# Having Fun With Agility: Howell Dog Of Distinction Paperback

Agility is a great way to have fun with your dog and bond with them. It's also a great way to exercise your dog and keep them mentally stimulated. If you're thinking about getting started in agility, here are a few things you'll need to know.



#### What is agility?

Agility is a dog sport that tests the dog's ability to navigate a series of obstacles, including jumps, tunnels, and weave poles. The dog is guided by its handler, who uses verbal cues and body language to direct the dog through the course. Agility is a great way to bond with your dog and teach them how to follow your commands. It's also a great way to exercise your dog and keep them mentally stimulated.

#### What are the benefits of agility?

There are many benefits to agility, including:

- Improved physical fitness: Agility is a great way to exercise your dog and improve their physical fitness. The obstacles in an agility course challenge the dog's strength, coordination, and balance.
- Enhanced mental stimulation: Agility is also a great way to keep your dog mentally stimulated. The challenges of the course require the dog to use their problem-solving skills and to learn how to follow your commands.
- Stronger bond between you and your dog: Agility is a great way to bond with your dog. The teamwork required to navigate the course together will help to strengthen your bond and build trust.
- Increased confidence: Agility can help to increase your dog's confidence. As they successfully navigate the course, they will gain a sense of accomplishment and pride.
- Fun: Agility is a lot of fun for both dogs and handlers. It's a great way to spend time together and to enjoy each other's company.

#### How to get started in agility

If you're interested in getting started in agility, here are a few things you'll need to do:

1. Find a qualified agility instructor: It's important to find a qualified agility instructor who can help you and your dog learn the basics of the sport. A good instructor will be able to teach you how to handle your dog correctly and how to navigate the different obstacles in an agility course.

- 2. **Get your dog ready:** Before you start agility training, you'll need to make sure that your dog is physically fit and healthy. You should also make sure that your dog is comfortable with the basics of obedience training.
- 3. **Start training:** Once you have found an instructor and your dog is ready, you can start agility training. Agility training typically involves a series of lessons, where you and your dog will learn how to navigate the different obstacles in an agility course.
- 4. **Compete in agility trials:** Once you and your dog have mastered the basics of agility, you can start competing in agility trials. Agility trials are a great way to test your dog's skills and to compete against other dogs.

#### Agility equipment

In order to participate in agility, you will need to have some basic agility equipment. This equipment includes:

- Agility jumps: Agility jumps are the most common obstacle in an agility course. They are typically made of metal or PVC and are adjustable in height.
- Agility tunnels: Agility tunnels are another common obstacle in an agility course. They are typically made of fabric or plastic and are designed to challenge the dog's ability to follow commands.
- Agility weave poles: Agility weave poles are a series of poles that are placed in a zigzag pattern. The dog must weave through the poles without knocking them over.

- Agility teeter: An agility teeter is a seesaw-like obstacle that the dog must cross without falling off.
- Agility a-frame: An agility a-frame is a triangular obstacle that the dog must climb up and over.

#### **Agility competitions**

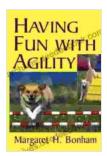
Agility competitions are a great way to test your dog's skills and to compete against other dogs. Agility trials are typically held at dog shows or at dedicated agility facilities. The trials are divided into different classes, based on the dog's size and skill level.

In an agility trial, the dog and handler must navigate a course of obstacles in the fastest time possible. The dog must complete the course without knocking over any obstacles or making any mistakes. The handler can use verbal cues and body language to guide the dog through the course.

Agility competitions are a lot of fun and a great way to bond with your dog. They are also a great way to test your dog's skills and to compete against other dogs.

Agility is a great way to have fun with your dog and bond with them. It's also a great way to exercise your dog and keep them mentally stimulated. If you're thinking about getting started in agility, I encourage you to find a qualified instructor and start training. You and your dog will have a lot of fun and you'll create memories that will last a lifetime.





# Having Fun With Agility (Howell Dog Book of Distinction (Paperback)) by Margaret H. Bonham

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