

# Rescue Dog *Owner's Checklist*

Welcome to the rewarding journey of rescuing a dog! This checklist is designed to help you prepare for the arrival of your new furry friend and ensure a smooth transition into your home.

## ESSENTIALS

Comfort and care start here: everything your rescue dog needs to feel at home.

- ☐ **Food and Water Bowls:** Non-tip and easy to clean.
- ☐ **Dog Food:** Consult with a vet for the best diet.
- ☐ **Collar and ID Tag:** With your phone number and dog's name.
- ☐ **Leash:** Sturdy and comfortable.
- ☐ **Dog Bed:** Suitable for your dog's size.
- ☐ **Crate:** For safe transport and a secure space at home.
- ☐ **Toys:** A mix of chew toys, interactive toys, and comfort toys.
- ☐ **Grooming Supplies:** Brush, nail clippers, shampoo.

## HEALTHCARE

Prioritize your rescue's health from day one with these vital healthcare steps.

- ☐ **Veterinary Check-up:** Schedule an initial visit.
- ☐ **Vaccination Records:** Obtain from the rescue center.
- ☐ **Microchip Information:** Ensure it's updated with your contact details.
- ☐ **Spay/Neuter Status:** Confirm and schedule if needed.
- ☐ **Flea and Tick Prevention:** As recommended by the vet.
- ☐ **Dental Care Supplies:** Toothbrush and toothpaste for dogs.

## SAFETY AND COMFORT

Making your home a safe space is the first step in your journey together.

- ❑ **Dog-Proofing Your Home:** Secure trash cans, remove toxic plants, and hide electrical cords.
- ❑ **Safe Space:** Designate an area where your dog can feel secure.
- ❑ **Anxiety Relief:** Consider calming aids if your dog shows signs of anxiety.

## TRAINING AND SOCIALIZATION

Training and socialization are keys to unlocking a well-adjusted, happy pet.

- ❑ **Basic Training:** Commands like sit, stay, come.
- ❑ **House Training:** Consistent schedule and positive reinforcement.
- ❑ **Socialization Plan:** Gradual introduction to other pets and people.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Be prepared for anything with these emergency essentials.

- ❑ **Emergency Contact Info:** Vet, nearest animal hospital.
- ❑ **Pet First Aid Kit:** Basic supplies for minor injuries.
- ❑ **Evacuation Plan:** In case of emergency, know where to go with your pet.

## MISCELLANEOUS

From travel to daily care, these additional items ensure you're ready for any adventure with your dog.

- ❑ **Travel Supplies:** For safe and comfortable trips.
- ❑ **Dietary and Activity Journal:** To track your dog's food intake and exercise.
- ❑ **Insurance:** Consider pet insurance for unexpected health issues.