



## Sancho: What to Expect

Sancho is a very sweet boy who loves to be around his people. He loves to play fetch, rides nicely in the car, greets visitors politely and knows some tricks such as shake. He takes treats gently, waits for food and gets on and off furniture when asked. What a good boy!

The only thing he really struggles with are other animals, so we are looking for a home with someone who can continue working with him to lower his reactive response (barking, lunging, and pulling) towards other animals, especially dogs.

By using positive reinforcement training methods we and his foster parent are working towards reducing the reactivity, but he will need continued support for this. He will need a home with a larger fully fenced yard so that he has room to run in his own space. He gets very excited and could easily knock over a child, or get out of a door that has been left open, so we're requiring that he go into an adult-only home – or one with older teens. He did very well on our OHS volunteer running team so if you like to run a few miles; he'd love to join you.

### Challenges for Sancho.

- He will bark and lunge at the fence line, windows and doors if he can see dogs outside.
- He will **not** be able to go to the dog park and taking him on walks requires training.
- Sancho cannot go to a home where there are any other animals, animals who visit, or ones you babysit for.
- He cannot go to a home with children.

Although he is fine now, Sancho is a big dog and thinking ahead to when he is older, he would benefit from a home without many stairs.

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

**Give him ample time to settle into your home.** Develop a predictable daily schedule to help him acclimate to your house and fenced in quiet yard. He has been through a lot and he'll need some calm time to adjust!

**Continue his training.** Sancho has been learning to not respond to the sight and sound of other dogs. We would need you to continue his "Reactive Rover" lessons so that Sancho can learn to stay calmer when he sees dogs on walks. You both would benefit from booking a session with his OHS trainer Paulina, so we can pass on everything he's been working on and what words to use so there is some continuity and familiarity when he goes home with you. This will really help his transition.

**When it's time to take him out, use a head halter and body harness for walks.** Using these tools with him will make life easier for you, but let him settle in for a while before you try to take him out. Be sure to bring high-value treats with you so you can help him remain calm and not pull on walks. It will also help to play a game of fetch **before** you take him on a walk. This will help reduce his energy level so he can stay focused on his training during the walk. Again, a training session will help us give you all this information.

**Visiting your Vet.** As Sancho cannot be around other animals, you would need to talk to your veterinarian about how best to manage his visits. An in-home service may be a better option or asking to take the last appointment of the day can help.

**No dog parks!** He cannot go to dog parks or anywhere there are a lot of dogs, off leash or on! He cannot be tied up outside coffee shops nor go with you to dog friendly restaurants. These activities are not fair to Sancho and he would lose a lot of trust in you if you tried to do these things.

**Be him advocate.** Wherever you are, it's always okay to tell someone to stop, or prevent a person from coming up to say hi with their dog. Watch his body language and help him out of situations if he is starting to appear stressed or if he is starting to get worked up.

**Patience and acceptance will come in handy for you.** Sancho 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 loyalty!

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

We want Sancho to be successful in his home. We're available to answer questions via phone and email. One-on-One training consultations are also available. More information at [oregonhumane.org/training](https://oregonhumane.org/training). Enter the promo code **ADOPT** to receive 10% off a single training consultation.

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.

Please keep in touch so we can continue to help you and Sancho 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!