



**AMERICAN
HUMANE
ASSOCIATION**

Animal-Assisted Therapy

Handler Training Workshop & Team Evaluations

American Humane Association, Animal-Assisted Therapy

Expected Behavior Checklist

Use this checklist to honestly assess your readiness to become an Animal-Assisted Therapy Team. These are the behaviors which will be assessed during an actual Team Evaluation.

Check 'Yes' if your animal consistently and reliably performs/accepts the requirement. Check 'No' if your animal does not consistently and reliably perform/accept the requirement. **Remember** ... all behaviors listed under the "Skill Requirements" are mandatory, in other words, your animal **MUST** be able to do these skills in order to pass a Team Evaluation.

This checklist will help you determine whether your animal has the skills and aptitude to enjoy therapy work, or if there are skills you want to improve with your animal.

Skill Requirements - Basic "Good Behavior " Skills			
Animal	Yes	No	Handler
Accepting a friendly stranger			A handler must have good control & communication with their animal. The animal should be reliable, well behaved and confident.
Accepting petting			
Accepting light brushing			
Walking on a loose leash, close by your side			
Walking through a crowd, loose leash by your side			
Comfortable with a loud noise			
Sit on command, preferably on 1st command			
Down on command, preferably on 1st command			
Stay on command, preferably on 1st command			
Come when called, preferably on 1st command			
Show no reaction or mild interest in another dog			
Aptitude Requirements – Temperament, Ability & Potential for Therapy Visits			
Animal	Yes	No	Handler
Accept being lightly examined all over			A handler must demonstrate social skills & aptitude for working with a variety of people in different settings. The handler & their animal must work together as a team showing a level of trust and understanding needed to work well together in unpredictable environments.
Accept being clumsily petted			
Accept a restraining hug			
Accept an individual acting in an unusual manner			
Confident when a group of people are talking loudly			
Accept a light bump from behind			
Walk by and leave an object on the floor			
Accept being petted and crowded by several people			
Appropriately accepting a treat			