



CANINE FOSTER PACKET

www.luckychancerescue.com
636-515-3515 OR 636-544-3746
luckychancerescue@gmail.com

Welcome

Thank you for becoming a part of Lucky Chance Rescue's Foster Program

Lucky Chance Rescue's Foster Program enables us to take in more animals each year that are in kill shelters, abandoned, strays or surrendered by their owners. Because of your dedication and commitment as a Foster Parent, we are able to give homeless animals the second chance at life they deserve.

THE FOSTER DOG TEAM

The foster dog program could not exist without the support and dedication of the volunteer Foster Dog Team and are invaluable to the success of the Foster Dog Program.

Foster Coordinator

An individual assigned to you and your foster dog to support you throughout the entire foster care process.

Adoption Coordinator

A volunteer assigned to your foster dog to screen all incoming applications and will assist with the adoption process. This team monitors and responds to all incoming inquiries about foster dogs from potential applicants.

Social Media/Online Support

Posts your foster dog on the website, rescue groups (Petfinder, adopt a pet, etc.) and can help you write a great bio for your foster dog and arrange to take photos and videos.

Medical Coordinator

Responsible for all medical inquiries relating to your foster dog.

We value your dedication and appreciate your willingness to make this life-saving commitment to these animals. Your devotion will help a dog or puppy become a more attractive candidate for a potential adopter.



We want your involvement with the Lucky Chance Rescue Foster Program to be a positive experience. We will do our best to meet the needs of both the foster animal and your family. If you need support or have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you again for your time, effort and support of our Lucky Chance Rescue animals. Without you, we would not be able to make such a large impact on the lives of homeless cats and dogs.

ARE YOU READY TO SAVE SOME LIVES?

Fostering is a wonderful experience for you and your family - you can feel good knowing you have helped save a dog's life. Foster dogs provide companionship and purpose - your act of kindness is repaid in rewards that are beyond words.

Thank you for opening your heart and home, your generosity will provide young and old, injured and sick, abused and under socialized dogs a chance to grow or heal before finding their forever homes. Fostering is a family affair, so please make sure that everyone in your household is ready, willing and able to provide a loving home for an orphaned dog. Many adults and children have a difficult time adjusting to a new schedule or routine, and also have a difficult time giving up an animal to its forever home. We encourage you to make this a fun and rewarding experience for everyone in your home.

About this manual

This manual is designed to provide foster parents with a comprehensive overview of the Lucky Chance Rescue Foster Dog Program. This manual is meant to be a helpful resource for foster parents and should answer many of the questions that may arise before and during foster care. Foster parents should always consult with the Foster Dog Team members for specific help and assistance.

Dogs needing foster homes

- Neglected or abused dogs that need tender loving care.
- Injured dogs and or those recovering from surgery.
- Dogs suffering from shelter stress in need of a calming home environment.
- Older or senior dogs that will be more comfortable in a home environment.
- Puppies and young dogs who have been dumped or abandoned.
- Puppies too young and or immature to be adopted.
- Dogs with colds or with special medical needs.
- Abandoned mothers with litters of puppies.



FAQS

If I have my own animals, can I foster dogs?

Yes, we require your animals to be current on their vaccinations, spayed or neutered, and maintain a healthy diet and lifestyle. However, in some cases, especially with scared, sick or injured animals, you must have the ability to isolate the foster animal in a separate room or section of your home to give them time to decompress, avoid exposure of an illness to your pet or disrupt healing time. A spare room can be perfect for a dog or puppy.

How long are dogs in foster homes?

It depends on the dog and the situation. The average stay in a foster home is about 3 weeks for puppies, 2 months for adults. However, dogs with great photos and stories on the web may be adopted much quicker. Others, recovering from an injury, certain breeds and senior dogs, may stay much longer. Special animals like neonates moms and babies need up to 8-10 weeks and animals needing socialization can average 30 days.

How much time should I plan to spend with my foster pup?

As much as possible. The more positive exposure he has with people and experiences, the happier and better-adjusted he'll be when he becomes available for adoption.

Can my foster dogs go to dog parks or public places?

No. If you are fostering a puppy, please keep your puppy confined to your home. Once your puppy has 2 rounds of vaccinations you can take them outside in your yard to go potty. Dog parks and public places may inadvertently expose your foster puppy to deadly illnesses. You are not allowed to take any foster dog from the Lucky Chance Rescue to an off-leash dog park. While these parks can be fun for some dogs, there are far too many unknowns for it to be a safe and healthy experience for a foster dog. Diseases are easily transmitted, and the temperaments of visiting dogs are unknown, thus creating a huge liability to the Lucky Chance Rescue.

How many puppies will I be fostering?

It's best for puppies to learn pup manners from their siblings, so when fostering puppies under 12 weeks old, we send them out in groups of two or more. It also helps to have multiple puppies to keep each other busy.

What supplies are needed to foster?

Foster parents provide space, basic training, exercise and love for the dog. Lucy Chance Rescue will provide you with all the other supplies needed throughout your foster experience. We will provide you with age appropriate food, bowls, crate, toys, puppy pen pads, if needed, and miscellaneous items needed such as heartworm prevention, wormer, blankets, towels, beds. We appreciate when fosters donate items to care for their foster dogs, but it is not required.

Do I have to crate train my foster dog?

We do ask that you crate your fosters. Crating is one of the most efficient and effective ways to house train a puppy or re-train an adult dog. Some dogs do not like crates, and most dogs need to be transitioned or "trained" to use a crate. Putting the dog in a crate while you are gone will give you peace of mind knowing that they are in a safe place, away from harm, and not doing any damage to your belongings or themselves. For many dogs, a crate can also represent a safe and comfortable place to call their own and provides them with a sense of security.

Do I have to provide basic training for my foster dog?

We do ask that you work on basic commands like, "sit, stay, down, off, leave it, drop it". A well trained dog is much easier to find an adopter for. If you have any questions about training techniques please contact your foster coordinator or the Lucky Chance Rescue Executive Director.

Do I need to have prior medical knowledge or expertise?

No, but you may be asked to dispense medicine to your foster dog so you will have to be comfortable following veterinarian's instructions if fostering a sick or injured dog.

Am I required to take my foster dog to the Veterinarian?

Yes. When your foster dogs arrives, the Executive Director will create a vet care plan with the information you need. You and your assigned veterinarians will receive the vet care plan in an email. Be sure luckychancerescue@gmail.com is in your contact list to receive emails from us. You will make all appointments around your schedule to make it easier for you to get him/her to the vet. If for some reason you cannot make it on the day of appointment, please give the vet 24 hours notice to reschedule or let us know and we can help find a volunteer to get your foster to his/her appointment. Veterinarians bill the shelter directly so there is no cost to foster parents. If you visit a vet that is not on the list, you will not be reimbursed for the cost.

What if my foster dog becomes sick?

If a foster dog becomes sick, foster parents must text, email or Facebook message the Lucky Chance Medical Coordinator. Your foster coordinator or Executive Director will authorize a vet visit, or advise you otherwise. Once a veterinary visit has been authorized, you can make an appointment with your assigned veterinarian.

Where are the veterinarians located?

Currently we work with 3 veterinarians. Clayton Road Veterinary Hospital in Chesterfield, Spencer Creek Animal Hospital in St. Peters and Animal House Veterinary in Arnold.

FAQS

How can I help my foster dog become more adoptable?

There are two ways to make a foster dog more adoptable. First and foremost is marketing. If no one knows about your foster dog, or how wonderful it is, then it will be next to impossible to find them a forever home. In addition to supplying great photos and a bio and updating these regularly, giving a foster dog additional exposure by telling friends and family about them, especially through social media, will help create a "network effect" and will speed up the process of finding a forever home. Simple steps like taking a fully vaccinated foster dog on walks in local parks, outdoor shopping areas and other high - traffic areas will help find potential adopters.

Secondly, our rescue dogs benefit greatly from the exercise (with the exception of those with some medical conditions), basic training, special love and attention you give them. While marketing provides you with applicants, it's always the dog that closes the deal. Providing a foster dog with basic training and manners will increase their adoptability. Shy dogs will benefit from your patience, routine and slowly exposing them to new people to build their confidence. Rambunctious adolescents who learn good manners will help show off their trainability and long term potential. And while puppies are adorable, they need a lot of love, attention and hand holding from humans to develop properly and feel secure.

What is the process for adopting my foster dog?

- Potential adopters are required to submit an adoption application for review before they can physically meet a foster dog.
- Foster contacts references and veterinarian to ensure their current dog(s) sees the vet regularly, is up to date with vaccinations, altered and taking heartworm prevention monthly.
- Once approved, meet and greets with the foster dog and foster parents will be scheduled with qualified applicants at the potential adopter's home. This will also serve as a required home visit to make sure the dog is a good fit not just with the family, but in the home. We want to ensure the home is clean, tidy, all dangerous items are out of reach, there is enough space in the home, the yard is fenced (if required for pet),
- After the meet and greet and if the applicant is still interested in the dog, foster parents will notify the adoption coordinator regarding the adoption and whether the adoption is approved or rejected.
- Once approved, the foster takes the dog to the adopter's home, goes through the adoption contact, ensures contract is signed by foster and adopter, and adopter pays adoption fees to Lucky Chance Rescue by cash, check or online via Paypal.
- If the foster dog is not spayed or neutered prior to adoption, a spay/neuter agreement is required. Foster will complete the written agreement with the adopter and set spay/neuter date within 30 days of adoption.

How are foster dogs promoted?

Photos and stories of all adoptable dogs in foster homes are posted on Lucky Chance Rescue website, facebook page, adopt-pet, Petfinder.com and other social media. Foster dogs are also promoted at adoption events throughout the year.

Do I need to find an adopter for my foster animal?

Once we receive an application, our adoption coordinator will forward to you and you will contact the adopter, check references, including their veterinarian and landlord (if applicable) and schedule a meet and greet with your foster dog and the potential adopter. We believe there is no better person to place a dog in a forever home than their foster parents. You know the animal best and we trust that you will want the best life for them once they leave your home. Many times a foster parent will find a perfect match through their own network of friends, family and colleagues. Lucky Chance Rescue greatly welcomes these referrals

Can I adopt my foster dog?

YES, As long as foster parents meet the requirements necessary for adoption, foster parents have first choice to adopt their foster dog. You must notify Lucky Chance Rescue within 2 weeks if you intend on adopting. On some occasions, we may deny fosters from adopting if their home is not the best fit as a forever home. For example, Huskies, Shepherds, Pits, Labs, Hounds and other high energy dogs are fine in a foster home without a fence because they can't go outside. However, as they get older and bigger they do require fences to keep them safe and confined. It is easy to fall in love with your foster, but always remember, our goal is always to find the best fit for the dog and their forever family.



IMPORTANT ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

LCR Executive Director:
Lynn Weintraub:
636-544-3746
2303 Flowering Ash Lane
Lake Saint Louis, MO 63367

Clayton Road Veterinary Hospital
636-394-7501
14809 Clayton Road Chesterfield, MO
63017

Spencer Creek Animal Hospital
(636) 447-3727
520 Jungermann Rd.
St Peters, MO 63376

Animal House Veterinary Hospital
(636) 464-1038
4202 Jeffco Blvd
Arnold, MO
63010



IMPORTANT RULES AND REMINDERS

- No off-leash park visits.
- Foster dogs must be on leash at all times when outdoors unless in your own secured fenced yard.
- No Flexi-leashes Retractable Leashes when taking dogs for walks.
- No aversive training techniques or tools may be used on foster dogs. Aversives include prong collars, pinch choke chain collars, electronic collars, spray bottles, physical reprimands including alpha rolls, etc.
- Foster dogs may not be left unattended at any time outside, even in a secured yard.
- You may not leave your dog loose in the house with an accessible doggie door when you are not present
- Any aggressive behavior must be immediately communicated to your foster coordinator.
- All vet visits must be preapproved by completing an appointment request form online via the Lucky Chance Rescue Website. Even if you speak to your foster coordinator or other rescue staff and they agree to a vet visit, you must complete the form for approval.
- If your foster dog gets lost, call 636-515-3515 OR 636-544-3746 immediately. Also call Animal control in the county you live in.
- Foster parents must respond within 24 hours to communications from Rescue staff, Team members, or potential adopters.

SUPPLY CHECKLIST

- Age appropriate food
 - Bowls
 - Crate
 - Bedding - a clean, old blanket or towel or a dog bed that is washable.
 - Toys such as: hard rubber balls, Kongs, fleece toys, rope toys or nylabones. Do not give your foster dog hooves, rawhide, pigs' ears or vinyl toys that can cause diarrhea or choke the dog.
 - Collar /Leash
 - Training treats.
 - Baby gate(s)/Puppy Pen
 - Puppy Pads (if fostering puppies)
 - Wormer
 - Dawn Dish Soap
-
- Heartworm Prevention (puppies over 10 weeks and adult dogs only)

IF YOU NEED SUPPLIES, Call or Text 636-515-3515 OR

636-544-3746

FOSTER PACKET

IMPORTANT TIPS FOR SUCCESS - THE FIRST WEEK

Now that you're home with your foster dog, you should start a regular routine so your dog can begin to adjust to your household. During this adjustment period, please keep stimulation to a minimum.

Confine your foster dog to a single room, such as a kitchen or family room. Keeping your dog near the door he/she will use to go outside to potty is the best option. This room should be where you spend a large part of your day or evening so the dog can be near you and begin to feel safe and comfortable.

DO NOT introduce your adult foster dog to your home dog INSIDE the home. Introductions should be done on neutral territory, unless your foster dog is not vaccinated. Slow introductions in the home are safest. Your foster coordinator will walk you through steps on slow introductions.

DO NOT introduce your foster dog to other dogs (other than your own resident dog). This includes neighborhood dogs, and dogs belonging to your family or friends. Why? There is no way to tell how your foster dog will behave when introducing him to other dogs.

DO NOT introduce your foster dog to people you meet on your walk. For the first 7 - 14 days (could be more or less) your foster dog should lay low while he tries to figure out just what this new situation is. You may not see any unwelcome behavior initially. Eventually all will be revealed.

DO give your foster dog time to decompress and chill out. This is critical to success. Your foster dog may be fearful and unsure of his/her new surroundings and needs time to adjust. This can take days, sometimes weeks, depending on his/her history.

DO give your foster dog plenty of love and attention so he becomes to feel safe and secure.

DO establish the household rules immediately, as this will make the transition easier for everyone.



FIRST THINGS FIRST! DECOMPRESSING YOUR FOSTER DOG

Transition presents an adjustment for a dog. When the dog enters your home, he suddenly confronted with a whole new set of social companions in a totally new environment filled with unfamiliar sights, sounds, and smells. It may be confusing, stimulating and a little frightening. He is facing a big adjustment as he learns his way around and develops relationships with his new family. In the process you may have to contend with some undesirable behavior. DON'T PANIC. By modifying or re-directing his actions, you can help him become a model member of the family.



DECOMPRESSION TIME

UNDERSTAND HOW YOUR NEW DOG FEELS

Your foster dog will need time to decompress, get to know you, learn a new routine, and feel safe. Rescue dogs need time to get themselves into a calm state and it's up to you to provide a calm, stress free environment.

Your new dog may be confused, scared, and unsure of his or her new environment. It will take some time for your dog to learn the rules, expectations, boundaries and to form a trusting relationship with you. Be patient and your new companion will be sure to reward you with their unconditional love, time and patience is the key to helping your dog become the dog you want him/her to be. Please don't give up before you see what a great dog you have.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- It can take 2-3 weeks for your new dog to adjust to a new home
- The dog may not eat well for a few days, don't be alarmed.
- The dog is more likely to try to run away, jump a fence, etc. for the first 2 weeks-be sure to always have your dog on a leash and/or supervised until they learn their boundaries and you are sure they won't try to get away.
- It is not uncommon for a dog to have accidents in the house for the first week or two while they learn their new routine.
- Be sure to establish a routine right away so your dog learns where to eat, potty, sleep, etc.
- Be a strong leader - start out by having your dog earn everything (treats, walks, attention, food, etc.) this will help your dog build confidence and trust.
- Have a safe place for your dog to go when you are not at home. Crate training is essential until you know you can trust your dog to be alone in the home.
- Don't yell, hit, or throw things at the dog. If behavior problems are present, contact your foster coordinator. Most times there is a reason for the negative behaviors and they can be corrected with positive changes.

Your foster coordinator will assist you with introducing your dog to a foster dog. You should always do a meet and greet in the outdoor space on neutral ground before you bring a foster dog home.

Always follow protocols for slow introductions, decompression and separation for your foster dog.

- Be alert and make the introductions gradually and calmly. Even if they got along great at the initial meet and greet, your dog may be extremely territorial in the home.
- Go for a walk around your neighborhood with both dogs and two handlers. Walk the dogs side by side on leashes and allow them to sniff one another and become familiar with each other.
- Do give your own dog LOTS of love and praise.
- Do leave leashes on the dogs when you are in the home, so that you can get immediate control if needed. You may only need to do this for a short time.
- Do talk normally. Letting the dogs know that you are fine, they are fine, everything is fine.
- Be patient and go slowly with your foster dog as they may have been through an abusive situation or a lot of recent changes.
- Do not leave your foster dog unattended with your resident dog. Even if they seem to get along well in your presence, you should separate the dogs when you leave your house. If you do leave your dogs alone together, be sure to always removing all toys, food and chews, and start slowly.

Some common mistakes

- Holding the leash too tensely as dogs may react with defensiveness.
- Leaving toys and chews around the house. This can cause resource guarding which can escalate very quickly. **Remove all toys and chews before you arrive home with your foster dog.**
- Feeding your foster dog with your resident dog. It's best to separate them initially, and to supervise always. It is recommended to feed your foster dog in his/her crate initially or in a separate room.
- Overstimulating your foster dog with introductions to many people or your neighbors' dogs.
- Not establishing house rules and boundaries from the start. Remember, you are the alpha in the pack.

MEETING THE PACK

REMEMBER, YOU ARE ALWAYS THE ALPHA!



Despite the stereotype, many dogs and cats learn to live together peacefully. Be patient and take the introduction process slowly. Cats are territorial and need to be introduced to other animals very slowly in order to give them time to get used to each other before there is a face-to-face confrontation. Slow introductions help prevent fear and aggression problems from developing.

Before you introduce your foster dog to your cat, wait a few days until you have confirmed or instilled basic obedience in your foster dog. Allow your foster dog to settle down and get to know his/her surroundings first before you start introductions to unfamiliar animals. Take your time and create a stress-free environment.

Once your foster dog is comfortable, follow these tips for success:

Swap scents

Switch sleeping blankets or beds between your cat and your foster dog so they have a chance to become accustomed to each other's scent. Rub a towel on one animal and put it underneath the food dish of another animal. You should do this with each animal in the house.

Switch living areas

Let your foster dog have free time in the house while confining your cat to her own space. This switch provides another way for the animals to experience each other's scents without a face-to-face meeting. It also allows your foster to become familiar with her new surroundings without being frightened by the other animals.



THINGS TO PREPARE FOR...

A dog is a predatory animal. It's a natural instinct for a dog to want to chase a cat. Assume the dog will chase the cat so you are prepared. Never allow the dog to intimidate the cat by barking or chasing. Each time the dog acts inappropriately (barking), let him know these behaviors are unacceptable, try using a quick sharp tone, like "Aah - Aah" to get their attention and redirect their energy. On the other hand, if the cat bops the dog on the nose as a warning, that's a good sign and should not be discouraged. When they set up boundaries between themselves, they are beginning to establish a working relationship.

When the cat and dog seem to be getting used to each other, let the dog go, but keep his leash attached to his collar. Let him drag it around the house as he wanders, that way you can control him at any time. The cat will probably hide at first. You should use your best judgment as to when they can begin supervised sessions with the dog off-leash.

How to introduce a dog and cat

Despite the stereotype, many dogs and cats learn to live together peacefully. Be patient and take the introduction process slowly, but know that whether or not your pets get along will also depend on their individual personalities.

Make sure the cat has access to a dog-free space at all times. The space should include a litter box, scratching post, water, food bowl, and toys. You might also set up some hiding places or tunnels to help the cat feel safer.

Follow these steps to maximize the chances of success.

- Keep the pets separate for at least the first 3-4 days. Confine your foster dog in a separate room with the door closed or a separate floor of your house. The goal is to allow the pets to get used to each other's presence without face-to-face contact. Even if they can't see each other, they can hear and smell each other.
- Feed them on opposite sides of a closed door. The idea is to teach them to associate the presence of the other pet with pleasant things, such as food. With each feeding, move their food bowls a little closer to the closed door. Continue this process until each pet can eat calmly right next to the door. Work on basic obedience such as "sit" and "down." Keep training sessions short, pleasant, and rewarding for the dog.
- Begin face-to-face meetings. Once your pets can eat their food calmly right next to the door, conduct meet and greets in a common area of the house. Don't use either animal's safe area. Keep the first few sessions short and calm. Keep the dog on a leash and let the cat come and go as he wishes. Do not restrain either pet in your arms, as injury could result if either pet behaves aggressively. Ask the dog to sit and reward him with small tasty treats for calm behavior. Give your cat treats as well. If either pet demonstrates aggression, calmly distract and redirect them. Toss a toy for the cat to lure him from the room, or call the dog's name and reward his attention. Return the pets to their confinement areas. **IMPORTANT! KEEP A LEASH ON THE DOG.** This will allow you to have control if the dog wants to get too close or seems too 'curious' about the cat. You can redirect the dog with cues by taking the leash and saying "leave it" while walking in the opposite direction of the cat. Reward with praise "YES! Good girl/boy" and give a treat for following redirection and for leaving the cat alone.
- Repeat these face-to-face sessions daily. Save your pets' favorite treats for when they are together. If the cat attempts to leave the room, allow him to do so, and do not let the dog chase him. Again, use the leash to redirect the dog so he/she doesn't chase the cat. Try to end each session before either pet shows stress or aggression.
- Allow pets loose together. When the animals appear to be getting along well, allow them loose in the room together, keeping the dog's leash attached and dragging on the floor so that you can step on it and prevent him from chasing the cat if he gets excited. If tension erupts, go back to the earlier introduction steps and repeat the process. Make sure the cat has access to their safe room at all times.



QUICK TIPS:

Beforehand, exercise your dog and feed him a nice meal; this will help the dog to get into a relaxed mood.

Put the cat in a safe place, and let the dog roam the house for about 30-45 minutes; this allows for the dog to "meet" the cat by smell only. Then put the dog outside or in his/her safe room and let the cat out to wander and "meet" the dog by smell only.

If your dog bolts toward your cat, correct him with the leash, and use the "sit" or "leave it" commands. If he shows any signs of excessive excitability, calm him. If this doesn't do the trick, cut the visit short and try again later. Praise the dog (or give a treat) the moment that he complies and stops trying to get the cat.

Once your dog and cat consistently get along during leashed visits, you're ready for the next step. Let go of the leash, but be prepared to grab it or step on it if he attempts to go after the cat. If the cat swats the dog on the nose, distract the dog with a toy, but don't punish the cat. Many times, all it takes is one swat from the cat for a dog to learn his lesson.



SETTING BOUNDARIES AND RULES

A new dog doesn't know your rules immediately upon arrival. Expect a few housetraining accidents, maybe some raids on trashcans and cabinets that are not dog proof, jumping up, exploratory behaviors like sniffing, mouthing and some chewing and maybe losing something you value. At one time, the dog may have had a housetraining schedule but that schedule maybe different in your house. It will take a little time for your new dog to learn your house rules and boundaries.



House Training:

Take your dog outside (on a leash), frequently (2-3 hour intervals), more often for a vaccinated puppy. Use the word "Outside" as you go to the door, then once outside, go to a designated bathroom area in yard and say "Go Potty" Stay there until your dog goes potty. Always take your foster dog to the same spot outside on a leash. He/She will smell the area and know that is where he/she is supposed to go. If he/she is successful, praise verbally or with treat right then and there when the dog "goes potty".

Remember, he is outside to do one thing and that is to potty. No Playtime Until He has gone potty. If he has not gone in an allotted amount of time, take him back inside to his crate or designated area. Try again after 15 minutes.

Allow the dog to drag the leash around inside the house. If the dog does start to have an accident, interrupt with "Whoops, Outside"and immediately take the dog outside. Never say "No" or punish your foster dog. No can mean so many things.

No Jumping:

Teach the dog to "Sit", for everything as part of Nothing In Life is Free Program. Highly reward your dog each and every time he sits. All sits should appear on your radar.

Observe your dog's behavior and use "Off" to remind your dog that paws up on things is not a good choice. Remember, people should ignore dog who jump up on them or use the command "Off".

Chewing: Chewing and mouthing should only be permitted on dog toys.

Trade your dog with a better appropriate toy (chew bone/toy) for an inappropriate item.

Us the command to "Leave it" or "Drop It" on cue

Never just take or you may inadvertently teach your new dog to protect his stuff from you

Play: Rough house play should not be encouraged.

Teach your dog when to play by using a cue word like "LET'S PLAY" before play begins.

Cue "DONE" to signal the play session has ending then engage your dog elsewhere.

Getting on Furniture:

DO NOT let your foster dog sleep in your bed or jump on furniture. Use the command "Off" and redirect to his bed or other spot that is allowed. This is not something an adopter may want to encourage. Remember, you are teaching your foster dog appropriate dog behaviors so he will transition to a new home with his/her new family.

Feeding

- Monitor appetites
- If you have multiple pets, always be sure to feed them in separate crates or separate parts of the house.
- Create a consistent schedule for feeding your foster dog.
- Do not feed any "people" food.
- Adult dogs: dry adult dog food twice a day, once in the morning and once at night.
- Adolescent dogs (4 months to 1 year): dry puppy food, twice a day
- Weaned puppies (6 - 8 weeks to 4 months): dry puppy food three to four times a day. Can be moistened with water or puppy formula.
- Nursing mothers with puppies and unweaned puppies (4 - 8 weeks) need to be on puppy food to gain added calories.

Health Check

Look over your foster pet every day for any changes or potential medical concerns. It is crucial that you monitor your foster appearance every day. We encourage our foster parents to keep a log of their foster pet. If something seems off or different, it's easy to go back and review your log to see when the problem began. This can include things like:

- Check over their body and fur for fleas/mites
- Watch for weight gain/loss
- Energy level changes
- Eating Habits
- Scratching/Skin Irritation
- Diarrhea/Vomiting

Socialization

- Encourage affectionate behavior with food treats or play sessions.
- Puppies should meet new people as often as possible.

Potty Schedule

Adult Dogs

Take them outside 20 minutes after they eat or drink, and every hour that you are home to start. Take them to a designated "potty spot" and praise them every time they go with a happy voice and a treat. **If you can't supervise your new foster dog, they should be crated.**

Puppies

Put the puppies on the pee pads as soon as they wake up, right after eating and at last once an hour to start. Reward them with enthusiastic praise **every time** they urinate or defecate on the pad. Change the pads frequently and encourage them to use it.



SOCIALIZATION CHECKLIST

A couple of weeks may not seem to be a long enough time to help acclimate a puppy to the ways of the world, but it is certainly enough time to help a puppy get started on the road to becoming a well-rounded dog!

Please use the following system to complete the checklists:

1-3 Needs Work

4 Going Well

Scoring System:

0 Unknown

1 Over-Arousal: growl, nip, bark, struggle (for handling), lunge. 2 Avoid: struggle, hide, try to get away, won't approach or

hesitant to approach.

3 Freeze: holds still, non-explanatory, moving slowly or acting sleepy when they shouldn't be tired.

4 Calm/Relaxed: explores the object or environment, playful.

	Specific Socialization	Score
Handling	Touch ears	
	Touch mouth	
	Squeezing the paws	
	Wiping body with a towel	
	Touch nose	
	Cradling puppy in your arms on its back	
	Holding puppy in your lap	
	Holding puppy on its back while giving a belly rub	
	Hugging puppy	
	Touching collar	
Scary Sounds	Touching all over body	
	Traffic (like downtown in a city)	
	Fireworks	
	Alarms	
	Dogs barking	
	Doorbell ringing	
	Thunder	
	Construction equipment	
	Vacuum cleaner	
	Sirens	
Unfamiliar People	People wearing sunglasses	
	People with canes, walking sticks or walkers	
	Teenagers	
	Children standing as well as playing	
	Toddlers (walking and squealing)	
	Infants (crawling)	

	Specific Socialization	Score
Unfamiliar People	Women	
	People of many ethnicities	
	Tall men	
	Men with deep voices	
	Men with beards	
	Elderly people	
	People wearing hats/helmets	
	People wearing hoodies	
	People wearing backpacks	
New Surfaces	Concrete	
	Slippery floors (hardwood, linoleum, marble)	
	Metal surfaces (manhole covers, vet hospital scales etc.)	
	Stairs	
	Wet grass	
	Mud	
	Ice, frost, or snow	
Objects with Wheels	Skateboards	
	Rollerblades	
	Garbage cans outside	
	Shopping carts	
	Baby strollers	
	Wheel chairs	
	Bikes	
	Cars	
	Buses	
	Motorcycles	

	Specific Socialization	Score
Man-Made Objects	Pots & pans	
	Blankets/ rugs being shaken	
	Brooms	
	Balloons	
	Umbrellas	
	Plastic bags blowing in the wind	
	Sidewalk signs	
Other Animal Species	Garbage cans in the house	
	Cats	
	Horses & livestock	
New Environments	Any types of pets you may have	
	Suburban neighborhood	
	Residential city streets	
	High traffic city street (such as downtown)	
	Inside buildings	

Please include any additional information you would like a future adopter to know about your foster puppy:

Your foster dog has likely been through several transitions over the last few days. Give them time to adjust and go slow with their introductions to new things.

We will do our best to provide you with any behavior information that we have but in general, we are unlikely to know everything you will experience. Please contact the Foster Coordinator for more detailed guidance if you are experiencing any of these concerns.

Some of the most common behavioral issues include:

Barking	Destructive chewing
Humping	Puppy nipping and rough play
Digging	Submissive and/or excitement urination
Begging	Urine marking behavior
Attention seeking	Fearfulness
Garbage hunting	Separation anxiety
Leash pulling	Resource guarding
Greeting manners	Prey drive

If your foster dog is exhibiting any behavioral issues, ask yourself the questions below:

- Is my foster dog getting enough exercise?
- Is he being left alone for long periods of time?
- Does he have interesting toys to keep his mind engaged and stimulated?
- Is he getting enough attention and playtime?
- Am I reinforcing bad behavior? Some examples include telling a fearful dog that "It's ok", verbally scolding a dog when they are seeking attention, etc.
- Does my foster dog have a safe place that is dog - proofed with appropriate chew toys, or am I leaving my own belongings within reach?
- Am I providing specific outlets based on its breed?

If at any time you feel uncomfortable with the behaviors that your foster dog is exhibiting, you should contact Lucky Chance Rescue staff as soon as possible.



The dog you are fostering may feel the need to protect their items or space. They may show their discomfort by freezing, growling and/or snapping.

Never punish your dog for exhibiting these behaviors as this is likely to make the problem worse. Understand that your foster dog may not have always had consistent access to the resources they need and value or that they may have never been taught a different way to communicate. Notify the Foster Coordinator of any guarding you noted in the home.

The following are some tips for improving the concern:

1. Teach them to share by strengthening your bond with them through basic obedience. They learn that we provide good things when they respond to our communications.
2. Limit the situations where they may feel the need to guard. If its a food item, try feeding them in a crate or in a separate room and make sure that no one disturbs them.
3. Teach your dog to trade. Offer them a higher value item than what they are protecting. Call them to you and give them a treat. Always return the original item to them after they have taken the treat. Utilize the command "trade" for this exercise .
4. If they are guarding a space such as a bed or couch, teach the dog "off ". Utilize high value food to lure them off the item. You should also limit their exposure to this item when possible. Close a door or place something uncomfortable in the space to discourage them going to it.



SEPARATION ANXIETY



The dog you are fostering may feel distress by being left home alone. Your foster is adjusting to a lot of change and this can cause higher levels of anxiety as they try to learn their new routine.

Separation anxiety can vary in intensity. Minor symptoms may include, pacing, whining, restlessness, barking, whereas a more intense reaction may include things like inappropriate elimination, destruction of objects, escape attempts and self injury. Any persistent symptoms should be reported to the Foster Coordinator. Here are a few tips to help the transition to your home be more smooth for everyone:

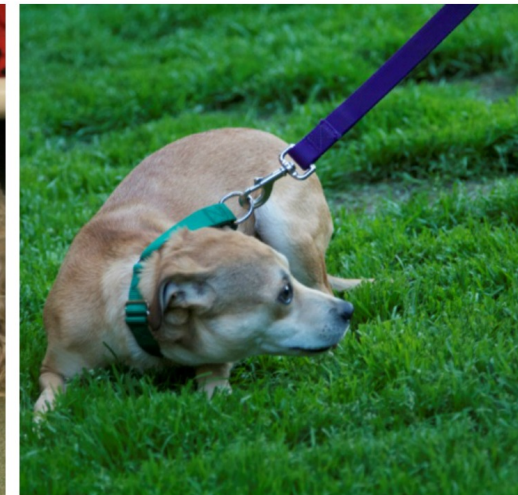
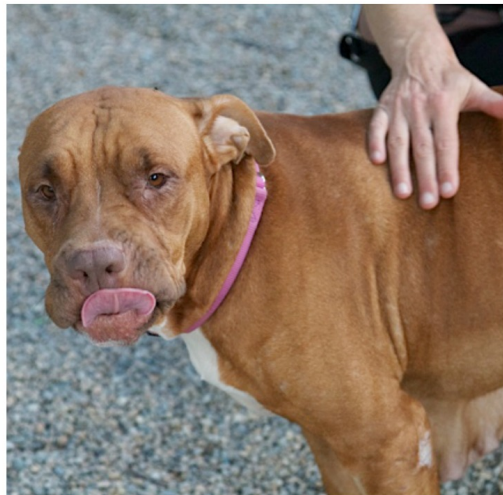
1. Provide your foster dog with 20 to 30 minutes of exercise before leaving.
2. Provide them with a long lasting, special, and safe treat for your departure.
3. Leave and return calmly. Ignore over excitement upon your return and interact with them once they are calm.
4. Minimize your routine for leaving by practicing them when you are not leaving-grab your keys and then make dinner for example .
5. Utilize pheromone products-speak with the Foster Coordinator prior to using these.
6. Leave for only a short period of time the first couple times to assure they are safe when you are not home.

REACTIVITY

A dog who is being overly reactive to a situation may present as a dog who is hiding, barking, lunging, or growling. This can happen in a variety of situations but you are likely to see it through a window, through the fence, or while on a leash.

If you are experiencing a dog that is presenting with any of these behaviors and is not easily redirected with food or a happy voice, contact the Foster Coordinator for advice. The best method to reduce reactivity is to avoid situations that cause it.

1. Pick a walking path with the least amount of triggering stimuli.
2. Pay attention to your dog. Watch for more subtle signs that he is uncomfortable with the situations-erect tail, stiff or raised body, puffing of cheeks, raised hackles.
3. Keep distance from your dog and the object that is causing the reaction. For example walk to the other side of the road when approaching a dog in a yard that barks at them or a dog on a leash coming toward you.
4. Always have treats on hand. From a comfortable distance treat your foster dog for seeing an arousing situation to create a feel good association.



FEAR

Fear can be the result of a lack socialization or as the result of a negative correlation. When trying to understand fear in our dogs, it's important to remember that fear works like an instinct to protect him when he's afraid. When faced with something that is unsafe or dangerous, or sometimes just completely unknown, fear makes the dog want to avoid that danger.

Most dogs who are afraid are in fight, flight, or freeze mode. Here are some tips that may help your foster dog overcome some fears;

1. Socialize your dog with your friends and family
2. Pet and encourage your dog and give him/her favorite treats.
3. Keep your foster dog on a short leash. It gives dogs a sense of security.
4. Separate your foster dog from children and slowly introduce them with praise and treats.

It's normal for puppies and dogs to chew on objects as they explore the world. Chewing accomplishes a number of things like teething, lack of exercise or mental stimulation. Chewing also combats boredom and can relieve mild anxiety or frustration.

Both puppies and adult dogs should have a variety of appropriate and attractive chew toys. However, just providing the right things to chew isn't enough to prevent inappropriate chewing. Dogs need to learn what is okay to chew and what is not. They need to be taught in a gentle, humane manner.

- "Dog-proof" your house. Keep shoes and clothing in a closed closet, dirty laundry in a hamper and books on shelves. Make it easy for your dog to succeed.
- Provide your dog with plenty of his own toys and inedible chew bones. Introduce something new or rotate your dog's chew toys every couple of days so that he doesn't get bored with the same old toys.
- If you see him licking or chewing an item he shouldn't, say "Drop It" remove the item, and insert something that he CAN chew. Then praise him happily.
- Provide your dog with plenty of physical exercise and mental stimulation. Include daily walks and outings, fetch games, training, and feeding meals in food puzzle toys.

What NOT to Do

- Do not show your dog the damage he did and spank, scold or punish him after the fact. He cannot connect your punishment with some behavior he did hours or even minutes ago.
- Do not use duct tape to hold your dog's mouth closed around a chewed object for any length of time. This is inhumane, will teach your dog nothing, and dogs have died from this procedure.
- Do not tie a damaged object to your dog. This is inhumane and will teach your dog nothing.
- Do not leave your dog in a crate for lengthy periods of time to prevent chewing.
- Do not chase your dog if they grab an object and run. If you chase them, you are only giving your dog what they want. Being chased by their human is fun, instead call them to you or offer them a treat.
- Do not muzzle your dog to prevent chewing.

Have realistic expectations. At some point your foster dog may inevitably chew up something you valued, this is often part of the transition to a new home. Your dog needs time to learn the house rules and you need to remember to take precautions and keep things out of their reach.

Take care with punishment

If you discover a chewed item even minutes after they have chewed it, you are too late. Animals associate punishment with what they are doing at the time they are being corrected. Your dog cannot reason that, "I tore up those shoes an hour ago and that is why I am being scolded now." Some people believe this is what a dog is thinking because they run and hide or because they look guilty.

In reality, guilty looks, are actually canine submissive postures that dogs show when they are threatened. When you are angry and upset, your dog feels threatened by your tone of voice, body postures and/or facial expressions, so they may hide or show submissive postures. Punishment after the fact will not only fail to eliminate the undesirable behavior, but it could also provoke other undesirable behaviors.



PUPPY NIPPING & ROUGH PLAY



In play, dogs bite each other continuously! They communicate with one another by yelping and stopping the play if the bites become too much. This is how dogs learn to inhibit the force of their bite when playing with other dogs.

Mouthing is natural and a way dogs have learned to communicate, but mouthing should never be painful Probably one of the most important things we can begin to teach puppies in our care is to have a soft mouth. If a puppy is never allowed to mouth, she will grow up to have a rude/hard mouth.

The best technique for hard bites is to remove the thing the puppy wants most "human interaction" **Until a dog or puppy is effectively taught to inhibit their bites, all play session must start with a collar and leash.** When you are handling a puppy or playing with him, as soon as you feel a hard bite, dramatically yelp "OUCH". If the puppy pulls back, begins to lick or stops biting, praise and continue the play.

If they do not immediately stop the hard mouthing, say "UH AH" then quickly take hold of the end of the leash, extend your arm, holding the leash (and puppy) away from you, turn your back and do not look at the puppy. Count to 5-10 slowly. After just 5-10 seconds, resume interacting with the pup where you left off. Do not turn back around start engaging if the dog is still jumping up on you or trying to solicit attention. Wait until they are calm and ready to play again.

You can teach gentle treat taking by offering dry kibble or small treats and only releasing when they take it gently. If they attempt to take it forcefully, say "UH AH" and withdraw the food. Offer the treat again and relinquish it once they take it gently **with all four feet on the ground.** **Remember:** this is another exercise where a leash and collar are necessary.

All veterinary care will be outlined in the initial vet care plan and will be emailed to the foster and veterinarian closest to foster, or best suited to meet the foster dog's needs. Fosters will call to make an appointment at the vet listed on your vet care plan based on your schedule. Please arrange to have your foster dog seen during regular business hours. Once treatment has begun, you must continue with the same veterinary clinic, unless approved by executive director.

If a foster dog becomes sick, foster parents are required text, call or Facebook message the foster coordinator and/or executive director.

Any vet visit that is not pre - authorized in the initial vet care plan, must be requested via our website at: <https://luckychancerescue.com.vet-appointment-request>

Once a vet appointment request has been received via the online form, you and the veterinarian will receive an email authorizing veterinary care, or other options for care.

Please note: Lucky Chance Rescue has a policy that it will not reimburse individuals for vet bills for foster animals if you do not receive pre - approval or go to an approved vet office. Emergency clinics are incredibly expensive and should only be used in cases of dire emergencies and only after pre - approval.

General guidelines for seeking vet visits

Puppies younger than 12 weeks must see a vet for the following:

- Diarrhea that lasts for more than a day
- Vomiting and diarrhea for more than 6 hours
- Vomiting more than once in an hour
- Not eating for more than 12 - 24 hours
- Lethargy without fever for more than 12 hours
- Lethargy with fever

Dogs older than 12 weeks must see a vet for the following:

- Diarrhea that lasts for more than 1 - 2 days
- Diarrhea and occasional vomiting for more than a day
- Vomiting more than 2 - 3 times in an hour
- Not eating for more than 24 hours
- Lethargy without fever for more than a day
- Lethargy with fever

VET CARE PLAN

Lucky Chance Rescue is legally obligated to ensure all dogs adopted from the rescue follow our veterinary plan of care registered with our veterinarian and the Department of Agriculture.

PUPPIES

Vaccinations are given in 2-3 week intervals the following is approximate and dependent on age of puppies at intake and not to exceed 3 week intervals. A first vet visit will be required with complete physical, fecal exam, an oral wormer, if necessary and vaccinations required.

6-8 weeks DHPP

9-11 weeks DHPP, Parainfluenza Bordetella vaccination

12-14 weeks DHPP, Parainfluenza Bordetella vaccination

6-17 Weeks DHPP and 1 year rabies vaccination

ADULT DOGS:

A first vet visit will be required with a complete physical, heartworm test, fecal exam, an oral wormer if necessary, DHLPP and Bordetella Rabies 1YR

Booster DHLPP and Bordetella within 3 weeks of first if never had it before

Heartworm Prevention

All patients start on a heartworm protocol monthly at 10 weeks of age.

Flea and Tick Prevention

All patients start on a monthly flea and tick prevention no earlier than 10 weeks of age unless age appropriate oral medication is necessary.

Microchips

Place in-house at veterinary office at time of surgery or as scheduled by Lucky Chance Rescue. Microchips will be provided to all participating licensed veterinarians by Lucky Chance Rescue. No dog will be adopted without a microchip.

ANIMAL CARE FACILITIES ACT

273.403. Sterilization of all cats and dogs adopted or purchased from animal shelters or animal control agencies, procedure.

1. Provisions shall be made for the sterilization of all dogs and cats sold or released for adoption or purchased from any public or private animal shelter or animal control agency operated by a humane society, or by a county or city, or other political subdivision. Such provisions may be made by:

(1) Providing for sterilization by a licensed veterinarian before relinquishing custody of the animal; or

(2) Entering into a written agreement with the adopter or purchaser guaranteeing that sterilization will be performed by a licensed veterinarian, in compliance with a sterilization agreement. Pursuant to these regulations, If any person is adopting a dog or cat who has not yet been spayed or neutered, the adopter will be required to complete and agree to the terms of the Lucky Chance Rescue Spay/Neuter Agreement.

(3) Adopter will be entering into a written agreement with Lucky Chance Rescue that sterilization will be performed by a Lucky Chance Rescue participating licensed veterinarian, in compliance with this sterilization agreement

All animals must be seen by a veterinarian for a full physical prior to spay/neuter procedure. if something is discovered on physical exam that would preclude surgery being performed veterinarian will call Lucky Chance Rescue Executive Director to recommend care and treatment plan.

AGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CANINE SPAY/NEUTERS

Over 12 weeks old - Small/Toy breeds that will be under 20lbs when adults (shih tzu, yorkie, chihuahua, bichon, maltese, havenese, etc.)

Over 14 weeks old - Medium Breeds that will be 20-45 lbs when adults (beagle, border collie, shelties, terriers, etc.)

Over 16 weeks old - Large/Giant breeds that will be 50+ lbs when adults (labs, shepherds, husky, great pyreneese, great danes, pits, boxers, etc.)

AGE AT ADOPTION

No puppy will be adopted before they reach 10 weeks of age and have received a minimum 2 rounds of DHPP, 1 Bordetella Vaccination, physical exam, fecal exam / wormer and Microchip. Puppies may be adopted with a spay/neuter agreement in place.



EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Emergency Health Concerns

If you notice a sudden change in an animal's actions that could seem life threatening, please call 636-515-3515 OR 636-544-3746

Things that are considered emergencies are:

- Shortness of breath or choking
- Excessive vomiting
- Dramatic drop in energy — lethargy
- Notable seizures
- Bleeding of any kind — nose, urine, stool
- Any trauma — hit by a car, dropped, limp, stepped on, unconscious
- Difficulty in breathing/blocked airway
- If the animal has vomiting or diarrhea, but is still active, eating and drinking, it can probably wait until the next day to receive help. However, if the animal is lethargic and shows no interest in food or water, it is wise to seek emergency help at the time.
- If your foster pet goes missing.



NON-Emergency Health Concerns

	Animal Needs to be Seen Soon (Not an Emergency)	Keep an Eye on It
Sneezing and/or Coughing	If not already on medication (must be frequent and for more than a couple days)	If it started within the last couple days and there is no eye or nasal discharge.
Sneezing and/or Coughing with Eye or Nasal Discharge	If not already on medication	If medication was started within the last week.
Limping	Continues beyond two days, may or may not be swollen	Infrequent limping that is only noticeable for a day or two.
Not Eating	If accompanied with: Drop in energy 24+ hours of anorexia Vomiting or diarrhea Sneezing or coughing Refusing Treats	Still active, no other symptoms, less than 4 hours between meals.
Activity Level Drops	If accompanied with the following symptoms: Anorexia for two or more days Sneezing and/or coughing Vomiting and/or diarrhea	No other symptoms, still eating, decreased activity for less than 4 hours
Diarrhea	If loose stools persist for two or more days or are accompanied with anorexia, vomiting, energy level drops.	Still eating and active.
Vomiting	Three or more times in a 48 hour period or are accompanied with anorexia, diarrhea, energy level drops.	Still eating and active.

Healthy Dogs

Adult dogs can sleep a good portion of the day. Most adult dogs will show some interest in play time, but definitely have their favorite games! Their eyes and nose should be generally free of discharge. The stool will be firm and well-shaped. They may sneeze occasionally. They may also scratch a little.

Healthy Puppies

Healthy puppies have a lot of energy and are aware more than adult dogs. When they're awake they should be playful and spend only short amounts of time in your lap or being held. Just like adult dogs, their eyes and nose should be generally free of any discharge. The stool will be firm and well-shaped. Puppies eat a lot. Puppies may sneeze occasionally. They may also scratch a little. These are normal puppy behaviors.

SIGNS OF A SICK PUPPY/DOG

Fosters must observe and understand signs of common dog illnesses and make sure their fosters get the proper health treatment. If your foster dog shows symptoms of any of the health issues listed below, a veterinary appointment will be authorized to assess the situation and treat as necessary.

Digestive Problems Including Vomiting and Diarrhea

While an isolated case of vomiting or diarrhea shouldn't worry you, recurrent such episodes should be supervised closely. If your dog vomits several times a day or presents diarrhea for more than a day, you should make note of any symptoms such as; Black or dark diarrhea, Loss of, appetite, Presence of blood in the vomit or stool, Lethargy, Crying of pain, Fever. There are many causes of gastrointestinal diseases, including but not limited to, improper foods, pancreatitis, allergies, food poisoning, swallowed objects, a bacterial infection, worms, parvo, and more.

Fleas

Most foster dogs have been treated when arriving at the rescue. But additional flea treatments are available if needed. Puppies younger than 4 months should NOT be treated with toxic chemicals. Puppies over 8 weeks of age and adult dogs can be treated with Advantage Multi or Revolution. Flea treatments contain insecticides that can cause nerve and liver damage, impair the immune system and even cause cancer. Regular flea combing and baths in blue Dawn dish soap is the best way to control and monitor the fleas.

To check for fleas, inspect your dog daily - inspecting the rear groin, belly, and tail, under the chin and head, and neck (common places for fleas). Look also for black specks of flea dirt, which is actually digested blood. Before you begin combing, get a bowl of tap water and put a few drops of dish soap in it. You can put any fleas you find in the water and they will drown. If you don't use soap, the fleas may swim to a fluff of fur and jump out of the water. If fleas are present, treat as soon as possible. Change bedding and vacuum the floors daily. The washing machine will remove fleas, eggs and dirt. If your foster dog had fleas, watch his stools for short pieces of white rice that are tapeworms, which come from ingesting fleas. Tapeworms can cause diarrhea.

Urinary Tract Infections

Such infections can be caused by many factors and diet is one of them. Among other culprits, doctors list bacteria, fungal infections, bladder stones or immune deficiencies. Common symptoms of such a urinary tract infection are: Frequent urinations, Urination straining, Lethargy, Fever, Blood in the urine

Kennel cough

Kennel cough is typically a dry, hacking cough. There may be some discharge from the nose and a clear liquid that is coughed up. It's generally a mild, self-limiting illness of the trachea and bronchi encountered in all age groups of dogs, but especially in those under unusual stress, crowding or close confinement. Kennel cough exists in shelters, boarding kennels, groomers, veterinary offices, off-leash areas, etc. Because kennel cough is contagious, infected dogs should NOT be around other dogs until they're over their cough. If you have a dog at home and plan to foster a dog with kennel cough, we have found that if your own dog is healthy and has been vaccinated annually, then your dog will most likely not get sick.

Parvo

Parvo attacks the intestinal tract, white blood cells and heart muscle. Signs of infection are depression, loss of appetite, vomiting, severe diarrhea, fever and sometimes kennel cough symptoms. The illness is contracted through contact with the infected feces of another dog. This is why you must NOT take your foster puppy out to public places where other dogs have been until he has completed his vaccine series against the disease. This virus can be deadly. Call your medical coordinator immediately your foster coordinator immediately if you believe your foster dog may have this illness.

Parasites

Almost all dogs deal with worms. There are many kind of worms that dogs attract, and some of them (hookworms) can be fatal in puppies. If your dog suffers from a worm infestation, some of the symptoms include: Scooting on its bottom, Loss of appetite, Diarrhea, Vomiting, Weight loss, Lethargy / or unexplained agitation, Dryness of the coat. Parasites include tapeworms, round worms, hookworms and mange. Tapeworms will look like pieces of rice coming out of your foster dog's anus or in his stool. Round and hookworms may be vomited, and roundworms look like spaghetti (hookworms are smaller and rarely distinguishable without the aid of a microscope). Mange is an infestation of tiny mites that bite and cause intense scratching, reddened skin and loss of fur. Only rare cases of mange (sarcoptic) are contagious to humans. If you suspect your foster dog has parasites, call your medical coordinator immediately to schedule a fecal test. Once diagnosed, parasites are easily medicated and treated.

Now that you have learned all about your foster dog, including his health, personality, behaviors and needs, you are ready to start the process of getting him or her adopted!

TAKE GREAT PHOTOS!

We cannot stress this enough...a picture is worth a thousand words. The picture is the first thing people see when they visit the Lucky Chance Rescue website, petfinder, facebook and other social media. If the dog has a poor picture, visitors may move on to another dog without clicking or reading about your foster dog. If you want to give your dog the best chance possible, take large, clear, good quality (high resolution) pictures of the dog alone. A good picture is often the difference between a dog who generates inquiries and one who does not.

- If you have an Iphone, take advantage of LIVE photo's. you can edit them! Portrait mode is great too.
- Pictures taken outside in natural light are usually much better than those taken inside or with a flash. Lighting is very important for accurately capturing a dog's coloring and detail. Have the sun or light source behind you and check to make sure you re not casting a shadow on your subject.
- Use treats and/or a squeaky toy to capture the dog s best expression. Sometimes having two people makes this process easier.
- Please do not use photos with people, as the dog is the subject of your picture.
- Try to capture at least one "hero" shot, where the focus is on the dogs face. A full body picture is also a great way to show size and scale.

WRITE A GREAT BIO!

Accentuate the positive and let potential adopters know why they should consider your dog. You will improve your dog's chances of finding a home if you write a thorough description. A good bio is part press release, part story telling. Pull the reader into the bio so that they can start to imagine a life with this new canine friend. The most compelling thing you can write on behalf of an animal is what you imagine the animal is thinking, feeling or remembering. Most bios start off with the basics - but the most appealing bios are written so that they are not just a list of facts. One intro paragraph on "who your dog is" can help a potential adopter visualize the dog. Your second paragraph might go into personality traits, and provide information about any training, tricks or cute behavior. Your final paragraph should outline the required forever- home environment.

Tell potential adopters what you know about your dog. Be honest and avoid negative statements. Choose wording carefully. A dog that is not potty-trained might instead be, "working on her house training." A dog that doesn't get along with other dogs or cats merely "wants to be your one and only." A dog that desperately needs obedience training is really "looking forward to attending class with his adopter." If dog has special needs, mention them, but don't dwell on them. You can go into these details once you have someone hooked on your dog.

PROMOTE YOUR FOSTER DOG ON SOCIAL MEDIA, AT WORK
and with FRIENDS & FAMILY! ATTEND AT LEAST ONE
ADOPTION EVENT WHEN YOUR DOG IS VACCINATED!

Photos and bios can be emailed to luckychancerescue@gmail.com; sent via text to your foster coordinator or to Lynn at 636-515-3515 OR 636-544-3746. You can also send via Facebook Messenger your foster coordinator or to Lynn Weintraub at:
<https://www.facebook.com/lynn.weintraub.9>

Lucky Chance Rescue will post photos and bio on the website, social media, petfinder, adopt a pet and other pet networking sites to help find an adoptive family or person that meets the criteria your foster dog requires.

THE ADOPTION PROCESS

ALL potential adopters are required to submit a completed adoption application. There are NO exceptions! We do not adopt out of state unless it is within 60 miles of St. Charles County and/or St. Louis County or the foster's home.

Applicants are pre-approved to make sure they meet the needs of the dog, (ie, fence, kids, home, etc.), that they are within our adoption area and that they are not on the Do Not Adopt List.

If the applicant has made it through preliminary approval, their application will then be emailed to the foster and to the foster coordinator for processing.

WE HAVE APPLICATIONS, NOW WHAT?

YOUR ROLE:

If applicant lives in an apartment, or is renting, please contact the landlord to make sure they are allowed animals, that they are not over their limit and that they do not have a weight restriction that would prevent them from adopting the dog they applied for.

Contact veterinarian, if they currently have pets. Make sure their dogs are current on all vaccinations, get heartworm prevention monthly, have rabies, and regular veterinary visits. If dogs are not current, do not see the vet regularly and do not give heartworm prevention monthly, this is cause to reject the applicant. If they don't take care of their pets now, they will more than likely, not take care of the dog they adopt. Please reach out to the foster or adoption coordinator if there are concerns with vet history and how to move forward.

Contact all references to ensure they are responsible and a good potential fit for a new dog in their home.

If all of the above check out, contact the applicant and let them know you can move forward with their application and set up a meet and greet.

MEET AND GREET

We recommend adult dogs meet on neutral territory (ie; going for a walk in the adopter's neighborhood, meeting at nearby open grassy area, playground, tennis courts, etc.) See following pages for instructions on first introductions. Meetings should take place near applicant's home. This is the best way to complete the home visit and ensure the home is a good fit for the dog. We want to make sure the home is free from clutter, toxic materials, there is enough space in the home for the dog, the yard and fence are safe (if required) and Lastly, that everyone in the home, along with the resident pets get along with your foster dog.

Once you have scheduled a meet and greet, Please let your foster coordinator know the date and time of the meeting.



SCREENING QUESTIONS TO ASK POTENTIAL ADOPTERS

TIPS TO HELP YOU THROUGH THE MEET & GREET

This should be a two - way dialog, rather than just a one - sided Q&A session. Instead of just answering a question, use this as an opportunity to learn more about the potential adopter and find out if they are a good match. For example, if they ask you how much exercise does he get, turn this around “he gets a fair amount of exercise... how do you plan on exercising him?” And probe for specifics.

Don't over - sell, or under - sell your foster dog. This should be an open and honest discussion about what the potential adopter is looking for and how this matches the needs of your foster dog.

Be objective about personality traits. The best way to approach this is to ask about what they are looking for in personality before you talk about what type of personality your foster dog has (beyond what is already mentioned in the bio). This way you can find out if they really are a good match, or if they are going on appearances alone.

Ask a lot about their past experiences with dogs. Even if this is their first dog, how do their friends or family approach dog ownership? Most people are greatly influenced by those around them.

Find out how they would approach training and/or behavior problems. Again, don't tell them what you are doing, but find out how they would handle this. Better yet, find out how they handled this with previous dogs! This is where the hypothetical questioning can come in handy. “What would you do if you came home to find out she just chewed your brand new couch?”

What are the family's expectations of a rescue dog?

If the potential adopter isn't suitable for specific reasons (they are couch potatoes and your foster dog needs to run 10 miles every day, etc.) Please let us know and we can change the dog's bio to better reflect its needs.

BRING YOUR ADOPTION PACKET FOLDER WITH YOU!

Often times, at the meet and greet, you can finalize the adoption, This depends on vetting completed, if the adoptive family has supplies ready, if they are able to spend a few days with the dog before going to work/ vacation/etc. It is important not to adopt a dog to a family who will leave him/her alone the first few days for 8+ hours.

Our adoption contract is legal and binding. Be sure to review the entire document, and the spay/neuter agreement, if they are adopting an unaltered puppy.

Once the documents are signed, it's OFFICIAL! You should provide the new owner with any medication that your foster dog is taking, along with instructions and a few days worth of food. You may also want to give them your foster dog's favorite toy, or anything else that will help with transition.

When it's finally time to hand over your foster dog, please be emotionally prepared. Even if you feel sad, the new parents are excited and happy about finding a new companion. Please remember to rejoice and celebrate that you have helped to find a forever home for your foster dog.



All of the supplies provided to you from Lucky Chance Rescue must be returned at your earliest convenience. This includes collars, leashes, crates, bowls, etc, crates, puppy pens, food, toys, etc.



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU !

Your foster dog has been adopted! You've found him a permanent home that might even be better than yours - if that's possible!

The staff and volunteers at the Lucky Chance Rescue greatly appreciate your time, energy and dedication. Please let us know if there's anything we can do to make fostering easier and even more rewarding. On behalf of all the graduate dogs of the

Lucky Chance Rescue, we thank you!

GET READY FOR YOUR NEXT FOSTER DOG!! Dogs and puppies might leave behind germs that can jeopardize your next foster pet. For this reason, we ask that you follow specific cleaning protocol before bringing your next foster home:

- Remove anything that your foster slept on or played with.
- Scrub everything that your foster could have touched with diluted bleach solution. Don't forget to scrub the walls too!
- Food and water dishes can be washed in the dishwasher or soaked in diluted bleach for 10 minutes.
- Clean all toys with diluted bleach as well.
- Wash all bedding in hot water
- **Throw away anything that cannot be bleached.**

LET US KNOW WHEN YOU ARE READY TO MEET YOUR NEXT FOSTER!

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