

Breed First - AKC Temperament Test {ATT}



Kudos' Crown Royal v Regalbear CGCA, CGCU, TKN, ATT

Beth Horn

By, Beth Horn

AKC introduced a new title in November 2019, called the AKC Temperament Test (ATT). The ATT was developed to bring focus and provide a meaningful evaluation to assess the temperament of the dog. The ATT tests how a dog reacts to a variety of stimuli. Desirable traits are that the dog will be emotionally stable, inquisitive, cooperative, appropriately social for its breed, biddable and demonstrates the ability to recover from a startling situation in a reasonable amount of time.

Undesirable traits are fear, shyness, lack of cooperation and an inability to recover from unfamiliar or unexpected situations. Examples of undesirable behaviors include being afraid of friendly strangers or unfamiliar stimuli, obsessive barking, and aggression.

In the ATT, dogs are tested in six categories of stimuli that include: Social, Auditory, Visual, Tactile, Proprioceptive (motion) and Unexpected stimulus.

Dogs are scored from zero to four on how they react to each stimuli, with zero meaning the dog refused to do the item and four meaning the dog was calm, confident and did not startle or refuse the exercise. A passing score requires the dog to earn scores of three or four on the majority of the test items. A score of one is allowed for one test item out of six and a score of two is allowed for two test items out of six items, as long as the remainder of the scores are three or four. A dog will fail to pass if they score a zero on any item, have a score of two on more than three items or show any sign of aggression or extreme shyness.

Dogs who pass the ATT twice, under two different evaluators may earn the title ATT.

On **February 22 and 23, 2020** Rye took his ATT tests at the Del Mar Kennel club in San Diego, CA. I put a lot of faith in Rye and we did not complete any practice before the test! I went in blind, hoping that our training over the last year would have prepared him for the test. It did and he passed both tests with only three's and four's both days! This was Rye's 5th performance title at just 20 months old! Kudos' Crown Royal v Regalbear, CGCA, CGCU, TKN, ATT

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CGCA, CGCU, TKN, ATT**

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**First Saint Bernard to Earn The
AKC Temperament Test Title**

February 23, 2020