sitting or standing straight in front position maintained for a minimum of 1 full second.

*Exercise 2. – Find heel (from straight behind handler and sit)*

Call to heel from a minimum of 2 metres behind handler. Call from either a treat toss or from a stay. Dog can maintain either a sit or stand in the heel position once arrived but must maintain the position for 1 second. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

**EXERCISE START:** Handler standing still. Dog either on a stay a minimum of 2 metres behind and facing handler, or dog heading out to a treat toss thrown a minimum of 2 metres behind handler.

**EXERCISE FINISH:** Dog sitting or standing straight in heel position maintained for a minimum of 1 full second.

*Exercise 3. – Change of position (in front position)*

Change of position from down to sit in front position (no treat until person has stood up and dog remained in sit position for a full 2 seconds). Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

**EXERCISE START:** Handler standing still facing dog. Dog facing handler in down position (distance is handler's choice – can be immediately in front of nose).

**EXERCISE FINISH:** Dog in sit position in front of handler. Handler standing upright and dog maintaining position for a minimum of 2 full seconds.

*Exercise 4. – Pivot*

Dog to move hindquarters to maintain heel position for a minimum of 180-degree left turn. Handler to step on the spot to complete the 180-degree turn. Dog can commence and end with a stand or sit but must be either stand to stand, or sit to sit. Maintain a steady rate of speed during the pivot so dog does not overshoot or undershoot at conclusion of pivot, but rather stops in an accurate heel position. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

**EXERCISE START:** Handler standing still. Dog either sitting or standing still in heel position.

**EXERCISE FINISH:** Handler standing still. Dog to be in precise heel position, in the same position (stand or sit) as starting position.

*Exercise 5. – Sit or stand stay*

Handler to leave dog in a sit or stand stay. Handler to leave to approximately 2 meters distance. Dog to maintain position for a minimum of 10-seconds. Handler to return by walking around back of dog to return to heel position. Dog must remain in position from when the handler leaves to a minimum of 1 full second after the handler returns. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

EXERCISE START: Handler standing still. Dog in sit or stand position.

EXERCISE FINISH: Handler returned back to heel position and maintains stillness for a full 1 second.

*Exercise 6. – Down stay (walk around dog)*

Down stay – Handler to walk once around dog and return to the heel position. Dog must remain in position from when the handler leaves to a minimum of 1 full second after the handler returns. Can use prop (platform or mat) if desired.

EXERCISE START: Handler standing still. Dog in down position next to handler.

EXERCISE FINISH: Handler returned back to heel position and maintains stillness for a full 1 second.