Adopter Welcome Guide: Your First 30 Days

ADOPTERS

Welcome

Adoption begins a relationship, not a performance test. A new home may be joyful and overwhelming at the same time. Offer patience, safety, and choice.

Days 1–3

Keep the world small: predictable meals, bathroom breaks, rest, secure walking equipment, limited visitors, and separation from pets and children when not directly supervised.

Days 4–14

Build routines with rewards and gentle handling. Begin short, controlled introductions if appropriate. Watch body language; back off when stress increases.

Days 15–30

Expand outings and training gradually. Continue separate feeding and safe retreats as needed. Behavior may change as the dog settles; do not assume a single early observation predicts long-term compatibility.

A safe home

Dog-proof rooms; check doors and fences; provide ID and microchip updates; secure medications and toxic foods; use appropriate restraints and transport equipment.

Children and pets

Supervise children actively and separate when you cannot. Introduce resident animals slowly. Never force contact or allow chasing.

Medical follow-through

Arrange recommended veterinary follow-up, maintain prescribed medications, and seek veterinary advice for symptoms. Emergencies require immediate veterinary care.

Training and support

Use reward-based methods. If the dog shows intense fear, aggression, resource guarding, or separation distress, contact a qualified professional and GNR if your adoption agreement provides post-adoption support.