# Adopting a Shelter Dog - CLASS Tips



#### Plan for Your New Family Addition

Your new dog needs shelter from the elements, nutritious food, and clean water daily. They also need socialization, which includes exposure to people, new environments, and other animals like cats, deer, and any neighborhood wildlife.



## Understand Moving Day is Stressful

Your new dog might be nervous, overly excited, or scared. Introduce them to their new environment on a leash, both inside and out. Dogs can become overwhelmed and may chew on shoes, table corners, or other items, or have bathroom accidents indoors.

#### Don't Assume Your Dog is House Trained

Your new dog might be nervous, overly excited, or scared. Introduce them to their new environment on a leash, both inside and out. Dogs can become overwhelmed and may chew on shoes, table corners, or other items, or have bathroom accidents indoors.



#### Keep Your Dog from Becoming Lost

Put a collar with current tags on your dog as soon as possible. A new dog may not yet recognize you as their family and could run if given the chance. Keep your dog on a leash at all times for the first several weeks. Inside, it's also helpful to keep a leash on them initially, allowing them to explore safely with you guiding them.



## Dog Proof Your House and Yard

Secure items your dog might chew on or swallow, like electric cords, small toys, and toxic plants. Keep human medications, harsh chemicals, and hazardous materials out of reach.





# Budget for the Short & Long-Term Costs Put a collar with current tags on your dog as soon as possib new dog may not yet recognize you as their family and cou

Put a collar with current tags on your dog as soon as possible. A new dog may not yet recognize you as their family and could run if given the chance. Keep your dog on a leash at all times for the first several weeks. Inside, it's also helpful to keep a leash on them initially, allowing them to explore safely with you guiding them.