

Dog FAS & Frustration Scale for Shelters

Signs of FAS and frustration can be caused by medical issues. Behavioral concerns should be brought to the attention of the appropriate medical staff.

High

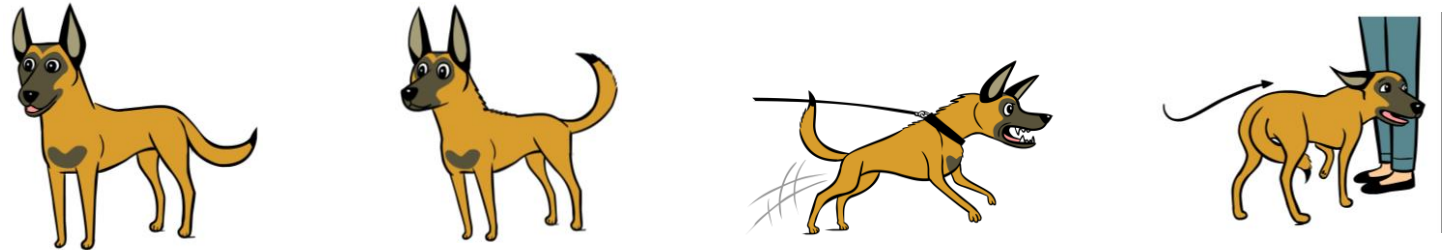
- Severe signs of stress indicate emotional suffering
- Urgent action is required
- Immediate environmental management is imperative along with increased daily enrichment
- Medication and behavior modification should be strongly considered (imperative if signs persist)
- If behavior continues to deteriorate, alternatives to shelter housing are required



May display active signs: aggression and reactivity; repetitive barking, jumping/pacing/spinning; wall rebounding, tail chasing, fence biting/licking; excessive panting, escape behavior, destructive behavior, or jumpy-mouthy interactions. **May display passive signs:** constant hiding, feigning sleep, not moving, avoiding social interactions, decreased play or exploratory behavior, poor appetite or refusal to eat.

Moderate

- Moderate signs of stress
- Environmental management is imperative along with increased daily enrichment
- +/- Behavior modification and medications and/or complementary/alternative therapies



May be hesitant but not actively avoiding social interactions with people, occasional hiding, occasional barking and jumping, occasional frustration related behaviors. May display a slight decrease in appetite.

Low

- Relaxed or mild signs of stress
- Prevent increase through environmental management, enrichment and daily routine



Normal behavior patterns including friendly behavior with people, eating, grooming, resting, playing, exercising, and sleeping. Relaxed body language. Good appetite. Appropriate social interactions.