



# Dog Trainer Evaluation Checklist

*"Because every dog deserves the best"*

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1. Does the business have the appropriate licenses for your business (city, county, kennel, business, etc.). Ask to see the license(s).
2. Does the business abide by a professional code of ethics? If yes, which one? If not, why not?
3. Does the business have insurance for the business (general liability, professional, care and custody)? Ask to see proof of insurance.
4. Will I have a written contract and training plan for my dog, and under what conditions can it be terminated? Is there a written refund policy?
5. Can I watch a live training session from the trainer who will be training my dog?
6. Can I see where my dog will be staying? Ask to see the area.
7. Have the trainers been trained in the use of the tools used? Example?
8. How will communication be handled with me on progress and problems? How often?
9. Describe your training methodology. For instance, how do you teach a dog to lie down? Or how do you stop an unwanted behavior?
10. Will the trainer I meet be the only one who trains my dog?
11. Does the business use subcontractors? (non-employees)
12. Does the business run background checks on employees for domestic violence and animal abuse?
13. What is your procedure if my dog gets sick or injured? When will I be notified and do you document what happened?
14. How often do you check on my dog?

## **CAUTIONS!**

- ⚠ *Guaranteed results*
- ⚠ *Refusal to answer questions*
- ⚠ *Pressure to commit without written information*
- ⚠ *Dismissal of safety or welfare concerns*