

Universal Human-Animal Bond Scale

Attachment, Devotion, Value, Concern & Responsibility

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Att*	Relationship	Dev	Val	Con	Res	Total
10	A love relationship with 2-way interaction between a person and a specific companion animal that is regarded as a best friend or a member of the family. Emotional attachment and reciprocal reliance is readily displayed.	10	10	10	10	50
9	A strong relationship but yields to other responsibilities, priorities	8-9	9	9	10	45-46
8	Successive reliance relationships: service animals, K-9 partners, etc.	8-9	10	5-9	10	41-46
7	Ownership for purpose: military, protection, work, transport, etc.	2-9	3-9	3-9	10	24-43
6	Animals used in: racing, hunting, sports, shows, circus, draft	0-9	3-9	1-6	10	19-39
5	Animals raised in a family environment but considered disposable	2-9	1-4	1-5	10	21-35
4	Casual interactions with therapy, aquarium, zoo, exhibit animals	0-3	4-5	5-9	10	23-31
3	Food animals, farmed animals, game reserve and game animals, Species exploited for sport-fighting and other abusive acts	0-3	2-9	0-6	10	15-31
2	Laboratory animals used in research and development	0-3	1-9	0-6	10	13-30
1	Reserve & free ranging wild animals, wild birds, aquatic animals; Unwanted animals: horses, dogs, cats, feral animals, hoarded animals, etc.	0-2	0-6	0-9	10	11-28
0	Invasive species, pests, parasites, vectors of disease, destructive & harmful species, prey species that harm people and livestock	0	0	0-6	10	6-16

***Attachment** refers to the degree of bonding which a person has with their animal(s). All scores range from 0-10. Example; zero means no attachment; 10 indicates the most highly bonded relationship.

Devotion refers to the amount of time, effort and continuous ongoing interaction with the animal(s).

Value refers to emotional, financial, intrinsic, research, development or ecologic value.

Concern refers to the worry people have regarding the welfare of animal(s) such as preventing suffering or rescue or disaster response work.

Responsibility is direct for owners and indirect for society, public health, conservation, etc. Add the scores from left to right for Totals. The most highly bonded relationship has a total score from left to right of 50. This HAB Scale is generalized and is certainly disputable for particular scenarios. The universal diversity of HAB relationships is vast, so totals are reported in ranges. This HAB Scale was created by Alice Villalobos DVM, DPNAP, of Hermosa Beach, CA, www.pawspice.com in June 2011 for the SVME, the AAH-ABV and the AHF.