



Roy 349791: What to Expect

Roy is a graduate of our Behavior Modification Program and is looking for a special home. This guy loves to play, explore, and cuddle! His most favorite toy is a hard Jolly Ball that he can pounce and chase all over the yard. No work required by you, he takes care of it on his own. This energetic guy would love to get up and go with you, whether it's to the coast, river, hike, park, urban adventures, or a road trip. He's down for any and all adventures and he'll be your social wingman. This handsome fellow has never met a stranger, human or dog. He would love to help you make new friends while you're out on your walks. He's looking for an active family without tiny children. His exuberance for life causes him to lose all body awareness and he could jump up on and knock over small children. Older kids who are familiar with dogs would enjoy having Roy as a family member.

We've had the opportunity to introduce Roy to other dogs during his time with us at OH and he's shown us his play style is rough and tumble. His gentlemanly manners fly out the window at the sign of another dog, instead of a polite sniff and ask for play, Roy runs in and is ready for wrestle mania. Older, sensitive, and/or easily offended dogs will find Roy to be very overwhelming and rude. Due to his exuberance for life and lack of polite social skills at this time, we feel he would not be a good candidate for dog parks or doggy daycare. Scheduled playdates with known dogs in a securely fenced yard or SniffSpot will ensure Roy learns social skills in a safe and controlled manner. A pet meet is required before adoption, if there is a resident dog in the home.

At times Roy's exuberance for life can have him jumping for joy and on people, and if overstimulated further may grab onto loose fitting clothes, the leash, or bags. We've been working with Roy on his manners, and he's demonstrated great skill in learning new things. He already knows how to sit, lay down, stay, and leave it. His new family will find continued success in practicing the same positive reinforcement techniques we've found successful here at OH. "While his soul is gentle, his battery is boundless."

Here's how to help Roy settle in during your first months together:

Use routine to get Roy comfortable in their new home. It will take a couple weeks for Roy to feel comfortable in their new home and with you. Having a predictable schedule will help them adjust to their new home.

If you're having people over, put Roy on leash so they learn not to 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 Roy to sit before being pet so they're rewarded for keeping 4 feet on the floor.

Roy needs daily exercise to reduce stress. Roy loves to go for runs, walks, play fetch, and chase a flirt pole. Giving your dog a healthy outlet for some of their energy will help them settle during calm hours at home.

Work on having Roy settle on a mat and gently praise them for lying down. If they get up to pace, call them back and use a treat to lure them into a down again. If Roy is on leash, you can hold them with approximately 4 feet of leash and wait until they offer a settle by lying down. Softly praise and treat when they do this.

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.

“Puppy proof” your home and practice tether training to prevent them from getting into puppy/adolescent trouble. When home have Roy on leash, attached to you or tethered to a large piece of furniture as you go about your daily routine. This will help with potty training, bonding, and creating boundaries within the home. Let Roy drag the leash around the house or yard from time to time to simulate “freedom”, but do not let them off leash until they can 100% be trusted not to get into things they shouldn’t. This could take up to a few weeks. Crate them when you cannot watch them. This will ensure their puppy curiosity doesn’t get them into any trouble. You will have long lasting success if you follow this method.

Take a training class. Roy would benefit from taking some training classes with their new owners and would love to learn more alongside their family in a training class. Training classes help strengthen the bond between owner and dog by creating clear and precise communication so there are no misunderstandings. You can find more info about our training classes on our website at (<https://www.oregonhumane.org/training/training-at-ohs/>).

Skip the dog park. Don’t take Roy to busy places where they will have lots of uncontrolled interactions with people or other dogs (such as Saturday Market, dog parks, coffee shops, etc.).

Visiting the Vet: Unless it is an emergency, give your dog plenty of time to bond to you before taking them to your vet. Roy 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 Roy to be successful in your home. We’re available to answer questions via phone and email. During your first two months with Roy, 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.

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!