

CANINE: GASTON



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CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA



G'day,

This proposal summarises my dog Gaston who I offering for sale.

I've raised Gaston from eight weeks old and carefully selected him based on his genetics and the calibre of his breeder. He has proven time and again to have strong nerves, to be open and social, aggressive when appropriate, and he is proving to be a thorough and stubborn dog when on a track. These qualities are a combination of both his bloodlines and the time I have invested in his development.

I have sold dogs to the Australian Army, Western Australia Police, and to a Wildlife Conservation group that operates in East Gippsland. I understand what is needed by handlers and I'm confident that Gaston will impress, particularly when tracking in suburban terrain.

My dogs are a part of my family from day one until sold, and I care deeply for them. They do quite literally go everywhere with me; hence they've spent time in office spaces and in the bush with firearms. They start life in a crate in the bedroom I share with my wife, and we work together to ensure they're going to integrate well into a handler's home in the future.

For your consideration,

Jeremy Wikner

YOUTUBE VIDEOS

I've created a publicly accessible YouTube playlist to enable prospective buyers to make an initial assessment of the dog in advance of sale and to see for themselves how I handle and train the dog. I've included numerous double-blind tracks and several summary videos across key areas, such as environmental exposures, grip work development, and muzzle conditioning. This package is designed to assist assessing and to give you better understanding of how the dog might be incorporated into your program. This level of transparency is something I take pride in and I strongly believe it should be an industry standard.

[CLICK HERE](#) for YouTube Video Playlist



CANINE DETAILS

DOB	17 JULY 2021
BRN	Dog: Gaston Sire: Churchmount Jurko Dam: Nordenstamm Enka
Worming Tablets	1st of each month
Next Inoculations Due	TBC
Breed	Belgian Malinois
Sex	Male, entire
Microchip number	978102100285514
Weight	TBA



LEVEL OF UNDERSTANDING / RELIABILITY	COMMAND	DESCRIPTION
100%	YES	Terminal verbal marker for correct behaviour being exhibited, followed by a reward. Not clicker imprinted.
100%	HEEL	Left heel, will heel almost to IGP BH standard pattern.
60%	SIT	Sit stay command, never recall from this position.
80%	DOWN	Down command, recall from this position.
40%	WATCH HIM	Guard alert command.
100%	FIND THEM	Trailing command (free style trailing).
95%	BRING	Fetch command.
95%	HERE	Recall command.
70%	LEAVE	Bite release / Reward marker.
100%	NO	Training session completed in full / Terminate session.
80%	MUZZLE	Put nose in muzzle.
90%	GO ON	Enter crate.

FIREARMS EXPOSURE

DESCRIPTION	RATING
.308 Winchester	Exposed to 20 rounds within 20m. Considers loud gunshots a marker, needs proofing.
.17 HMR	Exposed to 50 rounds within 1m. Minimal flinching, neutral.
WTSS	Exposed to hundreds of simulated shots whilst in heel, neutral.

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES

DESCRIPTION	RATING
Doors Slamming	No issue with slamming doors.
Edges at height	Confident on ledges.
Slippery floors	Will continue driving forward on slippery surfaces. No concern, runs in them with confidence.
Vehicles	No issues, non-reactive to vehicles.
Drunk people	No issues, will hang out in a pub setting without issue.
City street	Confident to walk through.
Dark confined spaces	No issues, will enter dark tunnels without issue.
See through stairs	No issues, will go up and down without issue.
Travelator	No issues, will go up and down without issue.
Escalator	No issues, will go up and down without issue.
Elevator	No issues, will go up and down without issue.
Heights	No issues, will work at heights without avoidance.
New dogs	Gaston is dominant to other dogs, but is generally social.
Children	Non-reactive, was exposed to playing with children as a puppy with great success.
Shopping Trolley	No issues, will jump into/onto a trolley.
Bunnings	Happily will go through all of Bunnings without issue.
Subterranean Carpark	No issues with this environment.
Shower	Voluntarily enters with no luring / commands. Will go into a shower happily for a wash.
Thunder / Storms	Non-reactive to thunderstorms.
Couch	Likes being on couch / bed.

Crate Training	Very good, happily enters. No accidental toileting incidents.
Interactions with Charlie	Tries to dominate Charlie, but Charlie puts him in his place and they play nicely. *Charlie is my personal dog; a nine year old Belgian Malinois.
Livestock / Cows / Kangaroos	Interested in cattle, exposed to 50 head of cattle within several metres. Really wants to chase Kangaroos, recalls off them.
Bushland	Happy to manoeuvre through bushland off leash. Remains close to handler.
Quad Bike	Confident on the quad bike. Will jump off though, requires more training.
Patrolling	Happy to manoeuvre independently whilst handler patrols.
New dogs	Interested in other dogs, has not played with other dogs yet.
Top of Connex Containers	Will jump on and off a Connex container without issue (see video for clarification).
Social	Social, but very dominant towards other dogs.
Vocal	Minimal – doesn't bark at animals.
Entry to bite	Highly motivated to bite, both with and without equipment.
Grip	Foundation grip work done, highly motivated to bite and will work to improve grip to fill his mouth once on the bite.
Reactivity	Not reactive to dogs.
Diet	Enduro Puppy dry food.
Agility	Very agile and capable of doing obstacle courses.
Size	Filling out, average for breed.
Kennel	Crate trained from day one; will happily go into and stay in crate.
Separation	No separation anxiety.
Prey Drive	High prey drive.
Defence Drive / Aggression	Have done "civil" pictures, and he has a lot of aggression ready to be drawn out with ease. He got some big wins scaring off possible thieves as a puppy.



CURRENT LEVEL OF TRAINING

For all skills described below, please refer to the [video links](#) to see Gaston perform what is described.

TRACKING / TRAILING / MANHUNTING

Gaston has been raised from eight weeks of age in both the Dick Staal and Jeff Schettler tracking systems.

The Dick Staal system was discontinued in June 2022 as it wasn't yielding results that I considered operationally relevant. He was achieving urban tracks up to 500m in busy urban environments when I ceased training in it.

The Jeff Schettler scent discrimination system has yielded incredible and consistent results. Gaston is trained to a very high standard in this skillset. I will send through his track overlays from August 2022 onwards to show his abilities, and many of his tracks are on his YouTube playlist for viewing with audio commentary. He is capable of tracking through suburban environments out 1km aged over forty minutes reliably.

ENGAGEMENT / OBEDIENCE

Very engaged and understands to activate the handler to begin a session. I have placed several videos on his YouTube playlist to demonstrate how we train and what he responds to and offers. His obedience requires continued proofing, although the foundation is very strong and well ingrained. His down-stay is progressing well and only requires additional work to add endurance and layers of distraction to it.

TEMPERAMENT

Gaston loves being slapped around and pinched and so on in play. He likes things rough. He is still quite mouthy and has no manners and will jump on people and generally be a bit of a menace in this regard. He is super social though, and has spent time in office spaces with me and loves a pat from people.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONFIDENCE

Gaston is very confident in every environment he has been exposed to, which is many. He has been exposed to a massive variety of locations to ensure he will be capable of operating anywhere required in future. Locations include but not limited to busy urban centres, farmland, military bases, firing ranges, simulated firing ranges, abandoned buildings, and busy office spaces.

GRIP WORK

He has done grip work on both an elevated bite table and on ground level utilising a flexi-pole. He has also been introduced to drive channelling going from prey drive to defence drive, and back. His grips are progressing well. He tends to be a bit chewy, but this is fading with maturity and work.

EQUIPMENT

- Flat collar: All training has been done on a flat collar.
- Prong collar: He has done a little bit of work on a prong collar, more so as in introduction and to clean up his heeling.
- Harness: The wearing of a harness is currently a strong cue for tracking about to commence.
- Muzzle: Gaston wears a muzzle very well, and will perform obedience and walk off lash in busy urban environments whilst wearing it.
- Choke chain collar: I have never used a metallic chain choker, but have used a thin choker collar when doing grip development only.

GENETIC MATERIAL RIGHTS

I propose to retain the rights to obtain semen (at my cost) in the future when he is of an optimum age for collection. This is something I do with all my sold dogs as I look to ensure that quality genetic material is kept accessible to breeders in this country.



SUMMARY

Gaston is a highly social and high drive dog. He lacks manners, but is an open and energetic dog. He is incredibly aggressive when the moment requires and has excellent instincts for reacting to suspicious behaviour, which he has done in the real world to great effect, scaring off potential thieves and seeking to engage them in the dark of night without prompting. He loves to be slapped and pinched and thrown around, and thinks rough play is the best kind of play. When tracking he is one of the most enjoyable dogs I have handled and his proximity alert is easy to read. He is easy to get along with. He is a very good dog and I look forward to him having a very successful working life.





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