



THE  
LOST DOGS  
HOME.

# Settling in your new dog



## Our services

### Adopt a pet

Give a lost or abandoned pet a forever home.

### Behaviour advice

Our expert dog and cat trainers offer consultations and group classes.

### Get vet care

Our vet team offer compassionate care you can trust.



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## Starting off

Taking your new dog home is an amazing experience and very exciting for us, however, for our four legged friends this can be a very scary experience.

The shelter can be a noisy stressful environment for dogs and sometimes transitioning back into a home environment can be overwhelming. As new adopters we can help make this experience as calm as possible for our new friends.

## Taking your dog home

It is very important to go straight home and avoid any visits anywhere on the way home. Your dog is quite confused so visiting new areas and meeting new people at this stage is going to be a lot to cope with.

When you first bring your pooch home, let them explore the backyard first. If they go to the toilet give them a nice treat and calm positive praise. This helps them know where they are supposed to toilet. Keep in mind toileting in the house is quite common for the first couple of days of a new home as they are feeling quite disorientated and confused. It's our job to encourage them to toilet where we want them to in a positive way. Bring them into the house and let them explore while

you sit calmly and read through the information sheets and booklet in your adoption folder. It's important not to follow them around everywhere. Encourage independent exploring. If there are places you don't want them to go unattended then close those doors so they can't get in.

## The first week

Spend this time bonding with your dog and try out some basic training drills to help boost their confidence. Our animal behaviour team can provide some great training tips if you need assistance.

When walking your dog please choose appropriate areas such as quiet streets. Gradually build up the length of your walks, try to keep to the same area the first week.

Limit the amount of visitors you have at your house. Keeping in mind your new dog is in a brand new environment and may find new people and other new animals scary.

While you're still getting to know your new dog keep interactions with other dogs brief and particularly take care around dogs you don't know.

The Lost Dogs' Home is a not-for-profit organisation delivering pound and shelter; adoption; veterinary and behaviour services. Proceeds from our business services go directly back to helping lost and abandoned animals. We don't receive any ongoing government funding and rely heavily on fundraising to support these critical services. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. ABN: 84 004 789 726