

# WANTED:



## TOY-OBSESSED, HIGH-DRIVE DOGS

This simple pre-test helps identify good candidates for the full Rescues 2the Rescue evaluation. You can do it as you go about your usual daily tasks. All you need is a ball!

1. **BOUNCE TEST:** Bounce the ball in front of the kennel and talk to the dog – does the dog watch you or the ball?
2. **HAND TEST:** With your hands a few feet apart, hold both the ball and your other (empty) hand up to the kennel at the same time – what does the dog want?
3. **DISTRACTION TEST:** The next time you take the dog out of his/her kennel, take the ball or another favorite toy (nothing food based) with you. Be sure to show them the ball or toy before entering the kennel or leashing, maybe bounce it a time or two to spark their interest. When you bring them out, what do they do – investigate their surroundings, interact with or react to other dogs, or remain focused on the ball or toy?

Dogs who show strong focus on the ball are good candidates for further testing. If dogs were very focused in the first two steps but distractible during Step 3, they might still have good potential. For example, a dog who was excited to go out for a bathroom break but was otherwise focused on the toy would be a good candidate for further evaluation.

Visit [Rescues2theRescue.org](http://Rescues2theRescue.org) to learn more about the complete evaluation process. R2R matches high-drive, difficult-to-adopt dogs with detection dog trainers who can give many of these dogs fulfilling careers.