

# In-Home Consultation — Handler Checklist

Why the first session should be at your house.

The dog acts differently at home than at a training facility. Environmental, household, and management factors drive most behavior cases — and you can't audit them from a video call.

## Use cases & applications

### New rescue intake

*For: Adopters in first 30 days*

Set up the home, crate, routine, and management plan before bad habits start.

### Multi-dog household audit

*For: Families with 2+ dogs*

Resource map of the home, conflict triggers, and a per-dog management plan.

### Reactive-dog environmental assessment

*For: Urban / apartment dogs*

Window film, baby gates, walking-route planning — the management piece most trainers skip.

## Handler how-tos

### Prep your home for the consult

- 1 Write down the three behaviors that matter most. Be specific: 'lunges at men in hats on Tuesday walks', not 'reactive'.
- 2 Video the problem behaviors in advance. You won't be able to reproduce them on demand.
- 3 Gather every piece of equipment you've tried — collars, harnesses, leashes, head halters. We'll evaluate them.
- 4 Don't pre-clean or pre-stage the house. We need to see how the dog actually lives.
- 5 Have every adult in the household present. Inconsistent rules cause 80% of behavior issues.

Field checklist (check as completed):

- ☐ Write down the three behaviors that matter most. Be specific: 'lunges at men in hats on Tuesday walks', not 'reactive'.
- ☐ Video the problem behaviors in advance. You won't be able to reproduce them on demand.
- ☐ Gather every piece of equipment you've tried — collars, harnesses, leashes, head halters. We'll evaluate them.
- ☐ Don't pre-clean or pre-stage the house. We need to see how the dog actually lives.
- ☐ Have every adult in the household present. Inconsistent rules cause 80% of behavior issues.

## Safety notes

Read before every session. These are non-negotiable.

- ! Senior trainer only — never an apprentice for the first session.
- ! All adult decision-makers in the household should be present.
- ! Secure children, other pets, and visitors during the dog assessment portion.
- ! Do not stage the home — we need to see how the dog actually lives.

## For agencies & operators

- Pre-purchase home audits for owners considering a working-line dog.
- Move-in consults for clients relocating with reactive or noise-sensitive dogs.

Delta K9 Academy · North Hollywood, CA · (818) 555-K9K9 · [deltak9.frenchydigital.com](http://deltak9.frenchydigital.com)  
This checklist is a working reference. It does not replace hands-on coaching from a qualified trainer.