

TRICK DOG CHAMPION TITLE

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EARN YOUR TRICK DOG CHAMPION (TDCH) TITLE!

Do More With Your Dog! is proud to announce the accreditation of a Trick Dog Champion title! The TDCH is the highest tier title, and is awarded to exceptional dogs who demonstrate outstanding skill in performing a large number of difficult tricks, and who also demonstrate skill in every facet of foundation behaviors.

WHAT DO I GET WITH THE TITLE?

- As with all Champion titles, this title (noted as TDCH) is appended to the prefix of your dog's name
- A framable certificate
- Listing on the *Do More With Your Dog* website of officially titled Trick Dogs

HOW DO I EARN THE TITLE?

You must have first earned your ETD title.

Because of the esteem of a Champion title, we feel we cannot rely upon non-accredited witness testimony to verify the dog's tricks. For this top-tier title we require a video submission.



The tricks to submit on video are detailed on pages 6-7. You are asked to demonstrate some tricks in each of several categories. While it is possible for a dog to earn his ETD without being able to do a hold/retrieve, to earn his TDCH the dog must demonstrate skill in every foundational behavior type, including retrieving, targeting, distance work, etc.

The Champion title is different than the lower titles in that you have the freedom to perform the behavior in a variety of ways, so long as it achieves the objective of demonstrating the foundation behavior.

VIDEO SPECIFICATIONS:

Video Format: We accept most video formats including CDs and DVDs. You may upload your video to youtube.com or to Facebook, or send video in a private Facebook message. Yousendit.com allows you to send a large file (up to 50mb) to application@domorewithyourdog.com

Heads & Tails: Please leave a few seconds of video footage before and after each trick. This allows us to see the trick in a real-world, unedited form.

Combining Video Elements: You may combine several skills into one trick (ex: distance work and signals).

Video Quality: You will not be marked down due to poor video quality nor your acting ability. We are scoring the quality of the dog behaviors.

Video Privacy: Your video may be viewed by our Certified Trick Dog Instructors (CTDI), for the purposes of maintaining consistent judging criteria.

SCORING:

The primary venue for dog tricks is in performances (including demos and therapy visits), musical canine freestyle, and animal acting. The tricks will be judged in the context of these applications. The dog should be confident, consistent, and able to work at a distance from you.

Leashes: Tricks must be done off-leash.

Collars: The dog should wear a flat buckle collar or no collar.

Cues: The handler may give multiple cues within reason (about 3 cues.) Praise, and encouragement at any time is fine.

Treats: Treats (and/or toys) may be used as a reward after the trick is finished, but may not be used to lure the dog into the behavior. Keep treats hidden from the dog during the trick.

Clicker: You may incorporate a clicker or other reward marker.

Helpers: The dog must be handled by only one trainer. No other person may help with the trick (except as specified for a particular trick).

Physical Manipulation: Handler may not physically manipulate or crowd the dog during a trick. Petting at any time is fine.

Pressure: Pressuring the dog is discouraged. Pressure may include a stern voice, stern eye-contact, crowding or hovering over the dog, or putting your face or hands close to the dog's head. (You can be close to your dog, but keep it lighthearted.)

Service Dogs: Service dogs and their handlers may need to alter the trick to work within their unique needs. This is fine.

Disabled Dogs: We recognize that a disabled dog may have different requirements, and are willing to work with you to establish alternate criteria for your disabled dog.

Substitutions: At the champion level, we allow you to substitute similar tricks which demonstrate the same skill being tested. Email us with questions about a particular trick.

Qualifying: Applicant has 3 months to resubmit any portion of the test that did not qualify. Application fee will not be refunded.

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PLEASE SHOW THE FOLLOWING ON YOUR VIDEO:

1. COORDINATION: (choose ONE)

The trainer may stand close to the dog to guard or guide him. We are looking for the dog's coordination in his hind end.

- ☐ **double beam**
Dog walks across double beams, with two paws on each beam.
- ☐ **horizontal ladder / cavalettis**
Dog trots through a ladder of at least 6 feet in length.
- ☐ **skateboard**
Dog pushes skateboard (alone) with 2, 3, or 4 feet on the board.
- ☐ **push a shopping cart**
Front paws on cart, walk with hind legs.
- ☐ **barrel**
Dog rolls a barrel or inflatable peanut with his front feet, or stands on barrel and walks.
- ☐ **back up**
Dog backs up 5 feet. Trainer may start next to dog, but not move.
- ☐ **other**
Trick: _____

2. MOUTH TARGET: (choose TWO)

- ☐ **hold an object / carry an object**
Hold object (such as a dumbbell) or carry an object (such as your purse/bag) while walking with you. Release object to your hand.
- ☐ **retrieve object to hand**
Dog fetches an object 12 feet away and releases to your hand.
- ☐ **pull a rope**
Dog pulls a rope to move an object. Ex: pull open a door, cabinet, or crate door; pull a wagon.

3. PAW TARGET: (choose ONE)

- ☐ **ground target**
Dog places paw deliberately on a small object or mark. Example: step on a tap light, desk bell, or "easy button".
- ☐ **raised mark**
Dog paw-touches a raised object. Example: close a door with paw; bat a bell hanging from doorknob; flip a light switch on the wall.

4. NOSE TARGET: (choose ONE)

- ☐ **target stick**
Dog nose-touches target stick. Show several times in a row, unedited, moving the target each time and varying its height and location.
- ☐ **handheld target**
Same as target stick but using a handheld target (ex: jar lid).
- ☐ **hand target**
Same as target stick but using a hand target (such as two fingers).
- ☐ **soccer / treibball**
Nose-touch and move ball. Repeat several times, showing that the dog is following the moving target.

5. SCENT: (choose ONE)

- ☐ **shell game**
Perform twice in a row, unedited, with the scented shell in a different position each time.
- ☐ **nose-work box search**
Dog searches 5 boxes and indicates the one with the hot scent.
- ☐ **scent articles**
Dog searches 5 identical objects (ie: dumbbells or tennis balls) and retrieves the one with his owner's scent.

6. DISTANCE: (perform BOTH)

- ☐ **go to a mark / pedestal**
Send dog 20 feet away to a raised platform or mark (such as a mat).
- ☐ **cued behaviors at a distance**
Dog on pedestal/mark 12 feet away. Performs any 6 cued behaviors.

7. SIGNALS:

- ☐ **signals**
Perform any 6 behaviors with only silent cues. List tricks:
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____

8. CHAIN:

- ☐ **demonstrate a behavior chain**
When given a single cue, the dog performs a chain of a minimum of two behaviors. Examples: roll yourself in a blanket, open door and get soda from fridge, fetch litter and drop in step can, fetch basketball and drop in net, open mailbox and fetch mail, paint with paintbrush and return brush to bucket, tidy toy into toybox and close lid, open crate door and go inside and close crate door. You may invent your own chained behavior of comparable difficulty.
1. _____

9. EXPERT TRICKS:

- ☐ **demonstrate 5 of your best tricks**
Choose tricks from the ETD list, or invent your own tricks of comparable difficulty. Tricks should be difficult and also entertaining. If a Trick Dog Champion was invited to perform on a TV show, what tricks do you think viewers would like to see? (If you have already shown an Expert trick for another part of this video, you need not perform it a second time.)
1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

VIDEO FILE NAMES:

Please tell us the location of your video files. You may email the filenames to application@domorewithyourdog.com