



Congratulations on adopting your new family member!

Please take the time to read through this entire packet of important information.

After reading, if you still have questions, you may reach out to a PJ's Rescue Volunteer.

This is an exciting time for you and your new companion. How your pet develops and grows from here on out depends largely on you. For most, we may not know what our animals have been through and previously experienced. It is important to take the time to help your pet transition smoothly into their new home.

PJ's Rescue is a volunteer based non-profit organization. We do our very best to work with you, our adopters, to help make the adoption a success. During your pet's stay with PJ's Rescue, our volunteer fosters take time out of their own lives to provide the best start to their foster animal's new life.

This *Adoption Folder* was created to help ensure a happy and successful relationship with your pet. As you welcome your companion into your family, we welcome you into ours. Provided below is information that may help guide the process of welcoming your new pet into your home.

Now that you have adopted your pet...

Adoption fee covers:

- **Age-appropriate vaccines, up to the date of adoption.**
- **One wellness exam, completed through Happy Tails Animal Hospital.**
- **Microchipping**
- **Spay/neuter surgery at Happy Tails Animal Hospital.**
 - Once you have adopted your pet and taken them home, please reach out to **your** vet clinic for further vetting and care. If you do not have established care at a vet clinic, please do this **IMMEDIATELY**.
 - After the animal is in your care, PJ's Rescue will **ONLY** be responsible for the rescue animal's spay/neuter at Happy Tails Animal Hospital, if that has not been completed yet by the time of adoption.
 - If your animal has not yet been spayed/neutered at the time of adoption, a PJ's Rescue volunteer will reach out when a date for the surgery has been scheduled at Happy Tails Animal Hospital in Superior, WI.
- You have the choice to have your animal spayed/neutered at your own vet.
 - **If spay/neuter is performed through your own vet, proof of (a spay/neuter certificate or receipt) must be sent in the form of a scan or photo to vetting@pjsrescue.com. The adoption fee will remain the same if you choose to go to your own vet for alteration.**

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Potty Training Tips

Each dog will be different, and the amount of time it takes to train them will vary.

- **Consistency** and **patience** is key.
- Set them up for success by taking them outside to potty **frequently**, especially in the beginning if you are adopting a young puppy.
 - It is recommended to take a puppy outside every 30 minutes to 1 hour while awake.
- Assume that your new dog is not house-trained and expect to have some accidents in your home.
 - If your dog happens to be house-trained then you will be pleasantly surprised.
 - The most effective way to manage your dog's elimination habits is to have a consistent eating and eliminating schedule.
- If you are training a puppy, it is important to remember that their bladder and bowels are small, meaning it doesn't take them as long to digest.
 - ***Take your pup outside Immediately after they wake up, during and after playing, and after they eat or drink.***
- Take your dog to the same place to use the bathroom. This will help your dog understand what you want.
 - ***Don't forget to reward your dog for going to the bathroom outside. You can use praise and treats!***
- Using praise and routine are the most efficient ways to house-train your new dog.
 - Punishing a dog by rubbing his nose in the mess or swatting him with a newspaper will only make him afraid of you and avoid ever going to the bathroom in front of you (even outside).
- If you catch them in the act, simply say "**no**" and take them outside right away.
 - The way you clean a soiled area is critical to ensure the spot does not become a magnet for all of the pets in the household to mark. Use a good enzymatic cleaner, such as Pet Odor Eliminator or Nature's Miracle.

Important puppy potty training info:

- Puppies younger than five months are like babies and cannot be expected to control their bladders and bowels like an adult animal.
- As a general rule, puppies can control their bladders for **1 hour for every month of age up to 10 months**. To expect otherwise is setting yourself up for disappointment.

Crate Training Tips

Dogs love having a place of their own and a crate helps satisfy their den instinct. Providing a crate for your dog can be a great way to train them and introduce them to their new environment. The goal is for your pup to feel like the crate is a comfortable and safe place to relax.

- Training your dog to feel comfortable in their crate must be done slowly and gradually.
 - Start by leaving the door open and occasionally placing a tasty treat inside for them to retrieve.
 - Once your dog is comfortable going in and out for the treat, begin feeding meals in the crate.
 - As your dog becomes accustomed to eating in their crate you can begin closing the door while they are inside, gradually increasing the time the door stays closed.
- During the training process if your dog whines or cries, do not let them out of the crate until they stop.
 - However, if you have adopted a puppy make sure you grant the request for elimination issues and ignore the request if it is purely for attention. Otherwise, your dog will learn that whining is the way to get out of his crate, and he will keep doing it.
- Some dogs suffer from issues around being left alone; these dogs generally can't handle crating. It is important to distinguish between a dog that is seeking attention and one that is suffering from separation anxiety.
 - A crate isn't a magical solution to all problems, however when used and introduced properly it can be a wonderful management tool.
- Provide your dog with a secure place where they can retreat when tired, stressed or ill. Respect your dog's fears until they are comfortable.
- **It is encouraged to put your pet in their crate while you are home for short periods of time. Benefits include;**
 - Teach your pup that their crate isn't a punishment when you leave, but rather their "space" to hang out.
 - The crate should be an aid to keep your home and the pup safe, teach polite house manners, and confine the pup when you cannot supervise them

When leaving your pet at home alone:

Make sure your animal has just been outside to the bathroom and has an appropriate chew toy. Chew toys/bones provide distraction and help with boredom.

- A small area or crate simulates a den so teaching your dog how to behave in the house alone can be aided through crate training.
 - Dogs typically won't soil this space, because it is their sleeping area.

Follow the Rule of 3's when adopting a Rescue Dog

The **3 DAYS, 3 WEEKS, 3 MONTHS** rule is a general guideline for the adjustment period of an animal in a new environment. Every animal is unique and will adjust differently, so give them space and allow them to go at their own pace. This tool will help you with understanding your animal's adjustment to a new environment.

THE FIRST 3 DAYS:

- Your animal will not be comfortable enough to be himself. Don't be alarmed if they do not eat for the first couple days. Many dogs don't eat when stressed. They may shut down, want to hide. They may be scared and unsure of what is going on.
 - Give them space
 - Set boundaries early
 - Stay calm and give clear direction
 - Start your daily routine right away
 - Do not force interaction
 - Be patient and stay positive.



AFTER 3 WEEKS:

- Your animal will start to feel more settled
 - They will start to test boundaries
 - Work on basic commands: sit, wait, down and come
- Give clear direction at all times.
- Give calm, clear feedback to them on when they are misbehaving.
- Praise every success.

AFTER 3 MONTHS:

- Your animal will start to trust its new home
 - They will begin to understand routineWill understand routine.
 - Do not ease off training, more is better.
 - They will begin to build great habits if you stay consistent
- They will start to build a bond- use affection as a resource

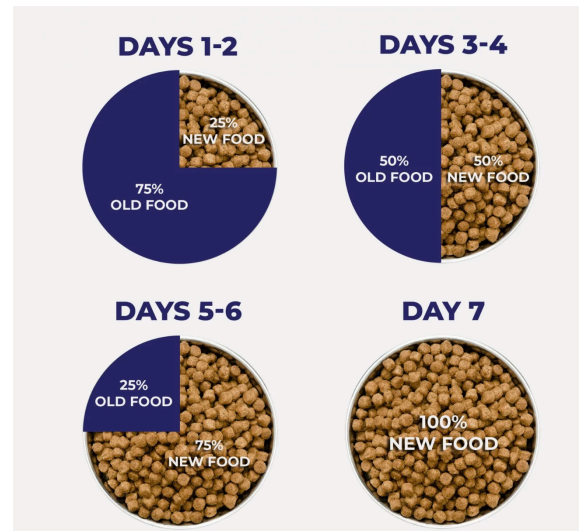
REMEMBER:

**It takes patience, consistency and time
Give them a chance**

Feeding Tips

Transitioning your pet to a new type of food:

- Switching your pet to a new food takes some planning. Here are some useful feeding tips to help keep your pet's tummy happy.
 - Introduce the new food gradually. This is the most successful way to ease your pet into the change in diet and helps reduce gastrointestinal upset and allows the system to adjust.
- Why does GI upset occur in pets with the change of food?
 - If we suddenly change what's in their bowl, it takes time for their little bodies to adapt. This includes their gut 'digestive juices' and enzymes, their nutrient absorption pathways, their motility (that being the way their stomach and intestines 'push' food through their body) and their gut microbes.
- Your animal may want to eat only the old food, or not eat at all. Not to worry, a healthy pet can miss meals for a day or two with no ill effects.
 - Initial refusal to eat the new food may be a sign that the transition just needs to happen a little bit more slowly.
- Switching diets may be more challenging when changing from a moist food to a dry food.
 - If your pet continues to resist eating dry food, mix in a little warm water.
 - After the pet has become accustomed to the moistened food, you can wean him onto the dry food.



Gastrointestinal Problems

Vomiting and Diarrhea:

Has your dog had an upset stomach, vomiting or diarrhea? Have you started a new food?

- Oftentimes our dogs get upset stomachs from change of food, treats, stress/anxiety.
 - Mix 2 parts carbs (cooked rice) to 1 part protein (low-fat cottage cheese, cooked chicken breast or boiled hamburger).
 - Split your animals normal serving of food consumed per day into 5-6 smaller meals.
- While feeding a bland diet, **DO NOT** give any dog food, human foods or treats. It is important to be restrictive during this time.
- When to transition back to dog food: Once your pet has had a normal bowel movement you want to slowly start transitioning back to normal dog food kibble.
 - Day 1: mix 3 parts bland diet to 1 part dog kibble.
 - Day 2 and 3: mix ½ part bland diet and ½ part kibble
 - Day 4: Mix 1 part bland diet to 3 parts kibble
 - Day 5: should be back to dog kibble

When to call your veterinarian?

- If your dog begins to refuse eating, starts vomiting, or the diarrhea isn't resolving, please call your vet clinic.

Foods that may be dangerous to your pet:

Alcoholic beverages, almonds, apples, apricot pits, avocados, cake batter, cherry pits, caffeinated drinks, candy (especially chocolate), cheese, chives, citrus, coconut, coffee (grounds and beans), fat trimmings and bones, garlic, grapes, grapefruit, gum, liver, macadamia nuts, moldy foods, mushrooms, mustard seeds, onion and onion powder, peach pits, prescription meds for humans, potato leaves and stems (green parts), raisins, raw or uncooked eggs/fish/meat, rhubarb, salt, tea, tomato leaves and stems, canned tuna, turkey, walnuts, xylitol, and yeast dough.

- If you suspect your pet ate any of these foods, try to determine how much. Call your veterinarian for specific advice.
- If your vet is unavailable or equipped to handle the situation, call the nearest animal hospital or the **pet poison helpline at 1-855-213-6680**. This is especially important if your animal is displaying symptoms such as muscle tremors or repeated vomiting.

If you suspect your pet ingested a poisonous plant, please contact ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center at 1-888-4-ANI-HELP

Keep Your Pet Healthy With Vaccinations

Owning a pet can be a huge responsibility. One of the most important tasks as a pet owner is to keep your animal up to date on vaccinations. Vaccinations are essential for protecting pets against contagious diseases. There are several vaccinations that both puppies and kittens need to be given to ensure their health and safety.

Vaccinations for Dogs:

As soon as you bring your pet home, the first thing you should do is schedule an appointment with YOUR veterinarian, to establish care for your new pet.

- It is important to make an appointment with your vet to stay on schedule with vaccinations and boosters.
 - **Once the animal is in your care, it is your responsibility to be established at a vet clinic for further vetting.**
 - Two important vaccines that all dogs should have are the **Rabies** vaccine and the **DHPP** vaccine.
 - Rabies is a fatal virus that can be carried by many animals so dogs should always be vaccinated against rabies. Rabies vaccinations are normally good for anywhere from one to three years.
 - The DHPP vaccine is the Distemper, Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus vaccine, which is also commonly known as simply the distemper shot. The distemper shot is incredibly important as it will protect your dog against all four dangerous diseases.

Your vet may also recommend other vaccinations for your dog depending on several factors including their lifestyle, and even where you live. Some vaccines that might be recommended by a veterinarian include:

- **Bordetella vaccine** - Bordetella is an upper respiratory infection that is highly contagious. The virus is also commonly known as kennel cough. Veterinarians will often recommend the Bordetella vaccine for pets that spend time in kennels, doggy daycare, and other such places.
- **Leptospirosis vaccine** - Leptospirosis is a bacterial infection that is often found in moist climates and areas with slow moving, or standing water. Often, the Leptospirosis vaccine is included as part of the DHPP vaccine, making it known as the DHLPP vaccine. Leptospirosis can be passed from animals to humans.
- **CoronaVirus vaccine** - The Corona virus is prevalent mainly in the southern part of the United States. Veterinarians may recommend that pet owners who live in the south get this vaccination.



Local Vet Clinics in the Twin Ports Area

Grand Avenue Veterinary Clinic

5503 Grand Avenue
Duluth, MN 55807
(218) 628-0301

Happy Tails Animal Hospital

1327 Banks Ave
Superior, WI 54880
(715) 718-2130

Duluth Veterinary Hospital

2015 London Rd
Duluth, MN 55812
(218) 728-3616

Airport Animal Hospital

4259 Haines Rd
Hermantown, MN 55811
(218) 727-0128

Waters Edge Animal Hospital

332 E Central Entrance
Duluth, MN 55811
(218) 464-4774

Cloquet Animal Hospital

122 2nd St
Cloquet, MN 55720
(218) 879-9280

Northern Woods Animal Hospital

6128 Grand Ave
Duluth, MN 55807
(218) 623-6342

Superior Animal Hospital

36 E 2nd St
Superior, WI 54880
(715) 392-6211

North Shore Veterinary Hospital

6001 E Superior St
Duluth, MN 55804
(218) 525-1937

Dougherty Veterinary Clinics

215 E 14th St
Duluth, MN 55811
(218) 722-3963

Miller Trunk Veterinary Clinic

5285 Miller Trunk Hwy
Hermantown, MN 55811
(218) 729-7959

BluePearl Pet Hospital

2314 W Michigan St.
Duluth, MN 55806
(218) 302-8000

Crow Goebel Veterinary Clinic

1108 Scanlon Way
Cloquet, MN 55720
(218) 879-5356

Introducing Your New Pup...

Introductions to children

Until you are certain that your new dog and children are safe together, make sure that you keep them separate unless supervised.

- Learning to read a dog's subtle body language when they are around children will be helpful.
 - If there is EVER a moment when you think that your dog is trying to harm your child, separate them immediately.
 - If you have concerns about your dog's behavior but are not seeing signs of aggression, place a leash on your dog and teach them to "sit" when around children.
 - Use treats to reward your pup when they are interacting positively with children.
 - Pick up all your toys. Some dogs may not be able to tell the difference between what is theirs and what belongs to the kids. This is also a choking risk for your pup.
 - Always leave your dog alone when they are eating, chewing or sleeping. Some dogs may nip or bite if bothered while eating or startled while sleeping.

Introductions to other animals

Introducing your new animal to your existing dog or cat can be a stressful part of adoption. Expect the transition to take some time and be prepared to go about it gradually.

- Give your first pet lots of attention to reassure them that they aren't being replaced.
- Be sure that each animal has their own food and water bowls, toys, and bed to minimize temptations to fight.
- Play it cool. If you are nervous, your pets are more likely to become nervous.
- Insist on good manners from the beginning.
 - Don't reward any whining, growling or pushy behavior in attempts to gain attention.
- Never grab or pick up any frightened animal and never separate fighting animals with your hands.
- Plan short periods of play times.
- Give attention to each pet separately and together.
- Serve meals at the same time, but start out feeding them in separate locations.
- Be patient, the adjustment time takes days and often weeks. As the animals become more comfortable around each other, they will sort out their relationship.

Your current pup can pick up on your stress or anxiety and this could cause them to act out in your defense. Make sure to stay calm and allow the animals to adjust at their own pace.

- During introductions, each dog should be on a leash and handled by a

PJ's Rescue Adoption Resources



different person.

- Allow them to sniff each other & completely check one another out.
 - Be wary of body language; signs of aggression include hair raised on the back of neck, growling, teeth showing.
 - If all is going well, be sure to provide lots of praise for the new friends.
 - Have them each sit and give them treats so they associate the new dog they're meeting with a positive experience.
- When introducing dogs and cats, put a leash on your dog and allow them to be in the same room with one another. It is recommended that you continue the introduction step until the dog is calm and is ignoring the cat.
 - Be mindful of your cat's behavior after the introduction. If they appear to be comfortable and are eating and using the litter box like normal, then these are good indicators that the cat is not feeling overly stressed.
 - Remember, you should only allow the dog and cat to be unsupervised together after you are completely confident that they won't harm or cause stress to one another. It will often take longer for a relationship to develop between these two species than between two dogs, but give it time.

Animal Car Safety

When driving in the car with your animal, it is important to not allow your pet to hang their head out of the window when traveling at medium to high speeds. Most dogs love the feeling of wind blowing past their ears at 60 mph, but that wind can seriously irritate mucous membranes and blow pieces of grit into the animal's eye. It may require veterinary attention to remove the foreign material, which could cause permanent damage to the eye. Insects or flying debris can also lodge in the nasal passages or get sucked up into the windpipe.

Training Your Pet to Tolerate Nail Trimming

Some dogs resent having their paws held or their nails trimmed. This intolerance is partly instinctive in young animals, and may also be learned from an unpleasant experience during nail trimming in the past.

- The living portion of the nail bed contains sensitive nerves and blood vessels. If toenails are cut too short, the animal learns that nail trimming is painful.
 - This negative experience is not easily forgotten.
- Once a pet has learned to anticipate discomfort when its feet are touched, their negative reaction can intensify each time.
 - Rewarding your dog with a treat after each nail trimming session can help the pet understand that it is a positive experience!

Steps that may help:

- Before you ever attempt to trim your pet's nails, begin by touching its legs, feet and toes, and associate this with an activity it enjoys.
- When it is resting, begin petting it, gently passing your hands over its back and legs. If this is well tolerated, you may wish to give it a small food treat.
 - Do not try to do too much the first time.
- Gradually manipulate your pet's foot more each time. Eventually, you should be able to slip your fingers in between each toe, gently squeezing each one to flex the nail, putting gentle pressure as you hold each foot and manipulate the leg.
 - Do not attempt this exercise when your pet is in an agitated or playful state, as it is most likely to resent any restrictions to its movement.
- Once your pet tolerates having its feet touched during quiet times, you may begin to incorporate this into elements of play time.
- If you are unsure of how to trim your pet's toenails, ask your veterinarian or a technician to show you how. They can show you where the sensitive nerves and blood vessels are likely to be found.
- The nail bed is seen as a pinkish triangle at the base of the nail; however, it may not be evident in dark-colored nails.
- Some pet's nails grow in a more curved shape, as compared with those growing more parallel to the ground.
 - This may determine how short they may be trimmed.
 - Even a skilled professional can misjudge the depth to which a nail may be trimmed.
- It is better to cut less of the nail than to cut more than necessary and cause bleeding.
 - Trim off small sections at a time and stop well short of the sensitive part of the nail.
 - Cutting the nail too short results in a painful experience for your pet.
 - Cut your pet's nails frequently, a little at a time, rather than occasionally when toenails are uncomfortable to both your pet and to you.
 - Continue to manipulate your pet's feet and toes between nail trims so that it remains a familiar sensation.

PJ's Rescue Adoption Resources



Local Dog Trainers

- **Black Onyx Dog Training LLC**
 - <https://www.blackonyxdogtraining.com>
 - Phone Number: (218) 343-3041
- **New Day Dog Training - Trudy Fredricks**
 - Phone Number: (218) 349-5808
- **R&R Professional Dog Training & Boarding**
 - Phone Number: (218) 384-1888
- **PetSmart Dog Training**
 - Phone Number: (218) 213-9465

We thank you for adopting,

PJ's Rescue Volunteers and Fosters