

Clean Run®

THE MAGAZINE FOR DOG AGILITY ENTHUSIASTS

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Harnesses for Agility Dogs

Most of us do not observe a change in gait when our dog wears a harness, but seeing subtle changes in gait is difficult. This small study used pressure-sensing walkways which showed that gait characteristics can be altered when a dog wears a harness. By Dr. Brittany Jean Carr, Dr. Chris Zink, and Kaitlyn Dreese



Jump into Parkour!

Imagine a dog jumping, climbing, and balancing as his handler shows him the way. Sound familiar? Sometimes called urban agility, dog parkour may be on the fast track to become one of the more popular dog sports. It can be done anywhere, at any time, with any desired level of difficulty. By Brenna Fender



3 Secrets of Connecting With Your Dog, Part 3: Communicate on the Fly

Do you train to react to the unexpected when you're running agility? Do you have techniques you can fall back on instinctively to connect with your dog? Or are you so stuck to your plan that you're lost when the plan goes wrong and communication breaks down? By Kathy Keats

Features

5 Editorializing: Cherry Picking Dog Behaviors

For some reason a variety of dog behavior is considered acceptable in the agility world (barking, jumping on people, pulling on leash, etc.), just not anything that remotely looks like aggression. Unfortunately we don't get to cherry pick behavior. By Sarah Stremming

19 Training Freedom: Here I Go Again

This month we look at Shade's training between the ages of three and four months. It's important to step back and assess where you are with life skills development as well as foundation training. By Jo Sermon

30 Sense of Self: Science and Story

As dog trainers and agility instructors, we are interested in canine behavior *and* owner behavior; put another way, we are interested in a team's story. It is our aim to communicate with both dogs and their owners, so understanding why these two populations do the things they do is important. By Tori Self

33 Days of the Week Training By Nancy Gyes

48 Distance Handling in Action

It's time to take the distance skills you have been working on and apply them on course. This month we look at distance handling opportunities on a USDAA Masters Standard course. By Kristy Netzer

51 Team Small Dog Agility Humility: A Good Night's Rest

When you're on a budget, a faraway trial means another night at the crappy motel shoved between the bowling alley and the freeway. Such is the glamorous agility lifestyle. By Laura Hartwick

54 The Right Way to Repeat By Melanie Miller

64 Power Paws Trials and Tribulations of a Novice Dog

Nancy and Jim assess the current skill level of each of their dogs as they progress in their training and identify where they need to make improvements as the dogs progress into Open-level competition. By Nancy Gyes

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Dogs, like us, have two systems of thinking, one wholly unconscious and one unconsciously and invisibly influenced, which should make us cautious about our assumptions when training dogs! By Laura VanArendonk Baugh CPDT-KA KPACT

26 Good Footwork and How to Teach It, Part 1: Foundation Ladder Grid

Much of jumping success for a dog comes from good, balanced footwork. You can use ladder grids to teach good footwork. This month we'll discuss the foundation ladder grid. By Susan Salo

42 Practically Training: Learning from DVDs, Magazines, Seminars & Online Courses

Mixing training and handling methods is popular—just pick what you want to use and get your information from as many sources as you can. But are you making a good choice? Do you understand all the implications of what you're teaching your dog? By Sandy Rogers



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55 Biomechanics of Canine Performance in Agility

Knowing how your dog's body moves and how the biomechanical forces interact allows you to assess your dog's physical performance and shows where your training program should focus so you can optimize your dog's abilities. By Robert L. Gillette, DVM, MSE, DACVSMR

Cover Dog

Finnegan C-ATCH, C-ATE, SCH, MAD, JM, GM, SM, RM, OA, AXJ, XF, an 11-year-old rescue Border Collie owned by Diana LaClair of Maryland. Photo by Ann Hereford, Here For Dogs Photography.

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