FOSTERING - WHAT TO EXPECT

Congratulations on fostering! By becoming a Muttville foster, you are saving a senior mutt’s life – and helping them learn what love is again. Could it get any better than that?!

Our mutts come in all shapes and sizes and from all types of backgrounds, so we don’t always know what to expect. With this in mind, here’s a quick list of what you can (and can’t) expect while fostering one of our senior rescue mutts.

1. Give your mutt all the love they deserve!

   This is your primary mission! Your foster mutt has been through more than we can imagine. The biggest gift you can give them is your love and affection.

2. We rely on YOU to tell us about your foster mutt.

   Since your foster mutt is coming directly from rescue into your home, we rely on you to tell us all about your mutt. You will have the unique opportunity to tell us about your mutt’s likes, dislikes, habits, and preferences. This will be key in finding your foster mutt their forever home. Think of it as being a Mutt Matchmaker!

3. You will be your foster mutt’s personal chauffeur!

   All fosters must be willing and able to transport their mutts to scheduled vet appointments at Muttville HQ. For reference, most mutts have at least one or two appointments before they’re ready for adoption. The sooner they make their appointments, the sooner they’ll be ready to find their new forever home!
4. **Muttville provides the supplies, you provide the cuddles!**

Muttville will provide you with any and all supplies you need to care for your foster mutt. Dog bed? We got it! Pee pads? No problem! Cute doggie bandana for looking good around town? On it! We will also provide our foster mutts with special food, medical treatment, medications, behavior training, and professional grooming as needed.

5. **Your new dog will need time to relax**

Expect and be prepared for your dog to exhibit any of the following behaviors during the first few days in your home. Don’t fret, as these behaviors usually subside when dogs are given time to feel safe, comfortable, and acclimated in a new home.

- Spotty appetite
- Diarrhea or constipation
- Frequent urination or marking
- Pacing
- Vocalization
- Not sleeping or sleeping a lot
- Not wanting to be picked up or touched
- Coughing or reverse sneezing

6. **Housetraining and your foster mutt**

Our mutts come to us from all walks of life and we only know a little about each mutt before they arrive. This means we will not know for certain if they are housetrained or not, and we will rely on you as a foster to help your mutt learn how to do their business outside. Even if your mutt is housetrained, still be prepared for potty accidents - your mutt is adjusting to so much change and it can take a few days to learn the ropes of their new environment!