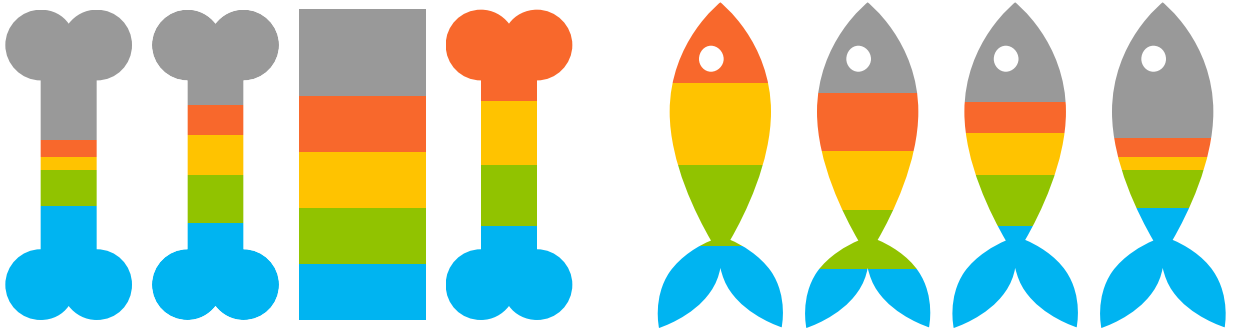
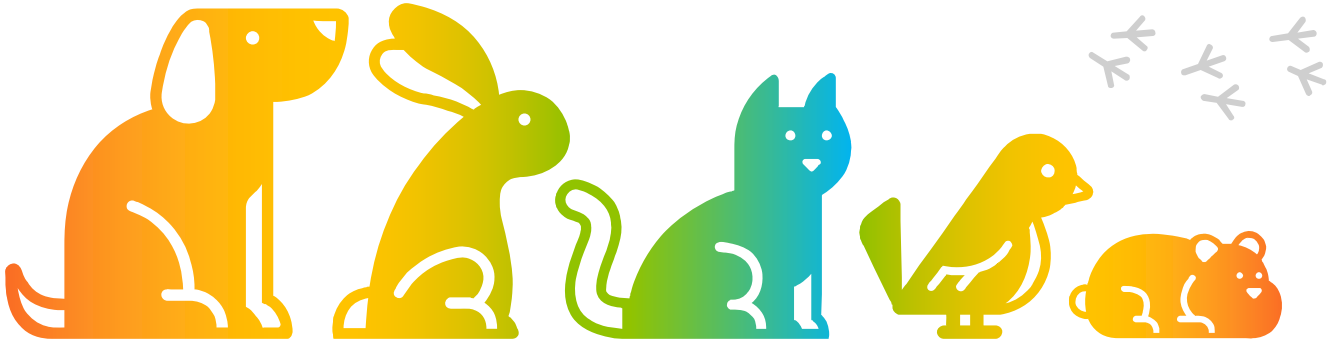




# EXAM TRAINING @ HOME

*Dogs*





Medium-size & Large dogs are usually examined on the floor, but most vets examine small dogs on a counter or table.

Since this isn't a typical place for a dog to be, start by placing a non-slip dog bed on the floor and give a treat for going onto the bed.

Next, place the bed on a slightly raised surface such as a coffee table & treat your dog for being on the table.

Eventually, you want your dog to be comfortable on a surface that's waist-high to simulate an exam table. Always use pea-size, high-value treat's & short training sessions over several days.

*Always keep a hand on  
your dog so they can't  
jump off the table!!*



When you're ready to start training for restraint, face your dog's side.

Hug their neck with one arm while your other arm hugs them over their back, then give a treat.

Gradually, build up during which your dog accepts being restrained, with the goal of two minutes of restraint.

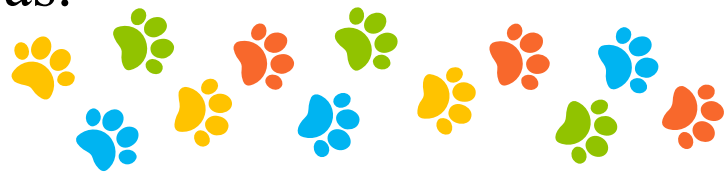
Keep training sessions positive & end them before your dog starts squirming.

***If your dog shows any behaviors such as tensing, lifting their lip, or growling, stop immediately & talk to your vet or a Fear Free Certified Trainer!***



Once you've trained your dog to accept restraint, you're ready to start training for the exam. There may seem like a lot of parts to an exam, but most dogs can be examined by a vet within a few minutes, especially if you've already done some training at home.

Using the same principles used for restraint, break down each area of handling into the baby steps that comprise it. Keep treating and don't move onto the next baby step unless your dog stays relaxed. If your dog has arthritis or another painful condition, avoid handling those areas.



*Training is important, but not at the expense of injuries or stressing your special bond.*



If your dog is overall healthy, position yourself next to your dog while facing in the same direction. Practice the following giving a treat after each procedure:

- 1 Trailing your hand over the back & upper legs.
- 2 Trailing your hand under the front legs from chest to abdomen.
- 3 Touching the tail, then lifting it from the base.
- 4 Lightly squeezing the spine with your fingers from the shoulders to the hips.





- 5 Picking up one leg at a time under the armpits or hips, then moving it forward & backward.
- 6 Touching each paw, then lifting it.
- 7 Very gently squeezing the abdomen from the ribs to the hips.
- 8 Touching each ear, then lightly putting a finger inside the ear.
- 9 Touching the lip, then lifting it.
- 10 Holding the face while briefly making eye contact.

