










Dog Show Etiquette

Dogs shows are fun and exciting!
You might feel like petting all the dogs, but wait!
Keep these things in mind as you walk around and
enjoy the show.



Great Dane CC Photography

-  Always ask before you pet a dog. The handlers (people showing dogs) spent a lot of time and energy grooming their dogs for the show. Never go up and just pet a dog. Ask first.
-  Wait until handlers have finished an event before asking questions. Before the show, they are focusing on their dog and getting ready for their turn in the ring. Always ask permission before petting a dog!
-  Turn off your cell phone. It is a distraction to the dogs and handlers.
-  Stay away from ring entrances. It is very difficult for handlers to get in and out of the rings when people are in the way of the entrance.
-  Do not lean over the rings or talk to handlers when they are in the ring showing.
-  Do you have small children with you? Don't let them run up to dogs or stick their fingers and hands into crates or exercise pens. Also, it's best to leave strollers in the car. Strollers can place a child's face at the same level as unfamiliar dogs' faces. Plus, a stroller can accidentally run over lots of dogs' tails.
-  Be careful where you step so you don't step on feet, noses or tails!
-  Keep food away from the ring. It is a distraction to the dogs.
-  Leave your own dog at home unless you are taking them for a special reason, such as a CGC® test.

Enjoy the show!



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For more information for kids about attending a dog show, visit AKC's online newsletter Kids' Corner. The Spring 2005 issue is all about dogs shows!
www.akc.org/public_education/kids_corner/spring05/lets_go_dog_show.cfm