

CONGRATULATIONS!

Thank you for adopting your new best friend & supporting CARA! This booklet will answer many of the questions you may have to ensure your new companion makes a smooth transition into your home. It's filled with tips, behavior & training advice. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Community Animal Rescue & Adoption: (601) 922-7575

Email: cara@carams.org



Pictured: Hollingsworth

We also suggest that you take advantage of the pet care section on our website at www.carams.org.

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Getting Settled In - Quick Guide

CARA urges you to follow these suggestions:

Do's

- Your new dog will not know what you expect of him. Show him what to do. Show him where to go potty and praise him for going in the right place. Show him what he should chew, where to sleep, etc... Praise your new dog for everything he does that you like.
- Reward all good behavior with praise and a small (size of your pinky nail) food treat.
- If your dog knows "Sit" have him "Sit" for everything (his meal, doors opening, putting on his leash). If he doesn't, just wait for a calm moment when he is nicely standing (not jumping up) and reward the calm behavior.
- Use a regular flat buckle or martingale style collar and allow him to drag his leash around the house. This will aid in moving him off or out of places he shouldn't go, jumping up on people, etc...
- Supervise, supervise, supervise every interaction with kids and current pets.
- If he is crate trained, please use the crate for calm confinement. If not, refer to the packet given at time of adoption.
- ***A tired dog is a good dog!*** Give him LOTS of exercise!

Don'ts

- ***Avoid all use of punishment!*** Science has proven it's best to ignore and properly manage undesirable behaviors and reward the desirable ones.
- At first, avoid giving your dog long lasting high value food items (bones, rawhides, etc.) as they can cause possession issues.
- At first, don't wrestle or play tug-of-war with your dog as they can cause aggression issues. If your dog already loves tug-of-war, it's fine to play, but do not let him "win".
- Don't allow him too much freedom. Activities like getting up on the sofa or laying on your bed are rewards. Rewards should be earned, not given away for free.
- Do not bathe or groom your dog right away. You want to establish trust first! For example, clipping his nails could scare him and result in a bite.
- Don't overwhelm him by inviting over friends and family or having a party until he is settled in.
- ***Never*** physically force your dog to do anything. Use your leash and treats to lead or lure him where you need him to go.
- ***Do Not*** let children crowd around your dog, take him for a walk, hug or pick him up and supervise all interactions.
- Don't overwhelm your new dog by going to crowded places such as markets, parks, schools, etc... Find quiet and calm places to begin taking him out and about.



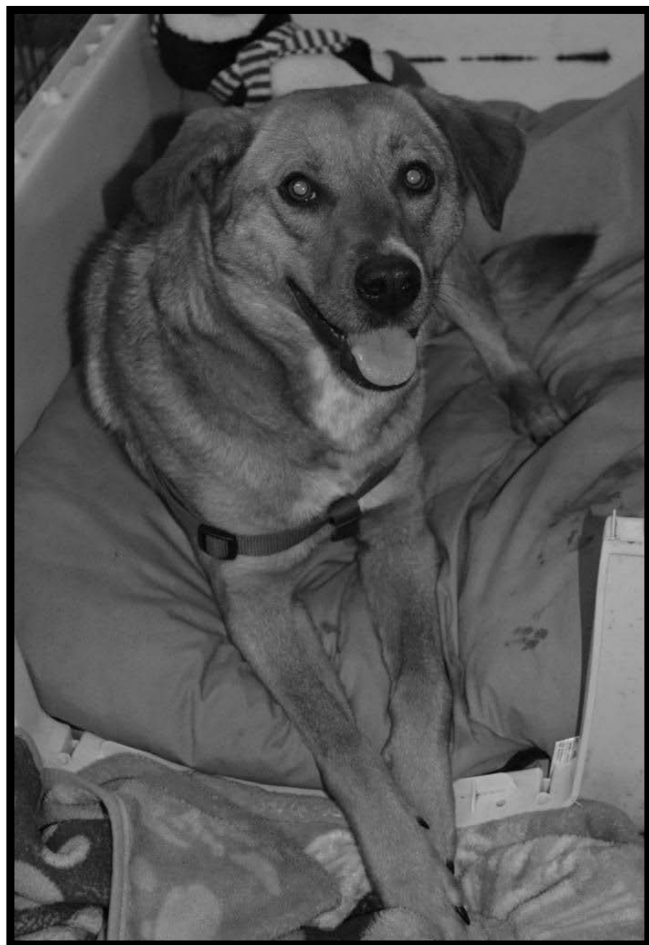
Chapter 1

Preparing for Your New Addition

What to Buy

- **Crate** We at CARA strongly recommend crate training. Crates provide a safe environment for your dog when you cannot give them your full attention or are away from home.
- **Food** CARA encourages feeding your dog a high quality dry kibble suited to your dog's age and size. Talk with your Veterinarian about dietary requirements.
- **Dishes** Ceramic or stainless steel are preferred because they don't harbor bacteria like plastic options and are less likely to become chew toys.
- **Bed** Dogs will instinctively seek out the most comfortable places to rest. If you will not allow your dog on beds and furniture, we strongly suggest purchasing a dog bed. Your companion needs a soft, dry, clean place to lie down.
- **Toys** Your dog needs exercise both physically and mentally. There are loads of puzzle, food dispensing, game and chew toys. Having a good variety will help to encourage good habits. KONG, Premier, JW, Nylabone and Tuffy are all great, durable brands.
- Grooming Supplies
- Toothbrush & Paste
- Nail Clippers
- Ear Cleanser
- Grooming Brush (appropriate for your dog's coat)
- **Collar/ Harness/ Leash** We at CARA recommend flat buckle and martingale collars to which you can attach identification tags. Body harnesses are great tools for small dogs, dogs with trachea damage or that pull while on leash. We also recommend 4' or 6' standard leashes.

- **Enzyme-based Cleaner** These cleaners help with "potty" accidents by removing all residual odors from accident sites.



Pictured: Sugar Baby

- Preparing Your Home
- Examine your fence/ gate. Repair any damages and remove any objects that could give your dog leverage to jump over. Even small dogs can figure out a way to get over a 6' fence!
- Purchase all necessary supplies
- Set up your crate
- Remove breakable objects & ensure electrical wiring is safely covered or out of reach
- Put away shoes, belongings, papers, kid's toys, etc...
- Remove or secure trash cans & put away food from counter tops
- Move or block cat food and litter box

Chapter 2

The Ride Home

Safety is our number one concern at CARA!

We recommend your new dog ride home in a crate or secured in your car's back seat.

NEVER put a dog in the back of an open pickup truck!

- If you have your current dog with you, keep the dogs separated on the ride home. It is possible for the dogs to get too excited and react in an aggressive way due to the small space.
- Leave the leash attached to the dog's collar. This will provide greater safety when it's time to get out of the car.
- *Do Not* allow children to excite the dog.
- Take your new dog directly home. Don't stop on the way for supplies or to visit friends and family. Leaving the shelter is very exciting! You want to avoid over-stimulation.
- Should they happen to vomit, clean it with the enzyme cleaner. *Do Not* punish the dog!
- *Do Not* leave the dog alone in the car. Leaving the shelter can be confusing for your new dog. Let them get settled in before presenting them with challenges like this.
- Before you fully open the car door, get a hold of the leash so the dog cannot bolt.



Pictured: NeNe

Home Sweet Home

A calm and consistent first few days will help your dog settle in with minimal stress.

- Immediately take your dog to the area you want them to “potty”. Do Not encourage her to play (yet) until she relieves herself. **Praise her Lavishly for going in the correct area and give her a treat!**
- Before bringing your dog into the home, take them for a walk to tire them out a little. If you have another dog this is a great opportunity to walk the dogs together so they can meet on neutral ground.
- Keep the leash on when bringing your dog inside. This gives you more control when/if she wanders to an off limits area or gets into something she shouldn't. If this happens, calmly say “No” or “Eh Eh” and lead her away from the area. Show her what she **Should** do and praise her for doing so.
- Show her where the water is located.
- Close off any areas where she is not allowed
- Watch her carefully! If you are unable to give her your full attention, put her in the crate or attach a leash to your wrist or belt.
- The first few days, act very low key and try not to over excite your dog. Shelter dogs are usually sleep deprived. Don't be surprised if your new dog only wants to sleep the first few days. Discourage friends and family from coming over to reduce their stress level.
- If she attempts to potty in the house, calmly say, “No” or “Eh Eh” and quickly escort her outside to the “potty” spot. Also use a phrase like “go potty”. When she “goes” in the right spot, praise her and give her a treat. Do this every time until your new dog understands where she is supposed to “potty”.
- Initially, don't give your new dog run of the house. As she learns the rules of how to behave, you can give more freedom.
- Don't punish your dog for being a dog! Blame yourself for not putting things away. Until you teach them the rules, they will not understand what you want them to do. This takes time and patience!

Chapter 3

Your New Dog's Health

Animals need time to adjust to their new home and surroundings. Changes in their environment can cause stress. This can weaken their immune system which makes them more susceptible to illness. In the first few weeks following your adoption, keep an eye out for the following symptoms:

- **Kennel Cough** Or canine infectious tracheobronchitis, is one of the most prevalent infectious diseases in dogs. All CARA dogs are vaccinated against kennel cough; however, sometimes the dogs we receive have already been exposed to the virus. If a dog is exposed to the virus before they are vaccinated or are exposed within the short window of time before the vaccine has become protective, their chances of becoming ill greatly increase. Kennel Cough doesn't differ greatly from the flu. Watch closely for the following symptoms"
 - A dry, hacking cough (often sounds as if something is "caught in the throat")
 - Retching or gagging (often producing a clear, foamy saliva)
 - Nasal discharge
 - Sneezing
 - Lethargy
- Many dogs with Kennel Cough do not have a fever and, apart from the cough, can appear healthy and energetic. If your dog has a fever, is less active than usual, has a decreased appetite, has discharge from the eyes or nose or has difficulty breathing, please consult your Veterinarian immediately.
- **Important!** Kennel Cough is common and contagious but is rarely fatal. We always recommend that all newly adopted dogs be seen by your veterinarian as soon as possible.

- **Parvovirus** Parvovirus primarily targets puppies less than 6 months of age. This infection causes vomiting and diarrhea which is often bloody. Puppies will become very lethargic and reluctant to eat. This disease progresses quickly and can be fatal. If you notice any of these symptoms, immediately contact your veterinarian. If your puppy is diagnosed with Parvo by your vet, please call to inform our staff (601) 922-7575.
- Until your puppy receives a full series of the DA2PP vaccine, it is important to limit their exposure to areas where dogs frequent.



Pictured: Patch



Pictured: CARA Volunteer and Doogie Howser

Chapter 4

Introductions

Dog to Dog

Before taking your new dog inside, it's a good idea to take them for a walk. This helps to reduce their stress or any anxiety. Arguments often occur when entering territory, going through doors or gates, in tight spaces, around food, toys, beds, games and for your attention. Fights can be avoided by giving the dogs time and space to get to know each other calmly. Do not give either dog attention until both are quiet and well behaved.

- **Important! DO NOT** feed the dogs next to each other. Refrain from giving either dog a bone or long lasting treat while in the same room, as this can easily lead to fighting. Wait until they are accustomed to each other. *Food Guarding is a normal dog behavior. It is possible that some dogs may never be able to eat together.*
- What if a fight breaks out?
- It is important to watch your dogs closely until they've had proper time to get acquainted. If you notice either dog staring or getting too close to the other, calmly separate them. *Remove whatever item they are wanting... Keep in mind, it might be your attention!*
- If a fight does break out, **DO NOT** grab either dog, as you may get bitten by mistake. Pulling them apart could also cause serious injuries to your dog.



Pictured: CARA Volunteer with Toby and Chloe

- It is helpful to keep a spray bottle filled with water in all common areas of your home. Simply grab the bottle and spray both dogs with water if they start to fight. *It's important not to punish if a fight breaks out. This can cause the fighting to get worse.*
- Other tips to reduce fighting until they get to know each other:
- Avoid high arousal games like tug of war and fetch. When both dogs are energized, arousal can easily turn to aggression.
- Do not expect the dogs to share the same bed. It's wise to crate your new dog until a relationship is established and you know the new dog is potty trained.
- Separate the dogs when you're not home until they have proven they can get along.

Dog to Cat

Be prepared before bring home your new dog. Keep your dog on leash until they are both calm. It is normal for your cat to hiss and growl at first, especially if they have not lived with a dog before. Never allow the dog to chase the cat, even in play, as this situation can easily get out of control. Keep them separated when you are not home or unable to supervise them, until they are comfortable around one another.

- Make sure your new dog doesn't have access to your cat's food, water and (especially) litter box. It's best to set up a private place for your cat where they can eat and drink in peace.
- Place your cat on a raised surface (like a table or dresser) during the initial introduction. This will help your cat feel less threatened. Also, make sure they always have an escape route or can leap to a high place.
- Allow them to sniff one another and distract your dog with a treat.





Pictured: Oreo and Skipper

- After a few meetings, if all has gone well, you can drop the leash and allow your dog to drag it around the house.
- If the initial interaction isn't good, keep a distance between them to allow time for adjustment. Always have treats handy to distract your dog if they attempt to chase your cat. *Reward all calm behavior and positive interactions!*
- If your cat attempts to attack your dog, you can try spraying them with a water bottle or throw a towel over your cat.
- Cats take time to adjust to changes. If the cat hides, don't worry. Allow your pets to adjust in their own time. Be patient and remain calm and relaxed. Often they will become friends, but sometimes they just tolerate each other. Either way you should respect the arrangement.

Dog to Caged Pet

Always keep caged pets out of your dog's reach. Secure their habitats in a separate room, especially when you are unable to supervise or not at home. Introductions should be done with your dog on leash and monitored carefully. Many dogs have a prey drive for small animals. Always keep introductions short as many small animals will get very nervous and frightened.

Children and Dogs

- It is very important to carefully consider whether a new dog is right for your family; especially if you have young children. Many dogs and puppies think of children as littermates because kids have higher pitched voices, get easily excited, run and fling their arms about and are closer to the dog's size. All of these behaviors, to a dog, mean "Play Time"! The dog will most likely become excited and overactive and want to play with your child the same way they would with other dogs or puppies... They nip, jump up, bang into, knock over and wrestle with the clothes of children. This can cause your child to become frightened or get injured. Also, young children are not capable of handling dogs with proper gentleness... They often hug and squeeze the dog and are often too rough despite their sweet intentions.

SUPERVISE ALL INTERACTIONS WITH CHILDREN AND ANIMALS!!!



Pictured: CARA Supporter and Katey

Teach your children to:

- If/ when the dog gets too excited, stand still "like a tree", fold your arms and hide your hands. Turn around and walk away **Calmly and Slowly**.
- Always allow dogs to approach you, not the other way around.
- Pet dogs under the chin or chest.



- Never look directly into a dog's eyes, as this is very threatening to a dog.
- NEVER approach or touch a strange dog.
- Never disturb a dog who is eating, chewing or sleeping
- Do not allow children to climb on, hug tightly, pull the tail or grab the feet of a dog.
- Keep your children's faces away from a dog's.
- Never run from a dog. Their natural instinct will be to chase you.
- If a dog runs up to you, freeze with your arms folded or by your sides. When the dog loses interest, walk away slowly.



Pictured: Caleb

Look for these warning signs that a dog is nervous or anxious:

- The dog is standing stiff and still.
- The dog is looking sideways at your child.
- The dog is trying to get away or hide.
- The dog's tail is tucked.
- The dog emits a low, deep growl.
- The dog is staring your child in the eye with a raised lip.



Pictured: Dale

Respect your dog and encourage others to do the same. Your new dog is your friend and companion. Forcibly moving him, hitting or pinning him down will lead to problems. The dog may see you as a threat, as someone to fear and may shut off from you or become aggressive. You want your dog to welcome your touch and not be afraid of you.

Chapter 5

Becoming a Member of the Family and Developing a Routine

It is critical your whole family use the same **Positive Training Methods** to acclimate your new dog. Punishing your dog by rubbing his nose in the “accident”, yelling at him for grabbing that nice pair of socks, hitting him, thumping his nose or forcing him in a crate for “being bad” are all examples of negative training methods that could cause your dog to fear you and the behavior to get worse. Provide clear rules and be consistent.

Dogs can become untrusting of a guardian that allows them to do something one day and not the next.



Pictured: Bridgette

Tips for Developing a Routine

- Feed on a regular schedule
- Try to keep your schedule as consistent as possible (even on weekends)
- Initially, don't let your dog sleep on the bed with you (you can allow this later as long as they will happily get off on your cue). We highly recommend crate training at first, then graduating to a dog bed, placed next to your bed.

- Set your dog up for success!!! When you catch him doing something right (lying on their bed, chewing on HIS toys, sitting for attention, being calm in an excitable situation, etc.), Reward THAT behavior!
- At first, don't let your dog have free run of the house. We want him to realize there are rules. Restrict access until you establish some training and have time to develop the bond between you and your dog.
- **We can't stress this enough... A TIRED DOG IS A GOOD DOG!!!** Just because you let your dog out in the backyard, doesn't mean he'll exercise himself! For many breeds, two twenty minute walks a day isn't enough to burn off their energy. Try playing a 15 minute game of fetch before taking your dog for a walk.
- Dogs need to exercise their brains as well as their muscles. Try dividing their meal and putting it in a treat dispensing toy. This way they have to use their brain to figure out how to get the food out of the toy.

Exercising and playing with your dog everyday will ensure you both a happy and healthy life together. As with people, dogs develop new behaviors and change with age. You should be prepared to continue your dog's training and guidance throughout his life. Teach and train with patience and rewards. The results will be amazing!



Pictured: Jordan

Chapter 6

Behavior and Training

What is My Dog Telling Me?

- Understanding your dog's behavior, reading their body language and learning how dogs think, will make life with your new dog happier, healthier and easier! Positive reinforcement, also known as reward-based training, is proven to be far more effective in creating a well-adjusted, well-mannered dog than punishment-focused methods.
- CARA recommends all new dogs/puppies and their family members attend a basic training course to solidify the loving bond and to help them understand what is expected of them.



Pictured: Goldie's Lucky 13

Puppies

- The experiences your puppy has, or doesn't have, will shape them for the rest of their life. Introduce your puppy to new experiences gradually and make sure these experiences are positive and not overwhelming.
- A new puppy will whine and cry a lot their first few days in their new home. Remain calm and be patient! This phase will pass as your puppy gains confidence and feels secure.
- Begin teaching your puppy basic manners as soon as you get home. Take advantage of your daily routine. When feeding, ask the puppy to come, sit and stay until you give the

okay to eat. Ask him to sit or wait before letting him out of his crate, going through doors, etc.

- Teach your puppy to be very gentle with his teeth on human skin and to chew on appropriate toys and bones. If your puppy hurts you with his teeth, simply say "ouch" and ignore him for a minute. Please do not use physical punishment.
- Dogs work on instincts that you cannot change but you can redirect. Hitting or tapping on the nose, etc., only reinforces that you cause pain.
- Practice touching your puppy on his paws, tail, ears, etc., and reward relaxed behavior with treats and kind calm praise. Regularly groom your puppy and wipe his feet off (even when it isn't raining).

House Training

Puppies

- The rule of thumb is puppies can control their bladders for approximately one hour of time for each month of their age. For example, a three month old puppy cannot be expected to last more than three hours without relieving himself and typically they need to defecate 10-20 minutes after eating.
- Consistency and routine are key. If you can be at home with your puppy, take him out, on-leash, to eliminate every two hours, after every nap, after every play session, before confinement and any time they signal (sniffing, circling). Take him to the same area of your yard each time. Give him a word to associate with the action and do not play with or interact with him until he goes.



Pictured: Franklin

- Praise him for eliminating outside. If he does not eliminate after a few minutes, take him back inside and confine him for 15 minutes. Then, take him out again. Repeat the process until he goes. If you miss the signals but catch your puppy eliminating, say “Eh Eh” or “No” and clap your hands. Immediately take him outside & praise him when goes in the appropriate place. **Never** rub his nose in any errors as this does not teach proper elimination habits or control.

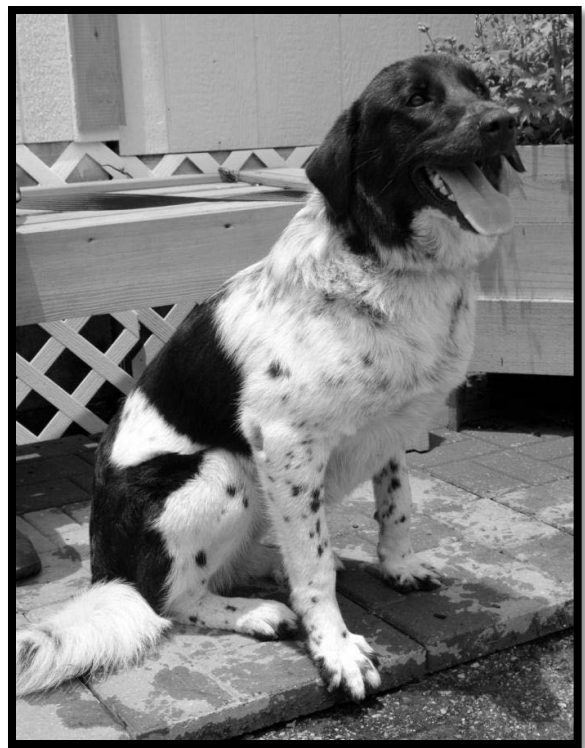
*** Follow the tips in crate training in aid in house training your puppy.

If you leave your puppy for longer periods (over 3 hours):

- Try confining him to a small area with a hard surface floor, like your kitchen.
- Place his crate in the area with the door open (You can put down puppy pee pads for easy clean up). Leave his food and water dishes close to the door.
- He should sleep in his crate and eliminate outside on the floor (it will be easy to clean and sterilize) or pee pads.
- When you arrive home, DO NOT punish your puppy for eliminating on the floor. This teaches the puppy nothing except to fear your return!
- When you are home, be diligent about taking him outside to eliminate and use lots of praise.
- **Be Patient!** Young puppies have limited control of their bladders and short memories. Some will learn more quickly than others.



Pictured: Percy



Pictured: Tiffany

Adult Dogs

It is possible that your new adult dog may already be potty trained, but shelter life can cause a well-trained dog to regress some of those behaviors. Combine that with the anxiety of a new unfamiliar home, it's only fair to the dog to expect some accidents. You will have to retrain her and teach her the rules.

- Help your new dog get on a schedule. Plan to take her out every few hours, log the time and if she eliminated. After a few weeks, you can eliminate taking her out the times she does nothing.
- Take her in and out of the same door each time.
- If your new dog continues to eliminate in the house, try attaching a leash to your wrist or waist. This way you can watch your dog and take her outside when she begins to show signs of needing to eliminate (circling, sniffing).

Submissive and Excitement Urination

Less confident dogs sometimes urinate to show submission or in excitement to greet you. They want you to know that they pose no threat or challenge to you.

- Do not punish your dog, as this will just make matters worse.
- When/ If this happens, just ignore him. Don't make eye contact or lean over to pet him.
- Try to distract the dog with another activity such as catching a treat or going to get a toy.
- Practicing basic manners and/ or agility games will help build his confidence.
- As your dog's confidence grows, the problem should lessen and eventually stop.
- Instruct your guests to ignore your dog on arrival and to praise him verbally when he sits, lies down, etc...

Methods that DO NOT Work

These methods lead to your dog becoming more worried and ultimately becoming afraid of you. Methods such as these will only make the urination (or any bad behaviors) worse.

- Hitting your dog
- Rubbing his nose in his accidents
- Shouting and yelling



Pictured: Nadine

Cleaning

- When cleaning up an accident, use an enzyme based cleaner to effectively remove all odors.

Crate Training

- Crates are an excellent training tool for puppies and adult dogs. They help to keep your pet and your belongings safe when you are not able to supervise. They aid in potty training because a dog will not want to soil in their sleeping area. Most of all, it gives your dog a place of his very own and helps him to feel safe and secure. Select a crate big enough to allow your dog to stand up and turn around comfortably with room to stretch out when lying down. Do Not select a crate they can "grow into". If the crate is too big, they can eliminate on one side and sleep on the other.



Pictured: Marco Polo

Why Use a Crate?

- Dogs are den animals. Crates provide the safe, secure feeling of a den environment.
- To help calm and nurture your dog while adjusting to their new environment.
- They are great potty training aids.
- Provides a safe way to travel in your car.

- For airline travel
- Good in hotels where pets are allowed.
- A perfect recovery room from illness or surgery.
- As a sanctuary when things get hectic
- It can be helpful for anxiety and help prevent destructive chewing
- Protects your dog from children (and the children from the dog) who have not learned how to safely approach and treat dogs.

Crate Do's

- Make the crate a positive place
- Use treats and toys to lead the dog into the crate
- Start with feeding the dog his dinner in the crate
- Leave the door open initially
- Hide food treats in the crate
- Place a clean, soft bed or blankets in the crate
- Place a shirt with your scent on it in the crate
- Praise and pet him when he is inside the crate
- Stay close when you first close the door.
- Teach him to "wait" before coming out of the crate.

Crate Don'ts

- Never force your dog into a crate
- Never use the crate for punishment. If your new dog needs a timeout, make it a positive experience. Place him in his crate with a bone or nice chew toy.
- Do Not keep the crate in an isolated area
- Never leave your dog in the crate for longer than 6 hours (3 hours for puppies).
- Do Not comfort him if he's whining. This only teaches him to whine longer and louder; however, you must learn to distinguish between whining for attention and whining because they need to eliminate.
- Don't choose a crate that is too large. If your dog can eliminate in one corner and sleep in the other, the crate will not help teach good potty habits.

- Don't choose a crate that is too small. Your dog should be able to sit up and turn around.

*** If your new dog still has some growing to do, it is possible to purchase a larger crate and block off a portion with a box or partition. If the crate is too big and you do not block off a section, your dog may eliminate on one side and sleep on the other.

- The crate should never take away from the contact and socialization that your dog needs from you and your family. The dog needs to spend much more time out of the crate than in.



Pictured: Newman



Pictured: Trojan

The Outdoor Dog

It cannot be stressed enough... *The more time a dog spends with you, the more quickly he will become a well-behaved member of your family.* When a dog is isolated for long periods, he will develop bad habits, beginning a cycle of you wanting to spend less and less time with him.

Keep in Mind:

- Your dog will not appropriately exercise in your yard by himself.
- If you relinquish your dog to the back yard, it can become a place of danger or cause bad habits.
- Your dog may become territorial and feel he has to patrol the area, barking.
- A dog left alone in the back yard can be subject to mistreatment or be stolen.
- A dog tied up in the back yard does not serve as a deterrent to potential burglars who know they will have free reign in your home.
- Dogs need to be with you to learn good behavior.

Developing Good Manners

It's very easy to ignore your dog when they are being good; and make a big fuss when they are being bad. The truth of the matter, is your new dog can't differentiate between what you consider to be positive and negative attention. If you aren't giving attention when your dog is quiet and calm he won't understand *That* is the behavior you wish to see. If he's got your brand new shoe in his mouth and you're chasing him around the house, all he's learning is a super fun game, that he'll want to play again and again!

Reward the good behavior and the good behavior increase.

- Giving a reward for the right behavior is proven to be a faster and easier way for dogs to learn. Show your dog how you wish for him to behave (or wait for him to offer the behavior) and reward the good behavior! Rewards include: Food, toys, petting, putting on the leash, opening doors, going for walks, getting up on the sofa, etc... Make a list of everything your new dog loves and use them as rewards!
- ***This can't be stressed enough... A TIRED DOG IS A GOOD DOG!!!!*** Two twenty minute walks a day is not enough to satisfy the exercise requirements of many breeds. Make your walks brisk, take them to run or teach them to fetch... Keep your dog tired and you'll be a happy gaurdian!
- Make use of everyday activities and turn them into mini-training sessions, i.e., wait until you dog sits and stays before feeding him, have him sit and wait at the front door before you open it, etc...



Pictured: Juliette

Chewing

Chewing is a normal and necessary behavior. It is extremely satisfying for dogs and helps clean their teeth and gums. Of course, when they get a hold of that brand new pair of shoes, it can be very frustrating. Teaching your new dog *not* to chew isn't a logical solution. Instead, help him to learn *what he should* chew. Here are some tips on selecting the right chew toys!

- Avoid cooked bones, poultry and rib bones, as they tend to splinter and can cause choking or intestinal problems.
- Always supervise your dog when he has a chew toy or bone.
- Avoid, or supervise closely when chewing toys with squeakies or pieces that can be swallowed.
- Show your dog the appropriate chew toy and make a big fuss over it. Praise your dog when he takes the toy. If he is hesitant, try smearing the toy with a little peanut butter or cream cheese.
- When/ If your dog tries to chew on inappropriate items, distract him and give him an appropriate toy. Praise him when he takes the toy and play with him when he chews it.

- Teach your dog to “drop it” and “leave it” so you can exchange an unsuitable item for a more appropriate chewy.
- **Always** put away your valuable items! Your dog doesn't know the difference between your things and his toys.
- Bitter tasting (but safe) sprays can be applied to objects and may discourage chewing.
- Reward all good behavior!

Jumping Up

Dogs are happy and excited to see us; especially when we first get home or are happy to see them. They use jumping as a way to greet us (and other dogs). That doesn't make it any less appropriate. Even if you don't mind your dog jumping on you, he might get excited and jump on a child or elderly family member.

- Ignore your dog. Stand still, fold your arms and turn away. The instant your dog's feet remain on the floor, calmly greet her. If she jumps again, immediately stand up, be still, fold your arms and turn away. Repeat until she is able to remain calm. *Consistency is very important.* Instruct your family and friends to follow the same plan.
- Teach your dog to “Sit” it to be greeted.
- If you have a more persistent jumper on your hands, distract her with a food treat and immediately attach a leash. Step on it (leaving enough slack for her to comfortably stand up) to prevent her from jumping on you and your guests.

Barking

There are countless reasons why dogs bark...
To alert you of danger, they are lonely,
bored, anxious, want attention or to alert of
something/ one outside.

- Keep your dog inside when you are not home.
- Leave the TV or radio on to mask outside noises.
- Ignore your dog if he is barking for attention.
- When he is barking, reward the silent pauses and stop attention when he starts barking.
Your dog will learn that he is not rewarded for barking and hopefully will stop.



Pictured: Flanigan

Recommended Reading

- “Dog Friendly Dog Training” Andrea Arden
- “The Other End of the Leash” Patricia McConnell
- “The Power of Positive Dog Training” Pat Miller

If you are experiencing a behavior related problem with your newly adopted dog, please contact our behavior specialist for tips on resolving the problem...

Chapter 7

Medical Treatment



Pictured: Ellie

DA2PP

- This is a standard vaccine administered to dogs. It provides protection against canine distemper, adenovirus, parvovirus and parainfluenza. Pups and some dogs need additional boosters of this vaccine administered by your veterinarian over a period of weeks to achieve maximum immunity from diseases. Until these are completed, it is best to limit exposure to other dogs. Many serious illnesses are spread by fecal material from other dogs... So, properly dispose of waste and avoid areas of elimination used by other dogs. Parvovirus is an especially contagious and often fatal disease which primarily affects puppies, so any dog under one year of age without sufficient vaccine boosters should not be taken to public parks or outdoor areas, even sidewalks, until he has received a full series of DA2PP vaccine. Your veterinarian will work with you to determine a booster schedule and may recommend additional vaccines based on your dog's age and lifestyle.

BORDETELLA

- Commonly known as kennel cough, bordetella, or canine tracheobronchitis, is an upper respiratory illness spread in facilities with lots of other dogs. All animal shelters are familiar with this disease and most protect all incoming dogs by administering a bordetella vaccine. However, the dogs often come into contact with the bacteria before the vaccine takes full effect, so often dogs leaving the shelter will develop an illness with cold-like symptoms. Other dogs can catch this cold, so limit contact with other dogs until you have observed your dog for symptoms for a week or longer. Should symptoms develop, keep him quiet, entice him to eat and get plenty of rest. Your veterinarian may prescribe antibiotics to prevent him from developing a secondary infection. Canine infectious tracheobronchitis is most often characterized by a frequent dry cough which is aggravated by pressure from pulling on the leash or strenuous activity. Most dogs seem to minimally affected by the illness and continue to behave normally, eat and play. Lethargy, reluctance to eat, or white or yellow nasal discharge could be signs that the kennel cough has progressed into a more serious respiratory infection or even pneumonia, so see your veterinarian right away if you notice these symptoms.



Pictured: Duncan

RABIES VACCINE

- CARA uses a one-year or three-year vaccine. Follow your veterinarian's advice regarding follow-up vaccination.

WORMING

- A dose of medicine to eliminate roundworms and/or tapeworms was given. CARA usually uses a medication called Pyrental (brand name Strongid-t.) Do not be surprised to see worms passed in your dog's elimination. This is to be expected. Continued treatment and other types of parasite control may be recommended by your veterinarian to treat a wider range of parasites.

ANTIBIOTICS and OTHER MEDICATIONS

- When an animal is sick with an upper respiratory infection we may prescribe antibiotics to treat the illness. If your newly adopted dog has antibiotics or other medication to go home with him, it is important that you follow the dispensing directions carefully and follow up with your veterinarian for rechecks and further treatment if needed.

FLEA/PARASITE CONTROL

- Many products exist that protect your dog from fleas and parasites. If you travel with your dog, you will want to protect him from illnesses spread by fleas and ticks in other parts of the country. Your veterinarian has a wide range of high quality flea control products which are safer and more effective than over-the-counter flea products.

HEARTWORM

- CARA does test for heartworm before a dog is adopted; unless it's a young puppy. The disease, spread by the bite of an infected mosquito, which is very common in this area.

We recommend all dogs over 6 months old receive a heartworm test and monthly preventative after adoption. Your veterinarian will be able to provide you with more information about testing and prevention.

SPAYING/NEUTERING

- All dogs and puppies that arrive at CARA unaltered will be spayed or neutered. The incision was closed using external sutures. If someone adopts an animal that has fresh sutures, we will advise as to when to have sutures removed.
- If you have any concerns or further questions please contact your new pet's veterinarian immediately.

GROOMING

- Certain dog breeds require professional grooming. Grooming is not merely for looks; it allows for freedom of movement and allows the skin to breathe. Neglecting this type of care can constitute neglect and can cause suffering.

Chapter 8

Recommended Dog Products:

Collars

- You'll find there are a wide variety of collars to choose from. They come in a variety of materials to choose from. A good quality Nylon collar is durable and easy to keep clean. You can simply throw it in the wash & let it air dry overnight. They do; however, tend to fade over time and with age they can tear. Leather collars are very strong; however, if they get wet, they can become brittle. They also tend to pick up smells easily.
- We ask adopters to ALWAYS keep those ID tags on their collar, no matter how many times they replace the collar. The ID tags have phone numbers that belong to CARA personnel. In the event a dog gets lost, the person who finds the animal has several numbers in which to let someone know they have found the dog. Should they ever get lost, it can help get them back to you faster.
- Flat Buckle collars are simple and adjustable. The buckle fits into the hole/s to provide a good fit for your dog. You should be able to fit two fingers comfortably between the collar and your dog's neck.
- Martingale collars can provide more control over your dog without the choking effect of a slip or choke collar. They were originally designed for sighthounds because their necks are larger than their heads and they can often slip out of buckle collars. This collar is made with two loops. The larger loop is slipped around the dogs neck and a leash is then clipped to the smaller loop. When your dog pulls, the tension on the leash pulls the small loop taut, which makes the large loop smaller and tighter on the neck, thus preventing escape. When fitted correctly, the collar will be comfortably loose when your dog is not pulling. Consult your local pet store associate for finding the right size & fit.

- Head Halters are used primarily for training purposes. This collar fits around your dog's nose and is secured on their collar. You then connect the leash to the ring under the chin. It acts much like the halter for a horse. When your dog pulls forward, that motion directs them back toward you, thus stopping them from advancing forward. This should not be confused with a muzzle. You never want to leave these collars on your dog unattended.
- Choke Chains, Prong and Shock Collars are not recommended, unless advised by a training professional. These types of collars are used for correcting your dog for doing things you don't want them to do... At CARA, we believe that positive training methods, based on science, will result in a happier, healthier dog. Please contact our behavior hotline with any questions or for further information.



Pictured: CARA Supporter and Finkey

Leashes

- Selecting the proper leash all depends on what you are using the leash for & your personal comfort level. Leashes come in a variety of

lengths that are mainly for different purposes. Short leashes are great for walking your dog in crowds. Longer leashes are normally used for a basic walk. The extra long leashes are normally used for training purposes.

- Basic Nylon, Leather & Rope leashes usually come in 4' and 6' lengths. The width should depend on the size of your dog. The smaller the dog, the skinner the leash. The bigger the dog, the wider the leash. Your local pet store can help you pick out the best leash for you and your dog.
- Retractable & Flexi-Leads are spring loaded so use caution when using these leashes! CARA does not recommend using one. Dog guardians have been injured by the jerky motions these leashes tend to make; as well as, getting their fingers caught when the leash retracts, resulting in cuts & burns. In addition, dogs have been injured as a result of guardians accidentally dropping the leash & the handle hitting them or their legs getting caught in the retraction.



Pictured: Bentley

Harnesses

- Harnesses are great training tools to reduce pulling, avoid neck injuries & prevent dogs from slipping out of their collars. This allows for the redistribution of force from around a dog's neck to lower its body. Your local pet store can help you pick out the best harness and fit for your dog.
- Step-In Harnesses are comprised of straps around the top and bottom of the front legs;

the leash connects to a point at the top of the harness. Your dog literally has to step into the harness.

- Standard Harnesses encircle the torso above and below the front legs; sometimes has an additional strap around the lower abdomen; the leash connects to the top of the harness
- Vest Harnesses enclose the majority of the torso in fabric and are typically held closed with straps; sometimes accessories are added to make the vest harnesses more fashionable; most often used with smaller dogs
- * Easy Walk by Premier, Ruff Wear, Outward Hound, Coastal and KONG are excellent, well-known, durable manufacturers of quality dog collars, leashes & harnesses.

Crates

- Dog crates are designed to replicate a dog's natural den. Crates provide your dog with a place of refuge while at home, when traveling and are an invaluable tool when house training.
- Solid plastic crates are usually more suitable than other types for secure travel, such as in an airplane. They can also make a dog feel more secure because they do not leave the dog feeling exposed. Disadvantages are that they take up a lot of space and do not fold for storage.
- Steel crates are designed specifically for use in hatchbacks and SUVs for transportation. They have special crumple zones designed to work with the crumple zones of the vehicles and absorb the impact of the accident and have been lab tested for safety. These crates are not intended for use on airplanes or for carrying pets outside of vehicles. They also do not make good housebreaking crates.
- Aluminum crates can be either fixed or folding. They are lightweight, very strong when constructed with appropriate bracing, will not rust, excellent airflow & vision for the dogs; however, many dogs may prefer the den like feel of the solid wall to feel secure.
- Wire crates usually can be folded for storage or transport, although are fairly heavy for

their size. There are a variety of covers and pads available to make crates safe and more comfortable.

- Soft crates can be easily folded for storage or transport and are lightweight. They provide the dog with a stronger sense of security but still allow visibility and airflow. They cannot be used with dogs who are likely to dig or chew at the crate, and they are unsuitable for transporting dogs in any type of vehicle.
- * Petmate, Precision and Outward Hound make quality, durable crates.



Pictured: Bowser

Toys

- Typically, toys fall under one of three categories: Chew toys, play toys and treat dispensing toys.
- Chew Toys
- Chewing is a completely natural instinct in dogs. Trying to teach your dog not to chew isn't realistic... Instead, teach your dog what they should chew and praise them when they do! Supplying your dog with appropriate chew toys will provide mental stimulation, expend surplus energy, satisfy their instinctive need to chew and help clean their teeth. Your local pet store can help you select the right toys for your dog.
- Sterilized Bones are usually large cow bones that have a hollow center. They are cooked to remove the tissue and marrow. Many have a flavored food mixture in the hollow center. These bones can be reused and filled with goodies, such as peanut butter or canned food. Always supervise with this type of chew. They should not be given to aggressive chewers that might attempt to actually chew the bone. This could result in a broken tooth or the ingestion of bone splinters.
- Rawhides are usually made of cow or pig hides that have been dried and processed. Always choose a rawhide that appears too large for your dog to prevent choking and supervise!
- Edible Velvet Bones are corn starch based chews. They are non-toxic, odorless, non-staining and come in a velvety texture. They are digestible and a good alternative to rawhides. Booda Velvets, Greenies and Edible Nylabones are all great brands.
- Nylabones are flavor-enhanced chews made from pure nylon and are designed to satisfy the chewing instinct of an average to aggressive chewer. Many dogs find these bones less appealing. Try soaking them in beef or chicken broth for 20 minutes a few times a week, or smearing them with a little peanut butter.

- Treat Dispensing Toys can keep your dog busy for hours! They provide mental stimulation, which when combined with plenty of exercise and a healthy diet, will make for a happy, satisfied pup! There are loads of treat dispensing toys to choose from. Your local pet store can help you select the right toy for your dog.
- KONGs are one of the most recognizable dog toys on the market. They are made of 100% natural rubber. The honeycomb shape causes them to bounce when dropped or batted by a paw. They have a hollow center that can be repeatedly filled with goodies like peanut butter or soft dog food. You can even freeze them overnight to provide your dog with hours of fun. Check out their website for a list of recipe ideas: www.kongcompany.com.
- You can put your dog's entire meal in a KONG Wobbler. They have to roll the toy around to figure out how to get their food out of the toy. This provides hours of fun for many dogs! The Buster Cube is another excellent, durable treat dispensing toy.

Play Toys

- Play toys should be used when interacting with and exercising your dog. These include frisbees, balls, ropes, Chunkit!s and Stuffed toys. You always want to put these toys away when you are done playing. Leaving them out can make your dog lose interest or result in an injury, as they are not meant to be chewed.
- * Chunkit!, KONG, Premier, Nylabone, Tuffy and JW are excellent, well-known, durable manufacturers of quality dog toys
- * Other tips for selecting chew and play toys:
- Be careful when selecting bones... Rawhide is leather. Your dog could easily mistake leather items such as shoes or gloves for their rawhide bone.
- Fuzzy, plush toys can resemble a multitude of household items.
- Some rubber or plastic squeaky toys can be mistaken for children's toys.

Grooming Supplies

- Consult your Veterinarian and/ or Groomer for help selecting the proper tools and products for your dog's size, breed and coat.
 - Nail Clippers
 - Brush
 - Dog Toothbrush & Paste
 - Dog Shampoo
 - Ear Cleanser



Pictured: Pepper

Chapter 9

Lost and Found:

What to do When You LOSE Your Pet

1. Call Animal Control DAILY - refer to list of animal control offices below ***Visiting the animal control shelters is recommended.***

2. Notify Local Animal Shelters - call, then follow up with an email containing photo and description, ask them to post it on their Facebook page (re: flyer template & listing of animal shelters below)

Check your local shelters DAILY. Many do not have the staffing to check to see if your pet is there. Don't rely on overworked shelter workers when your pet's life may be at stake. Visiting the large shelters is recommended.

3. Notify Local Veterinarian Offices - call, then follow up with an email containing photo and description (re: flyer template & listing of veterinarian offices below)

4. Notify miss103 Radio Station - they will announce it on their Friday program 601-982-1062 or email rickadams@clearchannel.com

5. Create and Post a Flyer - keep the flyer simple, do not disclose all pet information (ie: white front paw) so you can accurately determine the pet's guardian (re: flyer template)

6. Craig's List Lost & found - www.jackson.craigslist.org

7. Facebook - All shelters have Facebook pages and will post lost and found pets.

What to do When You FIND a Stray

1. Check for a Tag or Microchip - shelters and vet's offices can scan for a microchip

2. Notify Local Animal Shelters - call, then follow up with an email containing photo and description, ask them to post it on their Facebook page (re: flyer template & listing of animal shelters below)

3. Notify Vet's Offices - call, then follow up with an email containing photo and description (re: flyer template & listing of veterinarian offices below)

4. Notify miss103 Radio Station - they will announce it on their Friday program 601-982-1062 or email rickadams@clearchannel.com

5. Create and Post a Flyer - keep the flyer simple, do not disclose all pet information (ie: white front paw) so you can accurately determine the pet's guardian (re: flyer template)

6. Craig's List Lost & found - www.jackson.craigslist.org

7. Facebook - All shelters have Facebook pages and will post lost and found pets.

THANK YOU for taking the time and energy to help this animal.



Jackson Metro Animal Shelters:

CARA - Community Animal Rescue and Adoptions (no kill shelter) 601-922-7575
960 N Flag Chapel Road, Jackson
www.carams.org

MARL - Mississippi Animal Rescue League
601-969-1631
5221 Greenway Drive Ext., Jackson
www.msarl.org

ARF - Animal Rescue Fund (no kill shelter)
769-216-3414
395 West Mayes Street, Jackson
www.arfms.org

Jackson Friends of the Animal Shelter
601-519-9173
140 Outer Circle, Jackson
jxnfriends@yahoo.com

Madison Ark (foster)
601-790-1738 Madison
www.madisonark.org

Rankin County Animal Adoption Center
Foundation (foster) www.rcaacf.org

Cheshire Abbey (rescue/foster)
cheshireabbey@gmail.com

Jackson Metro Municipal Animal Control & Shelters:

Jackson Animal Control (Hinds County)
601-960-1774 / 601-960-1775 / 601-960-1771

Jackson Animal Shelter
601.405.2437
140 Outer Circle, Jackson

Flowood Animal Control
800-872-0222

Rankin County Animal Shelter
601-824-2024
710 Marquette Road, Brandon

Clinton Animal Control
601-924-5252

Ridgeland Animal Control Unit
601-853-2021
115 West School Street, Madison

Madison Animal Control
601-856-6111
2001 Main Street, Madison

Madison Animal Shelter – Webster
601-605-4729
525 Post Oak Road, Madison

Richland Animal Control
601-932-3100
371 Scarbrough Road, Richland

Chapter 10

Conclusion

- Animals in our lives provide a blessing and an opportunity to share the world with another species. It is a responsibility to take seriously! “Working through” behavior and medical issues will deepen your relationship with your animals and provide a valuable lesson to children and adults that the bond is indeed one that will endure tough times and last for the lifetime of your pet. “Getting rid” of an animal because it does not meet expectations, has not been taught good manners, or needs expensive medical care is a poor example of animal guardianship.

When the match isn't right

- Sometimes a relationship is not successful. If keeping your companion animal becomes impossible, you will need to notify CARA to return the animal to the shelter.
- In some cases, an exchange will be offered to you for another animal. Depending on the reason for surrender, CARA may place restrictions on the types of animals you select to prevent another poor match. For instance, if the cat you selected did not interact well with kids, it will be important that the next animal has a good history with children.
- All of us at the CARA want to help you make the right pet choice and to keep the loving bond for the lifetime of the pet.
- Please give us a call with any questions you may have; we are glad to assist!



Pictured: Petey

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW DOG!

Pet's Name _____

Date of Adoption _____

Feeding Schedule

Morning _____

Afternoon _____

Night _____

Medicine/Treatments

Morning _____

Afternoon _____

Night _____

Veterinarian _____

Veterinarian Phone _____

Veterinarian Address _____

Notes: _____

PLAN FOR PET DURING DISASTER

REMEMBER: If you must evacuate, take your pet(s) with you!

CARA would like to encourage people to keep their pets in mind when preparing for disaster or an emergency. While the sun is still shining, consider packing a "pet survival" kit which could be easily deployed if disaster hits.

In order to contain and control your pets during an evacuation, you'll need a harness and leash for each dog and a carrier for each dog. In choosing a dog carrier, choose one that is large enough to serve as a temporary apartment for your dog.

Pre-pack your pet's kit in a backpack for ease in transportation and include supplies for at least one week. Include dry food, clumping dog litter, water, serving dishes, small litter box, litter scoop, and plastic bags for waste disposal. Pet first aid kits and vaccination records are a must.

Remember any pet medication, favorite toy or bed, and some treats.

Tag, microchip, and photograph your pets. Current identification is the single most important thing you can do to help ensure that you will be reunited with a lost pet. Make certain your pet (even an indoor only dog) is wearing a collar with visible identification tags with your phone number. A microchip implant is a secure form of identification that can't be lost. Be sure to carry a photograph with you to increase the likelihood of finding a missing pet.

Tip: If your cell phone has the camera feature, take and store photos of your pets on your cell phone.