

Fostering FAQs: Dogs and Puppies



Food

- Adult dogs should be fed 1 cup of dry food, twice a day, unless otherwise specified by dog team.
- Puppies over 8 weeks should be fed ½ cup of dry food, 3 times a day.
- Puppies under 8 weeks should be fed one-two tablespoons of wet food mixed with ¼ cup of dry food three times a day.
- Each puppy should get their own bowl of food!

Adjustment Period*

- Moving from the shelter to a home is very stressful for most adult dogs! We ask that you allow foster animals an adjustment period.
- We follow the 3-3-3 rule: 3 days to decompress, 3 weeks to learn your routine, and 3 months to start to feel at home.

Housing

- For puppies, setting up a contained, cozy space for them where they can be a part of your home and family is best! Provide them with blankets, toys, and a bed! Keep their potty space separate from their sleeping and food/water area in their set-up.
- For adult dogs, having a cozy bed for them to relax on and some toys to play with will help them relax and feel at home.
- Our foster team can provide you with an x-pen or crate!

Weight Gain

- Puppies should be steadily gaining weight every day! If you are concerned about weight gain, please don't hesitate to reach out to the foster department.
- Please weigh at the same time each day to get the most accurate reading!

Socialization*

- In order to prevent disease, puppies are not allowed to go in public until they are fully vaccinated. They can go in your backyard when they are 2 months (8 weeks) old and have 2 DHPP vaccines.
- Adult dogs should be taken on walks and hikes and played with frequently! It is discouraged to take foster dogs to public dog parks due to liability and disease control.
- Scan the QR code for training resources on our website!

*Check out the handouts in your foster packet for more detailed info!

