

S4 Table. Questionnaire items in Survey 2.

Behaviour problems

When my dog is let off leash, (s)he moves independent but regularly seeks eye contact with me and stays within sight.*

My dog is frequently stubborn and does not pay any attention to me. I let it go, as there is no use to anger myself.

We easily passed our BH[§] examination.*

My dog knows his/her restrictions in the house, however has his/her own kennel, where (s)he can do what (s)he wants.*

My dog frequently pulls on the leash. I have tried everything but cannot control him/her.

When I arrive home my dog jumps up at me. I do not like it but (s)he does not give up.

When a visitor rings the bell my dog knows that (s)he is to stay back from the door.*

When somebody offers food to my dog, (s)he looks at me as if to ask whether (s)he is allowed to take it.*

It would be great if my dog were more obedient. However, I do not often feel the need to reprimand him/her.

When I arrive home my dog usually lays on the sofa. I cannot do anything about it.

There is no dominance problem in our family. My dog accepts every family member as a higher-ranking individual.*

My dog usually does not listen to me when I call him/her back. I get really angry about it.

Cronbach's alpha: 0.720

All items were scored using a 3-point scale

* reverse coded

§ BH is the abbreviation for Begleithundprüfung, i.e. "traffic-sure" companion dog test