



Barry: What to Expect

Barry is a young, active boy and needs a special home. Barry is a handsome boy who loves to play and learn. He needs to find a home with a dog-experienced person who can continue working with him on his impulse control using the same positive reinforcement training methods we have used here at OHS.

Barry does best when he can stick to a routine and a predictable schedule. He needs a home with a securely fenced yard where he can play with you. He will **not** be able to go to the dog park, so leashed walks and playtime in your yard will help him be successful. He gets very excited and could easily overwhelm a child, so we're requiring that he go into an adult-only home – or one with older teens.

Barry has bitten a cat in his previous home and in the process, he accidentally bit the owner when the owner intervened to get Barry to let go of the cat. Barry cannot go to a home with dogs, cats or other small animals. Although Barry has lived with two other dogs in his original home, he is very conflicted about his canine friends and his play style can get over the top and overwhelm a lot of dogs. He would benefit from taking a Reactive Rover class like the one offered at OHS to help manage his reactivity towards other animals while he's out on walks.

Here's how to help Barry during your first months together:

Use positive reinforcement and reward-based training methods. When training, use treats and squeaky toys, depending on which he responds to best in your home. Anything negative or forceful will likely cause his arousal or excitement level to increase and will ultimately be counterproductive for both of you.

Give him ample time to settle into your home. Develop a predictable daily schedule to help him acclimate to your house. Take your time to get to know him before introducing him to someone new.

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 Barry's time in the crate, so you can eventually leave him alone for longer periods.

When guests come over, put Barry in his crate at first. Once things settle down, you can **introduce him to visitors on leash.** Barry gets really excited when meeting new people, so having him on leash will help him learn not to jump on everyone. If you're having a large group of people over, simply leave him in a crate with a Kong until the company leaves.

Work on having him "settle" at your feet and gently praise him for lying down. If he gets up to pace, call him back and use a treat to lure him into a down again.

Use his harness for walks. Using a walking tool with him will make life easier for you. Be sure to bring his favorite high-value treats with you so you can help him remain calm and not pull on his walks. It will also be in your best interest to play a game of fetch **before** you take Barry on a walk. This will help reduce his energy level so he can stay focused during the walk.

Practice "Leave It." Barry can get mouthy on walks if he's worked up and overly excited. He also may grab at the leash. Being able to successfully redirect him is important. If he sees another dog, or starts to grab at the leash, say "leave it"

and immediately reward him with his favorite treat for stopping and looking at you. Again, playing fetch before going on a walk can help reduce the mouthy/overexcited behavior on leash.

Supervise him in the yard. Barry has a history of escaping out of yard and can clear a 6-foot fence with ease. Do not leave him outside unsupervised even if it's for a couple minutes. Barry's original owners surrendered him due to multiple escape tendencies.

No dog parks! Don't take him to places where he will have lots of uncontrolled interactions with people or other dogs (like walks down Hawthorne Street, coffee shops, popular hiking trails, etc.). An off-leash dog parks would be too overwhelming for him.

Be his advocate. It's okay to ask someone to stop, or prevent a person from coming up to say hi to your dog. Watch his body language and help him out of situations if he appears stressed or if he is starting to get really amped up.

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

Patience will come in handy for you. Barry is a dog who needs an experienced, calm owner who has the time and desire to work with him. He will pay you back by supplying love and enthusiasm!

We're here to help!

We want Barry to be successful in his home. Call our free Pet Behavior Helpline at (503)416-2983 or book a one-on-one training consultation at oregonhumane.org/training. Enter the promo code **ADOPT** to receive 10% off a single training consultation.

Please keep in touch so we can continue to help you and Barry now and in the future. Please reach out if you have any 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!