

GREYHOUND BASIC FACTS

- Most Greyhounds are 2-4 years old when they retire from racing. Occasionally, younger or older Greyhounds may be up for adoption.
- Greyhounds typically weigh 50-75 lbs., but some may be larger or smaller. Females are usually smaller than males.
- The average lifespan of a Greyhound is 11 to 13 years, so you can look forward to many years together after adoption.
- With a shorter, less oily coat than most dog breeds, Greyhounds require minimal grooming and are sometimes a good match for people with allergies.
- Greyhounds are relatively quiet! Many Greyhounds bark very little or not at all. Some greyhounds "rooo," much like the sound a wolf makes.
- Have a favorite color? Greyhounds come in almost every color imaginable. There are 18 colors officially recognized by the National Greyhound Association, with countless variations.

GREYHOUNDS AT HOME

- Greyhounds are bred to be sprinters and do not require or request constant exercise like some other dog breeds. They enjoy walks, some running and sharing their people's couches!
- Although considered a large breed, Greyhounds make good apartment dogs. They're popularly known as 45 mph couch potatoes, and their gentle nature and low indoor exercise needs mean they can adapt well to apartment living.
- Greyhounds are affectionate, sensitive dogs who bond closely with their owners. Many do well as family dogs, though some prefer a quiet home without children or other pets. We evaluate our Greyhounds' behavior and personalities to help make the best possible match between our dogs and our adopters.
- Though bred to hunt small game, Greyhounds can do well in a home with small animals. Our Greyhounds need to pass a test to help us determine if they are small animal safe before we place them in a home with cats, small dogs, or other small pets. Some Greyhounds

may have a high prey drive, and these dogs cannot live in a home with small pets. If you have small pets in the home, please let us help you select a small animal-safe Greyhound.

- Greyhounds are housed in large crates at the racetrack, which affords them a private space to eat and rest, and many enjoy having access to a crate at home. Crates can be an excellent way to give your Greyhound a safe place all their own to sleep while you're away or just when they need a little "me" time.
- House training your Greyhound is usually easy. They are used to being turned out multiple times a day and won't generally soil their crates. Once you get your greyhound home and show him where he should relieve himself, house training should be easy.
- Most of our Greyhounds have been raised with their littermates on farms with other greyhounds and their trainers at the tracks. They are used to a routine, so retirement can be a culture shock. Your new Greyhound may need help learning how to navigate stairs, tile or hardwood floors, and glass doors. Your Greyhound may also seem withdrawn or confused at first while acclimating to the new environment. It's best to bring your Greyhound home when you can stay with him for a few days to help guide and reassure him. Patience is key. In time, your greyhound's personality will show through.

(INSERT GRAPHIC 3 DAYS 3 WEEKS 3 MONTHS)

- We are here every step of the way to help if you need someone to talk to or answer questions.

KEEPING YOUR GREYHOUND SAFE

- Sighthounds are different from other dog breeds inside and out. Their metabolism and anatomy are unique, and you should be sure to choose a veterinarian familiar with Greyhounds' particular needs. Your vet should be familiar with Greyhound blood values and anesthesia sensitivities. More information on Greyhound health can be found at the Greyhound Health Initiative. (Download the BLOOD VALUE CARD below.)
- With thin coats, thin skin, and very little body fat, Greyhounds are sensitive to extremes in temperature. Your Greyhound may appreciate

having a warm jacket for the winter (we have polar fleece coats we send home with you) and may even be happy to wear booties to protect his feet from ice and road salt.

- Because of their thin skin, Greyhounds can easily be injured when playing with other dogs. Therefore you will often see Greyhounds wearing muzzles when in groups. They aren't aggressive or dangerous. Greyhounds run and chase each other when playing, and exuberant play can often result in a tooth snagging on delicate skin. A muzzle lessens the chance of an accidental injury.
- Like all sighthounds, Greyhounds are fast. They respond to movement and may bolt when they see something that looks like prey. They are also notoriously bad at finding their way home again. For these reasons, Greyhounds should NEVER be allowed off-leash outside unless in a securely fenced area.
- Greyhounds CAN NOT be left on a tether outside. They can reach speeds of 45 mph in three steps. Tying them outside puts them at risk of severe injury or even death from a broken neck. If you plan to let your Greyhound roam outdoors, please only do so in a fenced area for their safety.
- Invisible fences are NOT RECOMMENDED for Greyhounds. Many Greyhounds will run straight through the boundary after a squirrel or a rabbit, and invisible fences don't protect your Greyhound from strange people or dogs entering the yard. The shock collars used to train invisible fence boundaries can also be extremely painful for Greyhounds because of their thin skin and coats.
- Martingale collars and properly fitted harnesses are the best way to keep your Greyhound safe and secure on leashed walks. With their narrow heads, these are harder for Greyhounds to slip out of. A regular collar will slip right off over their slim heads.