

ADOPTION PROCESS  
  
Many of our dogs have traumatic histories and need a loving home, where they can feel safe and will be properly cared for, sometimes for the first time in their lives. So it is important that each animal is adopted into a home that is suitable for its needs. If you are contemplating taking in a rescued animal you need to consider certain points to make sure you can offer a secure, healthy and happy forever home. Below are a few pointers that should be considered before adopting.

Are we suitable for each other?

* Do I have a garden and is it secure? If you don’t have a garden, you will need to be prepared to take your dog out very regularly. If you do have one, is it big enough for a dog to let off steam in and is it safe for him? Some dogs are escape artists and will do so once your back is turned. Also, if you pride yourself on the perfection of your lawn, would you be happy to have it ruined by your dog?
* Do I have the time for a dog? Unless you adopt an old dog, your dog will need plenty of exercise, training and time to play. Will you be willing, and have the time, to go out whatever the weather to exercise it and to play with it?
* Do you have the energy for the size of dog you’ve chosen? Larger, younger or certain breed dogs won’t be easily satisfied with a quick walk round the block– they’d rather have a hike in the woods or a run on the beach. Do you have what it takes to do that on a regular basis?
* Can you afford a dog? Unfortunately, getting a dog doesn’t just mean buying a lead, a bed and a food bowl, plus a few tins of dog food each time you go to the supermarket. There will be vet’s bills from time to time, insurance, yearly vaccinations, regular flea treatments, kennels when you go on holiday, grooming for some breeds, and so it goes on.
* Consider other family members too. Do you have children, particularly small ones, or ones who visit you regularly? We do not re home to households with children under the age of 6. The same goes for existing family pets. Some dogs get on well with other dogs,cats, etc, others hate them. Introduce them before making the final decision. Make sure your existing pet(s) is happy to accept a new dog into your home.
* And last, but not least, remember that all our animals have had a life before they come to Easterleigh, and for many that life has been difficult, if not one of cruelty. Even if they’ve had a good home, but had to be given up due to the ill-health or death of their owner, they arrive frightened and confused, not understanding what is going on. So they all come with a certain amount of baggage, which will require lots of love, understanding and time to resolve. The worst thing you can do to an animal is take it without adequate consideration, only to have to return it because you can’t cope or it doesn’t come up to expectations.

If you are still committed to re homing one of our rescue dogs then please consider the rehoming process and complete an online application form