

Bao En Temple Rescue Shanghai



Arrival in your home - a dog moves in.

We're delighted that you're giving a furry friend a new home. To help with the adjustment, we'd like to provide you with a few tips. Just like us humans, every dog is unique. Depending on your furry friend's background, their behavior in the new environment can be somewhat unpredictable. Some newcomers may be shy, fearful, or reserved, while others might approach things with carefree joy, openness, and curiosity. From experience, we know that most dogs settle in quickly when they sense your good intentions and experience positive things. They swiftly develop trust in their new caregiver. The duration of the adjustment period can't always be predicted in advance. It's also influenced by the situation your dog is coming from. Often, the journey to their new home is long and tiring, leaving the animals stressed. Even a transition from a foster home brings change and excitement.

Everything is new, smells different, and the people have changed. Ideally, take a few days off work for the initial period of your new family member's adjustment. Keep in mind that many shelter dogs have never lived in a house or an apartment before. The new environment with all its scents and sounds is unfamiliar to them. Your dog may have never lived without other furry companions or had to part from them or their caregiver. Dogs also experience separation distress. Therefore, don't expect your dog to come to you wagging its tail with immediate gratitude. Newcomers often experience stress, and a strong bond with their new humans hasn't been established yet. Be gentle and cautious with your dog during the first few days.

We can't anticipate the situations or sounds that might startle your dog. Approaching dogs, cars, trucks, umbrellas, or men in long coats—there are countless unfamiliar situations. Therefore, take safety seriously. In the first few weeks, always secure your dog with both a well-fitted collar and a safety harness. This way, your

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dog won't have a chance to escape if it gets frightened. Even during the first days indoors, a short training leash without a loop at the end can be useful until you understand your dog's temperament. Some quick dogs slip out the front door when you're still chatting with the mailman. With a training or indoor leash, you can react quickly. Also, ensure proper safety measures while driving by securing your dog adequately in the car.

Before your dog arrives at your home, you should have set up a quiet spot for them. This could be a cozy corner, a blanket, or a bed placed in a sheltered area where your furry friend can retreat and find tranquility. This space should be within the family area, allowing the dog to have its own space. Especially when welcoming puppies, it's important to secure potential hazards like electrical outlets or cables. Also, ensure that this designated area is initially off-limits for your children.

Allow your dog to observe its surroundings in peace. Move calmly around the house and avoid staring directly into the eyes of a shy dog. During the first days, consider feeding your dog by hand; this helps build a bond and establish trust. Let the dog come to you when it's ready. When interacting with the dog, avoid reaching from above; instead, approach slowly from below. This movement might make the dog feel threatened. Be patient with your new companion. If you're taking your dog to the garden, we recommend using a leash during the initial times and not leaving the dog unsupervised. In the first days and weeks, your dog might search for escape routes. Fences can be easily overestimated. Many dogs can easily overcome them, and digging a hole under the fence is also a possibility.

During the first few weeks, your dog should always be walked with double security. Retractable leashes are not recommended. They often malfunction, and your dog can quickly jump onto the street if the mechanism fails or if you get distracted. Practice recall with a long training leash during the initial period until your dog establishes a strong bond with you and willingly returns to you. Unfortunately, dogs often run away because they're released from the leash too soon and can't be called back. This risk can be avoided.

Establishing consistent routines at specific times within the house provides your dog with initial orientation and security. Habits and rituals reinforce the feeling of being part of the new pack. Start with the same walking route every time. Seeing and smelling familiar things calms your dog and provides them with reassurance. Minimize additional stress during the initial days. Avoid unnecessary visits or visitors. Even with smaller children, it's best to take a step back during the first days, even though it might be challenging. Pressuring a dog makes the adjustment process more difficult.

When it comes to feeding, take it slow initially. Provide small portions and observe how your dog tolerates the food. Many dogs experience diarrhea in the first few days due to the stress of transportation or a change in diet. If diarrhea persists, becomes watery, or includes blood, consult your trusted veterinarian. In general, consider introducing your dog to a veterinarian after a few weeks. This serves the purpose of familiarizing your dog with veterinary visits and also allows the veterinarian to assess your four-legged companion from the beginning.

Establish clear rules for your dog right from the start. Kindly but firmly communicate what is off-limits and what is allowed. Reward correct behavior. During the initial days, most dogs are shy and reserved; only as they become more secure will they test where their place in the pack will be. Dogs from abroad are usually well-socialized, even with cats. Nevertheless, when introducing your newcomer to other dogs or other animals living in the house, keep an eye on them. Your dog's behavior might be different in the new environment than expected. In these situations, also use a training leash so that you can intervene if necessary. Hopefully, these tips will help ease your four-legged friend's start into their new life.

We at Bao En Temple Animal Rescue wish you and your furry companion a lifelong friendship and a happy life together. If you have any more questions, don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Our motto: All for the dogs! Your team from Bao En Temple Animal Rescue and Yue!

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Facebook Page...

Bao En Temple Animal Rescue

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?viewas=100000686899395&id=100089596114491>

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... And our group for the dogs available for adoption

Samojeds, Labradors, Nordic, Handycaps and all beautiful dogs of Bao En

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/885821548993019/?ref=share>

... and our group specifically for the Poodles (mixed breed) available for adoption

Pudel und Pudelmixe aus China Adoptionen

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/680213913900136>

... and our group focused on finding flight volunteers

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