

Living with Dogs

Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Program

What Is It?

Started in 1989, CGC is a certification program that is designed to reward dogs who well behaved companions at home and in the community. The goals of the Canine Good Citizen Program are to teach responsible pet ownership to owners and basic training and good manners for dogs.



A key component to the CGC Program is the 10-Step CGC Test. All dogs including purebreds and mixed breeds who pass the CGC test receive a certificate from the American Kennel Club.

Why Do It?

Earning the CGC award will ensure that your dog is a well-respected member of your community. The Canine Good Citizen award is one of the first AKC certificates your dog can earn and CGC provides an excellent foundation for other training classes.

Some therapy dog groups require the CGC as a prerequisite for therapy work, there are CGC neighborhoods and hiking trails, and a number of state legislatures have endorsed the CGC concept.



Canine Good Citizen training is fun and useful. You'll find that training for the CGC award will help you establish a closer bond with your dog. The Canine Good Citizen Program lays the foundation for other AKC activities such as obedience, agility, tracking, and performance events. As you work with your dog to teach the CGC skills, you'll discover the many benefits and joys of training your dog. Training will enhance the bond between you and your dog. Dogs who have a solid obedience education are a joy to live with—they respond well to household routines, have good manners in the presence of people and other dogs, and they fully enjoy the company of the owner who took the time to provide training, intellectual stimulation, and a high quality life. We sincerely hope that CGC will be only a beginning for you and your dog and that after passing the CGC test, you'll continue training in obedience, agility, tracking, or performance events.

How Do You Get Involved?

Enroll in a basic dog training class to prepare for the CGC Test. Check the Living with Dogs website for the class calendar of basic classes and for CGC Test dates. You can register and pay online as well.

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CGC Program Schedule & Registration: www.livingwithdogs.us

(831) 476-9065

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Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Program

Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Exercises

1. Accepting A Friendly Stranger
2. Sitting Politely for Petting
3. Appearance and Grooming
4. Out For A Walk (Loose Leash)
5. Walking Through a Crowd
6. Sit & Down on Command & Stay In Place
7. Coming When Called
8. Reaction To Another Dog
9. Reaction To Distractions
10. Supervised Separation



For more details on the CGC Test and Certification visit www.akc.org/events/cgc/

To register for a CGC Test visit www.livingwithdogs.us Class Calendar