

# THE FIRST DAYS

- BRINGING YOUR DOG HOME -



## PLANNING AHEAD ◆.....◆

- **Dog-proof your home** from electrical wires, toxic plants/chemicals/food, children's toys, etc.
- **Restrict access:** set up gates or pens to section-off your house; free roam is a gradually earned privilege. Block access to the front door for anxious and flighty dogs.
- **Time off:** plan to have no plans for the first day(s) and dedicate it to settling in your new buddy quietly.
- **Supplies:** have a comfortable crate, gates, food, bowls, beds, treats, chew toys, doggie bags, and an enzymatic cleaner in case of accidents. Buddy Dog provides a leash, collar, ID tag, and a sample bag of dry food.

## THE FIRST DAY ◆.....◆

- **Take a walk:** spend at least 15 minutes letting your dog walk around the property to take in all the smells before going in the house. Reward for going potty outside! Take frequent potty breaks to reinforce eliminating outside.
- **The grand tour:** on leash, walk your dog through the house. Settle him into his "area" with some treats, toys, and a comfy bed and open crate.
- **Decompression:** the first day is about letting your dog adjust to his new home, and to decompress from the stress of such a big change. Let him be and go at his own pace; don't force interactions.

## MOVING FORWARD ◆.....◆

- **PATIENCE PATIENCE PATIENCE:** take a deep breath, and be a calm leader for your dog
- **Routines:** settle into a predictable schedule for the sake of your dog's security and comfort
- **Educate yourself:** look into local training classes to establish a solid foundation of good behavior, and to strengthen the bond between you and your dog by learning how to speak their language
- **Introductions:** take introductions to new people and dogs slowly and calmly. Wait until your dog seems comfortable and settled in your home.
- **Stay in touch!** We at Buddy Dog LOVE to hear about our adopted alumni, and we are always here to help if you ever have a question or concern – even months or years down the road. Always feel welcome to stop by our shelter, or send a note to [info@BuddyDogHS.org](mailto:info@BuddyDogHS.org)

# THANK YOU FOR ADOPTING!

## Resources

Buddy Dog Humane Society is always here to help if you ever have a concern or question about your dog. Please feel welcome to contact a staff member at [info@buddydoghs.org](mailto:info@buddydoghs.org), or call the shelter at 978-443-6990. Below is a list of education material for common behavioral issues. Always consult a professional behaviorist or trainer for serious issues when the safety is at risk. You can find this list on our website:

[www.buddydoghs.org/resources](http://www.buddydoghs.org/resources)

### General Training Tips:

- 🐾 <https://www.patriciamcconnell.com/solving-behavior-problems>
- 🐾 <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/common-dog-behavior-issues>

### Barking:

- 🐾 <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/common-dog-behavior-issues/barking>
- 🐾 [http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/how\\_to\\_stop\\_barking.html](http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/how_to_stop_barking.html)

### Kids & Dogs

- 🐾 <https://www.familypaws.com/>
- 🐾 <https://drsophiayin.com/blog/entry/kids-and-dogs-how-kids-should-and-should-not-interact-with-dogs/>
- 🐾 <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/dogs-and-babies>

### Reactivity to People & Dogs:

- 🐾 <https://www.patriciamcconnell.com/theotherendoftheleash/how-to-handle-reactive-dogs>

### Shy & Fearful Dogs:

- 🐾 <http://fearfuldogs.com/training-games-for-shy-dogs/>
- 🐾 <https://positively.com/contributors/5-things-i-want-anyone-with-a-fearful-dog-to-know/>

### Separation Anxiety:

- 🐾 <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/common-dog-behavior-issues/separation-anxiety>
- 🐾 [https://www.mspca.org/pet\\_resources/dealing-with-separation-anxiety-in-dogs/](https://www.mspca.org/pet_resources/dealing-with-separation-anxiety-in-dogs/)

### Introductions with Other Dogs & Cats:

#### Dog & Dog:

- 🐾 <https://bestfriends.org/resources/introducing-dogs-each-other>
- 🐾 [https://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/11\\_1/features/Proper-Dog-Introductions-and-Canine-Socializing\\_15996-1.html](https://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/11_1/features/Proper-Dog-Introductions-and-Canine-Socializing_15996-1.html)

#### Dog & Cat:

- 🐾 <https://www.americanhumane.org/fact-sheet/introducing-dogs-to-cats/>

### Crate Training:

- 🐾 <https://positively.com/dog-behavior/puppy-knowledge/puppy-housetraining/crate-training/>
- 🐾 [http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/crate\\_training.html](http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/crate_training.html)

### Housebreaking:

- 🐾 <https://positively.com/dog-behavior/nuisance-behaviors/potty-problems/adult-dog-housetraining/>

### Resource Guarding:

- 🐾 <https://www.patriciamcconnell.com/theotherendoftheleash/resource-guarding-treatment-and-prevention>
- 🐾 [https://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/18\\_8/features/Resource-Guarding-And-What-To-Do-About-It\\_21282-1.html](https://www.whole-dog-journal.com/issues/18_8/features/Resource-Guarding-And-What-To-Do-About-It_21282-1.html)

### Destructive Chewing:

- 🐾 <https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/common-dog-behavior-issues/destructive-chewing>