

GUIDE TO DOG ADOPTION WITH COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION

THE DOG ADOPTION GUIDE



DEAR ADOPTER,

Thank you for deciding to adopt a dog from us. We have put together some important information and advice for you below.

Please read all the information carefully and follow our advice.

We do not know the history of all dogs. We have found many dogs on the street or rescued them from killing shelters. Some of the dogs have been through terrible things and other dogs are severely traumatized by their past history. Please take a look at the following information sheets in order to do justice to your darling in all situations.



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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, WE AT HUNDERETTUNG EUROPA ARE ALWAYS HAPPY TO HELP YOU .

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1. BEFORE YOUR NEW FAMILY MEMBER MOVES IN

1.1 AM I READY FOR A DOG?

- Are you aware that a dog needs exercise in all weathers?
- Have you thought about which dog suits you? Calm or sporty?
Depending on their age, character and breed, some dogs like dog sports such as agility (obstacle course running), dog dancing (humans and dogs move to music) or want to exercise themselves with nose work.
- Are you prepared to adapt to the dog if necessary and take part in sports or activities that are suitable for the dog and keep him busy?
- Do you have enough time for the dog or are there any changes coming up in the near future at work or due to possible offspring?
- Are you prepared to take responsibility for the dog and accompany it into old age? Dogs can live to be around 10-15 years and older!
- Can you cover the monthly costs such as food, taxes, vet, insurances (liability, possible insurance, etc.)? Health or surgery insurance for dogs), possibly dog school?
Of course, the dog doesn't have to go to the vet every month, but you should break down the costs by month and always include costs for unforeseen things (medication, vaccinations, check-ups).
- Are you prepared to bear any surgery costs that may arise?
There are surgical and health insurance policies for dogs. Set aside a fixed amount each month in case major veterinary costs arise!
- Is it ensured that there is no dog hair allergy / asthma concerning any person in the household?
- If you are renting, do you have a written declaration of consent from the landlord? Landlords are no longer allowed to prohibit dogs, but there are always difficulties in this regard.
- Do you have someone who can look after the dog in the event of illness?
- If you are planning a vacation where it would be a big burden for the dog to come along (e.g. long flights), do you have someone who would take care of him?
- Should the person who would take care of the dog in case of illness or during a vacation suddenly drop, what do you do then? Do you have other people you could fall back on?
It is **NEVER** an option to abandon an animal! Many boarding kennels or animal shelters that offer boarding will be happy to help you. If no one can be found at short notice, please contact the association immediately!
- Do all family members agree to the adoption of the dog?

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1.2 WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE ADOPTION?

- **Please remember that dogs are probably not used to live in an apartment or house. They will not be house-trained at first.**

Please don't scold your dog. He doesn't know any different. Practice with him, take him out more often at the beginning and try to recognize when he needs to go out. He will learn!

- **Many dogs don't know a collar or harness and therefore don't know how to go for a walk.**

Therefore, put the harness on slowly and carefully when you want to take him for a walk.

Recommendation: Leave the safety harness and collar on your dog permanently for the first few days.

- **Properly securing your dog is vital! Please secure the dog with a safety harness plus lead and a pull collar plus lead for the first few days. The dog must also not be left alone in the garden and must only be secured (with a lead).**

Unfortunately, so many dogs escape. They often use open doors, windows or garden fences that are not well secured. They don't want to annoy you, but dogs don't know many noises and get frightened very quickly. Even if you raise your voice, which is not directed at the dog, it can react with fear and panic and flee.

- **Some experienced a lot of suffering and are therefore fearful .**

You should always handle the dogs slowly from the side so that he can see your hand and does not have to be afraid of being hit. Don't ask too much of the newcomer. Children should behave calmly and carefully around the dog, and child and dog should never be left alone unsupervised.

- **The description of the dogs can only be judged by their behavior in the kennel and how they get along with other dogs in the kennel.**

Even the dog reacts well to cats or is not interested in them, we can never say for sure that the dog will get along with your cats.

- **It can happen that the dog behaves differently than described by us due to the change of environment.**

- **It can happen that the dog initially damages furniture, doors, clothing, etc.**

Please be lenient here too, don't punish your dog and don't shout at him. He first has to learn to live in a household and with people. Say "no" firmly if you notice unwanted behavior and offer him alternatives such as a Kong filled with liver sausage as an activity.

- **You will be the first caregiver in your dog's life. He may show fear of loss when he no longer sees you. He may express these fears by barking, chewing on objects, etc.**

Staying alone should be practiced in slow and small steps. No grandiose goodbyes or greetings, then it will be easier for the dog. Practice staying alone right from the start, initially for a very short time, which you then slowly extend.

- **Every dog is close to our hearts, so we would like to find them a forever home. We wish our dogs a beautiful, carefree life with loving adopters!**

To help you make a conscientious decision, we ask you as many questions and give you as much information as possible.

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13 PREPARATION - A NEW FAMILY MEMBER MOVES IN

- If you are renting, your landlord must agree to you keeping a dog. Even if you already live with a dog, another dog may not be approved. We recommend that you obtain **written permission from your landlord**. This will guarantee that you can live together with your new family member. Although it is no longer permitted to prohibit the keeping of dogs, there are always problems with landlords.
- Please make sure you get a **sturdy lead (not a retractable or flexi lead)**. In addition to the safety harness that the dog is already wearing when it arrives, you should also secure your dog with a belly belt and another lead for the first few days.
- Prepare a feeding and drinking place for your new family member as well as a cozy spot with a **soft toy, blanket, basket or cushion**.
- Please make sure that your new dog cannot reach easily swallowed objects or cables. Also, as a precaution, please put larger items that should not be eaten somewhere else.
- Please buy **well-tolerated wet food, dry food** and treats before your dog arrives. Chicken and sensitive food are well tolerated. Please ask for advice in the store or contact us.
- If you have several animals, you should watch out for food envy and feed your new arrival separately from your other animals at first.
- Your new family member will most likely not be house-trained straight away. You can buy **incontinence pads** to protect your furniture. Place a pad on the floor for your dog in case he needs to do his business at night. Please do not place it right next to the feeding area or dog bed.
- As a responsible dog owner, please buy **dog waste bags** before you move in. This way you won't annoy your neighbors or other fellow citizens and you'll keep the paths clean.

If you have any questions, we at Hunderettung Europa e.V. are always happy to help you.



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14 YOU PICK UP YOUR NEW FAMILY MEMBER

141 What you need to bring with you for collection

- ☐ Your identity card
- ☐ Leash and collar
- ☐ Transport box
Please large enough (you will be advised in the store or feel free to contact us).
- ☐ Put a blanket or towel
in the box, so the dog can sit on it (as the dog is not allowed to go for a walk under any circumstances, it could happen that the dog wets the box)
- ☐ It is advisable to take an **accompanying person** with you as a support

142 What you should bear in mind during collection

- Please make sure you leave home early enough. **Be at the meeting point early (approx. 30 to 60 minutes)**, as the transporter has several dogs on board that should arrive at their meeting points on time. Allow for traffic jams if necessary.
- Go to the transporter with your ID, collar and lead and wait there until your dog is called.
- Then go straight to the car and **the dog will be put in its transport box**. You are **not** allowed to **walk the dog on the spot**, but only once you have arrived home in the garden or a secure environment. The risk of the dog trying to escape is too big.
- **Important before going for a walk - fit the safety harness**. Two fingers should fit between the dog and the harness, no more. During the initial period, secure the dog with a pull collar and a second lead, which is attached to the collar and to you. Every time the dog leaves the apartment/house, it must be secured twice (see diagram on page 11).

143 If you want to leave the meeting point with your dog

- Make sure that you have **received your ID back**.
- Make sure that you have been given the dog's **EU pet passport and TRACES certificate (entry papers)** and stow these documents away safely.



15 DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN OR OTHER PETS?

151 For children

- Prepare your children thoroughly for the dog's arrival. Explain the dog's body language in an age-appropriate way. If the dog growls out of insecurity, the children should learn to back away slowly. They should learn this right from the start.
- Make sure that the dog has a quiet spot where it occasionally retreats from the children. Normally, however, wonderful friendships develop between children and dogs.
- Make sure that your children and your new family member are never left unsupervised.

152 For dogs

- If you already have a dog with you, getting to know your new family member should ideally take place outside on neutral ground. It should be calm and stress-free, so it is important to secure the new dog sufficiently beforehand. For example, ask your companion or a trustworthy person for help. Then lead your existing dog to the meeting place while your helper holds the new dog securely. Pay attention to the behavior of both dogs and consider carefully, especially if the dog arrives in the dark, whether a meeting should take place the next day. A stressed newcomer could react negatively to the existing dog.
- If your dog is generally very good with other dogs, even in your own garden, you can also get to know each other with mindfulness in your garden.
- To avoid food envy, you should initially feed the dogs separately. Most dogs have previously had to fight for their food, so food envy can be an issue.
- Please also put away chew bones, toys, etc. at the beginning so that there is no fighting.

153 For cats

- Never leave your cat/s and the new dog unsupervised! Try to test whether your new dog gets on with cats beforehand, but this is only a snapshot. A guarantee can never be given.
- Your cat/s should always have enough opportunities to retreat safely. You may want to separate off an area with a baby gate at the beginning so that your cats can find a place where the dog can't get to. Otherwise, cupboards or higher places should offer security.
- Keep the feeding places separate at the beginning.
- If your new dog shows signs of wanting to chase the cat(s), stop this with a "no". Reward positive encounters or ignoring with praise and treats on both sides. (Unless you have previously food envy in your new dog).
- All beginnings are difficult: It can also be unfamiliar for the cat/s to suddenly have a new roommate. Especially if the cat/s didn't know a dog before. It is completely normal for cats to withdraw or hiss at the dog for the first few weeks. Cats need some time to get used to the new family member so that there are no arguments.

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2. GENERAL AND IMPORTANT

2.1 DOG OWNER LIABILITY INSURANCE

- It's wonderful to have a dog by your side as a loyal companion, but there is always a risk. If your dog bites someone or causes a car accident, you are liable to the full extent of your assets.
- Every dog owner should take out dog owner's liability insurance.

2.2 REGISTRATION IN PET REGISTERS

- Your dog has already been chipped, i.e. fitted with a transponder.
- You will find the 15-digit transponder number in your dog's EU pet passport. This number you need to register with the pet registers.
The transponder is of no use without registration.
- Better safe than sorry, so we advise you to register your dog online with both registers. If you move house, let the pet registers know your new address. Even if only your telephone number has changed, please also change it in the portals. If your dog has run away, you don't want to have to deal with address changes, you just want to get your dog back as quickly as possible and unharmed.
- It is also advisable to have photos of your dog. The pet registries produce flyers with a photo of your pet if it has run away and you need to look for it.
- Use the following websites:
www.tasso.net 24-HOUR EMERGENCY TELEPHONE +49 (0) 6190 939700
www.findexfix.com SERVICE PHONE +49 (0) 228 6049635
- Please bear in mind that the chip (transponder) cannot be located.
- It can only be read by a vet or animal shelter, for example. Through the respective register you can then be informed that your dog has been found.
- If you want to know directly where your dog is in an emergency, we strongly recommend a **GPS tracker**. This should always be attached to the collar/harness.

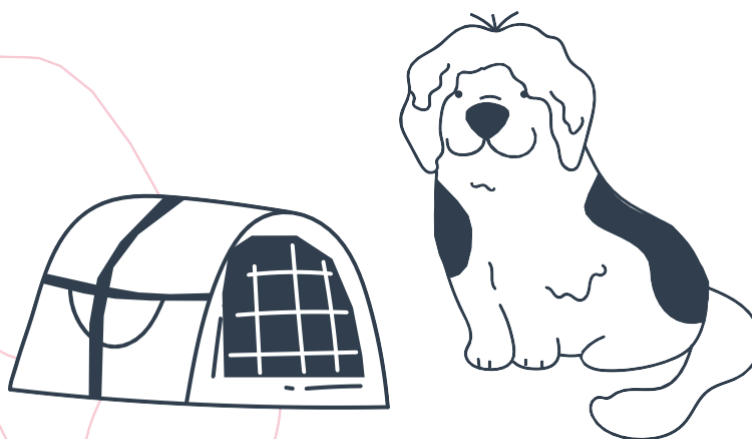


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2.3 THE TRANSPORT

- Depending on the meeting point, your new family member will have a journey time of approx. 18 - 36 hours. However, we deliberately use a very good transportation company with heated and air-conditioned vehicles. There are always two drivers per vehicle, who take turns during the long journey. In addition, it is always one or two animal welfare workers who take care of the dogs with sufficient water and, if necessary, food during the long journey. The dogs are kept in fixed integrated boxes during the entire journey. For safety reasons, it is not possible to walk the dogs during the transport.
- All dogs are properly registered via the Traces system.
= (TRACES TRAdE Control and Expert System, is a database system introduced by the EU that records all animal traffic within the EU, as well as from and to the EU).
- You will be informed about the approximate arrival time of your dog during the entire journey via a so-called transport chat. Your agent will invite you to the chat via Facebook. This happens around the time the transporter starts the journey.
- Please be punctual at the agreed meeting point and open the transport box, have your ID, a collar and a fixed lead (not a retractable or flexi lead) to hand and wait until you are called or your dog is called.
- The animal welfare officers check the papers and take the collar and lead. Your dog will be secured in the transporter and then placed directly into the transport box with a harness and lead.
- **You will also receive your dog's EU pet passport and TRACES papers.**
- Check again that you have received all the papers and your ID.
- As soon as you have arrived safely at home, let your new family member settle in. Every dog needs a different amount of time here. If a walk is not immediately possible, don't force your dog to go. He will need time to process the new impressions.

If you have any questions, we at Hunderettung Europa e.V. are always happy to help you.



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3. AFTER THE ADOPTION

3.1 LET THE DOG ARRIVE IN PEACE



- Leave your dog in peace at home for the first hours.
- He has had a long transport with lots of strange dogs and also a noisy and stressful time in the shelter beforehand. Wait until he gets out of the box on his own. Don't push him and just see at what pace he wants to approach you.
- Your new family member now needs to catch up on sleep and process the previous stress. There shouldn't be too many people around either. It is enough for your new family member to get to know only the people living in the household for the first few days.
- If your dog comes to you on his own and asks to be stroked, you can stroke him carefully and slowly. Otherwise, please don't pet him and give him some well-deserved rest.
- You should also take things slowly over the next few days, only take him for short walks, the dog has hardly any muscles or stamina. It is quite possible that the muscles will become sore and he will quickly be exhausted. Please always walk the same route at the beginning so that the dog becomes more confident and find its way home again if it escapes. You should also gently get the dog used to riding in the car. Many dogs do not tolerate driving in the car at first and vomit or salivate excessively. Try using a dog crate in the car, this usually helps.



311 *Do not bathe the dog immediately*

- Unfortunately, your new family member won't smell very good.
- Simply protect his basket or your couch with a blanket until your new dog is ready to be bathed. Bathing is stressful and your dog has just had enough of it. Give him a few days.
- Of course, your dog will also feel better when clean, but only when he has visibly recovered and is ready for it.



312 *Reward good and desired behavior*

- Not only can you do something good for your dog by rewarding him, but you can also strengthen the bond between you and your dog at the same time.
- Reinforcement is particularly important for anxious dogs, as they lack security. If he wants to come to you on his own, you can help him with rewards and support him.
- Would you like to reward your dog with treats? Liver sausage paste, cheese, cream cheese or fresh or cooked pieces of meat? You can also reward your dog with your friendly high-pitched voice and, as soon as your dog allows it and enjoys it, with cuddles.

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3.2 WHAT TO DO IF ...?

321 Diarrhea

- Your dog will be vaccinated, dewormed, given an anti-flea treatment and chipped the trip (you must register it).
- All this medication irritates your dog's gastrointestinal tract. Added to this is the stress caused by the transport, the change of food and now a new environment with unfamiliar people. All of this affects digestion, just like it does for us humans. So please don't have your dog vaccinated again straight away or treat for parasites without proof, as this could damage the immune system or the gastrointestinal tract even more.
- **It may well be that your dog initially suffers from diarrhea.** If the diarrhea is not gone the next day, we recommend "Morosche Suppe", a carrot soup.
- If the diarrhea persists or there is blood in the diarrhea, intestinal parasites may also be responsible. Please go to the vet immediately. Collect fecal samples from three days ago and take them to the vet so that he can examine the feces.

MORO CARROT SOUP

Ingredients

500 g carrots
Water
½ teaspoon table salt

Preparation

Wash 500 g of carrots and then peel and roughly cut them into small pieces. Put water to the boil in a saucepan, add the carrots and boil it for at least 90 minutes. After boiling, the carrots are pureed and water is added until the amount one liter. Add salt to the soup and mix everything thoroughly. Please wait until the soup has cooled down before the dog eats it.

TIP: *If the dog does not eat the soup as it is, chicken can be cooked and added to the soup in pieces.*

322 Cough

- Due to the air-conditioned transport and the air in the transporter, your dog may cough. Nervousness, excitement and stress can also cause so-called backward coughing. These symptoms should also go away on their own after the first few days.
- Otherwise, please contact your vet or contact us again.
- **Please do not simply have your dog re-vaccinated or dewormed or treated for Giardia without a positive test for intestinal parasites.**



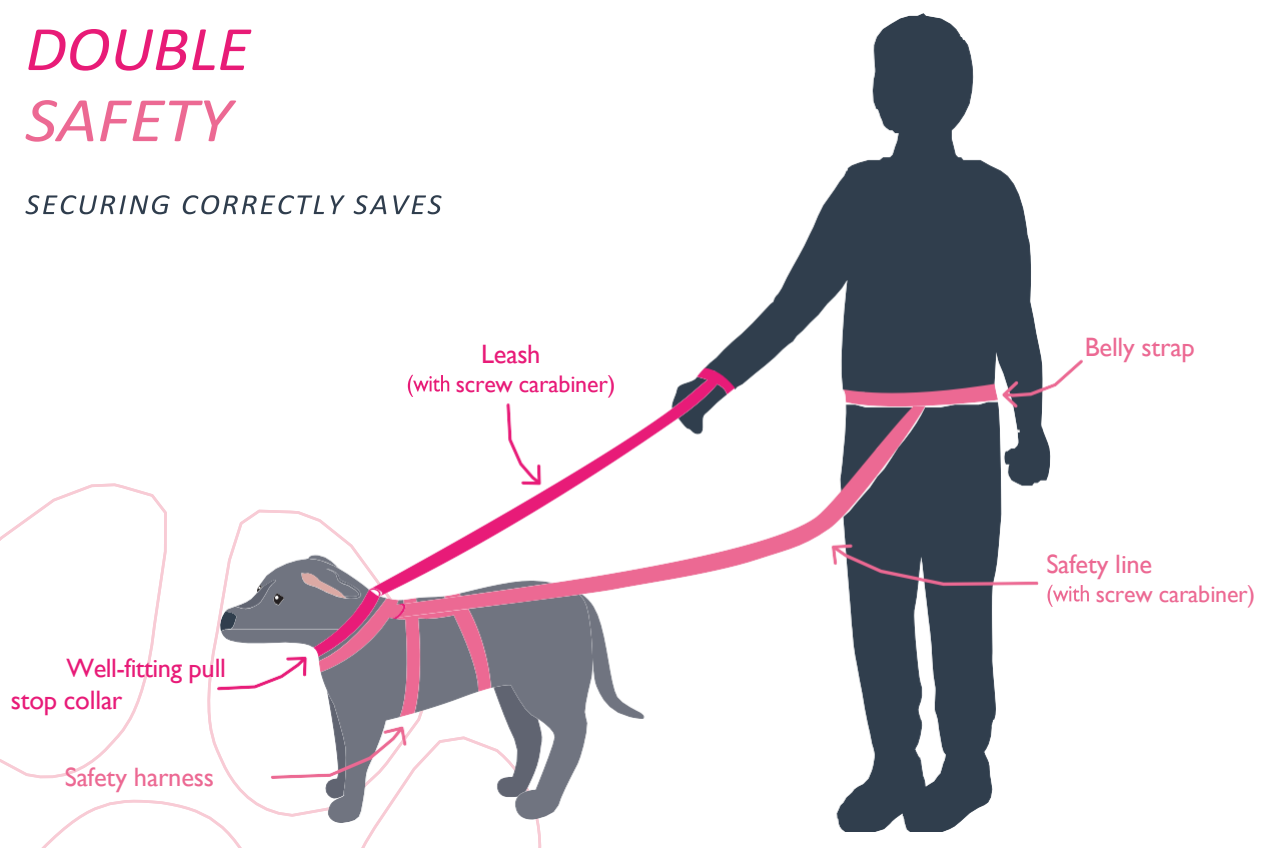
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3.3 SECURE YOUR DOG PROPERLY

- **THE RIGHT FUZE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING AT FIRST.**
- Your dog doesn't know so many things and gets scared very quickly. Unfortunately, some dogs have difficulties with men at first. This is often because they have been tortured or mistreated by men abroad. The dog catchers are also male. A loud, deep male voice can be enough to frighten your dog.
- Other noises, such as those made by your neighbors (e.g. children shouting, lawnmowers, leaf blowers, New Year's Eve firecrackers) can also quickly cause uncertainty, fear and panic in your dog. Panic can be expressed by running away.
- **We certainly don't want to scare you! But we do need to make you aware of the importance of correct securing.**
- Even if you think our advice is overly cautious, please heed it for the sake of your dog. This advice is based on many years of experience in protecting animals abroad and is only well-intentioned. Unfortunately, it happens faster than you think and the dog is gone.
- **Hence our request to you:** In the first few weeks, your dog should definitely wear the safety harness and, if he is fully grown, also a pull-stop collar. When leaving the apartment or house, he should be secured with two leads. Even in the secure garden, your dog should only walk with a lead for the first few weeks.

DOUBLE SAFETY

SECURING CORRECTLY SAVES



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3.4 HAS YOUR DOG RUN AWAY? WHAT TO DO

Stay calm and don't run around searching over a large area. Your scent trail can make it difficult for your dog to return. Don't call after him and don't try to chase after him. Unfortunately, this often scares dogs away because they are panicking.

341 Just escaped

- Please stay at the place where your dog has escaped. If this not possible, ask a person who is familiar to you and at best also to the dog.
- If your dog has run away on the road, it may have run to your car or, depending on the distance, to your home.
- It is therefore essential that someone is at home and gives your dog access to the house or garden, so keep the doors open.



Try to act correctly to find your dog within the first 24 hours. The probability of finding him again is highest within this time.

342 After approx. 30 minutes

If your dog did not return after half an hour, take further steps:

- Call the local **police station** and if possible the highway patrol.
- **TASSO**, the pet registry: 06190 / 937300.
- Call the **hunter** and / or **forestry office** to be on the safe side.
- Contact the local **dog search help**. They can give you valuable tips, such as set up a feeding area in front of the house or garden door, allow constant access to the house or garden. The dog finder will explain this to you in detail and help you if necessary.
- Call nearby animal shelters and inform them AND US.

Always leave your telephone number and possibly that of a second person from the family!

343 After several hours

- Work actively with the dog search help and be sure to take the advice of the professionals.
- Find a recent photo of your dog and create a flyer with the help of the dog search tool or at www.tasso.net. Spread the flyers generously with the information that it is a fearful dog and that no attempts should be made to catch it.
- Place a used blanket with a familiar smell in front of the house.
- Set up a feeding station with "superfood" such as rumen, Frolic (has an irresistible attraction), wet cat food or roast chicken. If the dog eats and leaves again, that's ok. The important thing is that he keeps coming back.
- Create an additional star-shaped food trail that leads to the house.

Always leave your telephone number and possibly that of a second person from the family!