



# SLOAN & FINN ANIMAL RESCUE

## ADOPTION GUIDE

First and foremost, thank you for adopting from us and congratulations on your newest addition!

We've put together this guide to help you and your new furry friend settle in smoothly. This guide includes tips on training, decompression, socialization, and introducing your dog to resident pets, plus our top product recommendations to make this transition easier for both of you.



## TRAINING TIPS

*Training builds a positive bond with your dog and helps establish a peaceful, balanced home.*

### **Start with Basic Commands**

*Begin with foundational commands like "sit," "stay," "come," and "down." Use treats, praise, or play as positive reinforcement to encourage repeat behaviors.*

### **Consistency Matters**

*Consistent commands and routines help your dog learn faster. Establish a schedule for training sessions and use the same cues for each command.*

### **Short, Frequent Sessions**

*Training sessions of 10-15 minutes throughout the day keep your dog engaged without overwhelming them.*

### **Professional Support**

*For extra help, [Impawssible Pups](#) offers customized training options to meet your dog's needs.*

## DECOMPRESSION TIPS

*Decompression is the process of letting your dog adjust to their new environment at their own pace. Here's how to help them feel at ease:*

### **Provide a Quiet Space**

*Set up a comfortable area for your dog to retreat to when they need time alone. We recommend this [Dog Crate](#) and [Crate Cover](#) for a cozy, secure spot.*

### **Limit New Experiences at First**

*Keep visitors and outings to a minimum during the first week. Gradually let your dog explore and get comfortable with their new home.*

### **Stick to a Routine**

*Regular feeding, walking, and play schedules will help your dog feel secure. Familiarity with these routines can reduce stress.*

### **Allow Time for Adjustment**

*Avoid overwhelming them with attention. Let them come to you when they feel ready, which helps build trust at their own pace.*



## SOCIALIZATION TIPS

*Socialization helps your dog become confident and well-adjusted in different environments, with other animals, and around new people.*

### **Gradual Introductions to New Situations**

Introduce new experiences slowly and reward calm behavior with treats or praise. This approach builds positive associations with new situations.

### **Positive Reinforcement for Calm Behavior**

Reward your dog's calm behavior with engaging treats and chews, such as **Dog Chews** which are also available at Dog Supplies Warehouse.

### **Respect Their Boundaries**

Avoid pushing your dog into situations where they seem anxious. Positive, gradual exposure is key for successful socialization.

## INTRODUCING YOUR NEW PET TO CURRENT PETS

*Whether your new dog is meeting a resident dog or cat, careful and slow introductions can prevent stress.*

### **Dog-to-Dog Introductions**

**Neutral Ground:** Begin introductions in a neutral area outside the home, like a park.

**Walk Side-by-Side:** Walking parallel helps both dogs relax and get used to each other.

**Observe Body Language:** Look for signs of relaxation, such as sniffing or loose body language, before moving closer.

**Supervised Home Introduction:** Once comfortable, let them interact indoors with supervision.

### **Dog-to-Cat Introductions**

**Separate Spaces Initially:** Allow each pet to adjust to each other's scents from a distance.

**Controlled Introduction:** Use a **Slip Lead** to control your dog's movements during their initial meeting.

**Supervised Interactions:** Supervise all interactions until both pets seem comfortable.



# RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

*The right products can make a world of difference for your new dog's comfort, health, and happiness. Here are some top recommendations:*

## **Dog Crates & Play Pens**

**Dog Crate:** Comfortable and secure.

**Crate Cover:** Adds coziness and reduces distractions.

**Play Pen:** Great for a secure indoor/outdoor space.

## **Chews & Enrichment**

**Dog Chews:** Long-lasting chews for dental health.

**West Paw Toy:** Stuffable and great for mental stimulation.

**West Paw Stopper:** Complements the West Paw to seal in treats.

**Woof Pupsicle:** Frozen treat dispenser to keep dogs busy.

## **Food & Treat Dispensers**

**Snoop Treat Dispensing Toy:** Fun for active treat play.

**Puzzle Feeder:** Engaging puzzle for meal or treat time.

**Slow Feeder Bowl:** Reduces the risk of gulping and aids digestion.

## **Leashes & Collars**

**Waterproof Long Line:** Perfect for training and safe exploration.

**Martingale Collars:** Safe and secure collar option.

## **Travel Accessories**

**Car Seat Cover:** Protects your car interior and keeps your dog comfortable.

## **Lick Mat for Anxiety Relief**

**Lick Mat:** A calming tool to help reduce stress during baths, grooming, or vet visits.

Need more recommendations? Feel free to send us an email  
[sloanandfinnanimalrescue@gmail.com](mailto:sloanandfinnanimalrescue@gmail.com)



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

## **IMPAWSSIBLE PUPS**

Offers professional dog training programs tailored to each pup's needs, including basic obedience, behavior modification, and puppy training—serving the greater Charlotte area.

## **LIVEWELL ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

Offers full-service veterinary care including wellness exams, vaccinations, dental cleanings, and surgery in a compassionate, pet-centered environment in Huntersville.

## **STUDIO MEGAN ASHLEY**

Specializes in pet and lifestyle photography in the Charlotte and Lake Norman area, offering sessions at her home studio or on location for natural, personality-filled portraits.

**CLICK HERE FOR OUR FULL  
LIST OF RESOURCES!**

**CLICK HERE TO GET YOUR FREE  
FI-COLLAR ON US!**