

Dog Tracking



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Why do dog tracking?

- Dogs love it. It is instinctive for a dog to follow it's nose.
- Suitable for all breeds and ages, even puppies.
- Dogs find high concentration tiring. They settle down nicely after a tracking session.
- It helps develop the relationship between dog and handler.
- Low risk of injury compared with other dog sports.
- Monitor progress and achievement by taking the UK Tracking Dog Association tests.

Training & Courses

- Training held on: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday & Sundays at Finmere.

- Training sessions both for beginners and the more experienced trainer.
- – ‘1-2-1’ – cost £40
- – ‘Pairs’ (consisting of 2 people of the same standard. -cost £30.
- You can swap between a ‘1-2-1’s or a ‘pair’ and book a session as often you like.
- The sessions are 2 hours long.

Courses

I am hoping to run a one day dog tracking course in the Spring and Autumn 2017

Contact Heather Donnelly

Tel: 07952 589987 email to trackinglines.co.uk

Dog's love it



Ideal Bonding Activity

Dogs have a highly sensitive nose, vastly superior to our own. A dog relies on its sense of smell to interpret the world. When you train a dog to track you are training it to work with its strongest sense, its sense of smell. Tracking is something

that dogs love to do.

Suitable for all dogs

Dog tracking is suitable for all breeds and ages, puppies and dogs with injuries or disabilities.

Tracking is even suitable for fearful and aggressive dogs and those with recall issues. The owner can keep control because the dogs are tracked on a long line and harness.

Good exercise

Dogs find tracking mentally challenging and tiring as it demands a lot of focus and dogs have to make their own decisions on which track to follow. Even the liveliest dogs settle down and sleep after a tracking session, giving the owner some peace and quiet.

Ideal bonding activity

Tracking helps to develop the relationship between dog and handler. The handler is depending on the dog's nose and you need to read his body language and work as a team. Dog tracking is a great bonding activity and is ideal for pet dog owners looking for a way to engage with their dog.



Tests & Qualifications

Tests and qualifications

As man's best friend, the dog's ability to follow a scent trail has been put to many uses – for example in police work, search and rescue, and hunting. As a dog sport, tracking grew out of police and army dog trials.

The [UK Tracking Dog Association](#) was initially set up as something to occupy rescue dogs and something that pet dog owners and beginners could achieve. This is an organisation that provides just tracking tests. There is a series of 5 tracking tests, starting with a half hour old 4-6 leg track, up to a 2 hour old track passing through a wooded area, over a road, ignoring a cross scent and then finding a missing person.

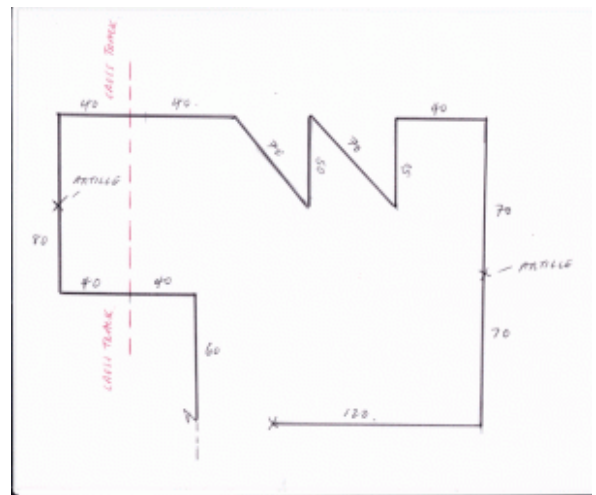
Once successfully passing one of the tests the dog becomes certified and, if the owner so wishes, can train for the next test.

Video from naturally happy dogs

What is Dog Tracking?

Tracking is when a dog uses its sense of smell to find and follow a scent trail. Dogs have a highly sensitive olfactory system, vastly superior to our own. Tracking is a natural behavior for a dog and an essential skill in hunting and finding prey.

As man's best friend, this behavior has been put to many uses – for example in police work, search and rescue, and hunting. As a sport, dog tracking grew out of police and army dog trials.



Complex track pattern with cross track contamination

First of all a track has to be laid. This is done by a person walking in a field to a pre-determined pattern. At intervals, various articles are left on the ground – the idea being that the dog will find these as it follows the track.

After a set time period from laying the track, the dog and handler will be introduced into the start and then follow the track pattern, retrieving the articles as they go. Competitors are judged on the accuracy with which they follow the track pattern and the number of articles retrieved.

The level of difficulty will be affected by the complexity of

the track pattern, the track's age and cross contamination of scents. The handler's relationship with the dog also has an impact on the dog's tracking ability.

The UK Dog Tracking Association is an organisation that provides tracking tests. There is a series of 5 tracking tests, starting with a half hour old 4-6 leg track, up to a 2 hour old track passing through a wooded area, over a road, ignoring a cross scent and then finding a missing person.

Once successfully passing one of the tests the dog becomes certified and, if the owner so wishes, can train for the next test. On completion of Level 3 tests the dog can carry a title.