



WHAT TO EXPECT

These tips will help ensure a long and happy relationship between you and your new mutt.

MOVING CAN BE STRESSFUL

And your new dog feels the same way! Give your dog time to acclimate to your home and family before introducing him to strangers. Make sure children know how to approach the dog without overwhelming him. For the first few days, remain calm and quiet around your dog, limiting too much excitement. Not only will this allow your dog to settle in easier, it will give you more one-on-one time to get to know your dog's likes/dislikes.

TEACH YOUR DOG WHERE TO GO TO THE BATHROOM, AND EXPECT ACCIDENTS

Once home, take him to his toileting area immediately and spend a good amount of time with him so he will get used to the area and relieve himself. Even if your dog does relieve himself during this time, be prepared for accidents. Coming into a new home with new people, new smells and new sounds can throw even the most housebroken dog off-track.

START ALONE-TIME TRAINING ON DAY ONE

From Day One, your dog will need family time and brief periods of alone-time. Don't give in and comfort him if he whines when left alone. Instead, give him attention for good behavior, such as chewing on a toy or resting quietly. If you intend to leave your dog for any length of time in the future, teach him, using small increments of alone time right away, that it's normal for you to leave and then to return later.

SWITCHING DOG FOOD BRANDS

If you wish to switch to a different brand of dog food, do so over a period of about a week by adding one part new food to three parts of the old for several days; then switch to half new food, half old; and then one part old to three parts new.

THE FIRST FEW DAYS IN YOUR HOME ARE SPECIAL AND CRITICAL FOR A PET

Your new dog will be confused about where he is and what to expect from you. Setting up some clear structure with your family and routine for your dog will be paramount in making as smooth a transition as possible. Focus on building trust and a positive relationship during this important period by providing lots of treats, praise, and positive interactions.



MUTTVILLE
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BUILD A CONSISTENT SCHEDULE

Your dog may be a bit uneasy at first as he gets to know you. Be patient and understanding while also keeping to the schedule you intend to maintain for feeding, walks, etc. This schedule will show your dog what is expected of him/her as well as what he can expect from you. You will be bonding in no time!

WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU

If you encounter behavior issues you are unfamiliar with, please contact Muttville for assistance! And remember, it takes time for dogs to acclimate to their new homes, families, and schedules. They will appreciate your patience and understanding.



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