



CULTIVATING A VERSATILE HUNTING COMPANION ROADMAP

Every dog and handler are an unique partnership! Developing a truly skilled hunting dog takes time, patience and a solid plan. To ensure success, it is important to follow a roadmap that is doable with your individual time & resource constraints. There are no special awards given for the youngest (or oldest) dog to accomplish all there is to have a well rounded hunting dog.

		FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER- JANUARY
NATURAL ABILITY*	SPRING TEST	PLACE BOARDS BIRD/GUN/TRACK INTRODUCTION BEGIN OBEDIENCE WORK		POINTING WATER INTRODUCTION SOLID RECALL		NATURAL ABILITY TEST	DUCK INTRODUCTIONS / INTRODUCE SHOT OVER POINT IN FIELD		HUNTING
	FALL TEST	PLACE BOARDS BIRD/GUN/TRACK INTRODUCTION BEGIN OBEDIENCE WORK		BUILD COOPERATIVE POINTING PROFICIENCY IN WATER & TRACKING CONTINUE OBEDIENCE WORK & PLACE BOARDS				NATURAL ABILITY TEST	HUNTING
	PUPPIES TESTING FOLLOWING YEAR	SHIFT TIMELINE DOWN TO MATCH A BEGINNING AFTER 4 MONTHS OF AGE		PLACE BOARDS BIRD/GUN/TRACK INTRODUCTION BEGIN OBEDIENCE WORK		BUILD COOPERATIVE POINTING PROFICIENCY IN WATER & TRACKING CONTINUE OBEDIENCE WORK & PLACE BOARDS			HUNTING
FOUNDATION COMPONENTS	RETRIEVING YEAR**	TRAINED RETRIEVE		RETRIEVER DRILLS		LIVE DUCK CHASES/DUCK BLIND			HUNTING
	STEADINESS YEAR**	PLACE BOARD DRILLS		FIELD STEADINESS		PROFICIENCY IN FIELD		DUCK BLIND	HUNTING
	SINGLE YEAR TYPICALLY OLDER DOG W/EXPERIENCE	TRAINED RETRIEVE		RETRIEVER DRILLS	FIELD STEADINESS		FIELD PROFICIENCY	DUCK CHASES & BLIND	HUNTING
UTILITY TEST	SPRING TEST	REFRESH PLACE & RETRIEVES		DUCK SEARCH	ALL COMPONENTS				HUNTING
	FALL TEST	REFRESH PLACE & RETRIEVES		REFRESH FIELD & BLIND STEADINESS		DUCK SEARCH		ALL COMPONENTS	HUNTING
INVITATIONAL	STRENGTH CONDITIONING & ENDURANCE PROGRAM NOT INCLUDED	FOUNDATIONS: • LAND BLINDS • FOCUS HEEL REFRESH PLACE & GENERAL OBEDIENCE		FOUNDATIONS: • FIELD HONORING • DOUBLE MARKS • MOVE BLINDS TO WATER		BRACE WORK CHALLENGING DOUBLE MARKS INCREASE DISTANCE ON BLINDS **JULY 15TH- NEW BLIND LOCATIONS!			HUNTING

*E-Collar conditioning is puppy dependent (breed, personality, independence etc.) but typically is completed between 8-12 months

**Foundation Components on 2-year-timeline: We recommend working on the task that is more naturally challenging for your dog after completing their first hunting season