



**Rovers Return Dog Rescue**

**Feed Fix Network**

## Getting to Know Your New Dog

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Congratulations. You saved a life by adopting a rescue dog from Rovers Return.

Your pet may not have had the best start in life and will need time to adjust. They may be anxious, frightened, excited, or unsure about rules they had learned somewhere else.

### KEY ACTIONS

- Give your dog time to decompress.
- Use routine, direction, and patience.
- Call Rovers Return immediately if your dog escapes.

## THE 3S OF ADOPTING AN ADULT DOG

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3 days: provide a quiet environment, avoid too much attention, wait on introductions, and begin a regular feeding, sleeping, and walking schedule.

3 weeks: reinforce good behavior with consistency and repetition. Problems can happen while a dog adjusts to a new situation.

3 months: your dog should be feeling at home. A positive plan, training, patience, and humor can lead to a rewarding life together.

## DIRECTION AND HOUSEHOLD RULES

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Offer treats when your dog does something good.

Ignore bad behavior at first when possible, because negative correction may reinforce it.

Teach children to be caring, gentle, and respectful of the dog's personal space.

Teach your dog to sit before feeding, leashing, going outside, and crossing roads.

## ESCAPE SAFETY

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On adoption day, use extreme caution when you get home. Dogs can become scared and may try to run.

**If this happens, contact Rovers Return immediately so we can help and advise as quickly as possible.**

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