

CONTAINING YOUR DOG

Most dogs are flight risks initially. Prior to the dog bonding with you, identifying you as their person, and this home is their home, most dogs will take any opportunity to slip out of your control and be very difficult to get back safely. Once loose, all dogs go into “flight” mode 😞

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **DOORS & WINDOWS:** Never open a door OR WINDOW for any dog without the dog secured on a leash or in a well secured kennel or separate room.
2. **TWO COLLARS/TWO LEASHES:** We strongly recommend one leash/collar in the yard and two leashes with separate collars on walks outside the yard for the first few months. We have never had a dog with two good quality leashes and collars properly secured get loose.
--- **COLLARS FITTING:** Regular collars typically are not fitted tight enough if the dog puts all its effort in pulling back and slipping out...usually over the ear. To be VERY secure, the collar needs to be very snug. If you have a puppy that is still growing, we recommend one collar for daily wear around the house/back yard and a very snug one(s) for walking other places. Martingale collars can be the all-around collar because it is made to be comfortably loose normally but if the dog pulls on it, it snugs up like a chock chain...without the chain. This, too, must be fitted well. When the two rings come together after it is pulled on, there shouldn't be any room between the rings and the dog's neck.
4. **HARNESSES:** We don't recommend a harness because we've had dogs get out of a harness. If using a harness, always have another leash/collar on as well. If you are determined to get a harness, get the “No Pull” harness and make sure it's snug. Always keep the collar and leash on at the same time.
5. **GATES:** We also recommend locks on gates. Even after your dog has settled in and bonded, it is best to always be in the yard with the dog. It's too easy for a neighbor or child to open and unlocked gate not thinking of a loose dog. Also, WIND can make the gate fly open and a scary storm encourages a dog to run.
6. **BONDING & WORKING OFF LEASH:** To work off leash, it would take a minimum of 1 mo with lots of bonding. This is also a judgement call. You can prepare the dog by teaching it to come whenever its name is called. Having the dog on a long leash and calling to you with treat in hand then reeling him in to get the reward will teach him to come when called. But more than that, you must have the bond that makes the dog WANT to be with you. That takes time...weeks, months... depending on the dog...maybe never.
7. **BACKYARD SECURITY:** We never recommend any dog be unsupervised in any yard no matter how well contained you feel it is. That way a dog can't get stolen, dig under a fence, make a hole and go thru, climb or jump over, etc. Smaller dogs get out of the tiniest places (under a fence, around gates) and are known to be quite flexible climbers. There are also racoons, coyotes, birds, etc that can be a danger! Larger dogs can jump higher or break a fence! Locked gates are very useful (winds, etc can open gates).

8. **LOUD HOLIDAYS:** Be careful of holidays with firecrackers. This really sends a lot dogs down the road when normally they wouldn't go. They have VERY sensitive ears and instinctively they fear loud sharp noises.

- a. Let your dog go where he wants to in the house...dog bed, under the bed, closet, etc.
- b. Keep other noises on the TV to help drown-out the sharp noises.
- c. Stay with the dog in case he decides to scratch doors, chew things up, etc.
- d. If your dog is typically very high-strung, you could get a mild tranquilizer from the vet... or use some of the popular homeopathic herbs.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR DOG GETS LOOSE...

IS YOUR DOG'S MICROCHIP REGISTERED?

IF NOT...DO IT NOW!

We do expect every adopter to drop everything and post lost dog signs anywhere you can if a dog is sadly ever loose. If the dog is to be recovered the first few hours are critical.

1. NOTIFICATION:

- a. Our rescue needs to be notified immediately if a dog is ever loose
- b. Microchip Company
- c. Vet's Offices (flyer with picture)
- d. Posters in local stores and on telephone poles, etc.
- e. Craigslist pet & lost sections
- f. AND MORE...Nextdoor sites, Many FB sites for lost/found dogs, NOkillnetwork.com

(which hopefully goes to vet's offices), Paw Boost, Lost my Doggie and many other social media sites.

2. SIGNS/POSTERS...Also, what is very important to make brightly colored neon, attention-grabbing signs strategically places around the area. We have two people who are excellent at doing this. Hence, please do contact us immediately and they will make signs with your number or explain how they do it. If they do it the costs are often just their gas and buying the materials!

