



FRIENDS OF STRAYS

DOG FOSTER MANUAL



FRIENDS
OF **STRAYS** INC.

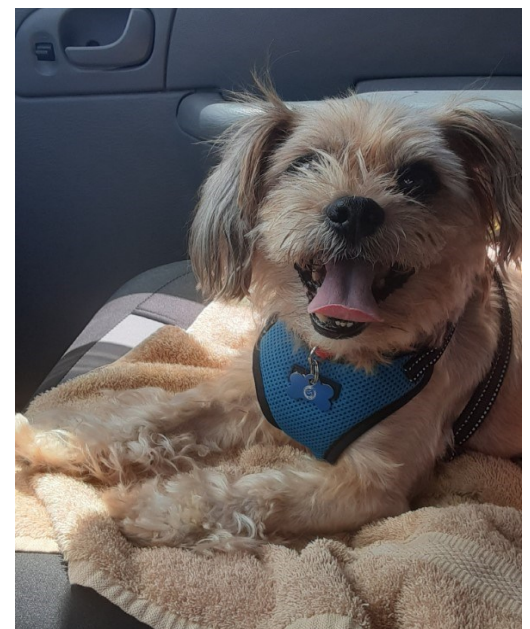


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Thank you for joining the Friends of Strays Foster Family!

Friends of Strays Animal Shelter is St. Petersburg's oldest no-kill animal shelter. Founded in 1978, our top priority is to connect animals in need of rescue with people who will love them. With thousands of cats and dogs entering our shelter every year, Friends of Strays' staff and volunteers provide the utmost love and care for every animal that comes through our doors.

Through our outreach, advocacy, and services, we strive to ensure that animal companion-ship is accessible to all. In addition to pet adoption, we seek to create a better world for pets and people by focusing on life saving programs promoting pet retention, community empowerment, and humane pet ownership education.

Our **mission** is to *inspire* compassion for all animals, *provide* shelter and humane care to homeless animals, and *promote* adoptions and responsible pet guardianship in our community.

FOS FOSTER PROGRAM

Why is Fostering Important: FOSTERING SAVES LIVES.

- Provides a safe and healthy environment for animals to **GROW**.
- Provides LOVE and ATTENTION away from a stressful shelter environment.
 - Provides SPACE in shelters for other animals in NEED.
- Provides SOCIALIZATION and helps them become candidates for adoption

Fostering is temporary but provides a lifetime of difference at a critical time for these animals. Without the support of fosters, the impact Friends of Strays can have on the population of homeless pets in the community would be greatly minimized. We are fortunate to have a wonderful team and be able to help so many kiddos go home with their Furever Families!

THANK YOU FOR SAVING A LIFE!

Friends of Strays Foster Contact Information



Medical Questions- Open Hours

MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8 A.M. TO 6 P.M.
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

Is your pup sneezing and sniffing?
Does their poop look like soup?
Contact the Foster Manager, Kelly!

Or email medical
foster@friendsofstrays.org
medical@friendsofstrays.org
727-602-6702

Emergencies- After Hours

If you are experiencing a medical emergency **after-hours**, please report to the Foster Line at **727-602-6702**

then call or visit:

St. Petersburg Animal Hospital
and Urgent Care
(727) 323-1311

3165 22nd Avenue N. St. Petersburg
or

Tampa Bay Veterinary Specialists
and Emergency Care Center
(727) 535-3500

1501A S Belcher Rd, Largo, FL 33771





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1.) Will the animal be healthy?

All of our animals are vet checked, spayed or neutered (or will be), current on all vaccinations based on age, microchipped, tested for worms and parasites and treated as needed, and dogs are tested for heartworm and are on preventative. We will tell you if an animal has a health problem and together evaluate whether or not an animal with medical needs is a good choice for you. We cannot guarantee that any animal is 100% healthy.

2.) How long should the animal stay in foster?

The foster stay varies with each cat and dog depending on the animal's specific needs. Animals with special needs may need to stay in foster care for a period of months. Some may stay only a few days. It really depends on the individual cat's or dog's situation.

3.) Do I have to be home with the animal all day?

Not necessarily. Many fosters are employed outside the home and still provide a great home for the cat or dog. We ask that any time you are unable to directly supervise your foster, they must be confined to a small, secure area. For cats or kittens a small room, bathroom or pen is preferable for them to stay in while you're away. For dogs, we recommend using a crate which will be provided to you. This results in a safe secure place for the animal and will also protect your home.

4.) Will it cost me anything to foster?

No! Friends of Strays provides all medical care, food, treats, toys, enrichment, etc. necessary for foster. If there is something you need, let us know and we will try to provide it for you. As a foster parent, you are more than welcome to buy whatever special treat for your kiddo, however Friends of Strays will not reimburse special purchases.

5.) Will I get to choose the cat or dog to foster?

Yes and no. The Friends of Strays Foster Manager will take into consideration what the preferences of the foster are in regards to medical, activity level, time commitment, etc. But we want to send out the animals that need assistance the soonest, and not ones that will most likely get adopted immediately. For example: coat preference of domestic short hair cats that a foster may prefer (orange tabby, black, calico, etc.) will not be taken into consideration.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (cont.) :

6.) Can I foster for community service hours?

No. For our fostering program, we are looking for long term support that will exceed community service hours. Our website, friendsofstrays.org, offers plenty of volunteer opportunities and resources to support Friends of Strays. We cannot accommodate court-appointed community service.

7.) Will my foster have accidents or cause damage?

There is never a definitive answer to this question. If we set our fosters up for success and “proof” the space for the safety and well-being of the animals, these precautions can prevent most accidents but not all of them. The animals that we send to foster have no guarantee to be housebroken and accidents may happen. Resources and enrichment will be supplied to ease foster parents into that type of training. Friends of Strays is not liable for any damage or accident caused by a foster animal in the foster parents home.

8.) Are foster animals ever euthanized?

Rarely. Adoption is not an option for animals with some illnesses or behavior problems even after the animal has been fostered. FOS will determine the most humane, appropriate, and available course of action. Knowing that an animal you have fostered may need to be humanely euthanized can be very hard to handle. Please remember that the FOS team is always here for support, and will discuss the decision with you as appropriate. Everything within our limits will be done to treat any health or behavioral related issues

9.) Do I need to keep foster animals separate from my pets?

Separation from resident pets is recommended based on the type of fostering. Generally, we recommend kittens be isolated from your own pets for the health and safety of both the foster animal and your own pets. A separate room or enclosed area is best. A dog can be introduced to the rest of your home after 2 WEEKS with the proper introductions and precautions, unless specified by medical for no interactions with pets in the home.

10.) Will FOS treat my pet if they are injured or becomes sick because of a foster animal?

If your animal becomes sick or injured due to interactions with a Friends of Strays foster animal, you will be responsible for all medical care required with your primary veterinarian.



GETTING STARTED!

Thank you again for fostering with Friends of Strays. We want to set our foster parents and our animals up for success! We have developed this manual for guidelines on basic care and the do's and don'ts of fostering; including prepping your home and your personal pets.

Preparing your Home for a Foster Animal

Is everyone in the home in agreement to foster? This engagement is a commitment of time, care, and love to an animal. Everyone in the home should be in agreement to host your temporary resident!

For Your Personal Pets!

- Before bringing home your first foster pet, make sure that all of your current pets are up to date with their vaccinations. Talk to your veterinarian about fostering and follow their recommendations about any precautions you should take. Your veterinarian may suggest additional vaccinations/immunizations to help best protect your pets. As with any regular veterinary care, you will be responsible for any treatments and costs related to your own pets.
- Before your new foster comes home, try to not do anything too stressful with your own pets. Anything you can do to reduce stress such as mental stimulation, long walks in a non-distracting environment full of great sniffing opportunities, and calm couch time is recommended.
- Brush up on training! Revisit basic manners training like sit, down, watch, leave it, or go to mat/crate.
- Set up management tools! It is recommended to use baby gates, crates, and drag leashes to create an environment where all animals have space to feel safe while they get to know one another. For example, even if your current dog or cat is not a counter surfer, your foster may be, so putting these items in place in advance will prevent unwanted behaviors. It also gives your resident animals a chance to adjust to the new layout before the foster arrives.



GETTING STARTED (cont.)!

Preparing Your Home

To protect a foster pet in a new environment it is important to pet-proof your home. Doing so will help set you both up for foster success.

Once you have chosen an area where you will care for your fosters, you should “pet-proof” the area.

Pay attention to any small or potentially harmful objects, such as pins, paper clips, nails, staples, thread, string, rubber bands, chemicals, plants and any other items that are potentially dangerous.

Some animals may also be attracted to electrical cords. These items should all be blocked so they can't get at them.

Whatever room you choose to make your foster pet's new home, make sure that it is easily cleaned!

You should be able to disinfect it between foster pets. Carpet and other soft surfaces can harbor disease hosts from pet to pet.

Areas with tile, hardwood or other impermeable surfaces are ideal places to house your foster animals.

Preparing your yard

If you have a fenced in backyard, check that there aren't holes in the fence or any other escape route. Remember, never leave your foster dog in the backyard without your supervision. Never leave a foster dog unattended or unwatched outside. ALWAYS keep your foster dog on a leash when walking outside.



GETTING STARTED (cont.)!

Cleaning Procedures

We always recommend bleach as your main disinfectant. The dilution ratio is 1 part bleach to 30 parts water (1:10 for ringworm), or 1/4 cup to 1 gallon of water. The recommended contact time is 10 minutes. Wipe off/clean the surface FIRST, then disinfect with bleach. Do not let animals near the area or surfaces until they are completely dry.

Keep in Mind:

Certain essential oils can be toxic to pets. Ask if you are unsure!

For some engagements, Rescue™, a cleaning solution utilized at the shelter, will be sent home with the foster parents. Instructions will be provided.

Laundry

Wash animal laundry in a separate load from family laundry. Be sure to use bleach as an additive (color safe bleach is not recommended, as it is not effective as a disinfectant). Do not use fabric softeners.

Contact with animals has many positive effects for people. However, appropriate hygiene should be practiced at all times after handling animals. To decrease the possibility of contracting a zoonotic disease (a disease transmitted between animals and humans), it is essential to wash hands with soap and water after petting, feeding, handling, or having any other contact with animals, their living space, or their waste.



Hill's Science Diet Dog Feeding Guidelines for AM & PM

Large Adult Dogs

2 feedings per day unless otherwise noted.

1 cup dry adult dog food and 2 tablespoons of wet/can food

Small Adult Dogs

2 feedings per day unless otherwise noted.

1/2 cup dry small dog/puppy food and 2 tablespoons of wet/can

Puppies 6 months to 1 year:

2 feedings per day unless otherwise noted.

1 cup dry small dog/puppy food and 2 tablespoons of wet/can

Puppies under 6 months:

3 feedings per day unless otherwise noted.

1/2 cup dry small dog/puppy food and 2 tablespoons of wet/can

- Friends of Strays feeds Hill's® Science Diet® foods to the foster animals. All of our foster animals must be on this diet while our animals are in your care to help lessen the symptoms of stomach upset caused by sudden diet change.
- The chart above is used as a guideline for feeding. **Puppies between 2 - 6 months old will typically eat three times a day.**
- Anything older will eat twice daily.
- Occasionally foster animals will be put on a special diet. What they are eating will be explained to you when you pick up the foster.
- Please do not feed your foster dog "people food", unless directed by medical.



ALL ABOUT PUPPIES!

**After Friends of Strays has confirmed a match for you,
you are ready to pick up your foster!**

We recommend that you bring the following:

- Travel Carrier/Crate (one can be borrowed, if needed)
- Blankets/Covers to protect your car from scratches or accidents
- Paper towels/wipes for car cleanup
- Puppies don't need a collar, but should be transported in a travel carrier/crate.

If you are fostering a puppy that is: (a) younger than 16 weeks of age OR (b) 16 weeks of age or older but has not had at least one DA2PP vaccine that was given at 16 weeks of age or older, do not allow the puppy to touch the ground in any public area that is frequented by many dogs this includes at Friends of Strays! Put them in a travel carrier/crate or carry them! If your foster dog can touch the ground and is on a leash, give them an opportunity to relieve themselves before placing them in your car. We will let you know their vaccination status when scheduling the foster engagement to make sure it is an appropriate fit!

- The puppy must always be on a HELD leash when outside a fenced in area.
- When you get home, make sure your foster dog has a chance to relieve themselves before going inside. Neither of you want to start out with any accidents!
- Begin by showing your foster their sleeping area, either the crate (strongly recommended) or a place with their own bedding. Puppies should be housed in a private, confined area. If you have other animals, we recommend you keep them separated from any resident animal for at least the first two weeks.
- If you want to bathe your foster puppy, you can use a mild shampoo. However, we strongly recommend allowing the puppy to settle before bathing as it may cause anxiety and create a poor experience. The foster manager will always confirm if bathing is permitted based on whether the puppy has or has not had surgery. Once the animal is altered they are not permitted to be bathed for two weeks after surgery as to not have the surgery site become wet.
- Again, do not allow your puppy to touch the ground in any public area that is highly trafficked by other dogs; this includes at Friends of Strays. *Do not take your puppy to a public place, even if it's just to go to the bathroom! This includes parks, pet stores, play yards, running trails, etc.*

**IF YOUR FOSTER DOG GETS LOOSE OR IS LOST, IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY OUR SHELTER DIRECTOR AT [727-522-6566 EXT 105](tel:727-522-6566) OR [727-522-6566 EXT 103](tel:727-522-6566).
FOR AFTER HOURS PLEASE CONTACT: [727-855-2031](tel:727-855-2031).**



ALL ABOUT PUPPIES!

Puppy Basic Manners 101

Importance of Socialization

Socialization is a time-sensitive procedure. It is much easier and more beneficial to create positive experiences with novel people and situations during puppyhood than it is with a mature dog. Pair treats with all exposures to make positive associations. If your puppy seems frightened and won't take treats, you should lessen the intensity of the situation until they are comfortable and taking treats again. This might mean giving them some distance if needed, or removing them from the situation temporarily.

Socialization is the MOST crucial part of puppyhood!! Proper socialization at a young age is important to have well-adjusted dogs!* Puppies need to be introduced to different environments but they must also be protected from potential illnesses or dangers. No dog parks or heavily dog populated areas.

We will also send home a "Puppy Socialization Checklist". This checklist will help potential adopters and our adoption coordinator know what the puppy experienced while in their foster home and is a great tracking tool.

Re-mediating mouthiness in puppies.

- Provide appropriate chew toys.
- Withdraw attention if becoming mouthy
- Make a trade
- Provide plenty of physical AND mental exercise
- Utilize a high yip noise and provide a treat

DO NOT punish for mouthiness, as this may reinforce the behavior



ALL ABOUT DOGS

- We will fit your adult foster dog with an appropriate collar.
 - The dog must wear a Martingale collar AT ALL TIMES.

We recommend that your foster dog wear a drag leash AT ALL TIMES including inside the house. This is to ensure that if the dog is cornered, scared, or gets loose, there will always be a safe way to catch the dog without having to touch them. This can easily be made by linking a slip lead and a regular leash together.

We place this equipment on your foster dog for their protection and to reduce the likelihood of an escape. Do not leave your foster dog unattended in a fenced yard. If you have a doggy door, please keep it closed unless you are present to monitor the dog(s) at all times in the fenced yard. Although your yard may seem "escape proof," too often our foster dogs have managed to find a way out. This is also their time to begin bonding with people, and being left alone outside could cause them increased anxiety. Fully vaccinated dogs can be taken on walks but always on a leash.

We will fit your foster dog with an appropriate harness for this foster engagement. Prior to leaving for foster we will ask the foster parent to take off and put back on the walking equipment so that they are trained and it is properly fastened.

If you need to have your foster dog moved, even temporarily, please contact Friends of Strays as soon as possible so they can find another foster home. We ask that you keep your foster dog until a new placement is found, if possible. Foster dogs can never be placed in the care of a neighbor, friend, petsitter, roommate, or even a potential adopter without Friends of Strays express advance permission. Foster dogs are NOT allowed to travel outside of the Pinellas County area without the explicit permission of Friends of Strays. Because all foster dog medical care is provided at the shelter, it is important that foster dogs stay close enough to receive care in an emergency. If you plan to travel, please contact Friends of Strays to discuss potential arrangements for the care of your foster dog.

IF YOUR FOSTER DOG GETS LOOSE OR IS LOST, IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY OUR SHELTER DIRECTOR AT 727-522-6566 EXT 105 OR 727-522-6566 EXT 103. After hours: please call 727-855-2031 for our Foster Emergency Line.



Basic Commands: *Sit*

There are two different methods for showing your foster dog what “sit” means.

The first method is called *capturing*.

1. Stand in front of your foster dog holding some of their dog food or treats.
2. Wait for them to sit – say “yes” and give them a treat.
3. Then step backwards or sideways to encourage them to stand and wait for them to sit.
4. Give another treat as soon as they sit.
5. After a few repetitions, you can begin saying “sit” right as they begin to sit.

The next option is called *luring*.

1. Get down in front of your dog, holding a treat as a lure.
2. Put the treat right in front of the pup’s nose, then slowly lift the food above their head. They will probably sit as he lifts their head to nibble at the treat.
3. Allow them to eat the treat when their bottom touches the ground.
4. Repeat one or two times with the food lure, then remove the food and use just your empty hand, but continue to reward the dog after they sit.
5. Once they understand the hand signal to sit, you can begin saying “sit” right before you give the hand signal.

Never physically put your foster dog into the sitting position; this can be confusing or upsetting to some dogs.



Crate Training

Crate training is an essential part of house training dogs.

Crate training is an essential tool when beginning training a puppy or dog. All foster engagements leave the shelter with a crate unless otherwise directed by medical.

A crate is a great way to keep both your foster dog and your home safe. When using a crate, make sure that it is always a positive place for your foster dog. Never use a crate for punishment.

When introducing a dog to a crate, use a happy tone of voice. Allow the dog to smell the area and become accustomed to it. When the dog enters the crate, give them lots of praise and a treat reward.

If you have a difficult time getting the dog to enter the crate or if the dog seems afraid, try leaving the crate door open and placing the dog's food and water bowls just inside the door.

Any time your foster dog shows any sign of curiosity in the crate, praise and reward him. You will notice the dog going to the crate and looking at you for assurance and praise. Allow the dog to wander into the crate and eat at their leisure.

Once the dog seems more comfortable with the crate, you can try confining the dog to the crate for short intervals. Never confine a puppy to a crate for longer than 3-4 hours at a time or an adult dog for longer than 8-10 hours at a time. Remember, the dog will not want to soil their crate, so forcing the dog to stay in the crate longer than they can comfortably "hold it" is inappropriate.



House Training 101

Chances are your foster dog may need at least a refresher course in house-training. Many rescued dogs have spent most of their lives outside and never learned the rules of living indoors. Other dogs may have once been house-trained, but may still have an accident or two when transitioning into a new home.

Here are some key points to keep in mind during the process that are almost universally applicable:

- 1.) **Holding It:** Every dog has their time limit. Puppies under six months are typically unable to hold it in for more than a few hours. Prepare for this! A healthy adult dog, even among smaller breeds, should have no trouble holding it for 8-10 hours in a crate or overnight. There are, always exceptions.
- 2.) **Frequent Outings:** To avoid accidents, you will want to make sure your foster dog has plenty of opportunities to go outside (if they are fully vaccinated). You also want to give them ample time. Walk them for at least 15 minutes to encourage them and give them plenty of time to go potty. When they do go outside, you want to capture this wanted behavior. Give lots of praise, encouragement, and treats for the appropriate behavior.
- 3.) **Reward Only!** It's vital to successful houstraining that we NEVER scold a dog for going potty inside, even when we catch them in the act. More often than not, the dog won't understand that you are scolding them for going inside. They are more likely to think you are scolding them for going at all, and as a result they will want to hide from you to do their business. (This means sneaking off to quiet, isolated corners of the home or behind furniture, Instead our focus should be on praising and treating every time the pup goes outside. If your pup is learning for the first time or is struggling with learning outside from in, you can provide rewards with a BUNCH of treats and praise (or toys, or whatever your pup thinks is a great reward).
- 4.) **Prevention & Redirection:** If you are still in the process of houstraining, make sure you have eyes on your pup at all times. Keep a lightweight leash attached to their collar always (what we call a "drag leash" or "drag line") so that, the second they start to go, you can quickly pick up the end of the leash and walk them outside. Remain neutral until they're outside, and as soon as they start to finish their business out there you can reward! If you are preoccupied with other tasks, limit their access. Use a crate or exercise pen to keep them from going wherever they please.



Enrichment!

Providing enrichment is more than mental health improvement for the dogs. It also gives the animal life skills that help them stay in their newly adopted home. Along with improving the dog's life it also boosts foster morale during the engagement.

Enrichment decreases stress in the animals which decreases the rate of illness and increases the animals' adoptability. Stress is the #1 reason for upper respiratory infections in shelter pets. And a dog that is licking peanut butter out of a Kong is going to get adopted more quickly than a dog running in circles in their kennel.

All foster engagements will go home with two forms of enrichment depending on the needs of the dog. Enrichment should be provided twice daily.

Instructions will be provided per enrichment tool on how to appropriately utilize with your foster dog. *Please remember that our enrichment tools are NOT toys and should not be left unsupervised with your foster dog.*



Medical Concerns

Most of our animals come from unknown backgrounds. Sometimes animals will not show symptoms of illness for 10-14 days after initial contact with a virus/bacteria/fungi.

This is why we ask you to quarantine your foster animals from resident pets in your home. Keeping your personal pets up to date on vaccines and parasite protection can help prevent most transfers of illness, but the safest course of action is always keeping them separate.

Medical Information for Animals

If you notice symptoms of illness in your foster pet, see the chart below for next step actions you can take:

MONITOR SYMPTOMS

Call the Foster Manager or Email the Medical Team at medical@friendsofstrays.org if you are concerned/unsure with the following symptoms:

- Mild discharge from eyes or nose
- Lack of appetite; not eating much, skips a meal
- Mild lethargy
- Sneezing and/or coughing
- Diarrhea
- No bowel movement for 24-36 hours; straining
- Loose stool
- Hair loss; scaly and red skin

GET IN IMMEDIATELY

**During regular business hours:
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Call or Email the
Medical Team and Foster Manager to
set up appointment ASAP!**

- Repeated vomiting
- Diarrhea lasting longer than 24 hours
- Bleeding of any kind
- Any trauma
- Difficulty breathing
- A lot of greenish discharge
- Loss of appetite; will not eat/has not eaten or drank water in 24 hours.
- Extreme lethargy

DO NOT take your foster pet to an ER or full-service vet without consent from FOS. If Friends of Strays has not authorized an emergency vet visit, the foster parent is responsible for any incurred charges.

For emergencies outside of regular business hours contact: 727-855-2031



Bite Protocols

Florida State law requires any dog or cat that bites and breaks the skin to be placed on a ten-day quarantine for rabies observation under a veterinarian.

Checklist for handling a bite incident that occurred with your foster animal:

1. Remain calm. Remember, these are animals and they express themselves in many different ways.
2. If this bite occurred because of a fight between animals, ensure the animals are separated and secured.
3. Clean and flush the wound immediately with soap and water.
4. Report the incident to Friends of Strays staff (this is required by law).
5. Please state which animal was involved and the circumstances of the bite.
6. Call our Shelter Director (727) 522-6566 Ext. 105
7. 5. We recommend you see your doctor. They will evaluate what is necessary for treatment. Some bites may heal on their own, but others can become infected. It is always best to see a doctor to be safe.

During this time, the animal will be quarantined under our observation. When the quarantine period ends, the animal may be re-evaluated by Friends of Strays. *We believe in open communication with decisions that will be made in regards to the animal but Friends of Strays retains the right to make any decisions.*



Helping Your Foster Get Adopted!

As foster parents our job is to help our foster animal blossom into a loving member of a family. This helps them get adopted into the right home. Since you know them best, who better to market them than you?

Here are some great ideas:

- If your foster dog is old enough (over 4 months old) and healthy, you may take them out with you while you run errands, visit stores and dog friendly restaurants, or even just in the neighborhood wearing "adopt me" or "foster me" gear to spread the word! - Please make sure your dog is dog and people friendly!
- Post your foster on social media.
- Send us an amazing, detailed biography and great pictures for our website and social media!
- Spread the word to everyone you know - you never know who may be looking for a new family member.

During the engagement, our foster coordinator will send you our foster report card which you are required to fill out. The more details that can be shared the better for potential adopters!

Here is a copy of the link as well!

<https://forms.office.com/r/1UUPQ7XJaA>

Maddie's Fund has also created a helpful guide to assist foster parents on marketing their foster pets:

<https://www.maddiesfund.org/assets/documents/foster-resources/MF-foster-caregiver-marketing-guide.pdf>



Friends of Strays Adoption Policy

*Have you found someone to adopt your foster pet?
Are you interested in adopting? If so, fantastic!*

As with any Friends of Strays adoption, interested adopters must fill out an adoption application ahead of time. Our Adoptions Coordinator will reach out to all potential adopters once the application is submitted. If there may be a potential adopter for your foster pet please let the Foster Manager know ahead of ending your foster engagement and we will coordinate the best method of facilitating the adoption!

ADOPTION REQUIREMENTS

Friends of Strays reserves the right to deny any adoption that we see as unsuitable for the animal and/or adopter. It is important to the entire Friends of Strays staff that all animals in our care find the right home.

- You must be at least 18 years of age to adopt from Friends of Strays.
- We require a government-issued photo ID.
- All dogs must go home with an approved leash and collar. You may bring these items in with you, or we have them available for purchase at the time of adoption. We only accept credit card or cash payments for the adoption.
- Every adopted animal will go home with a recent medical history, information on a microchip already registered to the adopter, and a sample bag of food.



Ending a Foster Engagement

When returning your foster dog, please return all the supplies lent out to you by Friends of Strays. We rely heavily on donations and all supplies for our foster engagements have been donated. We ask that everything is returned so we have supplies for the next foster and family. If your foster dog is on any medication it is especially important to bring back with you when returning your dog.

If you have not submitted the foster report card, the Foster Manager will remind you at time for return.

Because you'll know in advance when your foster pup is going to their forever home, you'll have plenty of time to say "good bye" - not without a tear - but with no regrets because you know there is another rescue pup needing your help. Saying goodbye will likely be difficult, but we hope you also feel tremendous joy in the role that you have played in getting your foster dog to his/her new forever home!

We hope that you will consider another foster engagement with Friends of Strays. Our fosters are lifesavers and the Friends of Strays team is fortunate to have every single one.

Thank you for fostering with Friends of Strays!