

Activities with your puppy – what is dog showing?

Dog Showing or exhibiting takes place in different rings at a dog show, where each pedigree dog is judged against the official Kennel Club Breed Standard. The Breed Standard is a blueprint for preferred characteristics for each breed and covers every aspect of the dog, including health and temperament. The dogs which conform most closely to the Breed Standard will receive the top awards.

Getting started in Dog Showing.

It really is very easy to get started in dog showing, all you need to do is:

- Ensure your dog is registered with the Kennel Club on the Breed Register and is 6 months of age or over. (if you're not sure if your dog is registered or would like more information about how to get your dog registered on the Kennel Club's Breed Register, visit the Registrations section of the Kennel Club Website: <https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk>).
- Enter a show in a class that is suitable for your dog. You can find a list of the Kennel Club licensed Shows which is updated monthly via the Kennel Club Website. You can also find details of upcoming shows on online data entry systems.

How can I prepare for a dog show?

Although you might just like to enter a show and see how you get on, there is some preparation you could do to ensure you and your dog get the best out of the day.

A great way to find out whether dog showing is for you is to visit a show or multiple shows, talk to exhibitors to find out the pro's and cons. You can find a list of Kennel Club licensed Shows in the on-line events diary which is updated monthly. Alternatively, if you would like to visit a Show closer to your home or to see a specific breed, contact the Services Team via canineactivities@thekennelclub.org.uk

Once you've attended a show, you might have gleaned an idea of what characteristics the judge is looking for in each dog. However, to find out more specific details and learn more about what is expected at a Dog Show, you could:

- Attend a ring craft class in your area (a class for show training) and learn more about how to present your dog at a show.
- Look at the Kennel Club Breed Standards which details the characteristics for every breed of dog that can be registered with the Kennel Club.

What classes can I enter?

The best way to see what classes would be suitable for your dog is to find a show and look at the show schedule. The schedule includes information about the show and details all the classes that will take place at the show. You can find a suitable class for your dog by reading through the explanation of each class.

When you have found a class, you will need to complete an entry form. Show Schedules and Entry Forms can be found on the following websites: www.highampress.co.uk and www.fossedata.co.uk