

HOW TO SETTLE A DOG INTO YOUR HOME

Bringing a new dog into your home and family is an exciting time!

It can bring so much happiness and anticipation, but also a little bit of uncertainty.

It doesn't matter if you adopt a puppy or an adult dog, they need time to get used to their new surroundings.

Knowing how to introduce them properly to their new home is super important for their well-being.



DO'S

- Create a Safe Space**
Allocate a quiet, safe area for your dog.
- Keep Things Calm**
Minimise noise and stress in your dog's environment.
- Follow a Routine**
Follow a consistent schedule for activities and rest.
- Gradual Introduction**
Introduce your dog slowly to new faces and pets.
- Use Positive Reinforcement**
Encourage good behavior with treats and praise.
- Practice Patience**
Allow your dog time to adjust and learn new routines.
- Provide Adequate Healthcare**
Regular vet visits, vaccinations, and pest prevention are key.
- Train Your Dog**
Foster bonding and understanding through consistent training.
- Offer Plenty of Toys and Enrichment**
Keep your dog stimulated with toys and regular play.
- Regular Grooming**
Groom your dog regularly according to their breed requirements.
- Socialise Your Dog**
Gradually expose your dog to diverse people, animals and environments. Be sure to consult with your adoption team for guidance before attempting this.
- Show Love and Affection**
Express affection for your dog to enhance their well-being. Seek advice as this may need to be done in a specific way. Some dogs do not like to be hugged or picked up.

DON'TS

- Shout**
Use a calm, assertive voice rather than shouting.
- Punish Accidents**
Instead of punishing accidents, redirect your dog appropriately.
- Encourage Bad Behavior**
Don't reward inappropriate behavior with attention.
- Ignore Warning Signs**
Take note if your dog shows signs of discomfort or fear.
- Rush**
Don't force your dog to adjust too quickly to their new surroundings.
- Leave Them Alone for Long Periods**
Avoid leaving your new pet alone for long periods initially.
- Ignore Unwanted Behaviors**
Don't overlook signs of destructive or disruptive behavior.
- Neglect Mental Stimulation**
Ensure your dog gets plenty of mental exercise
- Forget Vet Care**
Regular vaccinations and check-ups are vital to your dog's health.

Remember, while these guidelines provide a general roadmap, it's essential to observe your dog's behaviour and responses closely. Every dog is unique, so adapt accordingly and shower them with love, patience, and understanding during their adjustment period.