



**HAVEN
HUMANE
SOCIETY**



Adoption Packet

Caring for Your New Dog



[HavenHumane.org](https://www.HavenHumane.org)

Congratulations

on Adopting Your New Family Member!

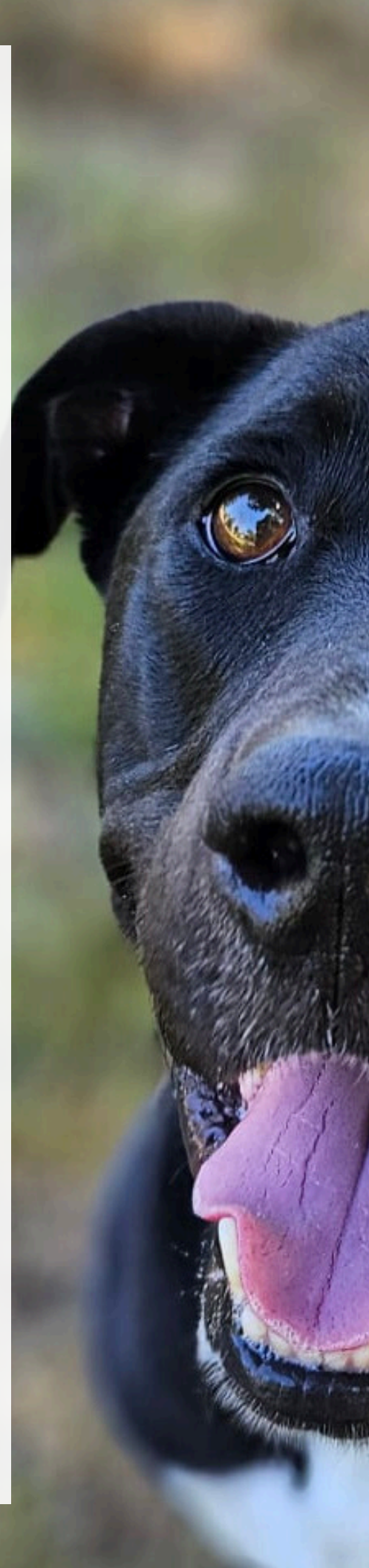
This is an exciting time for you and your new companion. The joy, the love, and the companionship you'll share will change the lives of both you and your pet.

How your pet develops now depends largely on you. All learning is built on previous experience, and this is true of the first four to twelve weeks in your home. Taking the time now will help your pet make a smooth transition to their new home.

Haven Humane Society pledges to assist and work with you, our adopters, to help the adoption be successful and strengthen the bond between you and your pet. During your pet's stay at Haven Humane, our staff and volunteers worked to give them the very best start on their new life: medical care, nutrition, manners training, and love. We want to continue to assist you, the new guardian, once your animal moves to your home.

Just as you will always be there for your pet, we are always here for you to provide any assistance and information to help your adoption become a lasting success.

Please help us meet our monthly donor goal by becoming a Haven Hero at HavenHumane.org today!





Quick Resources

Morgan Adoption Center

(530) 241-1653

adoptions@havenhumane.org

Haven Humane Veterinary

Hospital: (530) 241-1658

Staff Behavior Specialist

training@havenhumane.org

More Help Guides:



Adoption Survey:

We'd appreciate your feedback



Welcoming A Dog into Your Family

Bringing home a new dog is a fun and exciting experience. Your dog will need some time to become comfortable in their new home and adjust to their role as your family's new companion.



What You Need

We're excited that you've decided to adopt. Here are some things you'll want to have on hand: quality dog food; food and water bowls, leash, chew toys, and a dog bed. You can purchase these items at a variety of pet supply stores. We encourage you to patronize the stores that support Haven Humane- Treats Natural Pet Marketplace and PetSmart!

Safely Home

The first trip home can be intimidating for your new pet. Respect your dog's fears and drive carefully until they are comfortable. The safest place for your dog to travel within a vehicle is seat-belted in the back seat or in a crate. Go directly home, and if you must stop, do not leave your dog unattended in the car. When you get home, leave the leash attached to your dog's collar to facilitate catching them if the need arises.

IT DOESN'T HAPPEN OVERNIGHT
THE 3/3/3 RULE IS A GENERAL GUIDELINE FOR THE ADJUSTMENT PERIOD OF DOG AFTER ADOPTION. EVERY DOG IS UNIQUE AND WILL ADJUST DIFFERENTLY.

 3 DAYS	 3 WEEKS	 3 MONTHS
TO DECOMPRESS	TO LEARN YOUR ROUTINE	TO START TO FEEL AT HOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● FEELING OVERWHELMED● MAY FEEL SCARED/UNSURE OF WHAT'S GOING ON● NOT COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO BE "HIMSELF"● MAY NOT WANT TO EAT OR DRINK● SHUTS DOWN AND/OR HIDES UNDER FURNITURE● TESTS THE BOUNDARIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● STARTS SETTLING IN● FEELS MORE COMFORTABLE● REALIZES THIS COULD BE HIS FOREVER HOME● GETS INTO A ROUTINE● LETS HIS GUARD DOWN● MAY BEGIN TO SHOW HIS TRUE PERSONALITY● BEHAVIOR ISSUES MAY START TO APPEAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● FINALLY FEELS COMFORTABLE IN HIS HOME● BEGINS TO BUILD TRUST AND A TRUE BOND● GAINS A SENSE OF SECURITY WITH THE NEW FAMILY● SETS INTO A ROUTINE

GIVE THEM A CHANCE

Basic Training

Dogs do not come knowing what you want them to do. You need to teach them to be polite members of the family and the community. Reward the behaviors you like (with praise and/or a food treat) and ignore the behaviors you don't like. Dogs learn through the consequence of their behavior – if the behavior is rewarded, it will happen again, if it's not – it will go away. Resist the urge to simply punish the behaviors you don't like or your dog will learn that's the only way to get your attention. Find a good positive reinforcement training class to help you understand how to train your dog, like PetSmart classes or GoodPup online training, linked in our “More Help Guides” resources page.

The most effective way to train your dog is to begin immediately. Teach your dog the rules of your family when you first arrive home because dogs may need extra time to understand the changes.

Independence Training

Bringing home your new dog is exciting, and you may feel compelled to give them all of your attention. Although sometimes difficult for you and your dog, **you should establish a sense of independence within the first few days.** Devoting time to your new dog is wonderful, just make sure you practice leaving them home alone. A quick trip to the store is a great way to test your dog. Just make sure that you leave your dog either in a crate or a secure place so you aren't surprised when you return home. This short controlled time will give you an idea of how your dog handles being left alone.

When you leave, turn the radio on and give the dog a food-filled Kong or hide treats in the secure area to keep them busy and form a positive association with your departure. Don't make a big deal about leaving and greet your dog calmly when you get home.

House-Training

Set them up for success by taking them outside to potty frequently, especially in the beginning. **Assume that your new dog is not house-trained and expect to have some accidents in your home.** The most effective way to manage your dog's elimination habits is to have a consistent eating and elimination schedule. In addition, take your dog to the same place to eliminate to help your dog understand what you want. Don't forget to reward your dog for going to the bathroom outside. You can use praise and treats!

When you leave your dog at home, make sure they have just been outside to go to the bathroom and have an appropriate chew toy. A small area or crate simulates a den so teaching your dog how to behave in the house alone can be aided through crate training. Dogs typically won't soil this space, because it is their sleeping area. Puppies younger than five months are like babies and cannot be expected to control their bladders and bowels like an adult animal. As a general rule, puppies can control their bladders for 1 hour for every month of age up to 10 months.



Try GoodPup online training

House-Training Continued...

Using praise and routine are the most efficient ways to house-train your dog. Punishing a dog by rubbing their nose in the mess or swatting them with a newspaper will only make them afraid of you and avoid ever going to the bathroom in front of you (even outside). If you catch them in the act, simply say “no” and take them outside. When your dog or puppy has an “accident” in the house simply clean it up (but not in front of them). The way you clean the soiled area is critical to ensure the spot does not become a magnet for all of the pets in the household. Avoid using steam cleaners and most commercial carpet cleaners. Use a good enzymatic cleaner, such as Pet Odor Eliminator or Nature’s Miracle, available at pet supply stores.

Physical Exercise

All dogs need aerobic exercise (a leash walk is NOT aerobic to a dog). Ensure your new dog gets at least 20 minutes of aerobic exercise daily. Suggested activities include fetching with a ball, jogging with you, and playing a recall game where the dog runs back and forth between two people for treats. A tired dog is a good dog! Physical exercise will help with chewing, jumping, barking, and other undesirable behaviors.

Mental Stimulation

A bored dog can get into trouble as they try to entertain themselves so you want to provide your dog with mental exercise too. The best mental stimulation for a dog is using their nose. Take your dog for a walk and let them sniff things. Hide treats around the house for them to search for. Lay a trail of treats through the yard or house for them to follow. Additionally, putting your dog’s meal inside puzzle feeders, feeder balls (an empty soda bottle will do) or a Kong toy can make it a challenge to get the food, thus providing mental stimulation each day at feeding time. Make sure you monitor your dog while they use feeder toys.



Walking is one of the best ways to provide your dog with physical & mental stimulation.

Microchips

What is it?

A Microchip is about the size of a grain of rice, and provides an identification number that is maintained by a national registry. This number can be traced to a pet's guardian.

Why is it important?

A microchip implant is a great way of ensuring your pet's identification. **Every dog and cat adopted from Haven Humane goes home with a microchip identification implant from HomeAgain.** New owners should buy a collar to display an ID tag, license tag, and microchip tag. Other animal shelters or rescue groups, as well as veterinarians, can scan lost pets for microchips.

Your HomeAgain microchip comes with extra free benefits your first year, but your microchip will always work without any fee.

IMPORTANT!

If you move or change phone numbers, be sure to update your information with the microchip provider.



HomeAgain® offers the essentials for pet recovery and safety

With a HomeAgain microchip, your pet gets:

- Lifetime registration in the HomeAgain National Pet Recovery Database!
- 1 year of HomeAgain membership benefits FREE, renewable annually (see below)
- And, FREE updates in the HomeAgain National Pet Recovery Database



HomeAgain National Pet Recovery Database

Every pet with a registered HomeAgain microchip has a permanent listing in our National Pet Recovery Database. Be sure to complete your profile with your contact information, emergency contacts, your pet's photo, and any additional details about your pet.

HomeAgain Membership Benefits

After the first year, renew membership benefits annually.



24/7 Lost Pet Specialists

Lost Pet Specialists are trained to respond to lost pet emergencies by quickly sending rapid Lost Pet Alerts and providing you with a list of animal shelters and veterinary clinics in your area.



Rapid Lost Pet Alerts & Lost Pet Posters

Dedicated Recovery Specialists send rapid Lost Pet Alerts to the HomeAgain Pet Recovery Network of volunteer veterinarians, shelters, and Pet Rescuers in the area where your pet went missing. You can also create a Lost Pet Poster on the HomeAgain website to begin your search promptly.



24/7 Emergency Medical Hotline (\$65 value per call)

HomeAgain membership includes FREE, anytime telephone assistance provided by licensed ASPCA veterinarians.



Found Pet Travel Assistance

HomeAgain offers complete protection when your lost cat or dog has traveled over 500 miles away. Up to \$500 of travel expenses red to fly your pet back home.

Crate Training

Dogs love having a place of their very own, and a crate helps satisfy their den instinct inherited from their den-dwelling ancestors. Providing a crate for your dog can be a great way to train them and introduce them to their new environment.

A crate will help you:



Enjoy

peace of mind, knowing nothing can be soiled or damaged



House-train

your dog more quickly, establishing a regular routine



Travel

with your dog without causing distractions for the driver



Provide

your dog with a secure place where they can retreat when tired, stressed or ill

A crate will decrease:



Destructive

behavior when left alone



Attention-seeking

behavior that is extreme while the dog is with you



Escaping

or attempting to without regard to their own physical well-being



Inappropriate

elimination around the home's entryways

Training your dog to feel comfortable in their crate must be done slowly and gradually. Start by leaving the door open and occasionally placing a tasty treat inside for them to retrieve. Once your dog is comfortable going in and out for the treat, begin feeding meals in the crate. As your dog becomes accustomed to eating in their crate you can begin closing the door while they are inside, gradually increasing the time the door stays closed. During the training process if your dog whines or cries, do not let them out until they stop. However, if you have adopted a puppy make sure you grant the request for elimination issues and ignore the request if it is purely for attention. Otherwise, your dog will learn that whining is the way to get out of their crate, and they will keep doing it. Some dogs suffer from issues around being left alone; these dogs generally cannot handle crating.

It is important to distinguish between a dog seeking attention and one suffering from separation anxiety. A crate isn't a magical solution to all problems, however, when used and introduced properly it can be a wonderful management tool. Another option is to secure your dog in the kitchen using baby gates.

Introductions

Introducing your new dog to your existing dog or cat can be a stressful part of adoption. To facilitate building the relationship between animals, make all interactions fun and positive. Expect the transition to take some time and be prepared to go about it gradually.

Dogs Introductions

Introduce your new dog to your current dog in a neutral location, such as down the street or in a non-territorial spot away from home. Start by walking them together in the neighborhood to help them get acquainted. After the walk, allow them to explore together on leashes. If they seem comfortable, you can let them play off-leash for a bit before putting the leashes back on and bringing them into the house. Walk them through the house together, and if everything seems fine, you can let them off-leash indoors. **For the first few weeks, closely supervise as they adjust to sharing the home and its resources.** To avoid conflicts, ensure each dog has its own food and water bowls, toys, and bed.

Cat Introductions

The goal of introducing a dog and cat is for them to live peacefully, with the dog learning not to chase the cat. Start with the dog on a leash until you're sure the cat is safe. Even once they seem comfortable together, **always provide the cat with an escape route**, such as a baby gate they can jump over. Never grab a frightened animal or separate fighting pets with your hands—use a hose or a spray bottle with water instead. Plan short play sessions, give attention to each pet individually and together, and serve meals at the same time but in separate locations at first. Be patient—adjustment can take days or even weeks, but with time, they will sort out their relationship.

Children Introductions

Always supervise interactions between your new dog and children until you're certain they are safe together. Learning to recognize subtle signs of discomfort in your dog's body language around children is essential. If you ever suspect your dog may harm your child, separate them immediately. If you're concerned about your dog's behavior but don't see signs of aggression, keep your dog on a leash and teach them to "sit" when near children, rewarding positive interactions with treats.

Children often do things that can make dogs nervous or scared. Actions like hitting or kicking a dog may cause the dog to defend itself, but even affectionate behaviors like hugging, kissing, or lying on the dog can trigger fear and lead to aggression. Teach your children to respect your new dog and avoid these actions to ensure everyone feels safe and comfortable.



Lifetime of Wellness

The health of your pet is important to us, especially during their initial transition into your home.

Haven Humane Society takes in all lost, injured, and abused dogs shelter regardless of health status. Most of the animals entering our facility are stray animals with unknown histories, and many have never received any preventative veterinary care like vaccines, deworming or parasite prevention. In an effort to reduce the spread of disease, all animals

entering our facility are dewormed, receive parasite prevention, and are vaccinated for many common diseases. In addition, they also undergo a brief medical assessment prior to adoption. Even with these measures we are unable to guarantee that all animals are 100% free of disease.

To start your pet off on the right track, it's important to schedule an appointment with your family veterinarian for a new pet exam within the first week of adoption.

Your veterinarian will examine your pet, discuss proper care and nutrition, and address any questions you have about your new pet.

Be sure to bring a copy of your pet's adoption paperwork with medical history with you to your pet's first appointment.

What To Do If Your Dog Becomes Lost

Dogs are more likely to go missing in their first few weeks in a new home.

During this time, they may feel anxious and disoriented, making them eager to explore or escape. New smells and sounds, including other dogs nearby, can draw their attention, and they may find loose boards or open gates as potential escape routes. Family members may also accidentally leave doors or gates open.

If your dog does get lost, don't panic! 93% of lost dogs are reunited with their owners, with half found by searching the neighborhood. If you can't locate your dog quickly, visit Haven Humane to check if they've been brought in and file a Lost Pet Report.

For more search help & tips, visit our website:
havenhumane.org/lost-pets



Treats
Natural Pet Marketplace

Adoption Program!

Adopt a dog or cat, get complimentary products!
(Limit one adoption program per customer)

Choose from a selection of healthy **food, treats, and toppers** to give your new pet the nutrition it deserves!



Take 15% off
the rest of your
first visit!

**Name, address, email and adoption paperwork required.
(530) 338-2160
1726 Churn Creek Road, Redding CA, 96002

Frequently Asked Questions



When do I need to take my new pet to the veterinarian?

Each pet adopted from Haven Humane has received (at least) their first set of vaccines, parasite prevention, deworming medication, a spay/neuter, and a health assessment by our staff.

Visit your family veterinarian within three (3) days of adoption to continue their vaccines and deworming, as well as start appropriate monthly heartworm and parasite prevention.



What should I do if my pet becomes ill?

If your pet shows signs of shelter-related illness within 10 days of adoption, please schedule a free exam with our vet hospital.

After 10 days, all appointments must be made with your regular vet



How will I know if my pet is sick?

Common signs of illness in animals can include, vomiting, diarrhea, coughing, sneezing, poor appetite, or lethargy.

If you have any concerns about your pet's health, contact your family veterinarian.



What if I want to return my pet?

We recognize that some pet matches may not be successful through no fault of the person or the pet.

If you return your pet within 10 days of adoption, we will transfer your adoption fee towards the adoption of a different animal from HHS. You will have 90 days to pick your new animal.

Please bring any copies of medical records with you when returning your pet.

More Community Support

Stray Cat Services

We have free and reduced-price spay/neuters for stray cats in our community.

Vaccine Clinics

Every Wednesday, we hold low-cost Vaccine Clinics for the public.

Foster Program

Fosters save lives! They give our most vulnerable animals the care and time they need outside the shelter.



Please help us meet our monthly donor goal by becoming a Haven Hero at HavenHumane.org

What is Haven Humane ?

Haven Humane Society is more than an animal shelter; we are a community-supported animal resource center providing compassion and care for all animals.

Since 1952, Haven Humane has offered lifesaving programs and services for animals and the people who love them in the greater Shasta County area. At our Anderson campus, we provide shelter, dedicated care, and new beginnings for thousands of our community's most vulnerable animals every year.

In addition to pet adoptions and fostering, we focus on programs and services aimed at helping people care for and keep their pets, such as free and low-cost spay/neuter and vaccines, a pet food pantry, and licensing services. In 2023, Haven Humane helped more than 7,000 animals through adoptions, rehabilitation, lost & found, veterinary services, Animal Regulations, and rescue.

Haven Humane is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Our tax ID number is 94-1634752.

Contact Us:

Office: Haven Humane Society
7449 Eastside Road
Anderson, CA 96007

Email: adoptions@havenhumane.org

Phone: (530) 241-1653



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HavenHumane.org

Thank You to Our Sponsors



Edward Jones[®]
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING