

Instruction for 'Scent' hider -Novice



General

- 1) Practice setting up the camera for each search to save time on the day.
- 2) Ask the competitor where they will start each search from.
- 3) Ask the competitor to leave the room once you have made a connection with the judge and have entered the first search site.
- 4) Set up the camera so that all the search items can be viewed. **Note:** If you position the camera 5ft from the first search item the camera can be the competitors starting point.
- 5) Let the judge know where the competitor will start.
- 6) Wearing your gloves either point at items or gaps and holes in the wall, fence, kitchen cabinets, draws, cupboards, doors and vehicle.
- 7) If using Velcro, ensure that it is hidden so that the competitor can't see it.
- 8) When you and the judge are ready, ask the competitor to come into the search area and wait by the designated starting point, ideally behind the camera.
- 9) Ask the competitor to start on the judge's instructions.
- 10) Please keep quiet and stand still, preferably with your back turned as we don't want you to give it away! If some judge's ask you to leave please don't be offended.

Tables/Chairs & Furniture.

- 1) Please see picture gallery showing where the 'scented' article should be hidden under a chair or on the inner side of one of the table legs.

Household items & Exterior Items

- 1) Ensure that the larger items are furthest away from the camera otherwise they can 'block' the judge's view.
- 2) The 10 items should be approximately 18" (45cm) apart. (see below for suitable items)
- 3) The judge may or may not ask you to move some of the items around in case the competitor has been practicing!
- 4) The judge will either name the item to be scented or ask you to point at all the items and then select one.
- 5) The items shouldn't be packed with any other material.

Cabinets

- 1) See (picture gallery) how to fasten the 'scented' article in a kitchen cabinet, draw and door. You might have to practice using an 'unscented' article firstly to make sure that it isn't too deep and not visible.
- 2) There should be a minimum of 8 gaps and no more than 12 and a door can be included.
- 3) Wearing gloves, point at gaps in draws, cupboards and door if included, until the judge asks you to stop; place the scented article into this gap.

Wall & Fence

- 1) The wall/fence should be a minimum of 5m in length.
- 2) Set up the camera stand firstly and check that the whole of the 5m wall, fence and 'exterior' items are in view.
- 3) Stick 'post it' notes on the wall or fence next to potential hiding places as this will help you and the judge to re-locate hiding places in case they are difficult to find again. **Note:** Blu-tack is better at fastening onto rough brick work.
- 4) Be conscious of the sun as this can cause some shadowing and the judge might not be able to see.
- 5) Wearing gloves, walk along and point at all the 'post it' notes until the judge says 'stop'. Place a 'scented' article (material is best for this) in the hole or gap and push in using tweezers or something similar. Hide the second 'scented' item in one of the 'Exterior' items that the judge has selected.
- 6) Remove all the 'Post it' notes from the wall or fence.

Vehicle Search

1. Position the camera so that two sides of the vehicle and all the 'Exterior' items can be seen.
2. Be conscious of the sun as this can cause some shadowing and the judge might not be able to see.
3. Wearing your gloves, point at potential hiding places (see picture gallery) until the judge says 'stop'. Place a 'scented' article (material is best for this) in the hole or gap and push in using tweezers or something similar.

Notes about handling the scent and contamination

- 1) Wear gloves when you are handling the scent.
- 2) Before the trial, stick several 'scented' Velcro pads just in the inside of the jar on the rim before fastening the lid. (see picture Gallery) Make sure that the paper backing is either put back in the jar or dispose of away from any of the search sites. When you are ready to use a scented Velcro pad, hold a very small piece between your fingers, place it on the item and press firmly with the other hand and it will be less likely to stick to your gloves! You can always practice using a Velcro pad that hasn't been scented.

Note: It is best if you leave the jar with the 'scented' articles in another room and just remove one or two at a time when hiding. If you take the 'scented' jar and open it in the search area the dog will detect the volatiles and is likely to become distracted.

Suitable Items for the Household search

Chairs, tables step ladder, pots & pans, house ornaments, lamp shade, boxes, luggage, clothes dyers, laundry baskets, dog bowls, plastic containers, vacuum cleaner, brooms, dust pan & brush, clothes dyer, waste paper bin.

Note: Some dogs rather be over enthusiastic with their search so only use items that aren't likely to break if they are pushed over.

Suitable items for the 'Exterior Search'

Watering can, hose pipes, Flower pots, children toys, bikes, bicycle pumps, baby gates, Cycle helmets, garden tools, brooms, garden ornaments, plastic boxes, buckets, wellington boots, garden shoes/clogs.