

Responsibilities of a Shepherd

REVIEW THE FOLLOWING LIST OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A WORKING-WITH-ACTUAL-SHEEP SHEPHERD, AND IDENTIFY IF EACH RESPONSIBILITY REFLECTS PROVISION (PV), PROTECTION (PT), AND/OR PRESENCE (PS). CIRCLE THE ABBREVIATION(S) THAT APPLY.

Pays a price for his sheep	PV	PT	PS
Has an intimate relationship with the sheep	PV	PT	PS
Lays down his life for the sheep on a continual basis, if the sheep are to flourish and prosper	PV	PT	PS
Cares meticulously for the sheep and gives them endless attention (Sheep require more care and attention than any other class of livestock.)	PV	PT	PS
Spares no pain for the welfare of his sheep	PV	PT	PS
Provides nourishment from the finest grazing, the richest pasturage, and ample winter feed (The welfare of the flock is entirely dependent upon the management afforded them by their owner.)	PV	PT	PS
Provides clean water and plenty of it, but from a variety of sources – dew, etc., not just bodies of water (Only through a shepherd's energy, effort, sweat, and strength can sheep be satisfied; everything for the sheep hinges and is dependent upon the shepherd.)	PV	PT	PS
Provides salt and other trace minerals for the sheep, if the food is not nourishing enough to do so on its own	PV	PT	PS
Delights in his flock	PV	PT	PS
Shelters the sheep from storms	PV	PT	PS
Protects the sheep from ruthless enemies	PV	PT	PS
Protects sheep from the diseases and parasites to which they are so susceptible, including the nasal fly and the scab disease that a minute, microscopic parasite can cause	PV	PT	PS

Responsibilities of a Shepherd *Continued*

Is alert to the welfare of the sheep from early dawn until late at night	PV	PT	PS
Assures the sheep are fit, content, and able to be on their feet (A shepherd does this the first thing each day and repeatedly throughout the day. Even at night, he sleeps with one eye and both ears open.)	PV	PT	PS
Assures the sheep are free of all fear (Sheep won't lie down unless they are not fearful.)	PV	PT	PS
Assures the sheep are free from friction, including tension, rivalry, and cruel competition with other sheep	PV	PT	PS
Assures the sheep are free of aggravation from pests, such as flies and parasites	PV	PT	PS
Assures they are free from hunger	PV	PT	PS
Makes it possible for the sheep to lie down, to rest, to relax, to be content and quiet, and flourish	PV	PT	PS
Keeps them in a dry climate	PV	PT	PS
Does the work that will produce green pastures, since this doesn't happen naturally in a dry climate	PV	PT	PS
Brings a calming presence to the sheep	PV	PT	PS
Keeps watch over the sheep every day, to assure the "cast down" sheep — those that have fallen over — are quickly overturned (Sheep can't get back up by themselves.)	PV	PT	PS
Assures the sheep doesn't have too much wool	PV	PT	PS
Assures the sheep are healthy (not too fat)	PV	PT	PS
Manages and handles with intelligent care; guides and disciplines	PV	PT	PS
Moves the sheep to the high country, via the valleys, at the right times for their protection and feeding	PV	PT	PS
Prepares for protecting the sheep with his "rod," through training, development, and coaching	PV	PT	PS

Responsibilities of a Shepherd *Continued*

Uses the "rod" wisely for the sheep's comfort and consolation, to examine and count the sheep, and to protect himself and his sheep (The rod speaks of authority, power, discipline, and defense.)	PV	PT	PS
Uses the "staff" properly to draw the sheep together, to guide them, and to touch them	PV	PT	PS
Warms the sheep when they are chilled	PV	PT	PS
Prepares the table land by adding salt and minerals and by clearing out the water holes, springs, and drinking places, cleaning out the accumulated debris of leaves, twigs, stones, and soil which may have fallen into the water source	PV	PT	PS
Decides ahead of time where camps will be located to assure the sheep have the best bed grounds	PV	PT	PS
Carefully reviews the range to determine how vigorous the grass and upland vegetation is and to decide whether some glades and basins can be used only lightly, whereas other slopes and meadows may be grazed more heavily	PV	PT	PS
Is alert for predators	PV	PT	PS
Cares for the sheep's scabs	PV	PT	PS
Takes a proactive, offensive stance during the season of the rut by rubbing the rams' heads and, sometimes, their noses with grease, allowing them to glance off each other during altercations, rather than lock horns	PV	PT	PS
Stays in the storm with the sheep	PV	PT	PS

