

EVERY PAW COUNTS

ACE OF HEARTS RESCUE

# ADOPT LOVE

## ADOPTION TIPS

Your guide to building a lifetime of love  
and second chances

*SAVING  
LIVES,  
ONE  
RESCUE  
DOG AT  
A TIME*

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# *Welcoming a Rescue Dog Into Your Life*

Adopting a rescue dog is a beautiful and life-changing experience — not just for you, but for the dog whose world you are about to transform. Many rescue dogs have faced uncertainty, loss, or hardship before finding their way to you. Offering them a safe, loving home can be one of the most rewarding journeys you'll ever take.

Here are essential tips to help you create a strong foundation for a successful and loving transition:



# *Be Patient*

Adjusting to a new home can be overwhelming for a rescue dog. They are learning to trust all over again — new people, new sounds, new routines. Some dogs may settle in quickly, while others might take days, weeks, or even months. Give them the time they need to decompress without forcing interactions. Let them set the pace.

Tip: Allow your dog to observe and explore their new surroundings at their own comfort level. Avoid overstimulating them with too many guests or outings right away.







All models are proud rescues.



# *Create a Safe Space*

Set up a quiet, cozy area in your home where your dog can retreat whenever they feel overwhelmed. A crate, a bed in a quiet corner, or a designated room can serve as their personal safe haven.

Tip: Avoid reaching into their safe space unless absolutely necessary. Let them come to you when they are ready, reinforcing that their space is truly their own.





# *Keep a Routine*

Dogs thrive on predictability. Establish a consistent schedule for meals, potty breaks, walks, playtime, and bedtime. Routines help rescue dogs feel secure and ease anxiety about what's coming next.

Tip: Use the same feeding spot, walk routes, and daily patterns for the first few weeks. Gradually introduce new activities once your dog shows signs of comfort and trust.







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# *Use Positive Reinforcement*

Reward-based training builds confidence and strengthens your bond. Focus on praising good behaviors rather than punishing mistakes. Treats, affection, and encouraging words help your new companion understand they are safe and loved.

Tip: Carry small treats with you during walks and interactions. Reward calm behaviors like sitting quietly, looking at you, or approaching people calmly.





# *Schedule a Vet Visit*

Even if your rescue dog was recently vetted, it's a good idea to establish a relationship with a trusted veterinarian early. A wellness exam can catch any underlying issues and allows your vet to learn about your new dog's specific needs.

Tip: Bring along any medical records provided by the rescue and prepare a list of any questions or observations you have noticed so far.






# *Commit Fully*

When you adopt, you make a promise — for better or worse, through joys and challenges. Every rescue dog deserves stability, patience, and understanding. Remember that some challenges (like house training, separation anxiety, or fearfulness) are natural parts of the adjustment process. With time, love, and proper guidance, most issues can be managed or completely overcome.

Tip: Seek professional help if needed. Positive reinforcement trainers and behaviorists can be invaluable in helping both you and your dog succeed together.







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Adoption saves two lives — the one you bring home and the one who now has space at the rescue or shelter.

By opening your heart and home, you are giving a dog a second chance — and in return, you'll gain a loyal, loving companion who will be grateful every day.

Thank you for choosing to adopt. You are making the world a kinder place, one pawprint at a time.



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PEMERANG PINKS

