

SAFETY TIPS ♡

Keep your new pup on a long leash for the first 2 weeks.

Everything is new and unfamiliar to your pup. A lightweight long leash allows them to explore safely while preventing them from slipping through an open gate, running out of a front door, or becoming frightened and bolting.

Many pups are lost within the first few weeks of arriving in their new home. Taking this simple precaution can help keep your pup safe while they settle in and learn that they belong with you.

Use the leash during potty breaks, in the garden, on walks and even inside the house while you are still getting to know each other.

♡ Helpful Tips

Use a lightweight long line (5–10 metres).

Never leave the leash on unsupervised.

Consistency in the first 2 weeks can make all the difference.

Invest in a GPS tracker (or an AirTag where appropriate).

Accidents can happen, even to the most careful owners. A GPS tracker can greatly increase the chances of finding your pup quickly should they ever become lost.

The best tracker is one that is fitted before it is ever needed. It is a small investment that can make an enormous difference.

Make sure the tracker is securely attached to your pup's collar with a strong holder designed for active dogs.

♡ Why it matters

Provides peace of mind 24/7.

Helps you find your pup faster.

Could be the difference between loss and a happy reunion.

*Thank you for choosing to adopt and change a life.
You are amazing.*

*Home isn't a place.
It's a feeling.*

The Forever Home Guide

HELPING RESCUE DOGS SETTLE WITH PATIENCE, UNDERSTANDING & LOVE



*Every rescue dog has a past.
You have the opportunity
to give them a future.*

♡
PATIENCE

🏠
KINDNESS

♡
CONSISTENCY

That's the way home. 🐾

Written by a Rescue Volunteer
Created for Rescue Families

HELPFUL TIPS ♡



CREATE A SAFE SPACE

Set up a quiet, comfortable area with a bed, water and a few toys. Let them come to you on their own terms.



ROUTINE IS KEY

Keep feeding, walks and toilet breaks at the same times each day. Routine builds confidence.



FOOD & WATER

They may not eat at first. Offer tasty, healthy food and fresh water without pressure.



GO SLOW

Introduce new people, places and other pets gradually. Don't rush their adjustment.



SHORT WALKS

Keep walks calm and short to begin with. Too much stimulation can be overwhelming.



SHOW LOVE & PATIENCE

Use gentle words, kind touch and positive reinforcement. Trust takes time.

A FINAL THOUGHT ♡

*Rescue isn't about finding the perfect dog.
It's about becoming the person who gives a dog the chance to
feel safe again.*

Patience today, best friend forever 🐾



WHEN TO GET HELP

Seek professional help if you are worried about health, aggression or extreme fear.

IN THE FIRST 3 DAYS



They may:

Feel overwhelmed, scared or unsure
Hide, freeze or sleep more than usual
Refuse food or water for a short time
Have toilet accidents
Need quiet rather than attention
Test boundaries as they assess their new home

WHAT YOU CAN DO ♥

Give them space and time.
Keep things calm and quiet.
Let them come to you.
Offer comfort, not pressure.
Be patient — trust is earned.

Biscuit needed confidence building, lots of patience and love

WITHIN THE FIRST 3 WEEKS



You may notice:

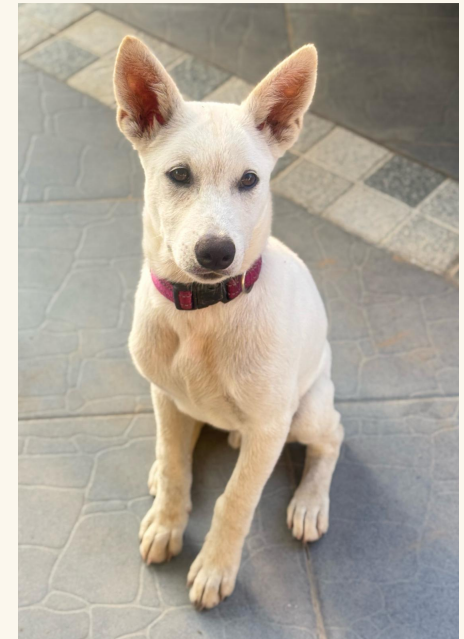
They are starting to settle in
They feel more comfortable
They begin to understand the routine
Their true personality starts to show
Some behaviour issues may appear
They begin to realise this could be home

WHAT YOU CAN DO ♥

Keep up with routine and structure.
Continue positive reinforcement.
Start gentle training and enrichment.
Give consistent rules and boundaries.
Be patient through ups and downs.

Lottie, full of adventure, stacks of confidence, quick learning

WITHIN 3 MONTHS



They may be:

Comfortable in their home
Building trust and a true bond
Settled into a routine
Starting to relax and enjoy life
Showing who they really are
Feeling safe and secure

WHAT YOU CAN DO ♥

Keep reinforcing trust every day.
Continue training and enrichment.
Celebrate progress — small wins matter.
Be patient through ups and downs.

Oscar thrived on routine, stability and training