

It's a match!

Muttville is a pioneer – the country's first cage-free shelter and California's first senior dog rescue. We've got another novel idea: We want to make adoption easy!

That's not the way shelters traditionally operated. Not that long ago, the process was more about saying no than saying yes. No fence? Work all day? Nope, you can't adopt.

But why? We examined these obstacles one by one, and guess what. They fell apart. They simply didn't help find a good guardian for a dog or a good dog for a potential guardian, and judgments were often made from subjective biases rather than anything meaningful. So we started from the ground up with a simple goal: Make it easy.

We don't try to STOP someone from adopting. We try to HELP. And it works.



917
dogs adopted
so far in 2025



Remove roadblocks

Barriers like language and transportation shouldn't stand in the way of love.

We have Spanish language adoption counselors as well as volunteers who transport dogs to adopters. Our staff is dedicated to finding you the right dog, not following rules.

Get personal

How can we find you the perfect dog? We listen. Adoption counselors learn what you have in mind, your activity level, the friends and family that the dog will encounter. An application can't capture the important details you can discover in a conversation.

We make it work!

Can't make it to Muttville during open hours? We are happy to arrange online meet-and-greets – even online adoptions – so you have time to learn everything about the dog you want.

Info from the source

Our dogs go into foster as quickly as they can. The dogs can decompress, and the fosters can spend more time discovering what the dog is truly like. Fosters are a crucial part of the adoption process; they're able to tell potential adopters details that could make or break the match.

48% of
2024 adoptions
were
to people 62+



Seniors for seniors

Did you know that some rescues will not allow senior people to adopt a dog? We encourage it! Senior dogs and senior people are perfect for each other, and we do everything we can to bring them together. We'll work hard with you to find the right dog. We're available for any questions and concerns, including what happens to the dog if something happens to the person. (Our dogs can ALWAYS come back to Muttville.) We'll arrange convenient meetings. If it's a match, we waive the adoption fee and offer starter supplies.



"I've been involved in animal rescue for about thirty years and this was truly extraordinary... [Our dog] has already brought so much love and light to my life, I just couldn't adore him more!"

- CHELSEA, ADOPTER

A record
36
dogs were
adopted in
one day

"The experience was so beyond! Everyone worked really hard to make it happen for me. I felt embraced during this experience. It really felt seamless."

- HEATHER, ADOPTER



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Muttville is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and has received the highest ratings possible from Candid and Charity Navigator, the leading nonprofit evaluator organizations. Our Tax ID is 26-0416747.

