

## Harmony Division Titling Requirements

### General Guidelines for all three Legs

- ✚ Each team needs to create a video or playlist for each Leg category to earn the three legs needed to earn the Division #3 – Harmony Title
- ✚ Except where otherwise indicated (most options for the Artistry Leg), treats and toys may be used, but must be concealed in a pocket until after the task is complete for all options for that Leg.
- ✚ Unless otherwise indicated, the handler may have a clicker in hand while performing the options included in the “Training” category. However, the clicker should be held in manner that keeps it as hidden from the dog as possible. In other words, the clicker should not be held close to the dog's face.
- ✚ Except where otherwise indicated (Artistry Leg), no music is needed for options at this level, but music may be playing in the background. However, if you choose to demonstrate “Verbal Cues” (Handling Leg), they must be easily audible. Music may not be added to video clips as an overlay.
- ✚ Video clips may not be edited, except to trim the beginning and end.
- ✚ Dog and handler should be fully visible in all video clips. If you lose a bit of foot or the tippy top of your head, it is OK, but there should be a “full picture” effect at all times. If your working space makes this impossible, please contact Kristine to discuss options – we will make it work!
- ✚ Except where specified by the option – for example, “Verbal Cues” or “Physical Cues” under “Cues”, behaviors may be carried out on obvious physical cue, concurrent physical and verbal cue, or verbal cue only. It is always your choice!

## Harmony Division - Handling Leg

**Four** tasks will be chosen from "Training", **one** task from "Cues", and **three** tasks from "Fitness and Props".

<b>Training and Cues</b>	<b>Props and Fitness</b>
<b>Training (Choose 4)</b>	<b>(Choose Six)</b>
<p><b>Follow-Through Training</b></p> <p><u>Pivot Platform</u></p> <p>Demonstrate a 3 step (minimum) progression, starting with training a behavior on the pivot platform and ending with the behavior fluent without the platform, of one fully trained behavior. A different item may be used for the "fading" step of this process.</p> <p>Separate video clips may be used to demonstrate each step of the process.</p> <p><u>Or</u></p> <p><u>Ground Target</u></p> <p>Demonstrate a three step (minimum) progression starting with training a distance behavior (at least 3 dog lengths away) using a ground target to the dog performing the behavior fluently at a distance without the ground target. The dog may be sent away to perform the behavior, or the handler may move away from the dog as he or she waits.</p> <p>A different target may be used for the "fading" step of this process.</p>	<p><b>Two Paws</b></p> <p>Have your dog place two front paws on a cane (dowel, stick) and hold the position for at least 4 seconds.</p> <p>Dog may stand on hind legs, or "sit pretty".</p> <p><u>Or</u></p> <p>Have your dog place two front paws on paw pods, or two similar items, and hold the position for at least 5 seconds</p>
<p><b>Precision Marking</b></p> <p>Have your dog perform a behavior at a distance and precisely mark the dog's commitment to the behavior. The dog may return to you for reinforcement, or you can go to your dog to reinforce.</p> <p>No props or targets may be used for this option.</p>	<p><b>Hold</b></p> <p>Have your dog pick up a prop in his or her mouth (an imitation flower, a basket, etc.) and hold the prop for at least 4 seconds</p>

<p><b>Moving Target</b></p> <p>Demonstrate a 3 step (minimum) progression, starting with training one of the following behaviors with a target stick or target cup, and ending with the behavior fluent without the target stick, of any of the following behaviors. You may incorporate other training props (targets, cones, platforms, etc.), but those must also be faded by the time the behavior is fluent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Dog starts facing you and moves into position facing away from you</li> <li>✚ Dog moves beyond the distance of your arm to one side, performs a spin</li> <li>✚ Dog moves in a large 360 degree arc around you beyond the distance of your arm to one side (you pivot at least 360 degrees).</li> <li>✚ Dog moves to a low object that is at least three feet from the team's starting spot, places four paws on the object and holds the position for at least 5 seconds. Dog may face the handler on the object, but is not required to do so.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Theme</b></p> <p>Identify a theme that you might incorporate into a Freestyle performance and select a prop that communicates that theme in some way. Include a caption that identifies the theme, or include it in the video clip title (playlist).</p> <p>Have your dog perform at least two behaviors with that prop in one video clip.</p> <p>This is not intended to be a choreographed performance (see Artistry for that option!). Simply demonstrate the prop behaviors, one after the other.</p> <p>The same prop, and behaviors, may be incorporated into the "Theme Through Setting" option for the Artistry Leg.</p> <p><u>Or</u></p> <p>Create a "gym" of at least three pieces of fitness equipment and have your dog complete an exercise with each one, in a flowing sequence. Dog may hold positions as part of the sequence.</p>
<p><b>New Location</b></p> <p>Go to a location where you have not yet filmed any video clips for this titling program. This can be an outdoor or indoor location. If you are working in your home, it can be a room where you have not yet filmed, or your yard or porch.</p> <p>Have your dog perform a 3 – 5 behavior sequence (may include types of movement as a behavior) in the new location.</p>	<p><b>Plank</b></p> <p>Set two sturdy props, or pieces of fitness equipment side by side and have your dog put both front paws on one and both back paws on the other. There should be some space in between the two props.</p>

### **Two Paw Platform/Garage**

Once you have achieved the distance that you desire for your dog to back up (at least 4 steps of backing), using the two paw target or backing into the garage, choose a cue (physical or verbal) and demonstrate the behavior, performed on cue, first with the platform or "garage", and then without use of the platform or garage. These may be separate video clips.

Dog should back independently, as you remain still.

Or

### **Barrier**

Once your dog has mastered a behavior with use of a barrier, create a series of three video clips – one showing the behavior carried out with the barrier, one showing the dog performing the behavior with the barrier being faded out, and one showing the dog performing the behavior fluently without the barrier.

### **Dance on a Pedestal**

Have your dog get onto a prop that is sturdy. Have your dog perform two Freestyle behaviors in a row on the prop.

Or

Have your dog put paws on a platform or a piece of fitness equipment and hand you each of his or her front paws, one at a time.

<p><b>Delayed Reinforcement</b></p> <p>Have a container of treats, or a toy, out of your dog's reach, but visible to your dog.</p> <p>Standing at least three feet from the reinforcer, have your dog perform any three of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ One single behavior such as sit, down, stand (from a sit or down)</li> <li>✚ One Freestyle behavior</li> <li>✚ One behavior using a prop</li> <li>✚ A large circle with dog in heel or side. Dog may be on inside or outside of circle. Team should circle away from reinforcer and then back to starting point (three feet from reinforcer)</li> <li>✚ A sequence of three Freestyle behaviors</li> <li>✚ A stay (sit, down, or stand) while handler moves six feet away and then returns. Dog may also wait with two or four paws on a prop. Handler should move away from the reinforcer.</li> </ul> <p>After the exercise is successfully completed, team should go to reinforcer together and the handler should jackpot (treats) or play with the dog interactively with the toy.</p>	<p><b>Sling Shot</b></p> <p>Send your dog around a prop that is at least two feet from the dog's starting point. (More is better, if possible)</p> <p>As your dog makes a loop around the prop, turn away and pick your dog up in heel or side position and then make a large 450 degree circle with your dog on the outside of the curve. You and your dog will pass the prop as you loop around.</p> <p><u>Small Space Option</u></p> <p>Send your dog around a prop that is at least two feet from the dog's starting point. (More is better, if possible). Remain facing your dog.</p> <p>As your dog returns to you, cue your dog to circle behind you (either direction). As your dog comes into heel or side position, complete a 450 degree turn (as large as your space allows) with your dog on the outside of the curve, passing the prop as you make the turn.</p>
<p><b>Cues (Choose One)</b></p>	
<p><b>Props as Cues</b></p> <p>Use a hand held prop to cue three different Freestyle behaviors. This can be one continuous video clip, or three separate clips.</p> <p>Movement of the prop may resemble a way that a behavior might have been trained.</p>	<p><b>Make your own prop behavior</b></p> <p>Choose a prop that you have not yet worked with in any of your titling clips. Have your dog carry out a prop behavior that has not yet been a part of the titling program prop behaviors.</p>

<p><b>Cue Discrimination</b></p> <p>Choose a prop that your dog can use to carry out three different behaviors, with the prop in the same configuration for all three.</p> <p>Create a video clip of your dog carrying out all three behaviors, with clear understanding of the three distinct cues.</p> <p>You may reinforce with treats or toys in between behaviors.</p> <p>Then, create a second clip with your dog carrying out the same three behaviors on cue in a different order.</p>	<p><b>Back Around</b></p> <p>Have your dog make a backward circle around a prop. You may hold the prop (example: cane), or the prop may be free standing.</p>
<p><b>Find the Cue</b> (A Verbal Cue Option)</p> <p>Choose three behaviors that your dog knows well on verbal cue.</p> <p>Have five pieces of treat in your pocket, or a toy.</p> <p>With arms in a neutral, but natural, configuration, cue <u>one</u> of the five behaviors verbally.</p> <p>When your dog successfully carries out the behavior, reinforce with a single piece of treat or a short burst of play.</p> <p>Cue a second (different) behavior. Again, reinforce, as described above.</p> <p>Go back and cue <u>the first</u> behavior again. Reinforce as above.</p> <p>Cue the third behavior. Reinforce.</p> <p>Go back and cue the first behavior again. Reinforce as above.</p> <p>That's it – just five repetitions. Feel free to jackpot the final repetition.</p>	<p><b>Can Can</b></p> <p>Dog sends to a prop at least 4 feet away and performs a set of 4 alternating paw kicks. Dog may sit or stand on the prop.</p>

<p><b>Polishing Physical Cues</b></p> <p>Choose any three behaviors that your dog knows well.</p> <p>Using either physical cues, or concurrent cues, cue the three behaviors, in succession, in a way that is clear to your dog but “polished” to an extent that the physical cue does not appear to be a lure.</p> <p>Example: stand straight up and wave a physical cue for a spin above your dog's head instead of leaning forward to hold your hand near your dog's nose level.</p> <p>Physical cues do not need to appear “dancy” or graceful – they should simply look like physical signals rather than lures.</p>	
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**Harmony Division – Technical Leg**

**Five** tasks will be chosen from “Movement and Heelwork”, and **six** tasks from “Tricks and Moves”

<b>Movement and Heelwork (Choose 5)</b>	<b>Tricks and Moves (Choose 6)</b>
<p><b>Backing</b></p> <p>Start moving forward with your dog in heel, side, or center, at least a few steps.</p> <p>Transition your dog (transition of your choice) from the starting position to the position of your choice (heel, side, or center), and then move with your dog as your dog moves backward for at least four (of your) steps. Your dog may pause slightly after the transition, but the pause should not be significant.</p> <p>Backing does not have to be perfectly straight, but your dog should back up with clear mastery of the skill, and with confidence.</p>	<p><b>Leg Circles</b></p> <p>Have your dog circle one of your legs, making at least two consecutive circles</p>

<p><b>Laterals</b></p> <p>Start moving forward with your dog in heel, side, or center and move with your dog for at least a few steps.</p> <p>Transition your dog (transition of your choice) from the starting position to the position of your choice (heel, side, or center), and then move with your dog as your dog moves laterally for at least four (of your) steps. If your dog is in heel or side, your dog may move away from you or toward you.</p> <p>Your dog may pause slightly after the transition, but the pause should not be significant.</p> <p>Lateral movement does not have to be perfectly straight (dog's rear end need not line up with his or her head perfectly), but your dog should move sideways with clear mastery of the skill, and with confidence.</p>	<p><b>Simultaneous Spins in Motion</b></p> <p>Starting on the move (dog can be in heel, side or center), cue your dog to spin and, as your dog spins, you spin at the same time. If your dog is in heel or side, you should spin in the same direction as your dog. If your dog is in center, you may spin in either direction.</p>
<p><b>Moving Pivots</b></p> <p>Start moving forward with your dog in heel, side, or center and move with your dog for at least a few steps.</p> <p>Transition your dog (transition of your choice) from the starting position to the position of your choice (heel, side, or center), and then you and your dog should complete a 360 degree pivot together, in synchronized movement.</p> <p>If possible, try to make the transition to pivot fluid, without a pause as your dog moves into position. However, a slight pause is acceptable, as long as it is not cued deliberately by the handler.</p>	<p><b>March/Kicks</b></p> <p>Have your dog perform at least four alternating paw lifts, one after the other.</p> <p>Dog may be standing or sitting, and may be positioned anywhere in proximity to you.</p>

<p><b>In Step</b></p> <p>Find music that matches your dog's footfalls when your dog is moving with an open, natural gait. Demonstrate 30 seconds to one minute of movement to this music in a way that features your dog stepping in time to the music.</p> <p>You may incorporate a few moves and tricks into this segment, but those should serve as contrast, not as the "main feature" of the video clip – that should be your dog's movement to the beat of the music.</p>	<p><b>One Paw Pose</b></p> <p>Have your dog perform a paw touch to your knee or lower leg, or to the back of your leg and hold that pose for at least three seconds.</p>
<p><b>Inside Curve</b></p> <p>Dog heels in a large circle (at least 6 feet in diameter) with the dog on the inside of the circle. The dog may be in heel or side position, but must be on the outside of the circle.</p> <p>Handler should walk briskly, and the dog should not appear crowded.</p> <p>Team should complete the circle at least two times.</p> <p><u>Small space option:</u></p> <p>Dog heels on the inside of a circle that is as large as the space allows, with handler moving as briskly as is possible within that space.</p> <p>Team should complete the circle at least two times.</p>	<p><b>Leg Weave Sequence</b></p> <p>Perform a series of 4 – 6 leg weaves in a weave pattern that is not: Figure 8 Weaves (handler stationary) or dog weaving forward while handler weaves forward.</p> <p>Be creative!</p>

<p><b>Leash Handling</b></p> <p>Perform a segment of movement and moves with your dog on leash.</p> <p>As you and your dog perform, handle the leash in a way that maintains a clear “J” in the leash at all times.</p> <p>The leash should not be used to move your dog, or restrict his or her movement in any way.</p> <p>This movement segment need not be complicated, but it should include moves and movements that require you to switch the leash from one hand to the other at least three times, and pass it behind your back at least once.</p>	<p><b>Signature Move</b></p> <p>Develop a “signature move” with your dog. This should be something creative and interesting that your dog obviously enjoys performing. The signature move may be made up of a combination of two or three moves that form a “whole”, but in that case they should be connected together in some obvious way.</p>
<p><b>Precision – Handler’s Choice</b></p> <p>Identify a precision skill that you would like to demonstrate with your dog. This can be precision moving into a particular position (stationary), or precision movement in heel, side, or center, or precision of a particular trick or move, etc. You define the criteria for this option!</p> <p>Create a video clip of you and your dog carrying out this skill with the precision that you describe.</p> <p>Please include your precision criteria in an email along with your entry.</p>	<p><b>Cross Paws</b></p> <p>Sitting, standing, or lying down, dog crosses one paw over the other in turn. Dog should perform at least two crosses.</p>

## Harmony Division – Artistry Leg

**Five** tasks will be chosen from “Sequencing and Duration”, and **five** tasks from “Music and Choreography”

**Music is needed for all tasks in this category at this level**, but it only needs to be playing in the background unless the option requires choreography.

<b>Sequencing and Duration (Choose 5)</b>	<b>Music and Choreography (Choose 5)</b>
<p><b>Duration of Focus</b></p> <p>With music playing, move with your dog in your performance area for 20 – 30 seconds, and actively reinforce duration of focus.</p> <p>You may use praise, or you may click, or verbally mark, and treat (on the move!), as much as you need to, but your praise or mark should reinforce focus, not create it.</p> <p>No behaviors should be cued during for this option – not even heeling, although if your dog offers heeling or some other behavior, that is perfectly fine.</p> <p>Strive to make this an enjoyable exercise for both your dog and yourself!</p> <p>No food or toys may be visible to the dog during this exercise, although you may reach into your pocket, or bait bag, for treats as often as you wish.</p>	<p><b>Beginning Choreography</b></p> <p>Freestyle choreography is the practice of creating sequences of moves and movements in a way that is connected to a piece of music or song.</p> <p>To begin developing choreography skills, complete the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Choose up to 30 seconds of a piece of music or song</li> <li>2. Choose 3 – 4 Freestyle moves or movements, one of which must be forward movement (for the dog) of at least 4 steps (can be straight or curved)</li> <li>3. Using the same 30 seconds of music, and the same 3 – 4 moves and movements, arrange those moves or movements in three different ways and perform each arrangement to the music.</li> </ol> <p>Reinforcers may be visible to the dog for this option.</p>
<p><b>Delayed Reinforcement</b></p> <p>For this option, you and your dog will Perform the “Circle Sequence” from the Melody Division.</p> <p>You choose the moves to have your dog perform at 12:00 and 6:00, but I recommend keeping these as simple as possible. Use moves that your dog enjoys and performs with confidence. Remember to start and end the</p>	<p><b>Theme Through Choreography</b></p> <p>Choose music that has an obvious theme.</p> <p>Create up to one minute of choreography that expresses that theme in some way.</p> <p>Every move and movement does not have to convey the theme. The choreography segment overall should</p>

sequence with heeling, not with the moves.

Set up a reinforcer, as is described in the "Delayed Reinforcement" option under Training and Cues in this Division.

Demonstrate the following progression of delayed reinforcement:

1. Demonstrate the sequence once, with reinforcement on you. For this step, the food or treats may be in your hand and visible to the dog, or in your pocket.

After completing the sequence, jackpot your dog, or play interactively with the toy.

2. Place all reinforcers at the location that is out of your dog's reach.

Have your dog begin to perform the sequence once, but stop at some point before you are halfway through the sequence to go to the reinforcer and reward your dog.

I recommend marking the dog as correct (click a clicker or give a verbal marker) before breaking off so your dog knows that he or she is performing correctly. Then go to the reinforcer together.

3. Perform the entire sequence. While still moving at the end mark your dog as correct and then go to the reinforcer together and jackpot or play interactively.
4. Perform the sequence one last time with reinforcers on you, as you did in Step #1.

convey the theme.

Props may be used, but presence of the prop alone cannot convey the theme. However, particular use of the prop may do so.

<p>This option does not have to be filmed as one continuous video clip, but the whole four step progression should happen in one training session.</p> <p>Practice this before filming so that neither you, nor your dog, become frustrated when you film. If you do encounter frustration, I strongly recommend breaking off the session and going back to training before filming at another time.</p>	
<p><b>Floor Patterns With Transitions</b></p> <p>Devise two specific patterns that you and your dog can trace on the floor as you move together, which require at least three changes of side as you and your dog carry out the pattern. These need not be highly complex – it can be as simple as diagonals across the floor in a zig zag, but should consist of more than a single straight line.</p> <p>The patterns should fill at least half of the space in which you are working. If you are using a large space, you may section off a smaller “ring” area for this exercise.</p> <p>Move through each of these patterns with your dog at least one time, performing three different transitions at logical changes of direction or path.</p> <p>The two patterns may be videoed separately or in succession. Your dog may begin in heel, side, or center position. No behaviors or moves, other than the transitions, should be used in this exercise.</p> <p>You may have food visible to your dog and may reinforce wherever needed, but try to maintain as much flow as you can through the patterns.</p>	<p><b>Theme Through Setting</b></p> <p>Choose music that has an obvious theme.</p> <p>Choose, or create, a setting that expresses that theme in some way. Setting can include decoration or props. The entire area need not be a “set”, but props or decorations should clearly communicate the theme.</p> <p>Natural settings may also be used.</p> <p>Create and perform up to one minute of choreography in that setting. If props are present that can be used by the dog and handler team, they should be used at least once. Background decorations need not be incorporated into the performance.</p>

## **Sling Shot**

Without any reinforcers visible to your dog:

1. Send your dog around a prop that is at least two feet away (more distance is better).

Remain facing the prop so that your dog is in center position (roughly) upon return to you.

As your dog returns, cue any Freestyle move. This move need not happen close to you. The move can be carried out at a distance, or close to you, but the move should happen "in flow". There should not be a significant pause before your dog begins the move.

2. Again, send your dog around the prop. Cue the same move as you did the first time, and then transition your dog into heel or side position. Again, this should happen "in flow".
3. Finally, send your dog around the prop a third time. Cue the same first move, the same transition, and then a move in heel or side position, again "in flow".

This can be presented as one single video clip, or three separate video clips. In either case, you may reinforce your dog and/or take a break in between the three steps.

In training I recommend practicing each step multiple times to ensure confidence and understanding before raising criteria.

## **Opening Pose**

Create and demonstrate an opening pose that demonstrates the connection that you and your dog share as a team.

Team should hold the pose for at least 5 seconds.

<p><b>Transitions</b></p> <p>Perform for 20 – 30 seconds, having your dog perform at least four different transitions of position. Positions may include: center, heel, side, criss-cross in front of you, behind you, or in heel or side, but flipped “backward”. However, it is sufficient for this exercise to have your dog only in center, heel, or side position.</p> <p>You may have your dog perform any other movements or moves, as well, but only the transition moves count toward your total of four.</p>	<p><b>Dance</b></p> <p>Choose a song or piece of music that is strictly a “dance” piece. Although a dance really can be created to any music, for this option, please avoid songs that tell a story.</p> <p>Create up to one minute of choreography with your dog that features your dog's movement, flow, and musical artistry. Any tricks incorporated should demonstrate these qualities, rather than stand out in their own right.</p>
<p><b>Duration of Behavior</b></p> <p>Demonstrate mastery of one of the following examples of “duration of behavior”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Dog backs away from handler (any direction) for more than six feet</li> <li>✚ Dog makes three consecutive circles around handler, without stopping</li> <li>✚ Dog makes consecutive circles around a prop (near handler or at a distance) at least three circles</li> <li>✚ Dog moves in heel or side position, with at least 75% focus for at least 30 seconds (handler can change direction, but no transitions or moves should be included)</li> </ul> <p>✚</p> <p>Multiple cues can be given, and verbal bridges may be used, but the dog should not pause at any point to wait for an additional cue.</p>	<p><b>Arms</b></p> <p>Demonstrate a sequence of at least three moves and/or movements and change your arm position as your dog transitions from one move/movement to another.</p>

### **Combined Transitions**

Create a movement sequence that is made up entirely of two or three transitions that can be performed in a small space.

One of the transitions can consist of handler movement alone (example, the handler movement from a Scallop).

The sequence of transitions can be completed with the handler stationary, or the handler can move up to two steps in either direction from the starting point. There is no restriction on dog movement in this exercise.

You and your dog may perform any moves or movements prior to the transition sequence (although none or required), and the sequence can be started from a stand-still, or with movement.

### **Attire**

Perform with your dog for 20 – 30 seconds. You can do whatever you like. You can use props, or not. You could re-film one of the other options that you have already performed (if long enough). You could improvise movement with your dog, or plan something and perform it. Have fun here – your performance will not be judged!

For your performance, wear attire that stands out as distinct for performance.

This need not be a “costume” per se. Your attire could express a theme (example: red sweater for a Christmas theme), but it does not have to. For instance, with my almost all-black Border Collie, I used to wear a black skirt and top to match him. (You need not match your dog!)

If you want to wear casual clothing, choose music with a casual theme (example: jeans for a country song).

The point of this option is to start thinking about using clothing to “pull together” the look of a performance.