

Dog Personality Questionnaire (DPQ)

Here are a number of personality traits and behavioral descriptions that may or may not apply to your dog. Please write a number next to each statement to indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with that statement. You should rate your dog based on his or her general, overall behavior.

Disagree strongly	Disagree moderately	Disagree slightly	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree slightly	Agree moderately	Agree strongly
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. _____	Dog is relaxed when greeting people.			19. _____	Dog is confident.	
2. _____	Dog behaves aggressively if disturbed or moved when resting.			20. _____	Dog is dominant over other dogs.	
3. _____	Dog is aloof or indifferent towards other dogs.			21. _____	Dog avoids other dogs.	
4. _____	Dog is destructive.			22. _____	Dog catches and kills other animals (e.g., squirrels, rabbits).	
5. _____	Dog behaves aggressively toward dogs.			23. _____	Dog behaves aggressively when a person (e.g., visitor, delivery person) approaches the house or yard.	
6. _____	Dog is anxious			24. _____	Dog is easily startled by unexpected contact with objects (e.g., tripping, brushing against a door frame).	
7. _____	Dog loves to be praised.			25. _____	Dog works at tasks (e.g., getting treats out of a Kong, shredding toys) until entirely finished.	
8. _____	Dog responds aggressively when threatened by another dog (e.g., growled or lunged at, cornered).			26. _____	Dog is very excitable around cats.	
9. _____	Dog is bold.			27. _____	Dog is boisterous.	
10. _____	Dog is lethargic			28. _____	Dog behaves fearfully during visits to the veterinarian.	
11. _____	When off leash, dog comes immediately when called.			29. _____	When walking on leash, dog tends to pull ahead.	
12. _____	Dog is shy.			30. _____	Dog behaves fearfully when near crowds of people.	
13. _____	Dog behaves aggressively towards unfamiliar people.			31. _____	Dog enjoys playing with toys.	
14. _____	Dog will work to obtain an object or reward (e.g., ball, treat) that is hidden.			32. _____	Dog is easily upset when corrected, scolded, or punished.	
15. _____	Dog likes to chase squirrels, birds, or other small animals.			33. _____	Dog is friendly towards unfamiliar people.	
16. _____	Dog gets bored in play quickly.			34. _____	Dog is playful with other dogs.	
17. _____	Dog behaves aggressively when restrained or handled (e.g., groomed).			35. _____	Dog seeks companionship from people.	
18. _____	Dog is quick to sneak out through open doors, gates.			36. _____	Dog behaves submissively (e.g., rolls over, avoids eye contact, licks lips) when greeting other dogs.	

- | Disagree
strongly | Disagree
moderately | Disagree
slightly | Neither agree
nor disagree | Agree
slightly | Agree
moderately | Agree
strongly |
|----------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 37. _____ | Dog is attentive to owner's actions and words. | | | 57. _____ | Dog has a tendency to attack (or attempt to attack) other dogs. | |
| 38. _____ | Dog adapts easily to new situations and environments. | | | 58. _____ | Dog is quick to recover after being startled or frightened. | |
| 39. _____ | Dog likes to chase bicycles, joggers, and skateboarders. | | | 59. _____ | Dog retrieves objects (e.g., balls, toys, sticks). | |
| 40. _____ | Dog is curious. | | | 60. _____ | Dog is friendly towards other dogs. | |
| 41. _____ | Dog guards food or treats from other dogs. | | | 61. _____ | Dog exhibits fearful behaviors when restrained. | |
| 42. _____ | Dog is sensitive (and reactive) to pain. | | | 62. _____ | Dog aggressively guards coveted items (e.g., stolen item, treats, food bowl). | |
| 43. _____ | Dog behaves aggressively in response to perceived threats from people (e.g., being cornered, having collar reached for). | | | 63. _____ | Dog is affectionate. | |
| 44. _____ | Dog is aloof. | | | 64. _____ | Dog ignores commands. | |
| 45. _____ | Dog is slow to learn new tricks or tasks. | | | 65. _____ | Dog behaves aggressively towards cats. | |
| 46. _____ | Dog is interested in playing tug-o-war with people or dogs. | | | 66. _____ | Dog behaves fearfully when threatened by other dogs (e.g., growled or lunged at, cornered). | |
| 47. _____ | Dog behaves fearfully towards unfamiliar people. | | | 67. _____ | Dog follows people around. | |
| 48. _____ | Dog is very alert. | | | 68. _____ | Dog shows aggression when nervous or fearful. | |
| 49. _____ | Dog willingly shares toys with other dogs. | | | 69. _____ | Dog tends to be calm. | |
| 50. _____ | Dog is slow to respond to corrections. | | | 70. _____ | Dog behaves fearfully towards other dogs. | |
| 51. _____ | Dog behaves aggressively during visits to the veterinarian. | | | 71. _____ | Dog is able to focus on a task in a distracting situation (e.g., loud or busy places, around other dogs). | |
| 52. _____ | Dog jumps up on (e.g., in play) and/or mounts other dogs (outside appropriate mating). | | | 72. _____ | Dog is very excitable around other dogs. | |
| 53. _____ | Dog seeks constant activity. | | | 73. _____ | Dog behaves aggressively towards children. | |
| 54. _____ | Dog behaves fearfully towards children. | | | 74. _____ | Dog behaves fearfully when groomed (e.g., nails trimmed, brushed, bathed, ears cleaned). | |
| 55. _____ | Dog is very excitable when visitors arrive. | | | 75. _____ | Dog is assertive or pushy with other dogs (e.g., if in a home with other dogs, when greeting). | |
| 56. _____ | Dog leaves food or objects alone when told to do so. | | | | | |

SCORING KEY FOR DPQ LONG FORM

Factor	
Facet	Item number on long form
Factor 1 – Fearfulness	
Facet 1 – Fear of People	R1, 12, 30, 47, 54
Facet 2 – Nonsocial Fear	6, R19, 24, R38, R58
Facet 3 – Fear of Dogs	R9, 21, 36, 66, 70
Facet 4 – Fear of Handling	28, 32, 42, 61, 74
Factor 2 – Aggression towards People	
Facet 1 – General Aggression	13, 23, R33, 68, 73
Facet 2 – Situational Aggression	2, 17, 43, 51, 62
Factor 3 – Activity/Excitability	
Facet 1 – Excitability	27, 53, 55, R69, 72
Facet 2 – Playfulness	R3, R16, 31, 46, 59
Facet 3 – Active Engagement	R10, 14, 25, 40, 48
Facet 4 – Companionability	7, 35, R44, 63, 67
Factor 4 – Responsiveness to Training	
Facet 1 – Trainability	37, R45, R50, R64, 71
Facet 2 – Controllability	R4, 11, R18, R29, 56
Factor 5 – Aggression towards Animals	
Facet 1 – Aggression towards Dogs	5, 8, R34, 57, R60
Facet 2 – Prey Drive	15, 22, 26, 39, 65
Facet 3 – Dominance over Other Dogs	20, 41, R49, 52, 75

Note. An R in front a item indicates that the item is reverse coded. Bolded item numbers indicate items that also appear on the short form of the DPQ, though numbered differently.

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|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|--|--|
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| 1. ____ | | | | | | | 19. ____ | Dog is relaxed when greeting people. | Dog is playful with other dogs. |
| 2. ____ | | | | | | | 20. ____ | Dog behaves aggressively toward dogs. | Dog seeks companionship from people. |
| 3. ____ | | | | | | | 21. ____ | Dog is anxious | Dog behaves submissively (e.g., rolls over, avoids eye contact, licks lips) when greeting other dogs. |
| 4. ____ | | | | | | | 22. ____ | Dog is lethargic | Dog adapts easily to new situations and environments. |
| 5. ____ | | | | | | | 23. ____ | When off leash, dog comes immediately when called. | Dog likes to chase bicycles, joggers, and skateboarders. |
| 6. ____ | | | | | | | 24. ____ | Dog is shy. | Dog is curious. |
| 7. ____ | | | | | | | 25. ____ | Dog behaves aggressively towards unfamiliar people. | Dog behaves aggressively in response to perceived threats from people (e.g., being cornered, having collar reached for). |
| 8. ____ | | | | | | | 26. ____ | Dog likes to chase squirrels, birds, or other small animals. | Dog is aloof. |
| 9. ____ | | | | | | | 27. ____ | Dog gets bored in play quickly. | Dog behaves fearfully towards unfamiliar people. |
| 10. ____ | | | | | | | 28. ____ | Dog is quick to sneak out through open doors, gates. | Dog willingly shares toys with other dogs. |
| 11. ____ | | | | | | | 29. ____ | Dog is confident. | Dog is slow to respond to corrections. |
| 12. ____ | | | | | | | 30. ____ | Dog is dominant over other dogs. | Dog behaves aggressively during visits to the veterinarian. |
| 13. ____ | | | | | | | 31. ____ | Dog avoids other dogs. | Dog seeks constant activity. |
| 14. ____ | | | | | | | 32. ____ | Dog works at tasks (e.g., getting treats out of a Kong, shredding toys) until entirely finished. | Dog leaves food or objects alone when told to do so. |
| 15. ____ | | | | | | | 33. ____ | Dog is boisterous. | Dog retrieves objects (e.g., balls, toys, sticks). |
| 16. ____ | | | | | | | 34. ____ | Dog behaves fearfully during visits to the veterinarian. | Dog is friendly towards other dogs. |
| 17. ____ | | | | | | | 35. ____ | Dog enjoys playing with toys. | Dog exhibits fearful behaviors when restrained. |
| 18. ____ | | | | | | | 36. ____ | Dog is friendly towards unfamiliar people. | Dog aggressively guards coveted items (e.g., stolen item, treats, food bowl). |

Disagree strongly	Disagree moderately	Disagree slightly	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree slightly	Agree moderately	Agree strongly
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

- | | |
|---|---|
| 37. _____ Dog is affectionate. | 42. _____ Dog behaves fearfully towards other dogs. |
| 38. _____ Dog ignores commands. | 43. _____ Dog is able to focus on a task in a distracting situation (e.g., loud or busy places, around other dogs). |
| 39. _____ Dog behaves aggressively towards cats. | 44. _____ Dog behaves fearfully when groomed (e.g., nails trimmed, brushed, bathed, ears cleaned). |
| 40. _____ Dog shows aggression when nervous or fearful. | 45. _____ Dog is assertive or pushy with other dogs (e.g., if in a home with other dogs, when greeting). |
| 41. _____ Dog tends to be calm. | |

Scoring Key for DPQ Short Form

Factor	
Facet	Item number on short form
Factor 1 – Fearfulness	
Facet 1 – Fear of People	R1, 6, 27
Facet 2 – Nonsocial Fear	3, R11, R22
Facet 3 – Fear of Dogs	13, 21, 42
Facet 4 – Fear of Handling	16, 35, 44
Factor 2 – Aggression towards People	
Facet 1 – General Aggression	7, R18, 40
Facet 2 – Situational Aggression	25, 30, 36
Factor 3 – Activity/Excitability	
Facet 1 – Excitability	15, 31, R41
Facet 2 – Playfulness	R9, 17, 33
Facet 3 – Active Engagement	R4, 14, 24
Facet 4 – Companionability	20, R26, 37
Factor 4 – Responsiveness to Training	
Facet 1 – Trainability	R29, R38, 43
Facet 2 – Controllability	5, R10, 32
Factor 5 – Aggression towards Animals	
Facet 1 – Aggression towards Dogs	2, R19, R34
Facet 2 – Prey Drive	8, 23, 39
Facet 3 – Dominance over Other Dogs	12, R28, 45

Note. An R in front a item indicates that the item is reverse coded. Bolded item numbers indicate items that also appear on the short form of the DPQ, though numbered differently.