

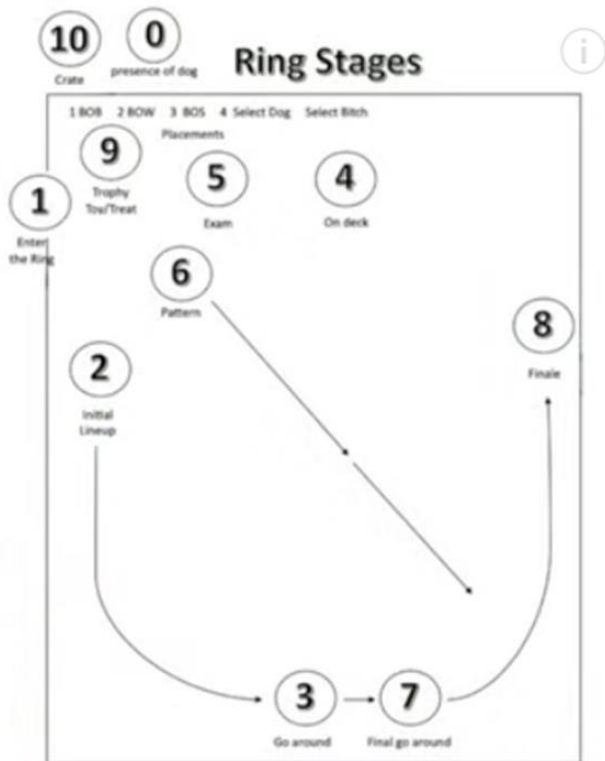
Conformation steps:

PAIR ALL BEHAVIORS WITH THE SHOW COLLAR/LEAD

Socialize to show environments
Collar/lead: Pup is comfortable with collar/lead and pressure from them
Speed: Use a metronome to trot pup for video camera at different speeds to find ideal for straight and curve. Then pick a song with the same BPM as my footfalls to practice those speeds. Will change as he grows legs? <input type="checkbox"/> 10 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 16 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 6 mo. <input type="checkbox"/> 9 mo. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 yr
Use ground poles and cavaletti to condition and add cue to a proper trot- put gradually increasing length gaps between the sets of cavaletti to get proper trot on cue without the poles.
“Strut” Focus forward: (LOOK AHEAD- NOT AT THE DOG!) Use a mirror to front and side
Teach pup “eyes” cue (see Engagement)
Teach pup to maintain light pressure on a show collar so I can later speed him up by releasing pressure and slow him down by adding pressure
Moving while maintaining light collar pressure
Teach pup to go to a raised target (cup on a stand). Move with light collar pressure to the target
Slowly increase the distance of the trotting
Use increasing collar pressure just before the food target to stop the pup in a free stack, then mark and release to the food
Once pup is stopped, hand stack as needed to help pup learn what position gets marked
Vary the target the pup trots toward (person, tossed food/toy, ‘eyes target’, etc.)
Gradually remove targets/make smaller and add cue “ Strut ” before moving out. Hold my left arm out to the side with my hand below waist level. Goal is leash with light tension so I can use it to guide the pup and control speed.
Combine moving and “ ears ” cue. ‘ears’ = treat tossed ahead and get it marker
Practice strut in straight lines and left curves. Point palm of leash hand where you want the dog to go.
Practice ‘ready’ with food all over the floor/leave it with treat tossed/by other people
Practice indoors and outside on various surfaces
Down and back with Judge focus on return “ eyes ” (pup will free stack FOR the Judge)
Add free stack with Judge focus after down and back and the regular stack/freeze after circle
“Freeze” – Teaching pup to freeze in position
Start with general freeze of motion for brief moments
When working on hand stacking, expect a moment of rock solid stillness of the feet
Add my movement in tiny increments until pup can maintain steady feet as I move around
Work on adding head position with freeze
Combine ‘freeze’ with head position and ears/tail up
“Ears”- get ‘ears forward on cue’ (add a bit of tape to ears so pup focus’ on them) This can also include focus on a target hand position to get the desired head position for not only conformation, but general photos also, “freeze” to hold it.
Iliopsoas exercises for good form and core strength
Exam: Silent ‘May I touch you’ combined with body stillness- dog on table Contact all over, show the bite, down each leg, look right in face, grope
May I touch you done by someone else- dog on table even before stack is solid. w/o collar
Stack box- Shape pup to put front feet on foot target (bar shape)
Shape pup to put rear feet on foot target (bar shape) Work the following on table and ground:

Get pup happily hopping onto the bars and adjusting his feet himself. Rear feet are ½ a paw wider than front feet. Get short duration. Rock even with me moving around/away
Work on paw targeting bars on the floor from motion. Trot to me turning and facing him and backing up while he walks onto the bars. When solid, remove 1 bar at a time
Work on Rock duration and then my distance for free stacked feet position
Add head position and ears/tail up expression to the stack behavior for finished product
Add “ Stack ” cue when behavior is solid (ground and table)
Add handling of whole body by me during “rock” on table
Add handling of body by several other people □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□
Get dog demanding to get on the table through positive associations
Get the dog fully confident on the table, including moving all around on it
Practice lifting the dog with hands on chest and rear so a proper stack happens when set down
Practice lifting the dog onto the table into a stack (with lead management)
Practice lifting the dog down and moving to a target
Practice lifting the dog off the table and transition quickly to movement- down and back
Practice moving from a free stack in front of me, facing me, to moving: I cue “strut”, take a few steps back, then pivot and go. (For start of the go around with the group.) Dog should always focus on treat in leash hand unless trotting toward the Judge. My eyes should always be on where we are going, not the dog. Don’t lean over the dog! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfluBBFnK7s
Practice being able to move the pup in all directions with just my body or leash hand movement, not a tight leash. This will allow minor or major foot adjustments.
Practice transition from moving to free stack - “stack” cue
Practice stack for Judge after down/back and then into the circle “strut”
Practice working near and ignoring other dogs, esp. moving the same direction/following
Practice ignoring food on the floor and bitch in heat- “ready”
Practice having other people/dogs come up to me (simulate congratulations)
Grooming- baths, blow outs, nails, minor trims Eyebrow/nose hair clippers: for clipping paw hair Clippers: Clean up whiskers and eye whiskers- hold skin tight so you only get whiskers Use thinning shears to blend edges and remove any other ridges and round off the tip of the tail, thin on the back at the base of the tail so when tail is up, there isn’t a bump from the hair being pushed forward. Can also thin and clean up the bottom of the ribcage and on the neck.

Practice these stages/transitions in the ring:
32'x50', 40x58 or 48' x 74'



0-Getting the dog out of the crate and to the ring

1-Staging area and entering the ring

2-Line up -duration- tricks that showcase the breed standard

3-Go around- good gaiting where Judge is looking

4-In line and on deck/waiting for the table: stack and purposeful tricks

5-Exam- quick set up, **rock** and step back

6- Down and back with Judge focused stack

7-Go around- same as 3

8- Finale- present the best free stack. If possible, have the dog $\frac{1}{4}$ turn toward ring center so Judge can see expression.

-Congratulations by others

9-Awards- reward dog, be happy, let dog carry ribbon