

# Welcoming a Pet Greyhound

## Things to do, Things not to do...



WARN

- ✓ Be aware that rehoming is a stressful experience in itself and your greyhound will take some time to settle in
- ✓ Keep the arrival of your new greyhound low key, no matter how excited you are.
- ✓ Always use a muzzle, both in the house and in public when meeting new people or other animals initially.
- ✓ Recognise the signs of anxiety and note what triggers it for your pet. Remove them from those situations and gradually expose them as they settle in to their new life.
- ✓ Set up an area in your home that will be safe for the dog and everyone in the house.
- ✓ Accept that regardless of age your greyhound will take time to learn toilet training, take him outside and praise for appropriate behaviour (toileting), ignore accidents and make sure that you supervise closely and help them build a new habit
- ✓ Make sure he is introduced into new environments slowly and gradually, with lots of praise and food rewards.
- ✓ Supervise interactions between any pets in the home.
- ✓ Supervise interactions between children and your greyhound closely.
- ✓ Use a long leash so that you can guide your greyhound off furniture or from areas that you want to keep 'dog free' with a gentle voice and a treat for complying
- ✓ Praise with food treats, games or attention any time your greyhound is doing something that you want it to do (resting quietly, being curious, being independent)
- ✓ Seek appropriate help from a specialist if you are worried about your dog's behaviour. WARN has a behaviorist that can help with advice during the initial settling in period.
- ✗ Rush your new greyhound, force or drag it if it is 'freezing' – this is a sign of fear and will not help it to adjust.
- ✗ Punish your new greyhound for anything.
- ✗ Take your new pet greyhound to dog parks – it is overwhelming and can set them up to 'fail' if they have a traumatic experience
- ✗ Touch the dog when it is eating, sleeping or resting.
- ✗ Pull it off the couch or any other resting area.
- ✗ Forget the muzzle until your dog has passed its Greenhound assessment.
- ✗ Leave your greyhound and children unsupervised.
- ✗ Leave your dog alone with existing pets until you can see they can behave appropriately (this can take weeks or months).

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**Give Love. Give Life. Be kind.**

F: [www.facebook.com/WollongongAnimalRescueNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/WollongongAnimalRescueNetwork)

E: [adoptions@wollongonganimalrescuenetwork.com](mailto:adoptions@wollongonganimalrescuenetwork.com)

W: [www.wollongonganimalrescuenetwork.com](http://www.wollongonganimalrescuenetwork.com)

ABN: 93 543 276 007

CFN: 24068