



# ADOPT A SHELTER DOG

OCTOBER AWARENESS MONTH 2023

## Newly Adopted Pet Tips

Be patient and follow the 3-3-3 rule! Your new pet may feel overwhelmed and anxious the first three days then it takes approximately three weeks of settling in followed by three months of building and strengthening your bond.

Prepare and set up a space for your new pet and pet proof your home. This will help the animal acclimate and avoid any unwanted chewing or accidents.

Socialization and creating a routine will help your pet thrive!







Training is important and a fun way to enhance your bond!

For free great tips on leash, crate, behavioral training, & more visit, [Chewy](#).

For personalized training services, visit your local PetSmart or Petco, [PetSmart](#), [Petco](#).

Adopting a senior dog is rewarding! Read more here, [Benefits of Adopting a Senior Dog](#).

## Shelter and Adoption Facts

-  Approximately 3.1 million dogs enter U.S. animal shelters every year.
-  Senior dogs are often house trained which can make life a little less messy and give you more time to enjoy their company, love, and affection!
-  German Shepherds, Pitbulls, Rottweilers, and mixed breeds are least adopted.
-  Black dogs are less likely to be adopted than any other coat color.
-  Most shelters do not receive government funding.
-  Adopting a dog is more affordable than buying.

## Thinking about adoption?

If other animals and children live at home, have them meet with the adoptee first.

With children, share best practices such as avoid pulling hair and making loud noises.

Finding local veterinarian care is important for emergency situations and routine visits. You can find a local vet here, [Find a Vet](#). Petco also provides some care needs at an affordable price, visit your local Petco for more information.

Consider pet insurance to help with the unexpected. You can find the right cost-effective program and compare plans here, [Insurance](#).

Learning positive training and reinforcement techniques will help stimulate your adoptee.

Be patient! It will take time for your pet to adjust to their new surroundings.



## How can you help?

Family or friend looking for a pet? Encourage them to adopt and not shop!

Encourage adopting full grown or senior dogs as they're less likely to be adopted!

Visit your local shelter and share on social media adoption events & posts of animals currently available.

Foster an animal! Temporary housing is always needed until our furry friends find their forever home.

Your local animal shelter always needs supplies, post and share their supplies Wishlists.

Volunteering at your local animal shelter.

## SHARE YOUR ADOPTION STORY!

We encourage you to share your adoption story here and you may be highlighted in the next issue of, Spotlight!

For upcoming volunteer events check out [FirstService.volunteerhub.com](https://www.firstservice.com/volunteerhub.com).