

## Stressor Checklist

Stress is cumulative, so multiple stressors occurring together tax a dog's ability to cope. In behavior parlance, this is called *trigger stacking*. Add to that that the stress hormone cortisol can remain in the system for up to 48 hours, meaning that just one incident a day has your dog living with constantly elevated stress hormones. But by reducing the stressors that we *can* control, we can give a dog greater resources to cope with the stressors that are less easily mitigated.

Check the box for each stressor that you feel your dog experiences negatively and, on the line next to each stressor, grade the level of stress it causes, from 1-10 (10 being the greatest stress).

IN THE HOME	
☐ At the door upon visitor entry	☐ Around certain resources
☐ With visitors in the home	☐ With certain handling
☐ At the window	☐ When startled/awakened
☐ In the yard(s)	☐ With raised voices
☐ With certain household member(s)	☐ With affection between people
☐ With certain household pet(s)	☐ Other (explain / grade)
☐ When alone	//
☐ When crated	
OUTSIDE OF THE HOME	
☐ Leash reactive around people	☐ Other (explain / grade)
☐ Leash reactive around dogs	/
☐ Frustration on leash / pulling	☐ Other (explain / grade)
☐ Walking with certain family members	//
☐ In the car	

## The Stressor Checklist

## TYPES OF PEOPLE ☐ All strangers \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ People with certain implements/clothing (canes, tools, boxes, hoodies, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Men \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Delivery people \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Women \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Other (explain / grade) ☐ Children \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_/ ☐ People in uniforms \_\_\_\_\_ **CERTAIN EXPERIENCES / SITUATIONS** ☐ Sound sensitivity \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ In the vet's office \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Wheeled or fast-moving objects \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ At the groomer \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ At the dog park \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Other (explain / grade) ☐ Over-arousal in play \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Predatory behavior \_\_\_\_\_