

# 4-H Small Pets Judging Criteria

Exhibitor's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibitor's Number \_\_\_\_\_

Class Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class Number \_\_\_\_\_

Pet's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Species of Pet \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle One: Jr. Member (4-6) Intermediate (7-8) Senior (9-12)

4-Her's Goal:

The application of learning should be evidenced in the appearance of the animal and knowledge of the exhibitor.	Points Possible	Points Earned
1. Health: Does the pet appear healthy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coat Condition/ Skin Condition/ shell condition</li> <li>• Active and Alert (if applicable); some are nocturnal</li> <li>• No signs of illness such as coughing, runny nose, lumps, pain, inappropriate discharge, or dull hair coat</li> </ul>	<b>20</b>	
2. Nutrition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the pet fed properly?</li> <li>• How did the owner decide what to feed?</li> <li>• Good body condition, not too fat or too thin</li> <li>• Dry appearing coats is an indicator of inadequate nutrition</li> <li>• Flaky skin can be an indicator of a nutritional problem</li> <li>• Clean teeth (if applicable)</li> </ul>	<b>20</b>	
3. Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean</li> <li>• Appropriate bedding</li> <li>• Placement of food and water to ensure cleanliness</li> <li>• Frequency of cleaning</li> </ul> <p><b>*If the pet's normal environment is not brought the day of show, ask questions of the 4-H'ers to see how well the animals home environment meet's these criteria</b></p>	<b>10</b>	
4. Grooming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of frequent grooming</li> <li>• No hair touching the surface of the eye</li> <li>• No crusty or caked matter on eyes</li> <li>• The coat should be free of knots and matting</li> <li>• Clean and odor free</li> <li>• If grooming by owner is not required, does owner provide the resources for animal to groom itself (water, new shell, etc)</li> </ul> <p><b>* Points will not be deducted if grooming is not applicable.</b></p>	<b>10</b>	
5. Behavior and Handling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gentleness of exhibitor in handling the pet</li> <li>• The pet should be responsive to the owner</li> <li>• Evidence of compatibility with owner</li> </ul>	<b>15</b>	
6. Knowledge of the Exhibitor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the knowledge or learning as exhibited in the conference judging</li> <li>• Did the exhibitor meet their own goals in their pet project</li> <li>• Financial records including but not limited to housing cost, food cost, veterinary bills, etc.</li> </ul>	<b>20</b>	
7. Exhibitor Dress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes: white t-shirt with 4-H emblem or FFA Shirt</li> </ul>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100</b>	

Additional Comments