



Have you adopted a dog from The Lost Dogs' Home and need some more information? This helpful guide will give you all the information you need to get you started!



Looking for Behaviour Advice?

Book into our Dog behavioral classes or consults.

Contact our Pet Squad on (03) 8379-4408 or petsquad@dogshome.com



TIP

Adopting a second pet? Ask our team for advice on introducing a second dog or cat to the family!

STARTING OFF

Taking your new doggy home is an amazing experience and very exciting for us however for our four legged friends this can be a very scary experience.

The shelter can be a noisy and stressful environment for dogs and sometimes transitioning back into a home environment can be overwhelming. As new adopters we can help make this experience as calm as possible for our new friends.

TAKING YOUR DOG HOME

It is very important to go straight home and avoid any visits anywhere on the way home. Your dog is quite confused so visiting new areas and meeting new people at this stage is going to be a lot to cope with.

When you first bring your pooch home, let them explore the backyard first. If they go to the toilet give them a nice treat and calm positive praise. This helps them know where they are supposed to toilet. Keep in mind toileting in the house is quite common for the first couple of days of a new home as they are feeling quite disorientated and confused. It's our job to encourage them to toilet where we want them to in a positive way. Bring them into the house and let them

explore while you sit calmly and read through the information sheets and booklet in your adoption folder. It's important not to follow them around everywhere. Encourage independent exploring. If there are places you don't want them to go unattended then close those doors so they can't get in.

THE FIRST WEEK

Spend this time bonding with your dog and try out some basic training drills to help boost their confidence. The adoptions staff would have given you some great training tips.

When walking your dog please choose appropriate areas such as quiet streets. Gradually build up the length of your walks, try to keep to the same area the first week.

Limit the amount of visitors you have at your house. Keeping in mind your new dog is in a brand new environment and may find new people and other new animals scary.

While you're still getting to know your new dog keep interactions with other dogs brief and particularly take care around dogs you don't know.

If you need general advice queries give us a call on 8379-4416 or email adoptions@dogshome.com



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Since our official opening in 1913, we have been a voice for animals without owners caring for thousands of cats and dogs each year. Pioneers for fair animal laws, we continue to work on the front line to reduce the number of lost, abandoned and stray cats and dogs.

We rely on public support to run services and programs, including: proactive adoption, foster care, behaviour rehabilitation, low cost desexing and microchipping, and the promotion of better pet ownership through education.