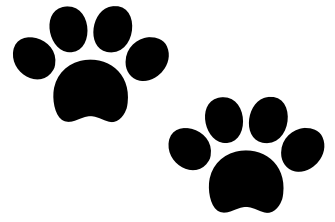


**WHEN YOU ADOPT  
EXPECT..**

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



**RULE OF 3**

**FIRST 3 WEEKS- BUILDING TRUST**

**DO**

- Pay close attention to how your dog acts when you walk around her when she has a toy, bone, treat, etc- If you see her stiffen, or she growls/snarls/bites- contact a certified dog trainer or behavior consultant.
- Take your dog out in the neighborhood. Carry treats with you to create a positive association with all the new sights and sounds.
- Use positive training methods with your dog and consult a trainer if you're having problems.
- Work on cat introductions- you can learn more about introducing a cat to a dog at [www.bestfriends.org](http://www.bestfriends.org).
- Play with your dog to see what she "likes"- lots of dogs don't have experience with toys, so be patient and creative.
- Continue using confinement/crate with your new dog when you're not home.

**DON'T**

- Push your dog to do anything she is obviously uncomfortable with; this will undermine your trust building efforts. Work with a certified trainer or behavior consultant to learn how to help your dog overcome fears.
- Put your current dog and new dog together with high-value items (bones, toys, food)



**FIRST 3 MONTHS- SETTLING IN**

**DO**

- Have a trainer do a home visit if you're having problems in the home environment.
- Join a training class for manners or fun.
- Introduce your new dog to your friends' dogs if they are friendly.
- Have your dog assessed at a professional dog daycare facility for socialization if you're unsure how she is with other dogs.

**DON'T**

- Introduce any new pets into the family until everything is nailed down with your new dog.