



FOSTERING FOR FRIENDS OF STRAYS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does it mean to foster?

Fostering provides a temporary home for an animal (or multiple animals) until they are ready for adoption. Foster parents play a vital role because they typically care for animals that would benefit from not being in the shelter, including kittens and puppies too young for adoption and animals with a medical or behavioral condition that is best addressed in a home setting.

Do I need experience to foster?

No! All you need is a love for animals and a commitment to support our mission. We'll provide all the resources and guidance you need to succeed.

What kind of animals need foster?

Animals in need of foster care include nursing mothers and their offspring, those that are too young or underweight for spay/neuter surgery, animals recovering from surgery or illness, and those that are overwhelmed by the shelter environment and would benefit from a quieter, more decompressing setting.

Why is fostering important?

Fostering animals saves lives. Fostering provides temporary homes for pets that would otherwise remain in shelters, thereby creating essential space for other animals in need of refuge. It also provides a better environment for an animal to rest and recover.

Fostering is not only advantageous for the individual pet but also significantly enhances the capacity of shelters to care for more animals.

Is fostering right for me?

- Are all of your pets up to date on their vaccinations?
- Do you have a space available to keep the foster pets separate from your pets?
- Are you able to bring the foster pets in to the shelter for vaccinations or as requested by our veterinary staff?
- Are you able to dedicate the necessary time for feeding, cleaning, and socializing?

If yes, then fostering is right for you!

Can I foster if I rent my home?

Absolutely, you just need approval to foster by your landlord!

Can I foster with a full time job?

Absolutely! We have fostering opportunities that can fit many different schedules and lifestyles.

What is expected from fosters?

- Provide a safe, clean, caring environment
- Monitor any medical and/or behavioral problems
- Transport to/from any necessary medical, adoption or events.
- We provide all the supplies unless you choose to buy something special!

How do I begin fostering a pet?

Once you're approved for fostering, when we have an animal or animals in need of a foster home, our foster manager will contact you to check if you are available to provide fostering.

Can I foster cats and dogs?

Yes, when you apply to foster with Friends of Strays, you have the opportunity to select the type of animal you wish to foster. This preference is recorded in your foster profile, and we will contact you when a pet that matches your choice is in need of a foster home.

How long will I foster an animal?

The foster stay varies with each cat and dog depending on the animal's specific needs. Kittens and puppies generally stay in a foster home until they are 2 months old. Animals recovering from surgery or illness generally need 2-4 weeks to recover.

How much does it cost to foster?

Fostering with Friends of Strays is at no cost to the fosters. 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 FOS will not reimburse special purchases.

Where do I keep my fosters?

We recommend keeping your pet in a small room that can be easily sanitized or in a crate/playpen (which will be provided by FOS) that can be kept separate from other pets in the home.

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.

Will the animal be healthy?

We cannot guarantee that any animal is 100% healthy. All of our animals are vet checked, spayed or neutered (or will be), current on all vaccinations based on age, microchipped, given preventative dewormers, and dogs are tested for heartworm disease and are on preventative medications. 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.

Will I need to give medications to my foster pets?

The majority of dogs and cats placed in foster care will require medication. We will provide instruction on the proper administration of these medications. If you feel uncomfortable administering medication to an animal, please inform our foster manager. They will assist you in identifying an animal in need with whom you can feel more at ease.

What if I want to adopt my foster pet?

Our fosters have the first chance to adopt their foster pets!

If you choose to adopt your foster, or if you have an adopter ready, please inform us when you bring them in for their spay or neuter procedure. We will contact you once they are prepared to go home, and you can pick them up during regular business hours.



READY TO FOSTER? SIGN UP NOW!
www.friendsofstrays.org/foster or scan the QR code!