

FACT SHEET: HOMECHECKER

Would you consider volunteering as a Homechecker in the UK?

What is a Homechecker?

A Homechecker is vital volunteer who assists us with the application process for families who are looking to adopt a dog, or are interested in joining our network of foster families.

If you are an experienced dog owner and understand the needs of a rescue dog, then you could help to assess the suitability of a family and their house to provide a loving home to one of our dogs. We are currently only looking for Homecheckers based in the UK.

What does a Homechecker do?

The Homechecker would arrange to meet the prospective family at the home where the dog would live. Wherever possible, the Homechecker would ask that all residents that will have access to the dog to be present. We hope that they would be able to chat informally to the family to get a feel for their character. They will also have a set checklist provided by us with some essential questions to be completed. The Homechecker would need access to all areas of the house that the dog will be able to access. They will check that all safety and security measures are in place. It would also be vital for the family to explain their expected routine if they were to receive the dog. Some of the questions to consider would be:-

- Where will the dog sleep?
- Where will the dog be kept when the family are not home?
- What's the maximum length of time the dog may be left alone
- Is the garden secure enough in relation to the size of the dog? (e.g. 6ft fencing securing the perimeter)
- Do you plan to take the dog to any training/behavioral classes.

The Homechecker, on having assessed everything required, can return home and finish completing the Homechecker Assesment Form with all the details they feel necessary and would return it to us for review. The Homechecker would confirm on the form whether, in their opinion, the family are suitable to receive the dog(s).

Where and when would I be expected to go?

It's entirely up to you! On application we would ask you if you have any regular days/hours available that you could use to complete a Homecheck, such as just weekends or Friday afternoons. We would also ask you how far you would be willing to travel. For example, if you are happy to travel a maximum of 20 miles, then we would register you as available to cover a radius of 20 miles from your registered location. If we then receive an application from a family that is located in that area, we will contact you to see if you are available.

There is **absolutely no obligation** for you to accept if you are unable or just don't want to. We will see if someone else is available in that area, but if you are able then we can share the applicants details with you so that you can contact them to arrange a time suitable for everyone to meet.

If you are interested and would like to apply, please complete our online

Homechecker Application Form







