



Adult Dog Adoption Guide

Welcome to the family! Here is your guide to caring for your newly adopted adult dog.

Preparing Your Home

Adult dogs settle best when the home environment is calm and predictable. Before bringing them home, set up a safe and welcoming space. Consider:

- A quiet room or cosy corner where they can decompress
- Safe storage for cleaning chemicals and medications
- Removal of small chewable hazards like socks or children's toys
- Checking fences and gates for escape risks
- Creating a predictable feeding and walking area

Essentials Checklist:

Item
Food and water bowls
High quality adult dog food
Comfortable dog bed
Collar, harness and lead
Chew toys and enrichment items
Poo bags
Dog-safe grooming tools
Secure crate (optional)



The First Few Days

Adult dogs often need time to understand that they are safe. Go gently and let them explore their new world at their own pace.

- Keep things calm and predictable
- Show them where their water, food and toilet area are
- Give them plenty of space to rest
- Let them come to you for pats and affection
- Expect a settling-in period that may take days or weeks

Training and Behaviour

Training strengthens your bond and helps your dog feel secure. Even if your dog is older, they are capable of learning new skills.

- Keep training sessions short and fun
- Use positive reinforcement
- Avoid punishment-based training
- Provide consistent routines
- Seek a trainer if behaviours are difficult to manage



Health Care

Your dog's long term health relies on preventative care and timely check ups.

- Annual vet visits
- Vaccinations and boosters
- Flea, tick and worm prevention
- Dental care and regular brushing
- Monitoring weight and mobility



Feeding Your Adult Dog

Good nutrition helps your dog stay active, healthy and happy. Choose a quality adult dog food with real meat and minimal fillers.

Feeding Guidelines:

- Provide fresh water at all times
- Feed a high quality adult dog food
- Follow the food label guidelines and adjust based on activity level
- Break meals into 1 to 2 servings a day
- Avoid table scraps



Foods to Avoid:

- Chocolate
- Grapes and raisins
- Onions and garlic
- Xylitol (in many sugar free foods)
- Cooked bones
- Alcohol

Exercise and Enrichment

Adult dogs benefit from daily physical and mental stimulation to keep them balanced and happy.

- Daily walks suited to their energy level
- Puzzle toys for problem solving
- Safe off leash play where permitted
- Regular toy rotation
- Gentle introduction to new experiences



Conclusion

Your new dog is counting on patience, kindness and consistency as they settle into their forever home. Celebrate the small wins, enjoy the silly moments and remember that every dog learns at their own pace.

Thank you for choosing to adopt from Paws a moment! We are always here to support you and your new companion.

