

Distractions & Blanks (D&B) – on or off lead

You Tube Video <https://youtu.be/oL-hGevlx4A>

When a dog is working there will be 100's of other odours that the dog will perceive and must discount as not being their target odour. This game will test the handler's ability to read their dogs behaviour and the dog's ability to recognise their target odour. This game will be run as a modular, line up type set up but plastic boxes, modular runs, bricks or similar can be used if the handler is not able to see the hides. Each receptacle will contain a target or a distraction odour.

1 type of distraction odour should be used for the entire line i.e., Q tips in each pot in a line. If you are using a blank soak your target odour will be on the same blank soak. If you are using a blank shell your target odour will be in the same blank shell (if you also require a soak or carrier in this instance, you will not put them in each blank hide, it will just contain the blank shell).

Each line should have the same receptacle, but different lines can be made up of different receptacles.

Receptacles used should be stable enough to withstand motivated searching. They should be straightforward items, with an obvious place where the odour should release, bags should not be used.

Items in the lines should be at least 20cms apart and a max of 1metre apart. Teams may go backwards and forwards along the line as many times as they want to and if they call a wrong alert will still be able to continue with that line.

From Level 5 upwards correct clearance of a line with no target odour will score 10 points. If a handler calls a wrong alert on a line with no target odour, they will be given a 5-point deduction but can continue to work the line and correctly call it clear.

Distraction odours are:

- 1) Group 1 - Blank shells such as Plastic vials, tins etc. These should be unused items usually used to enclose odour to prevent residual odour transferring to surfaces.
- 2) Group 2 - Blank carriers. These are unused items commonly used to absorb odour and could include Velcro, sock, q tips, filter tips, paper etc.
- 3) Group 3 - Non target odours such as shampoo, bubble bath or shower gel, hand cream, liquid soap, baby wipes, herbal tea bags, or dried herbs.
 - a) These can be used as they are.
 - b) Smearred on a piece of kitchen paper or cloth.
 - c) Wrapped with a piece of kitchen paper or cloth for at least 3 days and the kitchen paper or cloth then cut into small pieces and used.
- 4) Group 4 - Gloves (nitrile or plastic commonly used to place hides)
- 5) Group 5 - Dog bedding - a piece of kitchen paper or cloth that has been in a dog bed for at least 3 days, cut into pieces.
- 6) Group 6 - Dry dog food or dog treats. The food or treats should be wrapped in a piece of kitchen paper or cloth for at least 3 days. The kitchen paper can then be cut up and used as the distraction odour.



Level 1

Handler knows how many hides.

Teams can leave a line and return to it.

3 lines with 6 receptacles in each line.

1 target odour per line.

No negative lines.

2 lines will be distraction odours from group 1

1 line will be distraction odours from group 2

Level 2

Handler knows how many hides.

Teams can leave a line and return to it.

4 lines with 6 receptacles in each line.

1 target odour per line.

No negative lines.

2 lines will be distraction odours from group 1

2 lines will be distraction odours from group 2

Level 3

Handler knows how many hides.

Teams can leave a line and return to it.

4 lines with up to 8 receptacles in each line.

1 target odour per line.

No negative lines.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 1.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 2.

2 lines will be distraction odours from group 3.

Level 4

Handler does not know how many hides.

Teams can leave a line and return to it.

4 lines with up to 8 receptacles in each line.

1 or 0 target odours per line.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 1.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 2.

2 lines will be distraction odours from group 3.

Level 5

Handler does not know how many hides.

Handler will be told order to work lines in, they cannot return to a line once they leave it.

Handler moving on from a negative group or calling it clear correctly scores 10 points. An incorrect clear call will require the handler to move to another line.

4 lines with up to 8 receptacles in each line.

1 or 0 target odours per line.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 1.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 2.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 3.

1 line will be distraction odour group 4.

Level 6

Handler does not know how many hides.

Handler will be told order to work lines in, they cannot return to a line once they leave it.

Handler moving on from a negative group or calling it clear correctly scores 10 points. An incorrect clear call will require the handler to move to another line.

4 lines with up to 8 receptacles in each line.

2, 1 or 0 target odours per line.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 1.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 2.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 3.

1 line will be distraction odour group 4.

Level 7

Handler does not know how many hides.

Handler will be told order to work lines in, they cannot return to a line once they leave it.

Handler moving on from a negative group or calling it clear correctly scores 10 points. An incorrect clear call will require the handler to move to another line.

6 lines with up to 6 receptacles in each line.

2, 1 or 0 target odours per line.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 1.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 2.

2 lines will be distraction odours from group 3.

1 line will be distraction odour group 4.

1 line will be distraction odour from either group 5 or 6.

Level 8

Handler does not know how many hides.

Handler will be told order to work lines in, they cannot return to a line once they leave it.

Handler moving on from a negative group or calling it clear correctly scores 10 points. An incorrect clear call will require the handler to move to another line.

6 lines with up to 8 receptacles in each line.

2, 1 or 0 target odours per line.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 1.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 2.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 3.

1 line will be distraction odour group 4.

1 line will be distraction odours from group 5.

1 line will be distraction odour from group 6.