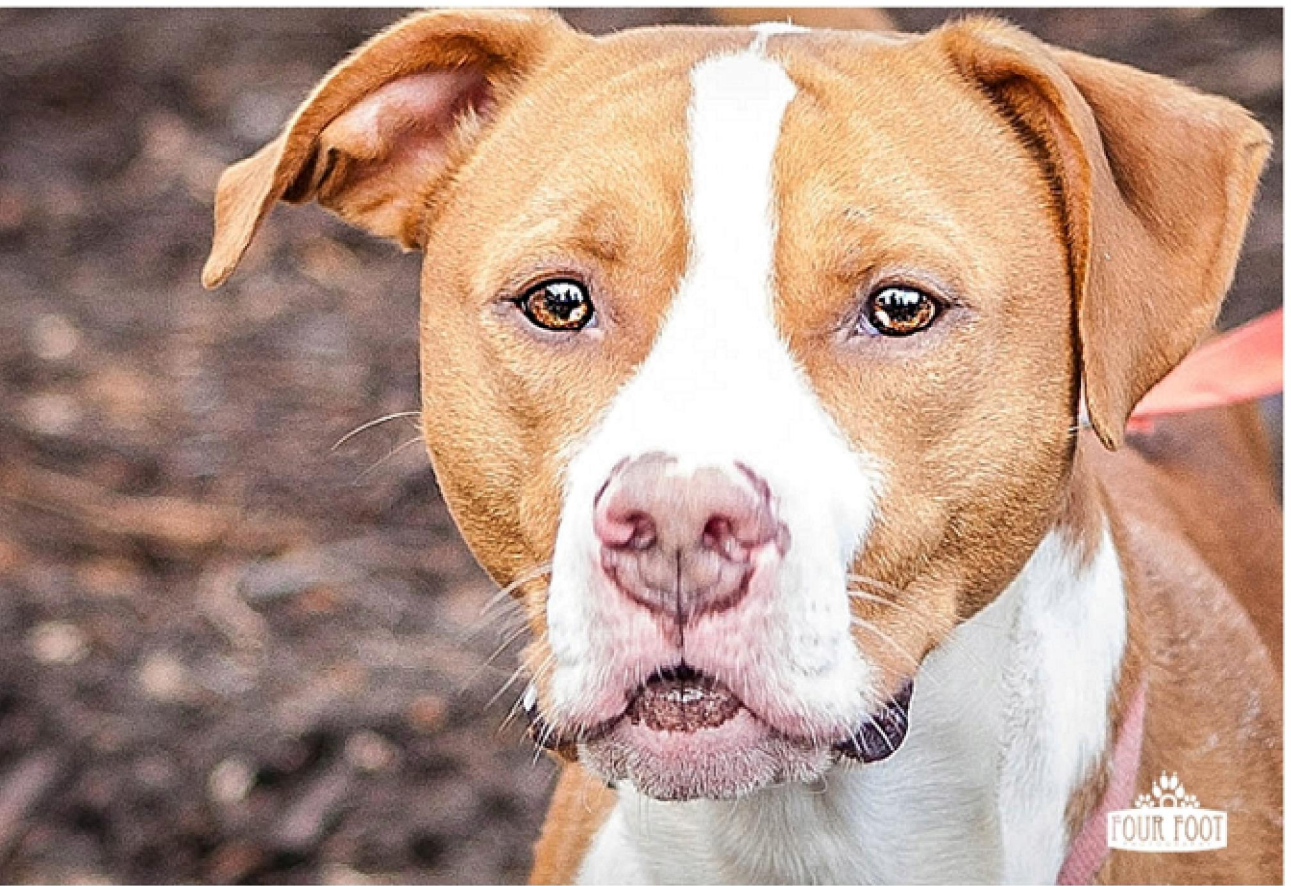


Canine Adoption Packet



Congrats on your new furry friend!
Important information for adopters of dogs and puppies

My Pet's Information

Please keep this information in a safe place!

Name: _____

Adoption Date: _____ License #: _____

Microchip Company: _____

Microchip Number: _____

Vet Name: _____

Vet Contact Number: _____

Vet Address: _____

Contact List

Adoption Questions/Customer Service

(360) 692-6977, customerservice@kitsap-humane.org

Medical Questions

(360) 692-6977 ext. 1209, mzarb@kitsap-humane.org

Behavior Advice/Training

behavior@kitsap-humane.org

Returns-by appointment

(360) 692-6977 ext. 1123

24 Hour Emergency Care

VCA Central Kitsap

2238 NW Bucklin Hill Rd, Ste 100, Silverdale, WA 98383 Phone: 360-692-6162

What will you find in your adoption packet?

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Kitsap Humane Society

Thank you for choosing to adopt from Kitsap Humane Society! We hope you will be very happy with your new companion. In this adoption packet you will find a variety of helpful hints and materials, including important documents about your new dog.

We encourage you to keep these documents in a safe place along with your other important papers. When one of our dogs leaves the shelter to start his or her “new beginning” we feel great happiness for the dog and his or her new family.

So, we again thank you for giving your dog a loving home, and we hope you will encourage others to consider adopting an animal from KHS or another shelter, so they too can experience the joy of finding a new best friend.

KHS’ vision is that every adoptable companion animal has a home. For more information, visit www.kitsap-humane.org.



My Pet's Microchip-Frequently Asked Questions

Is my pet microchipped?

Yes. All KHS animals leave with a microchip that is registered to Home Again.

Do I need to pay an annual or registration fee for my pet's microchip to be registered?

No. Your adoption fee includes lifetime registration with Home Again. Home Again offers a fee-based annual membership with enhanced benefits that you may wish to purchase, but basic membership (included with adoption) is all you need to make sure your pet can be traced to you. There is no annual fee for basic membership.

How do I update or verify that my pet's microchip information is current?

Visit <http://public.HomeAgain.com> and select "sign up for online access"

or call 1-888-Home Again (1-888-466-3242)

If you move or your contact information changes, you must contact Home Again and update your information. This is the only way a finder will be able to trace your pet's microchip to you.

What if my pet has a non-Home Again microchip?

If your pet came into KHS with a non-Home Again microchip, you will be notified during the adoption process. Regardless of the manufacturer, we will register the microchip with Home Again at the time of adoption. However, the original chip company will not have your contact information unless you give it to them. If your pet goes missing, anyone scanning that chip will contact the previous owner. Therefore, you must call that chip company and give them your contact information.

The company may charge you to update the information. KHS is not responsible for that fee.

Avid: www.AvidID.com, 951-284-1300, 1-800-336-2843

24 Pet Watch: www.24petwatch.com/US/lost_pet, 1-866-597-2424

ResQ: www.petlink.net, 1-877-PETLINK, 1-877-738-5465

What should I do if my pet is microchipped and is not appearing in Home Again's records?

Contact Home Again (see above).



Your New Dog

Adopting a dog or puppy is a long term commitment! Dogs have an average lifespan of 10-12 years, but some dogs can live 15 years or more. Your commitment to being a responsible dog guardian for the duration of your dog's life includes:

- Providing good food, clean water, medical care, a safe and comfortable environment, appropriate exercise and training for your dog.
- Complying with state and local ordinances related to keeping a dog.
- Providing a collar and ID tag with your name and phone number(s) for your dog to wear at all times, and registering his microchip with your contact information.
- Addressing all behavior or health issues that may arise in a humane and timely manner.

The First 24 Hours and Beyond

There are a number of supplies you need to start your new dog off on the right foot. Make sure you have:

- Collar, leash and ID tags for safety-All dogs must leave the shelter in a leash and collar. An ID tag can be purchased at most pet supply stores
- Appropriately sized crate for confinement and housetraining
- Dog food
- Soft treats for rewards and training
- Bowls for food and water
- Safe and durable toys for chew toy training and play. (Tennis balls should be used only for fetch, they can be damaging to teeth when chewed on for prolonged periods.)

Food

We will send you home with a starter bag of the food your dog has been eating at our shelter. While you may feed your dog any nutritious dog food you choose, you will need to transition your dog gradually from our food to your new brand of food.

Start with a ratio of $\frac{3}{4}$ current food to $\frac{1}{4}$ new food and increase the amount of the new food daily) to avoid gastrointestinal upset.

Exercise

Regular walks and play sessions not only provide dogs with some exercise, but also help to meet social needs. Insufficient exercise and stimulation will contribute to problem behaviors including destructiveness, hyperactivity, attention-getting behaviors and even barking. Appropriate mental stimulation in the form of interactive toys, neighborhood walks, field trips, training sessions and constructive games are necessary to the mental well being of your dog.

Settling In/House Rules

On average, it takes a dog 3-6 months to become fully acclimated to his new home life. During this time expect there to be some adjusting and boundary testing from your new dog. It is important to establish what the house rules are in advance of bringing the dog home so that everyone is on the same page. If you have more than one person living in your home, everyone is going to need to agree on a set of rules. Inconsistency among members of the household will lead to a confused, frustrated, and inconsistent dog.

For example:

- Is he allowed on the sofa or bed?
- Will he be crated when you are away?
- Where will he be when you are eating meals?
- How do you plan to train him?

Returns

It is our hope that your new dog will remain in your home for the rest of his life and that any behavior issue will be worked on to the best of your ability. We are always available to help you with any concerns you may have. If you are unable to keep your dog for any reason, you are asked to return it to the Kitsap Humane Society; however, responsible re-homing is acceptable. Please let us know of any new owner information. We will take back any dog that has been adopted from us within 90 days of your adoption however we ask that you make an appointment prior to bringing the dog in so we can prepare for it's arrival. If you would like to return after 90 days, you will be subject to our Owner Surrender policies and procedures. To make an appointment to surrender your animal, please contact our admissions department at: (360)692-6977 ext. 1123

Please be advised that we do not refund any adoption fees or offer exchanges for any reason.



Your Dog's Health

KHS is committed to the health and welfare of the animals in our shelter, and provides high quality care in an effort to place animals who are healthy. Dogs and cats, however are living beings who are forever changing and we can not guarantee their health or behavior.

In a large-scale kennel environment, whether it is a boarding kennel, breeder, retail outlet or a shelter, a number of transmittable illnesses can be passed among animals within a common living area. Some animals may not exhibit symptoms during their stay at the shelter and may only show signs of illness once they have been placed in a loving home. By adopting, you have committed to providing your new dog with any medical care he or she may require. Additionally, KHS is prohibited by law from providing medical care to owned animals once they leave our care, so all medical expenses are the responsibility of the adopter.



We provide medical information to the adopter when it is available. However, KHS provides a safe haven for many stray animals who arrive without a medical history. Kitsap Humane Society recommends that you visit a full service veterinarian within ten days of adoption . Any medical or care fees are the adopters sole responsibility.

Kennel Cough

What should I know about kennel cough?

Kennel cough (Tracheobronchitis) in dogs is a dry, hacking cough that appears about three to seven days after the dog is initially infected. Often it sounds as if the dog is trying to clear it's throat. Each dog that comes to KHS is vaccinated against kennel cough, however even with the vaccine is it possible to get it and spread it to other dogs.

What causes it and what are the symptoms?

Kennel cough can be caused by a number of viruses as well as bacteria, and most often a combination of the two. Symptoms of kennel cough vary but can often include frequent coughing, runny eyes or nose, a green or opaque discharge from the eyes or nose, sneezing, loss of appetite, or lethargy.

How is it transmitted?

The organisms can be present in the expired air of an infected dog, much in the same way that human "colds" are transmitted. The airborne organisms will be carried in the air in microscopically tiny water vapor or dust particles. The airborne organisms, if inhaled by a susceptible dog, can attach to the lining of the trachea and upper airway passages. Even in the most hygienic, well ventilated, spacious kennels, the possibility of a dog acquiring kennel cough exists. Kennel cough can be acquired from your neighbor's dog, from a daycare, from a dog park, or any area where dogs are present.

How is it treated?

It is always a good idea to have any dog that is coughing examined by a full service vet. Should your vet determine that your dog does indeed have kennel cough, they may prescribe antibiotics or another medication. It is extremely important to have your pet seen by a veterinarian to determine if medical treatment is necessary as soon as possible to prevent it from turning into something more serious.

How can I prevent my current dog from contracting kennel cough?

The best way to prevent your current dog from contracting kennel cough from your new dog is to ensure that your current dog is fully vaccinated, and has been for a minimum of two weeks before bringing a new dog home. When you bring your new dog into the home, we recommend keeping both dogs separate for a period of ten days to decrease the chances of cross-contamination.



Veterinarian Partnership Program



"Congratulations on your new pet! Kitsap Humane Society would like to introduce you to local veterinarians who have joined our Veterinary Partnership Program. Through the generous help of these participating veterinary clinics, your newly adopted pet will be given one complimentary office visit.

We strongly encourage you to take this opportunity to visit a local veterinarian and establish a lifelong relationship for you and your new pet. While Kitsap Humane Society strives to adopt out pets in good health, many pets come to us with unknown medical histories and can develop illnesses that may not be evident until they are in their new home environment. In partnering with local veterinarians, it is our hope that you find the ongoing support and care that your pet needs to ensure it lives a long, healthy life with you."

--Dr. Jennifer Stonequist, Director of Shelter Medicine, Kitsap Humane Society

Please note that complimentary exams may vary from clinic to clinic; please contact the participating veterinary clinic of your choice prior to your pet's visit for further explanation of coverage. Veterinary clinics are listed in alphabetical order.

Alder Trail Animal Hospital

5757 Hwy 303 NE, Bremerton, WA 98311

Phone: 360-377-3971

Complimentary "new Pet wellness exam". Must be redeemed within four weeks of adoption from KHS. Vaccinations, lab work, prescriptions, X-ray etc. are not included. Offer applies only to the recently adopted pet.

All Creatures Animal Hospital

4241 State Hwy 3 W, Bremerton, WA 98312

Website: www.allcreatures24hr.com

Phone: 360-377-3801

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Angeles Clinic for Animals

160 Del Guzzi Drive, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Phone: 360-452-7686

One complimentary office visit. Offer must be used within 14 days of adoption. Proof of adoption and vaccinations must be provided.

Apple Tree Cove Animal Hospital

11254 NE East 2nd St, Kingston, WA 98342

Phone: 360-297-2898

Up to 8 weeks worth of complimentary exams. First exam must be redeemed within four weeks of adoption.

Banfield Pet Hospital

9589 Ridgetop Blvd NW, Silverdale, WA 98528

Phone: 360-698-0850

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Bayview Veterinary Hospital

4214 Kitsap Way, Bremerton, WA 98312

Phone: 360-373-1465

Free fecal exam with first visit.

Belltowne Veterinary Center

24161 NE State Hwy 3, Belfair, WA 98528

Phone: 360-277-3800

Complimentary initial exam and a free dose of Revolution (flea and tick product). Offer must be redeemed within 10 days of adoption.

Big Valley Veterinary Services

25297 Big Valley Road NE, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-697-1650

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Bremerton Animal Hospital

613 N Callow, Bremerton, WA 98312

Phone: 360-373-7333

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Brookside Veterinary Hospital, Inc.

13701 118th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98329

Phone: 253-857-7302

One complimentary office visit within two weeks of adoption.

Cedar Creek Animal Clinic

2950 SE Mile Hill Dr, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Phone: 360-876-9009

Free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Clover Valley Veterinary Services

3811 SE Donato Lane, Port Orchard, WA 98367

Phone: 360-917-5887

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Chimacum Valley Veterinary Hospital

820 Chimacum Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Website: www.chimacumvet.com

Phone: 360-385-4488

One free exam to newly adopted pets within two weeks of adoption.

Clifton Hollow Animal Hospital

1016 NE Forest Rock Lane, Ste 120, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Website: www.cliftonhollowanimalhospital.com

Phone: 360-930-6120

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Companion Animal Wellness Center

16404 Lemolo Shore Drive Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-779-6534

One complimentary exam within three weeks of adoption. Payment plans for preventive care and procedures are available to clients in good standing. Other product promotions are periodically available through our vendors.

Day Road Animal Hospital

8355 NE Day Road East, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Phone: 206-842-1200

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Hadlock Veterinary Clinic

711 Ness Corner Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Phone: 360-385-2020

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Harbor Animal Hospital

4225 Burnham Dr, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Phone: 253-851-7866

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Fair Isle Animal Clinic

17312 Vashon Hwy SW, PO Box 67, Vashon, WA 98070

Phone: 206-463-3607

One free exam within two weeks of adoption.

Family Veterinary Clinic

3217 E Mahogany St, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Phone: 360-452-9682

One complimentary exam within one week of adoption.

Kitsap Veterinary Hospital

3036 Bethel Rd SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Phone: 360-876-2021

Complimentary initial exam within one week of adoption. Frequently offered promotions on website. Paw Plans - several different wellness care plans, offered at a 25% discount off regular pricing that allow clients to make monthly payments. Promotions are subject to change.

North Kitsap Veterinary Clinic

18981 State Hwy 305, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-779-3414

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Oak Bay Animal Hospital

975 Oak Bay Rd, Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Phone: 360-385-7297

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption

Peninsula Mobile Veterinary Clinic

19689 7th Ave NE #327, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-598-3900

A mobile service fee (\$79 to \$104) applies for all home visits, but a complimentary new patient exam (\$69 value) will be offered within three months of adoption.

Port Townsend Veterinary Clinic

1445 F St., Port Townsend, WA 98368

Website: www.chimacumvet.com

Phone: 360-379-1133

We offer one free exam to newly adopted pets within two weeks of adoption.

Poulsbo Animal Clinic

19494 7th Ave NE Suite 100, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-779-4640

Free introductory exam during the first month you own your new pet, up to \$100 in medical services to treat any illness or injury during the first six months and free nail trims for the first year (please call to schedule).

Poulsbo Marina Vet Clinic

19570 10th Ave NE, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-779-4166

One complimentary exam within a reasonable period of time of the adoption.

Ridgetop Animal Hospital

1193 Tahoe Lane, Silverdale, WA 98383

Phone: 360-692-7387

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Sound Equine Veterinary Hospital

5065 NE Lincoln Rd, Poulsbo, WA 98370

Phone: 360-779-5557

One complimentary exam, a free fecal parasite evaluation and manual dental exam within the first six months of adoption.

Tender Touch Animal Hospital

27099 Miller Bay Rd Ste C, Kingston, WA 98370

Phone: 360-881-0099

One complimentary office visit within one month of adoption date.

University Place Veterinary Hospital

6715 Regents Blvd W, University Place, WA

Phone: 253-565-4040

One complimentary wellness examination and doctor consultation. Redeemable within four weeks of your adoption date. University Place Veterinary Hospital will also make a \$10 donation to the Kitsap Humane Society with your complimentary exam.

VCA Central Kitsap

2238 NW Bucklin Hill Rd, Ste 100, Silverdale, WA

98383 Phone: 360-692-6162

24-HOUR EMERGENCY CARE

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

VCA Olympic Animal Hospital

3422 NW Byron St, Silverdale, WA 98383

Website: www.vcahospitals.com/olympic

Phone: 360-692-0919

One complimentary office visit and physical examination for all adopted pets. This includes a complimentary dose of ComboGuard, Paradyne or Acuguard for the prevention of parasites including fleas. Must be redeemed within two weeks of adoption.

Wheaton Way Veterinary Hospital

1216 Ivy Rd, Bremerton, WA 98310

Phone: 360-377-0078

One complimentary wellness examination and doctor consultation. Redeemable within four weeks of your adoption date. Wheaton Way Veterinary Hospital will also make a \$10 donation to the Kitsap Humane Society with your complimentary exam. This donation will be on behalf of your family and in your new furry family member's name to help further assist with future adoptions, care and support.

Winslow Animal Clinic Inc.

800 Erickson Ave NE, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

Phone: 206-842-6621

One free wellness exam within 10 days of adoption.

Woodside Animal Hospital

1601 Woods Rd SE, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Phone: 360-871-3335

One complimentary office visit will be provided at no charge. Any diagnostics, vaccines or medications will be an additional charge. Complimentary flea treatment .

Licensing

Depending on where you live, you may be required to obtain a license for your newly adopted dog. All dogs in Kitsap County are required to be licensed, and there are different licenses for each city and unincorporated Kitsap County. Your adoption processor should let you know which license you need and may be able to issue one to you, however, you will be required to update it as necessary.

Training

Training Assistance

For your newly adopted shelter dog

If you need assistance, from helpful tips and hints, to ongoing work with a behavior issue please contact our Behavior Coordinator, Ashley Atkinson. She can assist and/or direct you to the appropriate training resources.

Contact: Ashley Atkinson

360-692-6977 ext 1112

Behavior@Kitsap-Humane.org

Other Training Resources

Dumb Friends League: <http://www.dfdl.org/pdf/behavior-handout>

ASPCA: <http://www.aspca.org/>



Introducing Your New Dog to Your Current Dog

Animals that live in groups, like dogs, establish a social structure within the group called a dominance hierarchy. This dominance hierarchy serves to maintain order, reduce conflict and promote cooperation among pack members. Dogs also establish territories, which they may defend against intruders or rivals. This social and territorial nature affects their behavior when a new dog is introduced to their household.

Introduction Techniques

Choose a Neutral Location: Introduce the dogs in a neutral location so that your resident dog is less likely to view the newcomer as a territorial intruder. Each dog should be handled by a separate person. With both dogs on a leash, take them to an area with which neither is familiar, such as a park or a neighbor's yard. If you frequently walk your resident dog in a park near your house, she may view that park as her territory, so choose another site that's unfamiliar to her. We recommend bringing your resident dog with you to the shelter and introducing the dogs before adopting the new dog.

Use Positive Reinforcement

From the first meeting, you want both dogs to expect "good things" to happen when they're in each other's presence. Let them sniff each other, which is normal canine greeting behavior. As they do, talk to them in a happy, friendly tone of voice never use a threatening tone of voice. Don't allow them to investigate and sniff each other for a prolonged time, as this may escalate to an aggressive response. After a short time, get both dogs' attention, and give each dog a treat in return for obeying a simple command, such as "sit" or "stay." Take the dogs for a walk and let them sniff and investigate each other at intervals. Continue with the "happy talk," food rewards and simple commands.

Be aware of body postures

One body posture that indicates things are going well is a "play bow". One dog will crouch with her front legs on the ground and her hind end in the air. This is an invitation to play that usually elicits friendly behavior from the other dog. Watch carefully for body postures that indicate an aggressive response, including hair standing up on the other dog's back, teeth-baring, deep growls, a stiff legged gait or a prolonged stare. If you see such postures, interrupt the interaction immediately by calmly and positively getting each dog interested in something else. For example, both handlers can call their dogs to them, have them sit or lie down and reward each with a treat. The dogs will become interested in the treats which will prevent the situation from escalating into aggression. Try letting the dogs interact again, but this time for a shorter time period and/or at a greater distance from each other.



Interacting Safely with Dogs

Dogs are complex animals that may display a variety of different behaviors in any given situation. Any dog—from your best friend at home to the stray dog on the street—will react differently, and possibly unexpectedly, to people, places and other animals.

Animal behavior can shift from moment to moment, so it is important to constantly be aware of changes in the dog's behavior and in the environment. The dog's personality plays a major role in how it will interact with, or react to, situations and people. Because there is such variation with each dog and environment, it is important to understand how to interact with dogs in as safe a manner as possible in any situation.

Approach the dog in a safe manner

First and foremost, if the dog is with its owner, ask if it is OK to pet the dog before doing so.

- Before you interact with a dog, it is important to be aware of the body signals you are exhibiting.
- Present your side to the dog—not your front—from a standing or squatting position.
- Don't lean over the dog.
- Let the dog come to you rather than approaching the dog.
- Avoid direct eye contact (don't stare the dog in the eyes).
- Extend your hand toward the dog.
- Don't ever put your face close to the dog's face.
- Talk in a friendly voice.

Based on the signals dogs use to communicate, it is important to know when to back off and when it is OK to continue interacting with the dog.

Stop petting or otherwise interacting with the dog if you notice the following:

- A change in the dog's behavior from loose wagging postures to a tense body
- Sudden changes in the environment (loud noises, lighting changes, another animal approaching, etc.)



Crate Training

Crating philosophy

Crate training uses a dog's natural instincts as a den animal. A wild dog's den is his home, a place to sleep, hide from danger, and raise a family. The crate becomes your dog's den, an ideal spot to snooze or take refuge during a thunderstorm. The primary use for a crate is housetraining. Dogs don't like to soil their dens. Crates are a safe way to transport your dog in the car. A crate isn't a magical solution. If not used correctly, a dog can feel trapped and frustrated. Never use the crate as a punishment. Your dog will come to fear it and refuse to enter it. Don't leave your dog in the crate too long. A dog that's crated day and night doesn't get enough exercise or human interaction and can become depressed or anxious. Puppies under six months of age shouldn't stay in a crate for more than three or four hours at a time. They can't control their bladders and bowels for that long.

Selecting a crate

Your dog's crate should be just large enough for him to stand up and turn around in. If your dog is still growing, choose a crate size that will accommodate his adult size. Block off the excess crate space so your dog can't eliminate at one end and retreat to the other.

The crate training process

Crate training can take days or weeks, depending on your dog's age, temperament, and past experiences. It's important to keep two things in mind while crate training: The crate should always be associated with something pleasant. Training should take place in a series of small steps. Don't go too fast.

Step 1: Introduce your dog to the crate

Place the crate in an area of your house where the family spends a lot of time, such as the family room. Put a soft blanket or towel in the crate. Take the door off and let the dog explore the crate at his leisure. Some dogs will be naturally curious and start sleeping in the crate right away. If yours isn't one of them: Encourage your dog to enter the crate by dropping some small food treats nearby, then just inside the door, and finally, all the way inside the crate. If he refuses to go all the way in at first, that's okay; don't force him to enter.

Step 2: Feed your dog his meals in the crate

After introducing your dog to the crate, begin feeding him his regular meals near the crate. This will create a pleasant association with the crate.

Each time you feed him, place the dish a little further back in the crate. Once your dog is standing comfortably in the crate to eat his meal, you can close the door while he's eating. Open the door as soon as he finishes his meal. With each successive feeding, leave the door closed a few minutes longer, until he's staying in the crate for ten minutes or so after eating.

Step 3: Lengthen the crating periods

After your dog is eating his regular meals in the crate with no sign of fear or anxiety, you can confine him there for short time periods while you're home.

Call him over to the crate and give him a treat.

Give him a command to enter, such as "kennel." Encourage him by pointing to the inside of the crate with a treat in your hand. After your dog enters the crate, praise him, give him the treat, and close the door.

Sit quietly near the crate for five to ten minutes, and then go into another room for a few minutes. Return, sit quietly again for a short time, and then let him out of the crate. Repeat this process several times a day, gradually increasing the length of time you leave him in the crate and the length of time you're out of his sight. Once your dog will stay quietly in the crate for about 30 minutes with you mostly out of sight, you can begin leaving him crated when you're gone for short time periods and/or letting him sleep there at night. This may take several days or several weeks.

Step 4, Part A: Crate your dog when you leave

After your dog can spend about 30 minutes in the crate without becoming anxious or afraid, you can begin leaving him crated for short periods when you leave the house.

Put him in the crate using your regular command and a treat. You might also want to leave him with a few safe toys in the crate. Vary at what point in your "getting ready to leave" routine you put your dog in the crate. Although he shouldn't be crated for a long time before you leave, you can crate him anywhere from five to 20 minutes prior to leaving. Don't make your departures emotional and prolonged—they should be matter-of-fact. Praise your dog briefly, give him a treat for entering the crate, and then leave quietly.

When you return home, don't reward your dog for excited behavior by responding to him in an excited, enthusiastic way. Keep arrivals low key to avoid increasing his anxiety over when you will return. Continue to crate your dog for short periods from time to time when you're home so he doesn't associate crating with being left alone.

Step 4, Part B: Crate your dog at night

Put your dog in the crate using your regular command and a treat. Initially, it may be a good idea to put the crate in your bedroom or nearby in a hallway, especially if you have a puppy. Puppies often need to go outside to eliminate during the night, and you'll want to be able to hear your puppy when he whines to be let outside.

Older dogs, too, should initially be kept nearby so they don't associate the crate with social isolation.

Once your dog is sleeping comfortably through the night with his crate near you, you can begin to gradually move it to the location you prefer, although time spent with your dog—even sleep time—is a chance to strengthen the bond between you and your pet.

Dog Parks

Many people feel that the benefits of dog parks outweigh their risks. Others decide that they're not comfortable going to dog parks. To make the best decision for you and your dog, consider the pros and cons above, read the guidelines below, and visit local dog parks without your dog just to watch and learn more.

Who Benefits Most?

- Well socialized dogs- Dog parks are best for dogs who love interacting with other dogs. They're not for dogs who simply tolerate other dogs, dogs who only get along with certain types of dogs or dogs who routinely fight with other dogs.
- Healthy dogs- To be well protected at the dog park, your dog should be fully vaccinated and have a good immune system. Since dogs do a lot of wrestling and running at the park, your dog should also be physically sound and free of chronic injuries or pain. Ask your veterinarian about your dog's health-readiness for going to dog parks.

Who's Not an Ideal Candidate?

- Puppies that are not fully vaccinated- It's essential for young puppies to meet and interact with a variety of different dogs during their socialization period, from about 3 to 16 weeks of age. However, before they've been fully vaccinated, puppies are extremely vulnerable to potentially deadly contagious diseases, such as parvovirus. Because so many dogs frequent a dog park, the chances of exposure to dangerous pathogens are higher there. Until your puppy has had all her shots, don't take her to the dog park. Instead, you can arrange play dates at the homes of friends and family who have healthy dogs and puppies. You can also enroll your puppy in a puppy class that includes off-leash playtime in a safe, hygienic area.
- Undersocialized, fearful, anxious or aggressive dogs- Many people mistakenly believe that dogs who fear or dislike other dogs just need more socialization. However, if your dog is fearful or nervous around other dogs, exposing her to the hectic environment of a dog park will only worsen her problems. Similarly, if your dog is aggressive toward other dogs, visits to a dog park might exacerbate her behavior and put other people's pets at risk or ruin their enjoyment of the park.
- Dog dorks- Some dogs don't bully other dogs on purpose, but they lack more refined social skills and just aren't capable of playing politely. Despite their good intentions, they seem socially clueless. They're usually high-energy dogs who enjoy play with lively wrestling, hard mouthing and crashing into other dogs like canine bumper cars. When their playmates dislike the rough treatment and try to communicate their desire to quit playing, these dogs don't seem to understand. They can also hurt or upset people at the dog park if they jump up and mouth on hands, arms or legs. Because rough players can easily spoil the fun for other dogs and their people, they're not good candidates for dog parks either.

They Don't Need Much, But They Do Need You

You help when you adopt an animal, when you attend and support one of our special events, and when your generous donation arrives to support the animals at KHS. Most important, you give them all hope for a future full of love and happiness.

What is the power of your gift?

- \$30 is the average cost of an animal's care for one day at the shelter.
- \$75 will support one spay/neuter surgery.
- \$150 would give an animal in need of behavioral rehabilitation 3 hours with a trainer.
- \$210 is enough to support the care for a kitten at our shelter for one week.
- \$250 could support the cost of one medical procedure to help save an animal's life
- \$500 will pay for the medicine needed to treat a sick animal for one week.
- \$900 would cover the expenses for an animal at our shelter for one month.

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution today to help homeless animals in Kitsap County!



DONATE BY MAIL:

Kitsap Humane Society
9167 Dickey Road NW
Silverdale, WA 98383

DONATE ONLINE:

www.kitsap-humane.org/financial-contributions or
using this QR code (left) with your smart phone.



All of the information in this packet and much more can be found on our website:
www.kitsap-humane.org



Thank you again for choosing to rescue!