

Behavioral Assessment:

Dog Name	Vera
ID NO:	20-126
Arrival Date:	5/6
Date Tested:	5/12
Tested By:	BJ
Test Level: <i>(See level descriptions at the end of the test assessment.)</i>	2, 3

Behavior Assessment is a standard practice of rescues and shelters to evaluate the personality and behavior of the dogs in the program. The purpose of the test is to gain an understanding of the dog's character. The test is performed a minimum of 3 to 5 days after the dog's arrival as some dogs may be stressed when they first arrive and testing during this time may not be an accurate assessment. Although all efforts are made with the end goal of making the best possible placement for both the dog and owner, it is impossible to guarantee the personality and behavior of any dog. The behavior assessment is not an express or implied warranty or guarantee of any kind of the dog's personality and behavior. We strongly advise that you monitor your dog closely and use caution/discretion as to with whom and under what circumstances interactions are allowed with your dog until you have fully acclimated the dog to its new surroundings and have formed your own observation and assessments of the dog's personality and behavior after acclimation to its new placement.

GENERAL BEHAVIOR:

These questions are designed to determine how the dog interacts with strangers and to get a feel for the dog's general demeanor.

MEETING PEOPLE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Friendly, eager to associate – jumps on you
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cautious/apprehensive, then relaxed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Barks, growls or shows signs of discomfort
<input type="checkbox"/>	Avoids/ignores
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please describe:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Is dog anxious or stressed? If so, list signs:

ON LEASH

Leash Manners

<input type="checkbox"/>	Walks well
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pulls constantly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lags behind, needs encouragement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Darts from side to side
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pulls to access other dogs or people
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fearful of leash

Reaction to dogs while on leash

<input type="checkbox"/>	Fine; no problems noted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friendly; wants to play
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Indifferent/ignores
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Guards toys/food. Will growl or snap at dogs, not people.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Growls or barks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Okay at distance, not face to face

CONFIDENCE LEVEL

Standing overhead with three strokes down the back

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Happy and affectionate; dog likes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stiff, statue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walks away is indifferent

Teeth examination

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No reaction; dog is fine
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wiggles or shakes to get away; little reaction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Growls, lip curls; does not like

Hugs

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Happy and affectionate; dog likes
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pulls away
<input type="checkbox"/>	Goes belly up or flattens out
<input type="checkbox"/>	Urinate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stiff, statue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Growls, barks or snaps; does not like

Push on shoulders

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Playful, interactive
<input type="checkbox"/>	Playful, mouthy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Timid, shies away
<input type="checkbox"/>	Timid, crawls back to tester
<input type="checkbox"/>	Indifferent, no reaction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Whips head around
<input type="checkbox"/>	Growls, lip curls or snarls
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

Sensitivity to Handling

<input type="checkbox"/>	Grabbing collar
<input type="checkbox"/>	Touching feet
<input type="checkbox"/>	Touching tail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Looking in ears
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None observed

Arousal:

Some dogs may tend to guard resources, such as toys, bones or other objects. In this test (while off leash), we initiate play, and, when the dog is at its highest level of play intensity, we take possession of the toy and stand still.

Dog's Reaction

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nice level of play
<input type="checkbox"/>	Played with encouragement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Became highly aroused (jumped up, body slammed, mouthed) but calmed down quickly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Became highly aroused (jumped up, body slammed, mouthed) and stayed that way after the interaction stopped
<input type="checkbox"/>	Became fearful
<input type="checkbox"/>	Showed little/no interest in playing

Preferred toy

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Balls – favorite
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bones
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Squeak Toy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rope Toys
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stuffed Toys
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chews Up Stuffed Toys

Comments:

FOOD GUARDING:

Some dogs become protective of their food bowls or other food objects, and may growl or try to bite when approached. The first test indicates if the dog will react if an artificial hand is presented to the dog without food nearby. The second test determines the dogs' tolerance for being petted while eating, and having someone try to put hands in their bowl.

Assess hand reaction without food present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fine, no reaction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wanted to play with hand
<input type="checkbox"/>	Timid, shy

Assess hand reaction with food present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fine, no reaction
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eats extremely fast
<input type="checkbox"/>	Body blocks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Freezes, lip curls or growls

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bites hand
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

ENVIRONMENTAL:

Tests skills related to the dog's environment and social skills.

Ability to use steps

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fine; no problems noted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fearful; will not attempt
<input type="checkbox"/>	Slowly; may need assistance and/or encouragement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable; mobility limitations

MANNERS AND OBEDIENCE SKILLS:

Tests dog's basic skill and provides insight on what motivates dog for further development.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Appears to have no training (mark with "x" if appropriate)
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Commands test

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Down
<input type="checkbox"/>	Come
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stay
<input type="checkbox"/>	Give Paw/Shake
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drop
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

Dog is motivated with

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Food
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Praise
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Toys – tennis balls
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

Ease of training

	Easy
x	Moderate
	Difficult

BEHAVIOR CHALLENGES:

Behavior Traits Observed	None Observed	Moderate Concern	Significant Concern
Jumping on people		x	
Mouthing (grabbing clothes, arms, legs with mouth)	X		
Jumping or climbing fences	X		
Digging in yard	X		
Urinating when excited	X		
Mounting people ("humping")	X		
Mounting other dogs	X		
Counter Surfing		x	
Anxiety when left alone		x	
Other:			
Other:			

Evaluation Snapshot:

Comparison rating of the dog regarding various traits and behaviors:



Confident	x					Timid
Independent				x		Dependent
Tolerant		x				Sensitive
Attentive	x					Distracted
Gentle				x		Rough
Calm			x			High Energy
Appeasing					x	Assertive
Playful				x		Serious
Outgoing	x					Reserved
People Centered			x			Environment Centered
Resilient	x					Slow to Recover
Shares Well				x		Guards Resource

Best Type of Environment:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Calm
<input type="checkbox"/>	Busy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chaotic
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Any

Best Type of Owner:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Experienced
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Novice
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any

LEVEL SUMMARY DESCRIPTIONS:**Level 1:**

Super easy, low energy, no issues; would do well in virtually any home regardless of owner experience.

Level 2:

Low to moderate energy though some activity may induce high energy. Needs average leadership; generally lacks obedience or house manners. Could be shy, quiet or outgoing but not difficult. Dog may have minor issues that are easy to address and is a good dog.

Level 3:

Moderate, high or very high energy/drive. Needs an owner experienced with leadership and proper management. Typically good dog but may have challenging behavior. Could be dog reactive or aggressive and possibly the only animal in a home.

Level 4:

Intense focus and/or extreme energy/drive. Could be a dog for fly ball, agility or other sporting abilities. Can be strong, pushy or dominant. Needs experienced owner that has commitment to provide the dog with the guidance and training he/she needs to be successful.

Level 5:

Extreme lack of social skills regarding humans; needs a canine mentor. Requires owner commitment and patience to allow dog to grow at its own pace and increase confidence.

ONGOING OBSERVATION:

POTTY HABITS

Dated Tested:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Routine, no problems noted
<input type="checkbox"/>	Occasional accident in kennel, not a serious issue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Frequent accidents, will likely need remedial house training post adoption

Comments:

NOTES:

Vera is very excitable. Will jump all over you.

Loves people.

Playful and fun.

Obsessed with tennis balls. You need to have several tennis balls when playing because she will not give up the one she has until you show her another.

She chomps down hard on the ball and won't let you take it, but she doesn't get mean about it.

Barks for a few minutes when left alone but then settles down.

Very food motivated. Takes treats hard – watch your fingers.

Indifferent to other dogs unless they come near her toy or food.

She will fight with other dogs over her stuff.

