

# Home Visit Checklist

*A guideline of what to look for and things to discuss while doing a home visit with potential adopters for a new Rescued Treasure*

**We are NOT searching for perfection. We are simply searching for loving and stable families/homes that can provide the care our animals deserve!**

## Family Members:

- Did you meet all the humans that live there?
- Is everyone in agreement and enthusiastic about adopting the animal?
- Are the children prepared to assist in care and training? (Age appropriate)
- Did everyone behave appropriately with the animal?  
(Age appropriate manners / did the parents monitor and correct children?)

## Resident Pets:

- Are there current pets in the household?
- Are they in good condition? (Healthy and well-cared for)
- Are there any cosmetic / breed specific alterations? (Cropping, docking, declawing, etc... )
- Are all pets altered and up to date on necessary vaccines?
- Do they live inside the home? / Are there any outdoor only pets?

## Space / Set up

- Is the house free of clutter or hazards to the animal?
- Is there a workable living space for the animal (crate, bowls, beds, etc...)
- Do you believe the animal will be allowed to roam the home and not confined to one area or room?
- How does the family plan to house train the animal?
- Is the yard fenced? Is it secure / in good condition? Is it appropriate for the animal being applied for?
  - If no, please discuss how the animal will be taken out / contained outside safely

## Supplies:

- Please make sure the family is going to be prepared to bring the animal home and this is a great time to talk to them about what you've learned about the animal and their favorites or any specific needs!
  - Crate (size and style) // Beds
  - Leash, collar, harness (does the dog need two points of contact?)
  - Bowls (should the dog have a slow feeder? Snuffle mat? Etc)
  - Food (are there any allergies or sensitivities?)
  - Treats (for training and down time)
  - Toys (what kind of toys are appropriate for this animal?)
  - Scratching posts / pads
  - A safe space for down time

## Training:

- How does the family plan to work on basic obedience training? (Force Free Training)
- How do they plan to address undesirable behaviors?
- How would they react if the animal destroys something of value?
- Are there any breed specific training or activity level information they should know about?
- How the animals' history may impact training / behavior
- Are they willing to address any future issues with professional guidance if necessary?

## What to expect:

- Discuss with the family the importance of having ID on the dog, especially in the first few weeks just in case.
- Discuss registering the microchip ASAP
- Behaviorally the animal may be different the first few days (anxious, stressed, scared, etc...)
- Watch the animal carefully with all new family members and resident pets for two - three weeks (no unsupervised time)
- How to make your new animal feel safe and secure at home!
- The rule of 3's
  - 3 days to decompress
  - 3 weeks to learn your routine
  - 3 months to feel at home