FIVE IMPORTANT TIPS YOU NEED TO KNOW TO SAFELY REHOME YOUR PUP

Re-homing a pup is a multifaceted and heartbreaking decision. People re-home their animals for a variety of different reasons and there can be a great deal of shame associated with re-homing a beloved pet, which only makes this painful decision more agonizing.

We receive requests daily from dog owners wanting/needing to re-home their pups. Unfortunately, as a foster based rescue we do not have the foster homes available to accommodate all of these requests.

The goal is to safely re-home your precious fur baby so that they spend the remainder of their days living a happy healthy life in an environment where they are able to thrive.

In the spirit of safely rehoming your pup, we offer the following suggestions:

1. Make sure your animal is healthy, up to date with their vaccinations, and spayed/neutered.

You don’t want to unknowingly dump health issues onto your animal’s new owner as this will cause frustration and potential backlash from the new owner. Make an appointment with your veterinary provided to get your pup/cat assessed and caught up on her/his vaccinations. This will make your pet a more desirable add to their new family if they aren’t having to shell out extra money for vaccinations that should have been updated prior to adoption.

Spay/neuter your pet if you have not done so already. There are people who are willing to take your precious baby off your hands unaltered who will use her to become a baby machine for profit. Currently there is a pet overpopulation problem in the United States as a result of pet owners not spaying/neutering their animals. Several million pet animals are euthanized in shelters each year because pet owners have not altered their furry companions.

**PLEASE SPAY/NEUTER YOUR PUP!**

2. Take quality pictures of your pup and write up a bio

Share your favorite photos of your fur baby!!

Make sure the lighting captures your pup at her/his best.

Remove anything from the background that clutters the picture or causes distraction.

Get on eye level with your pup.

These can be used to post your animal on sites such as “Rehoming Pets Colorado” on Facebook, your personal Facebook, Instagram, or Tik Tok accounts, Nextdoor, and [Adopt-a-Pet](https://rehome.adoptapet.com/?utm_source=Mothership&utm_medium=Navigation%20Bar&utm_content=Rehome%20a%20pet%20-%20nav%20bar%20link).

Your pet’s bio should include:

1. Their name, age, and breed mix

Please be honest about your pet’s approximate age and breed mix. Some apartments, condo/townhome associations, and homeowners associations have breed restrictions that disallow certain breeds and breed mixes. So you will want to be upfront with people about the believed mix of your animal. If you’re not sure about your pup’s breed mix, you can have their DNA tested or you can utilize apps such as Dog Scanner. Please note that this app may not be 100% accurate, but can give you an idea of the potential breed mix of your pup.

1. Whether or not they get along with other dogs, cats, children, etc.

People want to add a furry companion that gets along with the other members of their family be they human or otherwise. If your dog has a high prey drive, you wouldn’t want to place him/her in a home where s/he might end up killing another pet in the home such as a cat, chicken, rabbit, etc.

PLEASE NOTE: If your dog has a bite history, that is if s/he has ever bitten anyone, you will need to disclose that to her/his new family. This will allow people to make an informed decision about adopting your fur baby and what kind of training they might need to invest in in order to become the best environment for the dog you are rehoming.

1. Her/His vaccination and spay/neuter status

Again, updating your animal’s vaccinations and ensuring your pup is spayed/neutered will set them off to a positive start in their new home.

1. Information about her/his personality

Paint a positive picture of your pup sharing her/his likes and dislikes

The environment s/he would thrive in (house, apartment, etc)

Any tricks/commands s/he knows

If s/he is crate, leash, and/or house trained.

Providing this information will help your zero in on the best match for your pup and minimize the amount of time you need to spend answering questions from people who may not be your fur baby’s ideal new family.

Keep this information positive! It’s important to focus on points that highlight your pup’s personality so that people get a picture of how s/he would fit best in their family.

1. Why you are rehoming

Providing people with an honest reason as to why you are needing to rehome your fur baby gives people an understanding about the situation and can shed light on the animal.

For example, if you are rehoming your puppy because you don’t have time to devote to training and meeting the welfare needs of your pup, those looking to add a pup may see your reason as something they can accommodate because they may have more flexibility in their schedule to train and play with a puppy.

If you are rehoming your dog because s/he doesn’t get along with other animals in your home, s/he resource guards you, her/his food, etc, or there are other behaviors/habits that prevent you from safely keeping the dog, please share these with potential adopters so that they can make informed decisions.

3. SHARE THE PICTURES AND BIO ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media sites are a great way to get the word out!

Consider posting your pup on:

* Your personal Facebook, Tik Tok, or Instagram Pages
* Facebook Pages specifically for re-homing; “Rehoming Pets Colorado”
* Nextdoor
* [Adopt-a-Pet](https://rehome.adoptapet.com/?utm_source=Mothership&utm_medium=Navigation%20Bar&utm_content=Rehome%20a%20pet%20-%20nav%20bar%20link)

Ask your friends and family to help by sharing your post to their social media platforms. Due to social media algorithms, you will need to post frequently, even daily, so that people see your post.

4. REQUIRE A REHOMING FEE!!

Unfortunately, there are people out there who have bad intentions for animals. Many dog fighting groups scour social media sites looking for free animals that they can use as bait to train their fighting dogs.

Your rehoming fee will help to weed out those who are looking for a pup with bad intentions or who don’t have the resources to properly care for your fur baby.

5. LEARN ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN GIVING YOUR PUP A HOME

Come up with a list of questions to ask potential pet parents to learn more about them

 and their experience with dogs.

Some questions you want to consider include:

1. What is their address? Find out where they live. Is it a house or apartment? Do they own or rent? If they rent, is their landlord on board with them adding a new dog? Speak to the landlord directly to get consent. The last thing you want is to learn that your pup was rehomed again because the person you adopted him/her to was not allowed to have a dog on the property.
2. Conduct a home visit to see where your pup will be living.
3. Find out who their veterinarian is? You will want to contact their veterinarian to find out if they keep their current animals up to date with vaccinations and preventatives.
4. Are there other pets in the home? Do they get along with other animals? How are they planning to introduce your pup to their animals?
5. Are there children in the home? If so, how old are they? How do the parents plan to introduce your pup to their children? What is the plan for training the children and pup to live harmoniously together?
6. What is their training philosophy? Do they use positive reinforcement or aversive, fear-based, or physical punishment?
7. Are they willing to keep in touch with you and provide updates?

***The more you learn about you pups potential new family the better informed you will be about placement.***

We understand how hard it is to rehome a pup and hope that this information will help you with this journey.

We wish you the best in finding a loving home for your pup!

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