

WELCOMING A Rehomed Dog INTO YOUR HOME

Adopting a rehomed dog is a profound gesture of kindness and compassion. Here at Jordan Dog Training, we're committed to supporting you through this rewarding yet complex journey.

Our comprehensive guide provides an in-depth look at how to ensure a smooth and joyful transition for your new furry family member.

For additional insights, tips, and tricks, visit our Jordan Dog Training webpage, which offers extensive resources on pet care and adoption.

Preparing Your Home

✓ Home Safety Check:

Secure your property by checking fences and gates for any gaps or weaknesses. Inside the home, safeguard against potential hazards such as toxic plants and accessible electrical cords.

✓ Essential Supplies:

Equip yourself with the basics, including a comfortable bed, food and water dishes, a high-quality diet, toys for enrichment, and a leash for secure walks.

First Impressions

✓ Initial Adjustment:

Provide a quiet, welcoming space where your dog can retreat and feel secure. It's normal for dogs to experience anxiety in new environments.

✓ Routine Establishment:

Dogs appreciate consistency. Establish a predictable routine for feeding, exercise, and toilet breaks.

✓ Calm and Patience:

Understand that your new dog might exhibit stress through panting, pacing, or hiding. Approach them calmly and give them space to acclimate.

Trust, Bonding, and Socialisation

✓ Positive Interactions:

Encourage and reward positive behaviours with treats and praise to build trust.

✓ Quality Time:

Bond through gentle play or simply spending quiet time together. This helps your dog adjust emotionally to their new environment.

✓ Gradual Introductions:

Slowly introduce your dog to new people, pets, and environments. Avoid overwhelming them and respect their pace.

Understanding Decompression

✓ The Decompression Phase:

Decompression time for a dog entering a new environment, such as when being adopted into a new home, is crucial for helping the dog adjust comfortably and confidently.

This phase is essentially a period that allows the dog to gradually acclimate to its new surroundings, the people, and any other pets that may already be in the home.

Typically, the decompression period might last anywhere from a few days to several weeks, depending on the dog's background, temperament, and previous experiences.

✓ First 1-3 Days:

These initial days are often the most stressful for a dog. Keep things quiet and calm, minimise the number of new people the dog meets, and allow the dog to explore its new environment at its own pace, with access to a safe, quiet space where it can retreat if needed.

✓ Next Few Weeks:

Gradually introduce the dog to new experiences, such as meeting other family members and pets, exploring different parts of the home, and starting basic training routines.

Watch the dog's body language closely and proceed at a pace that seems comfortable for them.

✓ Continued Adjustment:

Even after the initial few weeks, dogs may continue to adjust to their new home and routine. Continue to provide structure, training, and affection to help the dog fully settle in.

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Behavioural Training Tips

- ✓ **Foundation Training:**
Start with basic commands such as sit, stay, come, and down. These foundational skills not only help in managing your dog's behaviour but also strengthen your bond.
- ✓ **Positive Reinforcement:**
Always use positive reinforcement techniques such as treats, praise, and play to reward your dog for good behaviour. This approach promotes a loving and trusting relationship.
- ✓ **Consistency Is Key:**
Ensure all family members use the same commands and maintain consistent rules. This helps prevent confusion and helps your dog learn more quickly.

Common Challenges and Solutions

- ✓ **Separation Anxiety:**
Many rehomed dogs may experience separation anxiety. Gradually accustom your dog to being alone by starting with short periods apart and gradually increasing them. Provide stimulating toys to keep them busy while you're away.
- ✓ **Resource Guarding:**
Some dogs may guard food, toys, or spaces. It's important to consult a professional trainer if you observe this behaviour. Early intervention can help modify and manage these tendencies.
- ✓ **Adjusting to Other Pets:**
Introduce existing pets and the new dog gradually and under controlled conditions. Keep initial interactions short and positive, and slowly increase their duration.

Health, Nutrition, and Exercise

- ✓ **Veterinary Care:**
Schedule a health check with a veterinarian soon after adoption to address any immediate health concerns and plan for ongoing care.
- ✓ **Balanced Diet:**
Provide a nutritious diet suitable for their breed, age, and health status. Consult your vet for dietary advice.
- ✓ **Regular Exercise:**
Tailor the amount and intensity of exercise to your dog's needs. Physical activity is essential for their well-being.

Emergency Preparedness

- ✓ **Emergency Contact Info:**
Keep a list of emergency contacts, including your vet, an emergency pet hospital, and a poison control centre, easily accessible.
- ✓ **First Aid Kit:**
Maintain a pet-specific first aid kit that includes items such as bandages, antiseptics, a digital thermometer, and tweezers.
- ✓ **Evacuation Plan:**
Have a plan in place in case of an emergency that requires evacuation. Ensure your dog is microchipped and wears a collar with an ID tag for easy identification.

Legal Responsibilities

- ✓ **Registration and Microchipping:**
Ensure your dog is registered with your local council as required by law. Microchipping is also mandatory in Australia, providing an added layer of security for your pet.
- ✓ **Responsible Ownership:**
Understand and comply with local laws regarding dog ownership, including leash requirements, noise control, and waste management.

Further Support and Learning

Jordan Dog Training is here to support your journey with your rehomed dog.

Our services include behavioural consultations, tailored training programs, and educational workshops on dog care and training.

Seeking Additional Information

For more detailed advice on rehoming and caring for your new dog, visit our Jordan Dog Training webpage.

Our resources are invaluable for new pet owners, providing a range of articles on health, behaviour, and daily care.

Embracing a rehomed dog into your family is a journey of love, patience, and understanding. By following these guidelines and accessing our resources, you can ensure a smooth transition for your new companion.

Remember, the team at Jordan Dog Training is here to assist you in navigating this rewarding experience.

For personalised advice or to learn more about our services, please contact us at www.jordandogtraining.com.au. Together, we can make a positive difference in the life of your rehomed dog.



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