



Is the Australian Cattle Dog the Right Breed for you to Foster or Potentially Adopt?

You must be a leader and experienced dog handler yourself if you plan to foster or adopt an Australian Cattle Dog (ACD). This is a fast learner and an independent minded breed that can be a challenge. They have a reputation for being smart, but the corollary is that they can be stubborn and not give up when they put their mind to something. ACD are very strong willed and like to test boundaries. They can also become dominant, so a firm, consistent leader is necessary for training, otherwise this breed will rule the roost.

Australian Cattle Dog Traits Generally:

- **Low Maintenance:** Infrequent grooming is required to maintain upkeep.
- **Moderate Shedding:** Routine brushing will help. Be prepared to vacuum often!
- **Training:** The ACD is a quick learner and is known to listen to commands and obey its owner.
- **Great Watchdog Ability:** This dog will bark and alert its owners when an intruder is present. It exhibits protective behavior, acts fearless toward any aggressor, and will do what it takes to guard and protect its family.
- **Low Adaptability:** It is not suited for apartment living and is best with a large fenced yard.
- **Climate:** This breed is able to handle most types of hot and cold weather.
- **Very Active:** It will need daily exercise to maintain its shape. If not exercised and “given a job”, be it play or work, they are known to get into trouble. Committed and active Fosters will enjoy performing fitness activities with this breed.
- **Not Good for New Owners/Fosters:** This breed is best for those who have previous experience with dog ownership. Even better if that previous experience is with an ACD.
- **Good with Kids:** This is a suitable breed for kids and is known to be playful, energetic, and affectionate around them. Like most herding dogs the breed has an instinct to chase anything that runs from it. Accordingly, introductions and evaluation of the dog – child interaction require close initial and sometimes ongoing monitoring.

Finally, remember that foster dogs are typically coming out of Animal Shelters, are usually stressed from the shelter environment, are unknown quantities behaviorally, and will require controlled and careful integration into their new foster home environment.

Are you ready and up to the task and commitment? If not, stop here and do not proceed!



Please fill in completely.

1. Your Contact Information:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Home Phone #:

Cell Phone #:

Email Address:

Daytime phone #:

Mailing Address (if different from street address):

2. About You & Your Home Life:

Employer:

Work Phone #:

Housemate/spouse's name:

How long have you lived at your home address?

How long do you plan to live at this address?

How long do you plan to reside in this area?

Number of children in household & ages

Do the children live there full-time?

If no, when?

What is the activity level in your home (check all that apply)?

Busy - visits by friends, meetings, children, parties at home ()

Noisy - T.V., stereo, machinery, tools, lots of kids playing ()

Moderate - normal comings and goings ()

Quiet - "homebodies", few guests ()

Does anyone in the family have allergies to animals?

Do you have tenants or relatives living with you?

Do you live in/on a (check one please):

House () Apartment () Farm () Mobile Home Park ()

Do you own your residence?

If renting, do you have WRITTEN permission to have a house dog on the premises?

If yes, please attach a copy.

3. About Your House & Dogs

Do you have a fenced area?

If Yes, what area(s) are fenced (check one): Entire perimeter () Yard only ()

What material is your fence made of (check one):

Block wall () Chain-link () Welded wire ()

Chicken wire () Wood () Other ()

What is the height of your fence?

What is the approximate size of your fenced area?

Does a house door open into the fenced area?

How many gates does your property have?

Please list the height of the gates:

Are your gates kept closed?

Are your gates kept locked?

Do you have an outdoor kennel run?

If so, how many?

What are their sizes?

Where will the dog sleep at night?

What shelter will be provided for the dog when outside (check as many as apply):

Patio () Shed () Dog Door to the house ()

Garage () Doghouse ()

Other () Please specify

Is there shade in the dog's area at all times during the day?

Do you have a swimming pool?

If yes, is it fenced separately from the rest of the yard?

Please describe the temperament of your dog(s) and how they interact with other dogs.

How will you handle any issues between your dogs and the foster?

4. About Being a Foster:

How long are you willing to foster a dog for us?

A few days ()

1 Week to 3 Weeks ()

1 Month to 3 Months ()

Until the foster is adopted ()

How did you learn about our rescue group?

Friend? () Internet? () Other?

Are there any specific habits or problems that you are not willing to deal with?

When you go away for a few days or on vacation, who will care for this dog?

How many hours a day will your dog be left unattended?

Please list the name, address, and phone number of your regular vet:

Please list any pets you presently own or have owned in the past. Please include breed; how/why obtained; how long have you had/did you have the pet; and if no longer with you, what happened:

R&R foster homes must be willing to provide a safe, healthy, and clean environment for the dog. R&R will provide you with monthly flea treatment and monthly heartworm medication or will reimburse you the cost of the medication if your purchase has been approved by R&R. R&R will pay any vet bills that the foster dog has while in your care. Are you able to give the dog monthly heartworm pills, flea/tick medication, medicines if required, and to take the dog to the vet if necessary?

R&R foster homes are required to follow vet instructions, such as weeks of crate rest after heartworm treatment. Are you willing to do this?

R&R foster homes may be required to put a dog down in the case of severe medical problems, accidents, or aggression. Are you able to do this?

Are you able to safely introduce your other pets and children to the foster dog?

R&R foster homes are required to crate train and house-break the foster dog. Do you have a crate for your foster dog? Are you willing to house-break an older dog?

R&R foster homes might be required to teach a dog basic obedience commands (sit, wait, lie down, walk on a loose leash, leave it) if the dog has never been trained. Also, R&R foster dogs are required to have basic house manners, such as not jumping on people, not getting food off counters, being quiet in a crate, and moving out of the way when asked to do so. Are you able to train a dog to do this?

R&R foster homes must be committed to keeping the foster dog in fit condition. Are you able to exercise the dog properly? Are you able to keep the dog in good weight, neither fat nor thin?

R&R foster homes are required to update the group on a regular basis about the progress of the foster dog. Weekly updates on the foster are required. New photos are required on a monthly basis. Do you have access to email at home? Do you have a digital camera?

R&R foster homes assist in writing the bio/description of the foster dog and in getting the dog posted on the appropriate sites. Are you willing to help with this?

R&R foster homes should provide information about foster dogs' disposition with other animals (i.e. cats, chickens, livestock, etc. where information can be obtained) and/or their ability to get along with other dogs in the foster's household. This will enable R&R to place the dog in the best adoptive home. Are you willing to do that?

R&R foster homes arrange for the adopting family to visit the foster dog to make sure the family and the dog are a good fit. The visit may be at your home, their home, or a place that both agree to. Are you able to perform this evaluation?

5. Personal References

Please list three (3) full names with telephone #s. Include relationship to you:

1. Name:

Phone:

Relationship:

Best time to call:

2. Name:

Phone:

Relationship:

Best time to call:

3. Name:

Phone:

Relationship:

Best time to call:

R&R expects that you will provide food, shelter, a crate, love, patience, and understanding for the foster dog. R&R foster homes have the first right of adoption for the dog being fostered. If you decide to adopt a foster dog, you will need to inform the R&R board as soon as possible. We will not cancel an adoption in process. An adoption fee of \$100 will apply to any foster dogs you adopt.

This questionnaire was designed to aid both you and us in determining if you and your family are adequately prepared to assume the type of fostering environment we are endeavoring to provide for our rescue dogs.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Campbell at (843) 729-8670, or Tara Ellingham, 843-513-8358.

Please read carefully and sign:

Applicant Signature:

Date:
