



## Tyrion 347509: What to Expect

**Tyrion is a graduate of our Behavior Modification Program and is looking for a special home.** Tyrion is an active little dog who adores going for walks and spending time with his people! Sometimes it can take Tyrion a little time to warm up to new friends, but once he does, he can be found jumping up on them for pets, snuggling in their lap, or curled up next to them on the sofa. He would make the perfect pint-sized adventure buddy and would happily join you on walks, short hikes, or trips to your favorite neighborhood coffee shop!

In his previous home, Tyrion struggled with potty training and had frequent accidents indoors. His former owners used diapers to help manage this. Tyrion became uncomfortable with the handling involved and would sometimes avoid being picked up altogether, and if he continued to feel pressured or handled against his wishes, he might growl or snap to communicate that he was uncomfortable. Since coming to Oregon Humane, Tyrion has made encouraging progress with positive reinforcement training and is learning that going potty outside is both rewarding and enjoyable, helping him build successful bathroom habits and reduce accidents indoors. We have also had success respecting his comfort surrounding handling by allowing him to consent to being picked up rather than lifting him unexpectedly.

We believe he would do best in a home without small children who are still learning to regulate their emotions and respect the space of others. Older, dog-savvy kids would likely enjoy his playful and affectionate personality. Tyrion has done well with dogs of many sizes and personalities and especially enjoys companions who are gently playful and respectful of his smaller size; more rambunctious dogs may feel a bit overwhelming for him. Tyrion could happily share his home with another confident, well-mannered dog, and a pet meet is required before adoption; however, he would be just as happy to be someone's one-and-only companion.

### **Here's how to help Tyrion settle in during your first months together:**

**Be your dog's advocate.** It's okay to ask someone to stop or prevent a person from letting their dog come up to say hi to your dog. Watch their body language and help your dog out of situations if they appear stressed. Explain that Tyrion is not comfortable with people and doesn't enjoy meeting strangers while on their walk.

**Let them drag a leash attached to their collar** for the first week or two inside and outside the home. Fast movements are startling, and it will take time for them to be okay with you approaching and removing the leash. If you go slow at the beginning, you'll build a trusting relationship. Treats always help!

**Take Tyrion outside on leash.** Even if you have a fenced yard, please do not let Tyrion out alone. They are so small, that they could easily hide under your deck or a bush - or slip through a gap in your fence! Tyrion does like to go for walks and go outside to potty but needs some time to figure out the routine before being trusted off leash.

**If you're having people over, put Tyrion on leash so they learn to not dart out the front door or jump all over people.** Once everyone is sitting down and calm you can drop the leash and allow your dog to decide if they want to go say hi to your guests, ensure your guests ask Tyrion to sit before being pet so they're rewarded for keeping 4 feet on the floor.

**Practice crate training.** Start by feeding meals in a wire crate and work your way up from there. It will be in your best interest to **slowly** increase time in the crate, so they view it as a safe, comfortable spot. When you cannot monitor your dog in the home, allow them some time to settle and relax in the crate.

**Visiting the Vet:** Unless it is an emergency, give your dog plenty of time to bond to you before taking them to your vet. Tyrion does very well at the vet, with patience they handle meeting new people well. The vet can still be a scary place. Bringing tasty treats like cheese and/or hot dogs can help make the experience more pleasant.

Try using **Adaptil (Dog Appeasing Pheromone)** or **Rescue Remedy by Bach Flower Essences**. These products may help dogs settle in new environments by easing the stress associated with change.

### **We're here to help!**

We want Tyrion to be successful in your home. We're available to answer questions via phone and email. During your first two months with Tyrion, we can also set up a free one-on-one consultation. For questions or to schedule an appointment, contact us at **(503) 285-1145** or [BMODTrainers@oregonhumane.org](mailto:BMODTrainers@oregonhumane.org).

Please keep in touch so we can continue to help you now and in the future. Reach out if you have questions or concerns, or just to give an update. We love to see photos and hear how our friends are doing! Thank you for adopting from the Oregon Humane Society. Congratulations on your new dog!