



Australian Premier Working Dog Auction CASTERTON

Working Standards and Checklist

Starting

- Displays Natural interest in stock and approaches them in a variety of ways depending on natural working style.

Started

- Has basic commands and some training on a lead, such as “come”, “sit” and/or “stay.”
- Interested in stock and going around them in a small, enclosed area, working according to natural ability.
- Eagerness to work may override obedience.
- Will have had short training sessions/lessons.

Well Started

- Young dog that demonstrates some confidence on a small mob but may not handle a big mob on their own.
- Will still make a few mistakes.
- Reasonably obedient depending on level of desire.
- May be able to work small mobs in simple situations.
- May be learning to drive stock but sometimes goes to the head of the mob.
- Learning directional commands but still needs plenty of encouragement.

Trained

- Is trained to “come”, “sit” and cast commands.
- Even though it is trained it may lack practical work experience.
- Is able to approach small jobs confidently.

Trained and Experienced

- Is trained and has 12 months experience working in a variety of work situations.
- Has acceptable levels of control but may still make mistakes in a new work situation or for a new handler.
- Shows confidence in approaching jobs that it has had experience in doing. E.g a paddock dog working in the paddock.
- May take longer to adjust to a new handler due to previous bond.

A minimum of six weeks bonding period is essential after purchasing a pup or dog in any category. A started, well started or trained and experienced dog should not be expected to perform properly for a new handler in under six weeks.