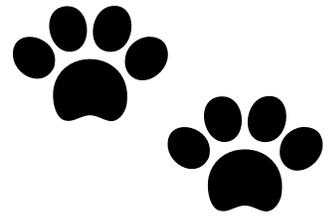


**WHEN YOU ADOPT
EXPECT..**

**MCKAMEY
ANIMAL CENTER**
SAVING ANIMALS. HELPING PEOPLE.



RULE OF 3

FIRST 3 DAYS- DECOMPRESSION

DO

- Allow your new dog time to decompress- 3 days minimum- allowing stress hormones to decrease.
- Use baby gates and/or crate your dog to create a safe and calm area for him/her to eat, drink, and get plenty of rest.
- Allow your current and new dog to see each other through gates, crates, or other barriers. Allow them to sniff each other and proceed with a slow introduction, provided there are no other issues.
- Have your dog drag a light leash attached to her collar so you can gently guide her where you want her to go, rather than grabbing the collar or picking her up. This helps for shy or fearful dogs who may bolt into a tight space.
- Let your new dog smell everything! This helps reduce stress.
- Supervise your new dog in your house & yard, a new place can lead to potty indoors or escaping a yard.
- Offer food to start building a bond with your new dog. If he looks comfortable taking it from your hand, great- if not, toss it to him.
- Gently pet your new dog low on the chest or shoulder. Avoid reaching over their head. If you stop and he asks for more, go for it. If not, give him some time, he will come to you when ready.
- Supervise children and don't allow them to physically overwhelm your new dog by hugging and putting their face too close to the dog's face. Slow introduction is key!
- Encourage your dog's appetite by adding a little warm water and/or canned dog food to dry kibble and feed him in his area away from kids and other dogs.

DON'T

- Introduce your new dog to a bunch of new people or family, let him get used to you for a few days.
- Take your dog on too many outings away from home
- Leave stuff lying around that your dog/new dog could fight over- food, bowls, toys, bones.etc.
- Handle or pet her if she doesn't want it. Don't take it personally, either.
- Worry if your dog doesn't feel like eating for a day or so; give her access to water and keep an eye on her.
- Bother your new dog while she is eating.