



Meet Your Match

Part One: the Canine-ality Assessment

The **Canine-ality Assessment** consists of five tests administered to shelter dogs once they have been made available for adoption. The dog receives a numeric score for each test, and the total score is tallied to determine the dog's Canine-ality score.

An optional sixth test, the **Crate Test**, is also available to gather information about the dog's tolerance for crating. This is purely for information gathering purposes only and does not affect the dog's Canine-ality score.

#1 The Greeting Test

The Greeting Test is designed to determine the dog's level of sociability and arousal.

Example: What might he do when you come home from work?

#2 The Left Alone Test

The Left Alone Test is designed to determine the dog's energy level and "house manners." It is comprised of two parts: *duration* of behavior and *type* of behavior.

Example: What might he do when left "home alone"?

#3 The Play Test

The Play Test is designed to determine the dog's interest in play, focus and sociability and to see how easily he is aroused.

Example: What toys does he like?

#4 The Food Motivation Test

The Food Motivation Test is designed to examine how hard a dog will work for something it really wants. It is not important for the dog to necessarily learn the cue. Rather, it is an opportunity to gauge how persistent he is once he understands how to get the food reward.

Example: Will he work for food?

#5 The Manners Assessment

The Manners Assessment is designed to determine the dog's overall behavior and awareness of desirable behavior when interacting with people.

Example: Can he sit?

Optional: The Crate Test

The Crate Test does not affect the dog's canine-ality score. It is merely another test to provide staff and adopters with more information about the dog. The Crate Test is designed to assess the dog's tolerance of being crated and left alone. It is comprised of two parts: *ease* and *acceptance*.