



# ADOPTERS HAND BOOK SDRR 2022

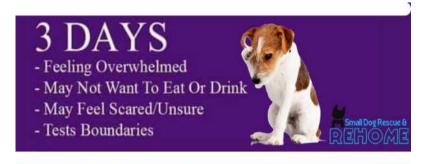
Please Make Sure You Have Read This Adoption Hand Book. The Information Is Given To You for a Reason, All We Want Is Our Dogs To Find Their Forever Home First Time.



FAR TOO MANY PEOPLE MAKE THE
SAME MISTAKES WHICH ENDS WITH
AN ADOPTION FAILURE...

# **SDRR** Adopters hand book!

First thing's first, forget everything you think you know about rescue dogs! Our dogs are not like UK rescues and need a little more care, especially in the early days. Being ex-street dogs, many have never lived indoors or received kindness from humans. They will be scared and may try to escape. Common household items we don't give a second thought to will be new and terrifying to them. Our team is always on hand to answer any further questions you may have. We hope you find this pack useful!



# 3 WEEKS

- Starts Settling In
- Feeling More Comfortable
- Realizing This Is Their "Forever Home"
- Gets Into A Routine
- Begins To Show True Personality
- Behavior Issues May Start To Appear



# 3 MONTHS

- Finally Feels Completely Comfortable
- Begins To Build Trust and True Bond
- Gains A Sense Of Security With Their Family
- Settles Into A Routine

You must think ahead all the time and consider that some of these dogs are not used to living in a house and don't understand the house rules!! Some are quieter than others and some come in like they've always lived there! Some are house trained, and some are not, some are good with children and cats or others are not. We can never guarantee either way as we know very little particularly when saved from overseas shelters or from kill lists.



We want your adoption experience to be a good one where you feel supported and guided through the process. Most of all we want a happy dog that has a second chance of living a life that every dog deserves. We rescue dogs from public shelters some of which kill dogs that don't get an offer of help or simply because the shelter is full. Our dogs are refugees, many have lived on the streets before being caught by the dog catcher, and most of them have never lived in a home. If you adopt one of our precious dogs you need to have patience and understanding, your new family member will NOT settle in 24 hours, it could take several months. The dog has possibly been beaten or abused by humans. It needs to learn to trust and feel safe. Too often dogs are returned because the adopter's expectations are unrealistic and they give up at the first hurdle. This is a tragedy for a dog to suffer rejection through no fault of their own. Please, Please do your research about street dogs, ask all the questions before you commit, we are here to help you xx

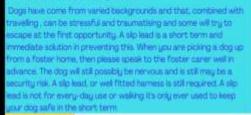
Please note: SDRR will Transfer your dog's microchip to your details once we have received & processed your signed adoption contract along with payment in full of the Adoption fee.

# Compulsory Equipment Small Dog Rescue &

Listed below are the Compulsory tems you will need to get. Small Dog Rescue & Rehome (SDRR) have made these items contractual as the doo's safety and welfare is the biggest priority. Please read your adopters hand book for the full list of recommended & compulsory equipment.

# SLIP LEAD:

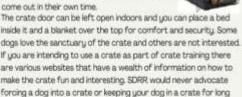
he slip lead is compulsory, its a type of lead hat is used to keep the dog secure.



### CRATE:

The crate is compulsory as its needed for transporting your dog from foster & into your home. Once indoors, place the crate into the quietest area of your home and allow the dog to come out in their own time.

periods. Reward based training is always advised.



### A WELL FITTED HARNESS. COLLAR AND LEAD:

can compulsory. We understand that it's not liveus possible to estimate your doos' size. It's crucial the harness or colar fits well and is secure. A harness or collar should be placed on the dog as onn as nossible

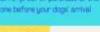
his will not only help keep your dog safe, but will help the dog get us wearing something in readiness for when he she is ready to take some steps outdoors. The right lead will depend on the dog and their eeds. Retractable leads can cause problems especially if you drop the randle. Training lines can be very helpful to build up confidence, provide a degree of freedom and work with training and recall it may be appropriate for your dog to be double leaded initially

sdrrteamägmail.com

### TRACKER:

INSURANCE:

racker is a compulsory tem that you will need to richase. Sadil, doos do escape and the tracker is the siest way of trying to locate them. Trackers can be urchased on line, and in pet shops Prices very from pproximately £20-£80. A subscription file may apply. CRR will ask for proof of purchase of this item so lighting leads hugu enorted and two seess



Compulsory: You are required to take out insurance for your new pooch, we will ask to see a valid Policy before you pick up

#### ID TAG:

Compulsory: It's a legal requirement to have an ID tag for your Dog. This will need to include your contact details. You will need to purchase an ID ing as well as a tracker.

sdrrteam@gmail.com



# HARNESS TRACKER ID TAGS COLLAR



WHEN YOU ADOPT A RESCUE DOG PLEASE REMEMBER THAT WE ASK YOU TO HAVE THESE ITEMS FOR A REASON.THESE DOGS DO NOT KNOW YOU AND DO NOT UNDERSTAND THAT YOU ARE GOING TO LOVE AND LOOK AFTER THEM. PLEASE USE THE EQUIPMENT BOTH INDOORS OR OUT ESPECIALLY FOR THE FIRST FEW WEEKS

PUT THE HARNESS TRACKER. COLLAR, AND ID TAGS ON YOUR DOG FROM DAY ONE AND LEAVE THEM ON DAY AND NIGHT, GIVE THEM TIME TO SETTLE AND GET TO KNOW YOU IT WONT HURT THEM EVEN IF IT TAKES WEEKS . DONT RISK IT, THEY COULD SLIP OUT THE DOOR IN A SPIT SECOND, AND BE GONE





# When they arrive!

The importance of 'getting it right' for your new (foreign) Rescue Dog cannot be stressed enough. It is far easier to prevent problems arising than it is to try to undo them once something has happened. By sticking to a few simple guidelines when your Rescue dog first arrives with you, you can help make sure they settle quickly, happily and with as few problems as possible.

Please bear in mind, the following information is based on my knowledge and experience of (foreign) Rescue dogs, but every one of them will be different. Please read through the whole information guide several times before your dog arrives ideally, and get all members of your family to read it too.

These guidelines are information you need to know, you may need to know all of them, you may not need any of them, but you will definitely need to be prepared to read and assess how your particular dog is coping with everything, and meet his/her needs as an individual.

### From Day 1

Even though your dog has been with a foster family in the UK, these still apply. Yes, being with a foster may have helped them over a key adjustment period, but you are about to take them away from everything that has become familiar to them in that time, so the stressed/confused/scared possibilities still exist.

# TO AN EX SHELTER/STREET DOG EVERYTHING CAN BE NEW & SCARY



- Giving the dog SPACE is mandatory do not push by stroking him/her; after all you wouldn't want to be kissed or hugged by a stranger, your dog is the same.
- DO NOT constantly come with treats because your dog will never understand why a smiley face permanently approaches and gives him food when all he/she wants is to have peace and accommodation within the new environment, sniffing and getting to know the area.
- Leave the dog ALONE. IGNORE him/her for a while and let him/her approach you first. When this happens, it means he/she is ready to properly meet you. Again, no hugs, kisses or strokes as they will just feel trapped by your arms. You have a lifetime for these things after he/she is ready to accept your love.
- Keep the dog away from your EXIT DOOR as he/she can so easily sneak between your legs and escape. Never underestimate them as, even from curiosity, they will want to go out. The first attempt for any dog who was kennelled is to go through a door and explore more or to run away where he feels trapped.
- PREPARE your garden. Any objects which can be used to assist the dog to climb over fences should be moved (garden benches, storage containers etc.) Some dogs will also try to burrow under fences or chew through them in an endeavour to escape.
- Do not leave the dog UNSUPERVISED in your garden because he/she can easily find a way to escape even if you are sure there is no way to do it. TRUST US, when a dog panics, he will find the opportunity to do it. These dogs have had to fight for their lives and survive in the streets; they are braver and smarter than you think. Keep them on a long line and stay with them and you won't give them the opportunity to escape.
- DO NOT WALK the dog until you bond with him and exercise him/her firstly in your garden. Many of the dogs come from shelters and have never had a lead or collar and any attempt to rush him/her will be a step backwards and you will lose his/her trust.



### **RECOMMENDED DO'S!**



Leave a short lightweight lead trailing when you first arrive home In case you need to move your new rescue dog out of or Into anywhere this will eliminate the need for you to grab for their collar, which could be scary to an already stressed dog that doesn't know you.



### **FOOD & WATER:**

Make sure they have access to fresh water in a place where ideally they don't have to turn their back on a room to drink, so not in a corner. If they feel anxious about their surroundings they may be reluctant to drink if they can't see where everyone

is while doing so. Offer them food shortly after they arrive but for the first few days at least, feed little and often rather than big meals. Ideally scatter their food over a small area to prevent them wolfing it down and to encourage them to engage in naturally calming behaviours like snuffling and sniffing. Obviously feed them separately to resident dogs.



When your dog arrives they will be in stress overload. Their Cortisol and Adrenaline levels will be through the roof. They will need at least a few days for these to even begin to come down so please make these first few days very peaceful. Most dogs sleep a lot during the first 24 hours and it's important to give them the opportunity and a safe place to allow them to



do that. This alone can prevent all sorts of problem behaviours in the first few days. If they are fearful when they arrive and don't wish to interact then leave them to choose their space and don't keep encouraging them to make friends. They will come around in their own time but if you keep trying to make them do things you could increase their anxiety and make the process of them settling take much longer. If they choose to stay in the kitchen then leave them with the door open and just carry on as normal, if you go into the kitchen for anything do this as you would normally, talk to them as well in a calm soft voice while doing your thing and even offer them a little treat of cheese or ham out the fridge just put it down in front of them and go about whatever you was doing.

### PREVENT OVERWHELM:

Avoid having lots of visitors to the house during the first week. Let your new arrival settle, get used to their new environment and get used to you before you start introducing more new people. Visitors tend to want to excessively fuss because they will know you rescued this dog from an awful situation. All this attention from so many strangers can cause many of these dogs to feel anxious. Let your dog choose to interact with any visitors when they do come, but if they don't want to then leave them be and ask your visitors to ignore them. You should be able to tell how comfortable they're feeling from their body language. If they're happily leaping around your new visitors, then it's more likely they will enjoy a fuss, but if they're hesitant and unsure, it is REALLY IMPORTANT that you let your dog set the pace for new introductions. If you try to encourage them to make friends, you can actually MAKE them scared of new people - and this can take months to change once established.

#### SAFETY:

Keep them on a lead, preferably a long line in the garden for the first few days at least some dogs can be very panicked by all they've been through & their new surroundings and you want to be sure they have no intention of trying to escape. This is especially important and a very real possibility if your new rescue dog was a street dog. If you have any gaps in your fencing, you can be sure your Rescue dog will find them! I have seen these dogs run up a 6ft fence like it was a ladder and they are quick.

### **BELT & BRACES ON YOUR FIRST WALKS:**

Double lead your rescue dog when you first start walking them outside, in case they panic and slip a collar or harness. Best combination is harness + lead with a flat collar + lead. Or you could have a slip lead on as well as your ordinary collar/harness & lead, it's only there as a back-up if anything goes wrong.

#### **TOILET TRAINING:**

Take your rescue dog out to the garden when they arrive home with you (on a lead) to see if they want to toilet. Most won't go until they have settled down. Following on from this, take them out to go to the toilet as soon as they wake up, after each meal and every couple of hours for the first week (every hour if a puppy) this will lessen the risk of accidents in the house and give you the opportunity to praise and reinforce all toileting outside. This will increase the likelihood they will quickly learn where they are supposed to go to the toilet and reduce the degree of accidents in the house. Most of these dogs are toilet trained within 48 hours.

## **RECOMMENDED DON'T'S!**



**Don't** keep fussing over your new arrival; they will most likely not be used to it. Although you may feel you are showering them with all the love they have missed out on and comforting them during their stress at being in a new home, they can actually find this quite stressful, in addition to all the stress of finding themselves in a whole new strange environment. **Give them time and space.** 



**Don't** allow them to follow you everywhere and have access to all areas of the house for the first few days/weeks. Often these dogs will not be used to all the home comforts we offer them and if you allow them free reign over everything, you could find them developing resource guarding behaviours over all the new & wonderful 'stuff' they find at their paws tips. Plus it can help prevent the development of separation anxiety by providing them with their own room that you leave now and again just to go to other areas of the house. In addition to this, an anxious dog can feel more anxious if they have too much space.



Don't let them on beds or the sofa for the first few weeks. Again this can instigate resource guarding, which once it starts to happen, is more difficult to stop than if you can prevent it from starting and being practised in the first place. Resource guarding the sofas and beds is a very common problem during the first few weeks and has led to quite a few bites and then the return of newly adopted dogs, so please help make your adoption be as successful as possible and follow this advice. Don't reinforce ALL attention demanding behaviours. This can often be an insecurity based behaviour and you could enhance the possibility of separation anxiety and owner possessiveness (resource aggression) being created by always giving in to their demands for attention. By all means give them plenty of attention once they're settled in, but try to avoid *always* responding to their demands for it.



**Don't** mess about with your rescue dog's feet - this is a very sensitive area (instinctively) for dogs, leave grooming, bathing and rubbing with a towel until they are a bit more familiar with you and a relationship of trust has been established.



**Don't** take your rescue dog for walks for a few days **AT LEAS**T for most it will be a week.

They need time to decompress from everything that has happened to them before overwhelming them further with all the sights, sounds and smells of the outside world. We feel they need walks every day to be happy, but many of these dogs will not be used to our busy environments. They can find them scary & stressful, on top of the already stressful experiences they have been

Your dog's foster family can advise you through on they walk well on the lead or if they are very fearful

They will be tired enough with processing all that has and is happening to them, they need time to settle to get ready to take on the environment outside.

# ALWAYS DOUBLE LEAD YOUR DOG

WE CANNOT EXPRESS ENOUGH THAT
THESE DOGS ARE ESCAPE ARTISTS.
GIVEN THE CHANCE THEY WILL RUN.
ALWAYS USE A SLIP-LEAD AND
ATTACH THE TRACKER TO THE HARNESS
OR A SEPARATE COLLAR.





The more instances that create a feeling of vulnerability, the greater the fear 'stack' becomes. Here are some solutions, reasons and preventative measures to ensure you have the tools to make your dog's world a safer & happier place. Your dog will encounter triggers throughout the day that have either positive or negative consequences. The more negative triggers 'stack up' the greater probability of a negative reaction



A trigger is anything that causes a reaction in your dog. These triggers are Not limited to visual cues. We have to be very mindful of the triggers that also come from sounds, feels and scents. How we react to anything has a huge bearing on how our dogs react. If we make a big deal about something, your dog will too.

If your dog has separation anxiety, the triggers of leaving start with the first movement you make in your preparation routine. When you walk with your dog and in the past you've has a negative experience in a certain place, well before your tighten the lead your emotions change and your dog knows in an instant you're anxious.



Your dog can become fearful or anxious about anything, depending on their personality, character and experiences. Fear periods are more apparent at certain ages, but this does not mean that any experience throughout life will not have a lasting effect on your dog, good and bad

#### Here are some of the common reasons for fear and stress:

- 1. Dogs do as dogs feel. If a Noise, smell or change has happened with negative consequences, they will remember and react accordingly.
- **2.** Every small trigger that leads to the negative result builds up to panic mode, until it's only the first trigger that results in the action.
- 3. Environments change too quickly
- 4. Unpleasant encounter
- 5. Unpleasant result
- 6. Feel trapped with no safe or quick exit and negative consequences
- 7. When you distract with food remember in your dogs' mind, it has had areward for how they feel and the behavior.

### Aggression does not come out of the blue

As pups, they work out the world and test you and their surrounding out. When theyremain unheard (body language and behavior goes unseen) and not addressed. As dogs enter adolescence and adulthood, life becomes more serious. The answers theyneed is "Who's got my back?" and "Who understands me?"

The situations they encounter naturally to keep safe here comes in the FFFF form. The more a dog continues to be unheard, supported and guided they will hit the lastF, that one being the fight.

### Trigger stacking in dogs & the adrenaline effect

- Adrenaline is our survival hormone. It is not only released when we are stressed, but also during exercise.
- Think about this for a second... for wolves (the dog's predecessor), running was toflee from a threat or chase down food
- If you are out walking your dog and you meet another dog in the park, the new doghas just been running.
- What do they smell like to your pooch? Do they smell ready for a fight?
- Are you also anxious about a negative encounter too?
- One big combination of anxiety creates even more anxiety triggers for the day. Even if your adrenaline levels are low, how high are the levels of the people or dogsclose by?
- Have they just been for a long run?
- Have they just had a difficult drive to the location?
- Are they anxious about being shown up and doing the wrong thing? All of these are potential triggers for a reaction for many dogs.

### How owners can influence trigger stacking in dogs

Dogs understand us better than we think. It is important to communicate with your dog in a calm and confident manner. Scent plays a vital role here. If you are out of your comfort zone and anxious around your dog, they will know. This will trigger their anxiety. If you are upset, angry or anxious, yourbody language and scent are all going to be picked up by your dog before you can blink.

### Desensitize your dog to their triggers of anxiety

Whether the trigger of the behavior is due to over-excitement or fear, remove the trigger and phase it back in.

# Separation anxiety is triggered by movement and the routine of leaving

Reduce the triggers and help them learn to cope with departure and without you very slowly.

### Does your dog hide when it's time to walk?

Some dogs fear the outside world and all that it represents to them. Have they got a fear of the harness or lead? And do they pull like crazy or loaf behind? Whichever it is change your routine. Play in the garden or house and do not simply call because it's time for a walk. Have the lead around and about, alongside any routine. Make life about fun and connection. The walk can wait

# Is the trigger a reaction to people walking past and into your home?

Does your dog bark or jump up? Is your dog waiting at the window and barking as people pass? The anxiety rises as they walk towards and reduces as they leave. If they knock at the door, then it's action stations. Help themout before they get too anxious.

### Feeling safe is paramount to your dog

Many dogs rest far better come evening when everyone is home and relaxed. There are no surprises on the horizon and they get to chill. In order to live a relaxed life, learn effectively and make sure your dog feels safe and trusting,

Enjoying its life, and helping you to also enjoy yours. You'll also find if your dog is not a good eater, they will more likely eat in the evening.



#### MEETING RESIDENT DOGS

Your new arrival may not be ready to meet your resident dogs immediately If they have never been on a lead, or are frightened of the lead, introductions may be better taking place at home in the garden, but you will need controls / barriers in place ready to keep everyone safe if necessary.

BUT if your dog is clearly terrified, I would recommend leaving introductions until they have settled a bit and stress levels have reduced, otherwise it is far more likely the introductions will not go well

- 1. It is generally best if new rescue dogs can meet resident dogs away from home somewhere quiet, have a little wander & a sniff together and then be brought back into the home together, BUT you will need to assess this based on the point I have made above.
- 2. Please bear in mind that many of these rescue dogs will be scared, so if you are doing greetings outside the home, **make sure you have them double leaded**, one of which being a slip lead and don't expect them to walk as such, just to have a wander & a sniff and be able to meet their new friends before returning home
- **3.** Make any necessary arrangements so that rescue dogs and resident dogs don't have to be left alone in the same space for several weeks, or at least until it's obvious they have bonded and are very happy together.
- 4. Once back in the home, allow your new dog time & space to him away from resident dogs to process all the new information and experiences. A baby gate is ideal for this, or behind a glass door, to give them regular periods of down time but without shutting them away completely on their own. That way they can still see, hear and communicate with resident dogs and get used to all that is going on around them but without feeling overwhelmed and hassled by it all. Go about your day spending time with both your resident dogs and your newbie individually so they don't feel shut out.
- **5**. Be aware of potential barrier frustration, you may need an area between them to prevent this. Don't be surprised if you find the dog laying on a high point, for example your dining room table. This seems to be a habit of many ex shelter dogs so they can watch the horizon and keep an eye out for danger.

**6.** Most settle without issue but it's important to be vigilant and assess this when they arrive. If a fight occurs between newly adopted dogs and resident dogs in these first few days, (bearing in mind the elevated stressed state of your new arrival meaning potentially low tolerance levels) it can damage the relationship badly making it harder for them to become friends and live happily together

#### **INTERACTION MANAGEMENT:**

Keep new dogs and resident dogs separate at feeding times for at least a few weeks, maybe longer. Please remember your new dog may have spent time in a Romanian Public Shelter they will



have had to fight for their food, and whilst, with many, this behaviour subsides quite quickly, during the settling in period, it will still be in the forefront of their mind. If an argument over food takes place in these early days and weeks, it could ruin the relationship between your new rescue dog and your resident dog forever, which will cause you many more problems in the long run.

#### **PREVENTION OF INCIDENTS:**

Always feed treats and any high value bones/chews etc. separately, either in crates or separate rooms (baby gates are a godsend here)

#### PREVENTION OF DOG -DOG RESOURCE GUARDING:

If you have a resident dog, pick up all the toys for the first few days/weeks until you can see how they are getting on, and to give them time to get to know each other and settle in each other's company. If your resident dog is used to playing with toys with you, take them in a separate room for playtimes so they don't miss out, and leave your rescue dog with a treat to keep them happy.

### WHAT TO EXPECT FOR THE FIRST FEW WEEKS (At Least!)

When your rescue dog first arrives with you, it is important to be 100% aware and realise **they will need time to adjust and settle.** If I took one of my dogs and left them in a strange house where they didn't know anyone, I would expect them to be very unsettled, upset, confused, very stressed and to display any range of behaviours, including reactivity, which they would not normally display.

I would expect all this from a dog that has **never** had any upset in their life and has lived life so far knowing nothing but love, safety and security. So imagine how much worse it is for a rescue dog from Overseas. These dogs could have spent some time trying to survive on the streets, and could have had to endure the horrors of a Public Shelter and how they're treated and handled there. They would have spent 2 days on a transport vehicle with yet more strange dogs and people, then at their foster home with yet another new environment with more strange people and possibly more strange dogs, along with a completely new routine

Some dogs cope with all of this remarkably well, but some don't, and it would serve adopters better to assume that they won't cope, and behave and handle them accordingly. That way, you are far more likely to prevent problems than if you assume they will be fine, or that they will be grateful for this wonderful life you have offered them, and then don't provide them with the necessary consistency, boundaries and structure that they **need** at this most unstable of times.

# Important points to remember in order to provide structure in the early weeks

- **1.** Have all the equipment you need ready before collecting your dog. Be prepared.
- **2. Keep YOUR behaviour consistent.** Your rescue dog will learn much quicker from knowing what is expected of him. Avoid confusing him by making sure everyone in the house is doing the same things.
- **3. Provide a secure, safe place** for him to be left alone. Start doing this as soon as he arrives, even if only for 5 or 10 minutes at a time while you go elsewhere in the house.
- **4.** Establish a **routine** as much as possible and as quickly as possible. Your new arrival can gain a lot of confidence and reassurance from having a routine in place and knowing what to expect and when.

**5. Expect some problems** in the early settling in period, and **be prepared** for it to be a bit stressful and unsettling for **everyone in the house** to start with. SDRS will provide support and advice, but it can never hurt to have already sourced a reputable local trainer or behaviourist you can call upon if needed.

#### These First Few Weeks are a Critical Transition Period.

Mistakes made and issues handled incorrectly during this stage can result in long term problems developing because your Rescue dog will imprint very quickly, especially to a negative experience. If you encounter any kind of extreme reactions from your dog during these first few days and weeks, barking and lunging at visitors, reacting to dogs or people out on walks, please seek the help of a professional as quickly as possible because it is unlikely this behaviour will simply 'sort itself out' and the quicker you deal with it the less likely it is to develop into a well-practised habit. When that happens it means more time and work to help your dog learn to make different choices. Please plan to invest time during this period to steadily introduce, teach and get acquainted with your new dog and his/her unique character.

All of this MUST take place at your dog's pace and within the realms of what they can cope with. It will definitely be worth the extra effort in the long run...

# Possible Problems You May Encounter With Your New Rescue Dog

- Resource guarding
- ✓ Separation Anxiety
- ✓ House soiling
- ✓ Demanding Attention
- Snatching at food
- ✓ Try Escaping
- ✓ Fear of new people (growling / reactivity)
- ✓ Counter surfing
- ✓ Bin Raiding
- ✓ Stress behaviours (Chewing / Shredding)
- Digging
- ✓ Not liking a lead being put on/ Pulling or not wanting to move when the lead is on



If you're not prepared to deal with any of these problems, you need to really think about if this is right for you before you get your dog. It's unfair to expect a dog to arrive and be 'perfect' and when they're not you send them back. This causes untold psychological damage for the dog, making it harder and harder for them to settle into a future home. Please take a moment to place yourself in their paws and seriously consider what you can and can't deal with based on your knowledge, experience and commitment.



Prevention of problems during the first few days and weeks following adoption are critical. Problems that happen during this time can lead to long term issues or even adoption failure.

Collar, Lead & Harness id tags (slip lead ) Tracker & Valid pet insurance

Crate (Seat Belt restraints for the car if required)

Take your dog straight into a secure area when they arrive (car, garden, house)

Leave a lead & soft harness on them for the first week at least while they are investigating

Make sure they have fresh water available

Offer them a small meal - Feed little and often for a while

Take them out to the garden (on a training line) after each meal, nap and every 2 hours for toileting

Take them into the garden on a lead/long line until you can be sure they can't/won't panic or escape

Do not take them for a walk for at least 3-4 days - much longer if they are nervous/timid/fearful

Give them lots of time and space for the first 24-48 hours to decompress - seriously leave them in peace

Feed separately from resident dogs for several weeks at least until you know how they will be and they've had a chance to get to know each other

Do not leave toys laying around and feed treats/chews etc. separately

Prevent your dog from having access to beds and sofas for the first few weeks

Be conscious that you are not reinforcing all demands for attention

Double lead your dog when you first start walking and do only short walks in a close by area - 10-15mins

Do not let your dog off lead - many have high prey drives and are very easily spooked by loud noises often resulting in a lost dog.

Have controls, barriers and an extra pair of hands available when meeting resident dogs

Ideally have them meet outside the home in a larger space

If your dog is clearly scared, overwhelmed or severely stressed leave introductions until they've had a chance to decompress and calm down

Don't leave new rescue dogs and resident dogs alone together for a few weeks or until it's blatantly obvious they have bonded

Give them brief periods of quiet time away from resident dogs to decompress and process information

Do some walks with your resident dogs but also some solo walks with your new dog - unless this freaks them out totally then a more structured plan for progress needs to be put in place

# YOUR ADOPTION E-



IF YOU WONDERED WHY IS OUR ROMANIAN ADOPTION FEE IS 5520 WHEN WE ARE A NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION.



£30 – Average cost overseas foster/food

£15 – De worming / prevention

E15 – De flea / prevention

£25 - Neuter/Spay (Nedge over 8 receipts and

E14 – Vaccine – KC – nasal drops

£12 - Vaccine - Rables vaccine

£15 - Vaccine - DHPPI + L

£25 - Microchip/Passport /Health Book

£12 Blood test - Babesia

£12 -Blood test -Leishmania



£12 -Blood test -Giardia

£20 -Blood test -Brucellosis

E25 Blood test -Snap 4DX
Heartworm Etillichia, Lyme Disease and Anaplasma

£20 -Vet check: Health Certificate

E250 -Transport; Romania to UK

£20 -UK import Tax

-UK Microchip register & transfer

**GRAND TOTAL** 

Please note the adoption fee is set at £520.00 for Romanian Rescues, Regarless if we pay out



# Your adoption fee & how we use it

If you wandered why we ask for the full adaption fee for UK surrenders some of which have already been paid for?
when we are a Non Profit Gragnization.



We take dogs back if an adopter need to surrender their dog aswell as from people that need to get their dogs rehomed for whatever reasons, some have not had all their Vaccinations, Some have or we dont get info on their history, some need boosters, some need Costration/Spay & some have to go to kennels if no foster is available. We have had dogs arrive with no microchip even though by law all dogs should be chipped. The costs vary from one dog to the next. We need them to have all their care Vaccinations, to be Neutered/Spayed,(if over 9 months old) worm and flea treatments up to date and for the Vet to confirm the dogs fit and healthy before each dog is ready for rehoming.

# HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF THE COSTS WE HAVE INCURRED FOR UK DOGS



The adoption fee from one dog is used to save the next or towards a dog needing extra medical care or rehabilitation overseas or here in the UK. Every penny we receive goes directly into saving dogs, we have no paid employees and are totally self-funded.

SDRR strive to work in a way that is open, honest, transparent and accountable So you know exactly

Small Dog Rescue what your paying for Small Pog Rescue



# YOUR ADOPTION !

IF YOU WONDERED WHY IS OUR BOSNIAN ADOPTION FEE IS 6.680 WHEN WE ARE A NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION...

£145) – Average cost overseas monthly

E15 — De worming & Flea prevention

F15 - Vaccine - DHPPI - L Core voccinations

£10 – Vaccine – Rabies vaccine

£30 - Neuter/Spay

£25 -Blood test -5nap 4DX

El2 -Blood test - Babesia

£12 -Blood test -Leishmania

£12 Blood test Brucellosis

£20 - Microchip/Passport /Health Book

£20 -Vet check: Health Certificate

£280 Transport; Bosnia to UK Kennels

£20 -UK import Tax

-UK Microchip register & transfer

£45 -UK Kennel & Quarantine (3 days)

-Kennel Cough Vaccination
Given by Uk Vet

GRAND TOTAL £678

-Transport from Swindon to foster

RESCUE REHABILITATE

REHOME

REPEAT

### **VACCINATIONS**



#### **Educate Yourself about Vaccination Basics**

We often hear from adopters that after taking their dog to the vet that they have been advised that the vaccinations need to be re done as they have not had the full course, we advise against this as its unnecessary & can be avoided protect them from serious, life-threatening diseases. This includes canine distemper, canine parvovirus, and canine adenovirus. The rabies vaccine is also a core vaccine, although a dog can only have itonce at age 12 to 16 weeks.

Meanwhile, non-core vaccinations apply to dogs whose local environment, lifestyle, and geographical location put them at risk of contracting certain infections. These vaccines are parainfluenza, bordetella, Borrelia burgdorferi, and leptospirosis.

Looking at your dog's passport pages you will see the vaccinations that SDRR have requested to be done by the vet overseas, The vaccination pages in the passport are their yearly boosters their passport was not issued until just before they travelled to the UK so will only show their most recent Vaccinations, As most of our dogs are from an overseas public shelter, We don't get any info from their time spent there or where they originally came from.

What we know is they would have had their core vaccinations or they would have died as parvo and distemper are the main killers out there most dogs will get these and not survive over 1 year old in these shelters as they are a hub for dogs to catch diseases. Many of the shelter staff simply does not care about the dogs. Dogs in publicshelters eat each other in hunger, disease is rife and the smaller dogs and puppies usually die. So the core diseases like parvovirus can spread from dog to a dog so easily just from sniffs, licks, or consumes infected faeces, as well as by Indirect transmission which occurs when a person who has recently been exposed to an infected dog touches a dog, or when a dog encounters a contaminated object, like a food or water bowl, and the hands and clothing of people who handle infected dogs.

If you're really worried by what the vet has told you then request for a Titer Test which is an antibody blood test that determines if a previous vaccine is still protecting a dog's immune system. If the vaccine continues toproduce antibodies, then there's no need to revaccinate yet.

Dogs will often be itchy after arrival in the UK. This can be due to central heating, dry skin, stress or fleas. If they have dry or sore patches of skin rub organic coconut oil on it gently before bedtime and then again in the morning

# All SDRR Rescue dogs are vaccinated against the following prior to travel.

- Rabies This is a fatal viral disease that affects the dogs' brain and central nervous system. Note: Dogs need to wait for a 21-day legal period after rabies vaccination before travelling to the UK.
- LEPO Leptospirosis This is a bacterial infection that enters through a dogs' skin. It mainly occurs in subtropical, tropical, and wet environments. Leptospira spirochetes are most common in marshy/muddy areas which have stagnant surface water.
- DHPPI This covers: Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus and Para-influenzavirus
- Canine Distemper a viral disease which attacks the gastrointestinal andrespiratory tracts, the spinal cord and brain.
- Hepatitis this is an acute liver infection which can affect both the liver and kidneys. It can cause fever, depression, and loss of appetite, coughing, and atender abdomen.
- Parvovirus a virus that attacks the intestines. It causes severediarrhea and vomiting and is fatal if left untreated.
- Parainfluenza a respiratory virus and one of the many viruses that cancause kennel cough in dogs. It is highly contagious and causes similar symptoms to a human cold/flu.
- Kennel Cough It's a respiratory infection in dogs caused by a wide rangeof bacteria and viruses. It's highly contagious and the main symptom is a harsh, hacking cough.

## **PLEASE NOTE;**

The Kennel Cough vaccination is unavailable in Bosnia so we get these dogs vaccinated once in the UK.

# For dogs over the age of one year, we use the 4Dx snaptest to test for;

- Heartworm A parasitic roundworm passed on to dogs from mosquitobites.
- Lyme disease A tick-transmitted disease which causes inflammation andmalaise.
- Ehrlichia Another tick-transmitted infectious disease.
- Anaplasma Also known as 'Dog Fever', is a tick-transmitted diseasethat affects the dog's bloodstream.

Snap 4DX test do NOT guarantee that a dog will not get the diseases in a short period after test is made, that can only be PREVENTED by protectingyour dog against ticks & fleas & mosquitoes

The snap test will show positive ONLY if the dog has adult worms, but itanbe infected with the disease, having larvae in the blood.

## All dogs are tested for;

- Canine Distemper a very contagious virus that is potentially fatal, if untreated, it can invade the nervous system as well as other parts of thebody. It is closely related to the measles virus in humans.
- Babesia A tick-borne parasitic infection which causes anemia.
- Leishmania A disease transmitted by the bite of sandflies causing skinulcers.
- Brucellosis Canine brucellosis is a contagious bacterial infection causedby the bacterium, Brucella canis (B. canis).
   This bacterial infection is highly contagious between dogs.
   Infected dogs usually develop an infection of the reproductive system, or a sexually transmitted disease

## Puppies (less than 1 year) are also tested for;

 Giardia – this is a tiny parasite that attacks the lining of the intestines, cancause bad diarrhea and is also infectious to humans.



#### PLEASE NOTE

The flea and worm treatment used in Romania has no contraindications with UK brands; therefore, you can treat your dog for fleas and worms as soon as desired after arrival. Our team is always on hand to answer any further questions you may have

### **Understanding the Pet Passport**

We recommend that you take the passport to the vets whenever you have an appointment & ask them to keep everything recorded in the passport even if you never plan to take your dog out of the UK you have all your dog's info in the book



# YOUR PETS PASSPORT



RESCUERS DETAILS



NAME COLOUR SEX D.O.B

\* Facultativ/Octore/ proprietar/ as stelled by senser

PASSPORT NUMBER

RO A 1052763

DETAILS OF VET THAT ISSUED PASSPORT

MICROCHIP PAGE WILL HAVE A CLEAR PLASTIC STICKER OVER THE DETAILS

MICROCHIP NUMBE IMPLANT DATE

III. MARCAREA ANIMALULUI MAROWO OF ANIMAL	IV. ELIBERAREA PASAPORTULUI INSURINS OF THE PASSPORT
Control effectives can be experienced by the Control of the C	Numerical modification vertexistant australization from all thought of the patrological vertexistant vertexi
RO A 1052762	RO A 1862382

RO A 1052752

PASSPORT NUMBER

DATE PASSPORT WAS ISSUED

642090001088809

SOME PASSPORTS HAVE STICKERS FOR THE MICROCHIPS

### BOTH THESE ARE RABIES VACCINATIONS

YOU COULD HAVE FITHER ONE

RABIES PAGE WILL HAVE A CLEAR PLASTIC STICKER OVER THE DETAILS

DOGS CAN NOT TRAVEL UNTILL AFTER THE SECOND DATE

VACCINE MANUFACTURER/NAME LOT/BATCH NUMBER & EXPIRY DATE



Small Dog Rescue &

REHÓME



1 DATE GIVEN

2: DATE VALID FROM

3: DATE BOSTER DUE

### TREATMENT FOR WORMS

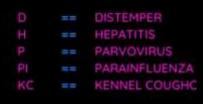
VETS DETAILS





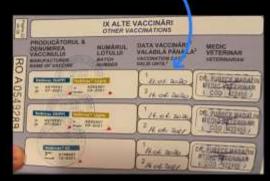
YOU COULD HAVE EITHER ONE

### CORE VACCINATIONS



LEPTOSPIROSIS

### 1: VACCINATION DATE 2:BOOSTER DATE DUE





VETS DETAILS

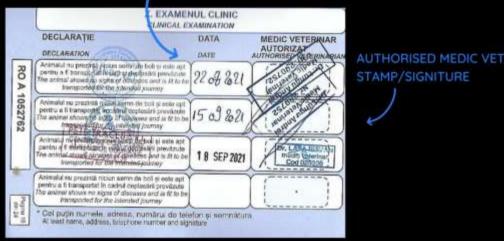
# TREATMENT FOR FLEA/TICKS





# **FIT TO TRAVEL**

#### DATE OF EXAMINATION

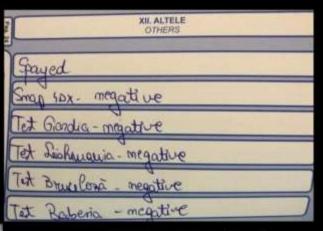


STAMP/SIGNITURE

# BACK PAGE (OTHERS)

IF THE RESCUER HAS HAD THE DOG NEUTERED/SPAYED ITS USUALLY WRITEN HERE

Canine Distemper: Babesia: Leishmania: Brucella:





4DX snap test to test for: Heartworm -Lyme disease -Ehrlichia -Anaplasma -















# Why we rescue from Romania

Dogs are unloved, abussed, and left on the streets, most ending up a filthy prisons they call public shelters. We take the small dogs from the public shelters. Where they are kept in a kennel full of large dogs which wouldn't give them any chance for survival. The smaller dogs are too vulnerable and need our help as they will not survive long left there. You could not imagine how bad these shelters are. There are dogs that will die because of untreated. infected wounds. Dogs suffering contagious diseases just waiting for their life to pass - as nobody will give them any treatment or at least humanely handling them and contagious diseases will be spreading to others, because they were in the wrong place at the wrong time. Dogs in public shelters have only two ways out, rescued or dead.

As a Not For Profit Organisation we rely solely on donations to save these poor souls













# What Your Dog's Tail Can Tell You

Dogs' tails can communicate a lot of information to us if we know how to interpret it.

The position of a dog's tail can communicate information about what that dog is thinking and feeling. Here are some examples:

- Tail held high and still indicates alertness and the desire to portray dominance.
- Tail held high and wagging shows happiness but also a state of alertness. The dog is cautiously excited but showing dominance.
- · Tail held between the legs indicates fear or submission.
- Tail held straight out means that the dog is taking in new information and is so far responding neutrally.

In general, dogs' tails wag faster as they get more excited, slower as they are less enthusiastic about something, have broader strokes as they are feeling happier, and smaller strokes as they're getting more uptight about something.

Even the direction in which a dog's tail is wagging means something. Researchers recently found differences in whether a dog's tail wagged to the left or right:

- Tail wagging to the right means a dog is feeling pleasant and is encountering something or someone known to him
- Tail wagging to the left means a dog is encountering a person or other dog that isn't known to him, and he wants to show dominance







Neutral and exploring



Submissive and concerned



Concerned or unpleasant about person or animal



Excited



Happie



Pleasant about person or animal



Less enthusiastic



Anxious or uptight

So....Tail Wagging in Dogs Doesn't Always Mean Happiness

# ADOPTERS COLLECTING DOGS

THIS HOW THEY LEAVE FOSTER HOMES

# NO EXCEPTIONS

OVER YOUR DOG UNLESS YOU

ARRIVE WITH EVERYTHING......





SLIP-LEAD TRACKER COLLAR ID-TAG CRATE



YOU WILL NEED TO CARRY YOUR DOG IN THE
CRATE TO YOUR CAR & AGAIN IN TO YOUR HOME,
THEY DONT KNOW YOU !!!
THEY WILL RUN IF THEY GET THE CHANCE

YOU MUST KEEP THE HARNESS, COLLAR AND TRACKER ON INDOORS & OUTSIDE FOR AT LEAST 2 WEEKS AS THEY COULD ESCAPE

In case of welfare/safety concerns SDRR has the right to terminate the adoption and take possession of the dog. Compulsory Equipment



List



Listed below are the Compulsory tems you will need to get. Small Dog Rescue & Rehome (SDRR) have made these items contractual as the dog's safety and welfare is the biggest priority. Please read your adopters hand book for the full list of recommended & compulsory equipment.

### SLIP LEAD:

The allp lead is **compulsory,** its a type of leasthat is used to keep the dog secure.



Dogs have come from varied backgrounds and that, combined with travelling, can be stressful and traumatising and some will try to escape at the first opportunity. A slip lead is a short form and immediate solution in preventing this. When you are picking a dog up from a foster home, then please speak to the foster carer well in advance. The dog will atil possibly be nervous and is atil risp be a security risk. A slip lead, or well fitted harness is etil required. A slip lead is not for every-day use or waking its only ever used to keep upor dog age in the short term.

#### CRATE:

The crate is **compulsory** as its needed for transporting your dog from foster & into your home. Once indoors, place the crate into the quietest area of your home and allow the dog to come out in their own time.



The crate door can be left open indoors and you can place a bed inside it and a blanket over the top for comfort and security. Some dogs love the sanctuary of the crate and others are not interested. If you are intending to use a crate as part of crate training there are various websites that have a wealth of information on how to make the orate fun and interesting. SDRR would never advocate forcing a dog into a crate or keeping your dog in a crate for long periods. Reward based training is always advised.

#### TRACKER:

A tracker is a **compulsory** Item that you will need to ourchase. Sadly, dogs do escape and the tracker is the easiest way of trying to locate them. Trackers can be ourchased on line, and in pet shops. Prices very from approximately £20-£80. A subscription fee may apply. SDRR will ask for proof of purchase of this item so please get one before your dogs armival.



#### INSURANCE:

Compulsory: You are required to take out insurance for your new pooch, we will ask to see a valid Policy before you pick up your dog.

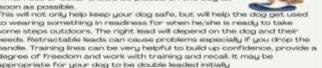




Compulsory: It's a legal requirement to have an ID tag for your Dog. This will need to include your contact details. You will need to purchase an ID tag as well as a tracker.

#### A WELL FITTED HARNESS, COLLAR AND LEAD:

Again **compulsory**. We understand that it's not always possible to estimate your dogs' size. It's crucial the harness or collar fits well and is secure. A harness or collar should be placed on the dog as soon as possible.



sdrrteam agmail.com







Rescue \* Rehabilitate \* Rehome \* Repeat

Please contact our team with any queries you have.

We will always offer our support and guidance at any point in your dog's life.

# sdrrteam@gmail.com

Small Dog Rescue & Rehome Ltd (SDRR) is a not-for-profit company limited by Guarantee

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