

# TIPS FOR BRINGING YOUR NEW DOG HOME

## CRATE TRAIN

This will give your new dog their own space to be more comfortable. It will keep them safe while home alone and will help to prevent separation anxiety.

## LIMIT FURNITURE PRIVILEGE

This will help to designate their crate as their place to relax and will set boundaries so you can form a healthy relationship. In the future, you can allow furniture time as a reward for good behavior.

## UNDERSTAND THE HONEYMOON PERIOD

Expect things to change, especially as your dog gets more comfortable. New behaviors may pop up, but the more structure you provided at the beginning, the better set up to handle those behaviors you will be.

## PUT TOYS AWAY

Use toys as a reward. Free access can reduce their value. Toys left out can also create opportunities for resource guarding which can be dangerous in a home with other animals or young kids.

## BEGIN TRAINING IMMEDIATELY

This will help you build a relationship with your new dog and set you both up for success.

## WAIT TO INTRODUCE TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Your new dog will be overwhelmed, especially with people hovering around them. If people do come over, ask guests to ignore the dog and allow them to approach on their terms.



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## AVOID DOG PARKS

Dog parks are extremely risky, especially for a dog that you do not know yet. You could be putting them and other dogs in danger.

## SKIP ON-LEASH GREETINGS

Face to face greetings are unnatural to dogs and the leash limits their natural flight response. Leash greetings can exacerbate leash reactivity and encourage your dog to pay attention to other dogs over their handler.

## DON'T OVERDO AFFECTION

Not all dogs love to be pet, especially by strangers (and right now YOU are a stranger). Get to know each other slowly and on their terms.

## STRUCTURED WALKS

Work on engagement, teaching heel, not allowing marking, and keeping that leash nice and loose.

## PRACTICE CALMNESS

Teach the place command. Imagine a dog that will calmly lay on their bed on command!

## ASK FOR HELP

Our priority is that your new dog stays in their home. Please reach out as soon as you have any questions or concerns so we can provide the assistance you may need.

