

What to Watch For When Matching Music ...

- Age of dog
- Age of handler
- Size of dog
- Age group of audience
- Is this music for a demonstration or competition?
- Athleticism/mobility of the handler
- Athleticism/mobility of the dog
- Does the dog move gracefully? How about the handler?
- Does the music/lyrics compliment the team and reflect relationship, bond, teamwork, etc.
- What feelings or mood do you want to create for the audience?
- Weight of the music
- Would this style of music limit behaviors used in team's choreography?
Example: Going through legs will not work in performance
- The dog's facial expression (mouth open or closed). Do the expressions reflect joy or are they more intense?
- Dog's ears pricked up, hanging down and moving freely, bouncing, etc.?
- Dog's foot fall/how high they lift their feet?
- Dog's body posture and energy. Move loosely? Move stiff and seem to conserve energy? Regular or erratic in movement?
- Dog's tail wag or does the rear end?
- Dog's hair: Long coats to give appearance of grace?
- Dog's personality
- Handler's comfort zone with the music. Does the handler seem rushed? Move comfortably to the music?
- Handler's ability to move to the music and energy level
- Music lyrics
- Title of song
- Enough changes in music that makes for interesting choreography?
- Where the dog is at in terms of training level. Newbie? More experienced?