

THE 3-3-3 RULE FOR BRINGING HOME AN ADOPTED DOG

The 3-3-3 Rule offers a general guideline for what to expect when bringing home a new dog. Since every dog is unique, their acclimation periods may differ.

FIRST 3 DAYS - DECOMPRESSING

Your new dog may feel overwhelmed, scared, and unsure. This phase is crucial for establishing a sense of safety and calm. Create a welcoming space with a cozy bed, quiet corners, and personal space. Minimize loud noises and limit visitors to prevent overstimulation. Patience is key—allow your dog to explore and acclimate at their own pace.



FIRST 3 WEEKS - SETTLING IN

As the weeks progress, your dog will start showing more of their personality and may begin testing boundaries. This period is ideal for establishing routines, starting basic training, and gently introducing them to new people and pets. Consistency with feeding, walking, and playtime schedules builds trust and security.



FIRST 3 MONTHS - COMFORTABLE

Reaching the 3-month mark is a significant milestone. By now, your dog should feel more comfortable and truly part of the family. Continue reinforcing training, establish long-term routines, and engage in activities that strengthen your bond. Consistency, love, and continued patience are crucial as your dog fully adjusts to their forever home.

