

**friends of the
animal shelter**

Jackson County

Dog Companion Handbook

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL ADOPTION

Thank you for adopting a companion dog from the Jackson County Animal Shelter. The Shelter staff and Friends of the Animal Shelter (FOTAS) volunteers hope this handbook will answer many of the questions you may have. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns or further inquiries.

**This handbook is
available online at:**

www.fotas.org under ADOPT.



Jackson County Animal Shelter

5595 S. Pacific Hwy • Phoenix, Oregon 97535

Tuesday – Friday, 11 AM – 4 PM

Weekends, Noon – 4 PM

www.jacksoncounty.org/shelter

For inquiries about animals: (541) 774-6654

To view adoptable pets, go to

Friends of the Animal Shelter's webpage:

www.fotas.org, click on Adopt/Dogs & Cats

Friends of the Animal Shelter

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PO Box 1013, Phoenix, Oregon 97535

www.fotas.org

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For more info about volunteering and donating, please
contact us! (541) 774-6651 • fotas@fotas.org

Checklist for Bringing Your New Dog Home

- Check to make sure the collar is secure.
- Potty the dog before putting him in the car.
- Put the dog in the backseat (versus the front seat); ideally with a person to ride in the back with the dog.
- If there is another dog in the household, BEFORE bringing the new dog in the house, read the “How to Introduce Dogs to One Another” section.
- After walking your new dog outside of your house, keep him on leash in the house and let him sniff and explore. Recently-neutered and some other male dogs may try to mark in your home, so if he is on leash, you can tell him “NO” and stop him before he marks. Making sure he pottied before coming in the house will help with this. Some dogs will try to mark the first time they come into your house and will never do it again.



- Don't let the dog do anything on the first day that you won't want her to do later, like getting on the furniture, sitting in the kitchen, etc. Set the rules and make sure all family members are consistent.
- If you don't have a securely fenced area, do NOT let the dog off leash.
- Remember to give your dog time to adjust to your home. It can take 2 days to 2 months...every dog is different! Please be patient!
- If you have adopted a puppy, read the section about puppies in this handbook as soon as possible, and if she hasn't had her shots - **don't let her feet touch the ground where other dogs have been**. Parvo is a serious health risk for puppies, and keeping her feet from touching the ground until she's had her shots will significantly reduce her exposure.
- Post an update to the Friends of the Animal Shelter's Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/FOTAS page - we love to hear how things are going!

We are thrilled that you decided to give a loving, fur-ever home to a Shelter dog.

Thank you for “adopting, not shopping.”

If you have any problems with the adoption or have questions, please contact the Jackson County Animal Shelter at (541) 774-6654.

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CREDIT AND THANKS

Our sincere thanks to the professionals and organizations that provided the great tips in this handbook: San Francisco SPCA, Sue Sternberg, Dr Sophia Yin, DVM, MS and Turid Rugaas, author of ‘*Calming Signals*’. *The suggestions in this handbook are guidelines only.* For more specific help, contact a professional dog trainer (see page 5 for trainers that have worked with Shelter animals).

And many thanks to Friends of the Animal Shelter for producing and printing this handbook.



www.fotas.org

www.facebook.com/fotas

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Chapter 1 – Adopting a Dog from the Jackson County Animal Shelter

Licensing and Identification



- Dogs adopted from the Shelter by residents of Jackson County that have been vaccinated for rabies are required to be licensed at the time of adoption.
- If you currently have other dogs in your home, they are required to be licensed as well. If the adopter's dog(s) is not currently licensed, the adopter can leave a licensing deposit to cover the cost of a license, and will need to provide proof of a current rabies vaccination within 30 days.
- Out-of-county adopters should contact their local Animal Control for licensing guidelines.
- Licensing your dog is required within 30 days of adoption, according to Oregon State Law and Jackson County Code, for all dogs 6 months or older. Licenses can be purchased with a current rabies vaccination certificate at the Jackson County Animal Shelter, online (see website below) and at some veterinarian's offices. License fees are listed on the Jackson County Animal Shelter website: www.jacksoncounty.org/shelter
- If your licensed dog is wearing its current license tag, a **Free Ride Home** is available if it has no previous violations and is brought to the Shelter or picked up by an Animal Control Officer. Substantial redemption fees will be waived once.
- Be sure to add an ID tag to your dog's collar as soon as possible. Having your dog micro-chipped and keeping it updated with current contact information is another effective way to assure that your dog is returned to you if lost. All dogs brought to the Shelter are scanned for microchips.

Included with your adoption fee

- **Free Wellness Check** – Your dog adoption includes a Free Wellness Check with a local veterinarian. Please make your appointment within the first week and take your new dog's health record given to you by Shelter staff at the time of adoption with you.
- **Free In-home Training** – Your dog adoption comes with a one hour free in-home training with one of our professional dog trainers. The offer is good for 6 months after adoption. Contact one of the dog trainers listed on page 5 to schedule a visit.
- **Microchip** - Beginning in January 2021, all dogs adopted from the Jackson County Animal Shelter are microchipped before adoption. Remember to keep your contact information current! All dogs are scanned for microchips when they come to the Shelter as strays. Unfortunately, often most of the information is out of date, so the owners cannot be notified. Update your information at www.foundanimals.org.

Low-Cost Vaccinations

- Low-Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinics are held at Shelter on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 11 am to 1 pm. Two vaccinations are available: Rabies (\$10) and Parvo/ Distemper/ Adeno/ Parainfluenza/Lepto (\$15). CASH ONLY.
- Reservations required – register online: www.jacksoncounty.org/shelter
- CASH ONLY for vaccinations and nail trims; checks, credit cards and cash are accepted for licenses.

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Chapter 2 – Getting Started

It Doesn't Happen Overnight!

The 3/3/3 rule is a general guideline for the adjustment period of a pet after adoption.

Every pet is unique and will adjust differently.

Please have the patience and allow your new pet time to settle in.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| 3 DAYS <i>To Decompress</i> | 3 WEEKS <i>To Learn Your Routine</i> | 3 MONTHS <i>To Feel at Home</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feels overwhelmed• May feel scared or unsure• Not yet comfortable to be "him/herself"• May not want to eat or drink• Shuts down and/or hides | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Starts settling in• Feels more comfortable• Realizes this could be his/her forever home• Figures out his/her environment• Gets into a routine• Begins to show true personality | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finally feels completely comfortable in his/her home• Begins to build trust and a true bond• Gains a complete sense of security with his/her new family |
| PLEASE! BE PATIENT! GIVE THEM THAT CHANCE! | | |

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Getting Comfortable with Your New Dog

- Give your dog time to get accustomed to your family and your home before introducing him to other people and taking him out to new places. Some dogs may take several weeks to recover from the stress of being in the kennels to feel secure with you. Your primary focus during the first two weeks should be on encouraging the dog to bond with you and your family.
- If you are having difficulty introducing your new dog into your family, please call one of the trainers first. If you are still experiencing challenges, call the Shelter – we can help!
- Friends of the Animal Shelter volunteers will make a friendly follow-up phone call, usually after the first week the dog has been with you, to see how you are doing.
- Although no refunds are given if you return this pet, you may return the dog to the Shelter within 30 days of the adoption, you will receive an exchange certificate. If you return the dog after 30 days, but before 6 months, there will be no surrender fee. After 6 months, an owner surrender fee will be charged.

Free In-Home Training

A gift from Friends of the Animal Shelter! We are so happy that you have adopted a wonderful dog from the Jackson County Animal Shelter. Sometimes, getting a little help to make the transition easier for you and the dog is a good idea! Friends of the Animal Shelter is pleased to offer you one, one-hour, in-home session with one of the professional dog trainers listed below. This offer is valid for 6 months from the adoption date. Just give the trainer a call and provide the Animal ID# on the adoption paperwork to set up your free training session.

Colleen Shanahan



Colleen Shanahan, CDBC, offers high quality, positive and effective dog training methods that are both dog and human-friendly. She is a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant (through www.IAABC.com), who has trained a variety of different breeds of dogs (as well as cats, birds and horses). Colleen has been training dogs since 1997, and has had a high success rate of training puppies and dogs with complex issues. Check her website for testimonials. Bonded and Insured.

www.facebook.com/DogGoneFun • www.doggonefun.biz

To make an appointment: (541) 601-7601 • doggonefun@gmail.com



Carrie Brooks and Kaye Geyler offer science-based, positive and force-free training methods that are easy to learn and fun to use. Our goal is to help your dog become more happy, stable and confident.

Professional Premium Members of *The Association of Professional Dog Trainers* • Bonded and Insured

www.facebook.com/GoRogueDogTrainingCenterLLC • www.goroguedogtraining.com

To make an appointment: (541) 327-9559 • info@goroguedogtraining.com

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HOW NOT TO GREET A DOG

Most people do this stuff and it stresses dogs out so they BITE!
I don't care how cute you (or your kid) think Boogie is. Please show him some respect.



1
DON'T
Lean over the dog & stick your hand in his face



2
DON'T
Lean over the dog & stick your hand on top of his head



3
DON'T
Grab or Hug him



4
DON'T
Stare him in the eye
(This is an adversarial gesture)



5
DON'T
Squeal or shout in his face



6
DON'T
Grab his head and kiss it
(This is an invasion of space)

Doing this to a dog who doesn't know you is like a perfect stranger giving you a great big hug and kiss in an elevator. Wouldn't that creep you out? And wouldn't you have the right to defend yourself?

THE CORRECT WAY:



- * No Eye contact
- * Let the dog approach you in his own time
- * Keep either your SIDE or BACK towards the dog (non-threatening posture)



- * Pet or stroke him on the SIDE of his face or body. Or on his back.

www.doggiedrawings.net *Lili*

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You and Your New Dog: Starting Out Right

Here are some helpful hints for success:

Supplies

- Dog food
- Water and food bowl (preferably metal, not plastic)
- Kongs / food balls (highly recommended by training)
- Treats for training
- Toys (chew bones, chew toys)
- Bed (dog bed, blanket or towels)
- Crate and/or baby gates

Put all these must-have supplies in your new dog's confinement area (see below).

Setup

Set up a **confinement area**, a place your dog will stay when you can't provide 100% supervision; in other words, when you're out, or busy around the house, and can't watch him the entire time. The ideal confinement area should be easy to clean and easy to close off with a door or baby gate. It should be mostly free of furniture and non-dog related objects (remember, everything is a potential chew toy to a dog!). The best place for a confinement area is the kitchen, laundry room, porch, empty spare room, or small indoor/outdoor area.

Furnish the confinement area with a bed or a crate with something soft to sleep on, a water bowl and several toys, including a favorite bone or chew toy. Note: The confinement area should be the only place your dog gets to have his favorite toy.

You might think the word "confinement" has a negative connotation, but your dog's confinement area is not a negative thing; it's positive. The confinement area is a place your dog can call his own as he makes the transition to his new home. It's where he gets good things, like meals and his favorite toy. It sets him up for success in the process of housetraining and alone-time training.

People often give a new dog complete freedom right away. Then, when he has an accident or chews the wrong thing, they confine him, and confinement becomes punishment. If you start out giving your dog the run of the house, you're setting him up for failure. Better to give him a safe, confined place, so he can make a gradual and successful transition to his new home.

If you're unsure of where to set up your dog's confinement area, please ask a trainer or Friends of the Animal Shelter adoption ambassador for suggestions.

Arrival

- When you arrive at home, take your dog out for a walk or bathroom break ON LEASH.
- Introduce him, ON LEASH, to his new home, including his confinement area.
- Give your dog a chew bone or a stuffed Kong and leave him alone in the confinement area for approximately 5 minutes.

If your dog begins to howl, whine, or bark, wait until he has been quiet for at least ten seconds before you respond. Otherwise, your dog will learn that whining or barking makes you appear or gets him out of the confinement area, and he'll bark or cry for longer periods of time.

You must get your dog used to short absences starting within the first few hours of his arrival.

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This is extremely important. You'll want to spend every minute with your dog when he first comes home, but you should prepare him right away for a normal routine. He must learn to be relaxed, calm and settled when he's alone. Alone-time training is necessary because dogs are highly social animals and being alone doesn't come naturally to them.

Leave your dog alone in his confinement area while you go out or spend time in another part of the house. Vary the length of your absences, from 30 seconds to 20 minutes, and repeat them throughout the day. If your dog seems comfortable, you can increase the amount of time he's left alone.

Remember, it may take several days or weeks (or longer) for your dog to make the transition to his new home.

Bedtime

Put a chew toy in your dog's crate or sleeping area when you leave him for the night. He may have trouble settling in at first, but he should eventually relax and go to sleep. Remember, it's important not to let your dog out of his confinement area if he's crying or barking. If he gets attention for barking (even negative attention), he'll keep it up for long periods of time.

Housetraining

Some adult dogs are not housetrained. If your dog has an accident, it's not because he's incapable or unintelligent, it's because he has not been properly trained. To successfully housetrain your dog, you need to treat him like an 8-week-old pup. *The confinement area is your key to success.*

- Until your dog is perfectly housetrained, never leave him alone unless he's in his confinement area.

He must be 100% supervised when he's outside his confinement area.

- Take your dog out on leash frequently. Start by walking him at half-hour intervals.
- If you see your dog sniffing and circling in the house, take him out **immediately**.
- Praise and reward him with a treat (cookie) when he relieves himself outdoors.
- **Never** yell or punish your dog for a potty accident in the house.

The key to training your dog to eliminate outside (where you want him to) is to prevent accidents, and to reward success. Adult dogs have better bladder and bowel control, and can "hold it" for a longer period of time than puppies.

The rule of thumb with puppies is to take their age in months, add one, and that's the number of hours the puppy can "hold it" during the day. (i.e., A four-month-old puppy can be expected to be "hold it" for five hours).

REMEMBER!
Do not punish accidents!
Ignore them and reward success.



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Here are some simple steps to help you and your dog find success!

- If you feed your dog on a schedule, she'll eliminate on a schedule, too. Keep her diet simple and consistent.
- Choose an area, about ten square feet, outside, where you wish your dog to potty. Take your dog on leash to the area, pace back and forth (movement promotes movement) and chant an encouraging phrase ("do your business, do your business"). Do this for no more than three minutes:
 - If she eliminates, give huge amounts of praise and play.
 - If she doesn't eliminate, keep her on leash and go back indoors. Keep her on leash with you or confined in a crate.
- Try again in an hour; eventually your dog will eliminate appropriately and you can give huge amounts of praise and play.
- After each success, allow 15 minutes of freedom in house, before placing your dog back on the lead or back into the crate.
- After each three consecutive days of success, increase freedom by 15 minutes.
- If there is an accident; decrease freedom by 15 minutes for three days.

Exercise

- Dogs need both physical exercise and mental stimulation.
- A good exercise program will make your dog a more relaxed and enjoyable companion.
- Depending on your dog's energy level, he will benefit greatly from daily exercise. Off-leash romps in secured areas, running or jogging, interactive games, such as fetch, help burn energy and keep your dog from getting bored and frustrated. (Don't let your dog off leash in unsecured areas, and make sure he wears an ID tag.)
- Daily obedience training and food "puzzle" toys provide your dog with mental stimulation.
- Dog training classes help burn off mental and physical energy. They also provide an opportunity to practice off-leash recalls. Training classes are fun for dogs and people alike.

Remember: A tired dog is a happy dog!

Chapter 3 – When You Get Home

How to Crate Train Your Dog

A crate is a valuable tool for a new adopter. Like a confinement area, a crate eases the process of housetraining, chew training and alone-time training. It helps your dog make the transition to his new home.

Crating philosophy

Crate training uses a dog's natural instincts as a den animal. The crate becomes your dog's den, an ideal spot to snooze or take refuge during a thunderstorm.

Crating caution!

- *Never use the crate as a punishment.* Your dog will come to fear it and refuse to enter it.
- *Don't leave your dog in the crate too long.* A dog that's crated day and night doesn't get enough exercise or human interaction and can become depressed or anxious.
- *Puppies under six months of age shouldn't stay in a crate for more than three or four hours at a time.* They can't control their bladders and bowels for that long. The same goes for adult dogs that are being housetrained.
- *Crate your dog only until you can trust him not to destroy the house.* After that, it should be a place he goes voluntarily.

Selecting a crate

Your dog's crate should be just large enough for him to stand up and turn around in. If your dog is still growing, choose a crate size that will accommodate his adult size. Block off the excess crate space so your dog can't eliminate at one end and retreat to the other.

The Crate Training Process

Crate training can take days or weeks, depending on your dog's age, temperament, and past experiences. It's important to keep two things in mind while crate training:

- The crate should always be associated with something pleasant.
- Training should take place in a series of small steps. Don't go too fast.



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Step 1: Introduce your dog to the crate

Place the crate in an area of your house where the family spends a lot of time. Put a soft blanket or towel in the crate. Take the door off and let the dog explore the crate at his leisure.

- Encourage your dog to enter the crate by dropping some small food treats nearby, then just inside the door, and finally, all the way inside the crate. Don't force him to enter.
- Continue tossing treats into the crate until your dog will walk calmly all the way into the crate to get the food.

Step 2: Feed your dog his meals in the crate

After introducing your dog to the crate, begin feeding him his regular meals near the crate. This will create a pleasant association with the crate.

- If he remains reluctant to enter the crate, put the dish only as far inside as he will readily go without becoming fearful or anxious. Each time you feed him, place the dish a little further back in the crate.
- If he begins to whine to be let out, you may have increased the length of time too quickly. Next time, try leaving him in the crate for a shorter time period. If he does whine or cry in the crate, don't let him out until he stops. Otherwise, he'll learn that the way to get out of the crate is to whine, so he'll keep doing it.

Step 3: Lengthen the crating periods

- Call him over to the crate and give him a treat.
- After your dog enters the crate, praise him, give him the treat, and close the door.
- Sit quietly near the crate for five to ten minutes, and then go into another room for a few minutes. Return, sit quietly again for a short time, and then let him out of the crate.

Step 4: Crate your dog when you leave

After your dog can spend about 30 minutes in the crate without becoming anxious or afraid, you can begin leaving her crated for short periods when you leave the house.

When you return home, don't reward your dog for excited behavior by responding to her in an excited, enthusiastic way. Keep arrivals low key to avoid increasing her enthusiasm.

Step 5: Crate your dog at night

Put your dog in the crate using your regular command and a treat. Initially, it may be a good idea to put the crate in your bedroom or nearby in a hallway, especially if you have a puppy.

Once your dog is sleeping comfortably through the night with his crate near you, you can begin to gradually move it to the location you prefer.

Whining: If your dog whines or cries while in the crate at night, try to ignore the whining. If your dog is just testing you, he'll probably stop whining soon. *Yelling at him or pounding on the crate will only make things worse.*

How to Introduce Dogs to one Another

Some dogs do not enjoy the company of other dogs and it may not be advisable in some situations to introduce dogs at all.

Respect each dog's personality and do not push dogs to "be friends."

Neutral Territory Meet and Greet

When first bringing a new dog home where there is another dog(s), even if they have already met, they should meet again on *neutral territory, or outside of the house*, prior to bringing the new dog into the home.



Parallel leash-walking, on neutral territory, with two handlers, is a great way to introduce dogs.



- While taking a short walk, allow the dogs to curve around in a natural manner. This is a strategy encouraged by trainer Turid Rugaas, author of *"Calming Signals."*
- Both handlers should have a firm hold of their leashes; however, they should try to *maintain a U-shaped bend in the lead*. Taut, tight leashes may communicate tension to the dogs and should be avoided.

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- **Avoid face-face, head-on introductions between dogs.** Instead, walk parallel to each other, a few feet apart, and alternate which dog is ahead of the other.
- **Do not allow a dog to greet another dog if he is dragging you towards the other dog or is misbehaving in any way (pulling, jumping, or lunging).** Doing so will result in training the dog to misbehave to gain access to other dogs. The dog does not make the decision as to whom he will meet and when...you do!
- **If the dogs appear to be friendly, allow them to briefly sniff one another, and then each dog should be called away by their handlers.** *If either dog stiffens, stands up on its toes, or shows any aggressive posturing, call the dogs away immediately and interrupt the interaction. Do not allow any mounting.*
- **It is important to interrupt an interaction before things go wrong so you can preserve the possibility of a successful interaction later.**
 - ✓ *It might be necessary to take several walks, in different locations, over time. Multiple introductions in this manner give you a better read for how the dogs will do. Do not rush this process if the introductions seem 'iffy' in any way.*
- **Stop the introduction if either dog is showing signs of fear or aggression.** *Body language that indicates fear or aggression can include (see body language poster on next page)*
 - ✓ raised hackles
 - ✓ stiff posturing
 - ✓ lip curling
 - ✓ growling
 - ✓ air snapping
 - ✓ tail tucked between legs
 - ✓ one dog avoiding the other or wanting to hide behind the handler
 - ✓ lunging
 - ✓ freezing
- **If the leash walking is successful, go to a fenced area and have one dog held on leash, and one with its leash on but free to roam.**
 - *Usually in this scenario, the resident dog is loose (but leashed), and the new dog is held on leash. This gives one dog the ability to safely check things out and move away as needed while you maintain control of the other dog and allow them to get used to each other's presence and scent.*
 - *Make sure the yard or fenced area is free of items that may possibly trigger a fight such as high-value toys, bones, food dishes, or rawhides.*



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Body Language of Fear in Dogs



Slight Cowering



Major Cowering

More Subtle Signs of Fear & Anxiety



Licking Lips
when no food nearby



Panting
when not hot or thirsty



Brows Furrowed, Ears to Side



Moving in Slow Motion
walking slow on floor



Acting Sleepy or Yawning
when they shouldn't be tired



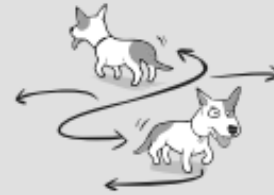
Hypervigilant
looking in many directions



Suddenly Won't Eat
but was hungry earlier



Moving Away



Pacing

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Dr. Sophia Yin, DVM, MS
The Art and Science of Animal Behavior

For additional free dog bite prevention resources and more dog behavior books and products, visit www.drSophiaYin.com.



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Introducing Dogs and Cats

From San Francisco SPCA



Can the Dog Live with My Cat?

The best possible indicator to know whether a dog is a good candidate to live with a cat and vice-versa is confirmation the dog has successfully lived with a cat(s) before and that the cat has lived with a dog. Dogs not well socialized to cats are likely to react to cats as though they were either other dogs or prey objects. This means they will direct play, investigation and posturing at cats or will give chase.

If the dog is gentle, relaxed and friendly and is not much of a predatory type (i.e. doesn't chase cats or squirrels when outdoors), he is a good prospect to develop a relationship with a cat. Predatory-type dogs are much more stressful for cats and must be constantly managed when around the cat if they are to live with one. Predation is not something a dog can be easily trained not to do, as it is deeply ingrained.

Sometimes, with diligence and perseverance, a dog with intense predatory drive can be taught to direct it at other outlets and to stick to carefully trained rituals and routines when around the cat, but this is tricky and does not work in every case. Dogs that are less intense are better prospects. It is important to know that dogs can and do sometimes injure and kill cats. Dogs that kill cats are almost inevitably highly predatory, so often they can be picked out. A pair or group of predatory dogs is at greatest risk. It's also important to know that most dogs that chase cats are not in this category. They chase, but do no physical damage, if they catch or corner the cat.

There is a range of temperament in cats, and this is a factor that will influence the success of dog-cat cohabitation. In general, relaxed, laid back cats and kittens are the best prospects to accept a dog. They are also at lower risk to flee and trigger chasing, which will allow a social, rather than a predator-prey, relationship to develop. Shy, skittish, and de-clawed cats are less rosy prospects. De-clawed cats feel more vulnerable and are more likely to display aggressively when cornered.

Cats who have not been socialized to dogs will almost always behave defensively, by fleeing and/or with an aggressive display the first time they encounter a new dog. If the dog does not come on too strong and if the cat is given dog-free zones to retreat to, many cats will gradually get used to the dog and sometimes even become bonded.



After Adopting

If you've decided to blend a dog and a cat in your household, here are some pointers:

- Have a 'safety room' or rooms as well as high places the cat can access but the dog cannot. Baby-gates, cat doors and clearing high surfaces can accomplish this. It is important that the cat can retreat to regroup and relax away from the dog and then venture forward into "dog territory" at her own pace. The cat should have access to food, water, and litter in this area so no interactions with the dog are forced.
- Never force the cat (or dog) into proximity by holding her, caging her, or otherwise restricting her desire to escape. This is stressful and does not help. Aside from it being inhumane, stress is a common reason for cats to break litter box training.

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- For the first introduction, have the dog on leash in case he explodes into chase. If it seems to be going well, take the leash off and supervise closely.
- If the dog is behaving in a friendly and/or cautious way, try to not intervene in their interactions, except to praise and reward the dog for his good manners.
- Interrupt any intense chasing and try to redirect the dog's attention to another activity – this is very difficult, so you may be forced in the future to manage the dog on-leash around the cat until you have worked out a routine or divided up the house.
- In the first few weeks, observe the trend: are things getting better or worse? Monitor interactions until there is a pattern or plateau in their relationship.
- If the dog is the newcomer, be sure to give plenty of extra attention to the cat so she does not associate this change with reduced attention and affection. If the newcomer is a cat, it's also a good idea to make sure the dog associates the new intruder with good things for him. Shoot for positive associations always.
- Dogs should not have access to the cat litter box – it is too stressful for the cat and the dog may eat cat feces and litter. Most dogs will also eat cat food the cat leaves behind. We suggest feeding cats in the cat's safe room or on a high surface.

Keeping Your Kids Safe around Dogs

What Actions Might Cause Your Dog to Bite? What You can do to Prevent Bites

Often dog bites occur because humans, especially children, are rude to the dog. You can help prevent your dog from biting by first, understanding the types of actions that drive dogs to feel bullied or pestered so much they feel they must bite. You will need to teach your kids how to play with dogs properly.

Please be advised that dog bites are a human health issue that generally requires a quarantine (usually at home) of the animal involved. Dog owners are encouraged to report all animal bites to Animal Control Services at (541) 774-6655. If contacted by Animal Control, owners should be prepared to provide rabies vaccination information to the officer and to monitor the health and behavior of their dog for 10 days. All adopted dogs that are over 6 months of age are vaccinated for rabies at the time of adoption.

Appropriate Child-Dog Interactions are Polite and Kind

The key to keeping everyone safe is for you to teach both the dog and your children to be polite. *Make sure your children interact with your dog the same way you want them to interact with you.* By following simple do's and don'ts, everyone will be safer and happier.

Take time to ensure the dog has lots of positive associations with your children. The kids can regularly give food rewards for the dog's calm, polite behavior, such as automatic sits.

Supervise all interactions between your children and dog, especially in the getting-to-know-you period, even if your children are well-behaved and your dog very tolerant. Accidents can happen in a split second.

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How Kids SHOULD Interact with Dogs

Use common sense.

Be polite and kind to pets



Learn to recognize when your dog is scared or anxious



Play appropriate games with pets, such as:

Fetch



Training tricks (like roll over, shake, beg, etc.)

Walking and running with a dog



Playing hide-n-seek

Always remember:

Supervise all interactions. Accidents can happen in a split second.



Train your dog to associate the kids with positive experiences so he'll be more likely to tolerate your child in case she accidentally interacts inappropriately.



Dr. Sophia Yin, DVM, MS
The Art and Science of Animal Behavior

For additional free dog bite prevention resources and more dog behavior books and products, visit www.drsophiayin.com.



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Chapter 5 – If You Adopted a Puppy

Bringing Home a New Puppy

Bringing home a new puppy is truly one of life's joys ... and challenges! Thoughtful pre-puppy preparations and a well-planned first 24 hours can give your fuzzy bundle of promise a head start and make your dreams of the perfect family dog come true.

Before the Big Day

Once household discussions have established that everyone wants a dog and you have adopted your shelter dog, family meetings should cover scheduling:

- Who will take the pup to the papers or backyard to toilet, and when?
- Who will oversee feedings him three to four times a day?
- Who will make veterinary appointments or vaccinations and deworming?

Make a shopping list and purchase supplies:

- food and water bowls (metal or ceramic; can't be chewed)
- chew toys (avoid rawhide – real bones are best)
- training reward treats
- grooming supplies
- bedding
- collar and leash
- identification tag (with YOUR name and phone #)
- crate
- gate
- odor neutralizer

Pre-puppy shopping allows you to visit the pet supply store without the pressure of needing it right now.

You'll need to puppy-proof the area where the youngster will spend most of his time the first few months. This may mean taping loose electrical cords to baseboards; storing household chemicals on high shelves; removing plants, rugs, and breakables; setting up the crate; and installing gates.

Once you think you've completely puppy-proofed your house, lie on the floor and look around once more to get a puppy's-eye view.

If you have children, hold one last meeting to lay down the rules: Don't overwhelm the puppy the first day, and don't fight over him or create mob scenes showing him to the neighborhood.

Getting Off on the Right Paw

When you pick up your pup, remember to ask what and when he was fed. Replicate that schedule for at least the first few days to avoid gastric distress. If you wish to switch to a different brand, do so over a period of



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about a week by adding one-part new brand to three parts of the old for several days; then switch to equal parts; and then one part old to three parts new.

From the start, consistency is important. On the way home, your pup should ride in the back seat, either in one person's arms or, preferably, in a crate or carrier.

Once home, folks who plop the excited newcomer on the living room rug and let the kids chase him, will be mopping up in no time...and regretting the lesson they taught their new pup. Instead, *take him to his toileting area immediately.*

From there, *carry out your schedule for feeding, toileting, napping, and play/exercise.* From Day One, your pup will need family time and brief periods of solitary confinement. Solitude may be new to the puppy, so he may vocalize concern. Don't give in and comfort him or you may create a monster. "Gee, if making noise brought them running once, maybe more whimpering is needed to get their attention again," reasons the pup. Give him attention for good behavior, such as chewing on a toy or resting quietly.

Doing things correctly from the start prevents confusion. Through puppy preparedness, you are one step closer to your Dream Dog.



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Chapter 6 – Caring for Your Senior Dog

Senior dogs have different care requirements than adult dogs and puppies. And, in order to provide the best possible senior dog care, you will have to do things a little bit differently in order to keep them healthy.

Age-appropriate diet

A balanced diet plays a big role in maintaining your dog's health as they age. Since their energy level is lower, you may need to provide lower-calorie food to prevent obesity. And since older dogs often suffer from a variety of medical conditions, you can consult with your vet if your dog has a need for a special type of senior dog food for their condition.

Regular exercise

Regular exercise will help your dog maintain their ideal weight and will also have a beneficial impact on their overall health. Be patient, start slowly and build your dog's stamina. As a dog ages, they have lower energy levels, so even though your pup was able to run for half an hour before, they might not be able to do it once they get older.

Maintain oral health

Most old dogs don't get the proper dental care during their adult life, so it is not uncommon to see older dogs with a few missing teeth. To keep your dog's teeth healthy, you need to wash them every day, and if your dog isn't a fan, start giving them dental treats. Also, you should take your dog to the vet once a year in order to have their teeth professionally cleaned.

Vaccination and parasite protection

Your dog's age doesn't matter when it comes to flea, tick, and worm protection. So, you should continue administering proper treatments just like before. But when it comes to vaccines, older dogs don't require them at the same intervals. Usually once every three years is enough, but you should consult your vet since they will know what is best for your dog's individual needs.

Regular grooming

As your dog ages, so do their coat and skin, a once luxurious and shiny coat can become dull looking and brittle. Seniors can also suffer from dry, flaky, and irritated skin that can become even worse if not cared for properly. That means that you will have to brush your dog regularly, especially to avoid the development of mats and tangles. We also recommend that you use only natural shampoos that will nourish and heal irritated skin and coat.

Provide special accommodations

Older dogs often develop arthritis or other bone and joint problems that affect their mobility. Furthermore, a blind dog will also have trouble jumping on the bed or sofa at night. In these cases, your dog can benefit from soft bedding and an easily accessible bed that won't require jumping or climbing. Also, climbing up and down the stairs can prove to be difficult and your dog should avoid doing so. Also, it is a good idea to place carpets and rugs around the house to help an arthritic dog gain their footing and ease their movements a little bit.

Spend time with your pup

A geriatric dog can easily become anxious if they don't sense their owner by their side, and that makes them terrified. So try to spend as much time as you can with your pup. Even though your dog might not be able to see or hear you, they still need your presence and attention in order to stay emotionally and mentally healthy. So instead of dwelling on your dog's age, take them for a walk, play with them, and give them treats.

Treat your dog like your best friend, deserving of your love and attention every single day.

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Chapter 7 – Preparing for an Emergency

You never know when you'll need to evacuate with very little notice. We live in an area that is getting hit by fires more often, and everyone is talking about "the big one" on the Cascadia fault. Be prepared!

Get a Rescue Alert Sign for Your Home



Always have some sort of indication near your front door to indicate pets are inside (type and quantity). This will let rescue workers know that pets are inside your home if you were not home when disaster struck.

You can purchase these signs at most pet stores.

If you must evacuate with your pets, and if time allows, write "EVACUATED" across the stickers.

Here's a checklist for what to have ready to take with you!

- Food and bowl(s) – at least three days' worth for each pet in airtight containers, plus bowls.
- Manual can opener.
- Bottled water and bowl – at least three days' worth.
- Medications – several days' worth in a childproof container, clearly labeled with name, dose and strength.
- Carriers – one per animal.
 - Do not try to transport more than one animal per carrier. The carrier will get too heavy, the animals may get stressed in such a small space, and it is hard to control more than one animal at a time. Carriers must be secure to keep your pet(s) from escaping.
- Sheet or blanket to cover carrier – this will help reduce outside stimuli and encourage your dog(s) to relax.
- Poop bags.
- Comfort items – Familiar toy or bedding.
- Collar, harness, and leash – the collar should have an ID tag with your name and cell phone number.
- Pet First Aid Kit – these can be purchased at pet stores.
- Crucial information – keep in a water-proof bag:
 - Veterinarian's name and phone number.
 - County Animal Control phone #: Jackson County Animal Services: (541) 774-6654.
 - Copy of pet's medical records, a current photo, and microchip information.
- Action Plan – Agree with family or roommates where to meet if you're not together when disaster strikes, and make sure everyone knows where all the items listed above are located.

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Volunteering with Friends of the Animal Shelter

Each year, Friends of the Animal Shelter volunteers help the Shelter care for thousands of lost, abandoned, and stray pets. Would you like to make a difference in the lives of these animals?

CAT CARE

Cat volunteers assist with maintaining a healthy and happy cat room environment, while helping our feline friends feel comfortable and loved, which helps them get adopted. Volunteers spend time petting, grooming, and socializing cats. Daily attention and tender loving care help to keep cats friendly and relieves the stress from living in a kennel.

DOG WALKING

Volunteer to walk dogs that are waiting for a family to give them good home. Daily walks provide dogs with mental stimulation, socialization, exercise, and training. It is rewarding to see how enthusiastically the dogs respond to their walker companions and how calm and well behaved they are when prospective adopters come to visit.

ADOPTIONS

Help pets find new homes by answering potential adopters' questions at the Shelter and outreach events. Adoption Counselors can be one of the most rewarding volunteer opportunities because you help potential adopters find a pet that matches their personality and lifestyle, thus ensuring the pet has a permanent, loving home.

FOSTERING

Foster parents provide a temporary "home between homes" for kittens and puppies prior to being spayed or neutered and put up for adoption.



Fostering for adult animals helps to give animals a break from the Shelter and find fur-ever homes faster. Foster care is a wonderful and personal way to contribute to saving homeless pets.

OFFICE ASSISTANCE

Some volunteer opportunities do not involve working hands-on



with the animals. We always need volunteers with clerical and reception skills to assist with office duties, answering phones, and special projects.

And other volunteer opportunities are available!

**friends of the
animal shelter**
Jackson County

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