

Settling in with YOUR NEW DOG

Your new dog has been through a lot of changes. During the first weeks in your home, they need you to provide calm and quiet leadership.

Arriving Home:



1. Walk your dog on leash directly to their designated potty spot and give them time to go.



2. Keep your dog on leash when you go inside. Use the leash to prevent them from running and jumping.



3. Lead your dog to their designated safe space. If your dog is crate trained, use a crate.



4. Feed your new dog separately from other pets and kids. Leave them alone while they are eating.

Weeks 1 & 2:



Develop a daily routine. A predictable schedule will help your dog settle in.



Praise and reward good behavior. Completely ignore behaviors that you want the dog to stop.



If you have a yard, go out regularly for potty breaks and play time (try fetch!). Take leash walks in **quiet areas.** Give your dog time to sniff.



Invite your dog to come to you for pets and scratches (most dogs enjoy pets on their chest).

Weeks 3 & 4:



Expand your dog's world slowly. **Pick one new activity** to try with your dog. Do a test run at the dog park, or try your favorite hiking trail - on leash!



Sign up for a training class or teach your dog some fun tricks at home.



Teach your friends how to appropriately interact with your dog.



If your dog has special requirements, please follow the specific information given to you about that individual dog. This may be different to the above information.

For more information about introducing your dog to your other pets, refer to our introduction guides at *oregonhumane.org/adopt/adoption-support*. Need help? Call our free pet behavior help line at 503.416.2983.

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