



Foster

Handbook

Tailwaggers 911 Foster Handbook

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Thank you!

First and most importantly, we want you to know how much we appreciate you opening your home to help save the life of a dog. Without the support of our foster homes, we would be limited in the number of dogs we are able to rescue. We have several topics in this handbook that will guide you through your fostering experience.

Contact Information

It is important and recommended that you reach out to Tailwaggers 911 Team members with any questions and/or concerns that you may have regarding your foster dog.

Foster Dog questions including, but not limited to supplies, food, vetting, behavior, etc.:

- Fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com

Meet and Greet questions or updates:

- Fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com
- Rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com

Updates to pictures and profiles:

- Picsandprofiles@tailwaggers911.com

Inquiries/responses for events:

- Eventcoordinator@tailwaggers911.com

Assistance with getting your foster dog to an event if you are unable to attend:

- Volunteercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com

Emergencies

If your foster dog requires **true emergency** care (hit by a car, ingested poison/antifreeze, etc.) please contact us on your way to the emergency veterinarian for pre-authorization. Although we attempt to manage costs, our first priority is the well-being of the animal.

In a **true emergency**, contact:

- Dawn Boeselager at 262.617.8052 or rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com

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Foster Considerations

Vetting is typically completed prior to transport on all foster dogs. At a minimum, foster dogs must have DHLPP vaccination (Distemper, Hepatitis (CAV-2), Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus) and Rabies shot depending on the dog's age. Once the dog has been selected for transport to Wisconsin, we request additional vetting however in some cases it may not be possible to complete prior to transport.

Your Foster dog has been selected from an animal control facility, humane society or shelter. As best as we try to ensure their health, consider the following in preparation for your foster dog:

- Are my animals fully vaccinated or up to date on their vaccinations?
- Should I get my animals Bordatella?
- Will I need to keep my foster dog quarantined from my animals?
- Has my foster dog been recently altered?

Your foster dog may have been treated for fleas and tickets prior to transport however fleas can be resistant to treatment on occasion. Contact the Foster Coordinator as soon as possible if large quantities of fleas or ticks are found on your foster dog. Bathe your foster dog in Dawn dish detergent, leaving the shampoo on for 10 minutes before rinsing.

(NOTE: puppies less than 12 weeks of age can be bathed in Dawn dish detergent OR special flea shampoo for puppies as adult flea shampoo can be toxic and should not be used)

Foster Supplies

Your foster dog should arrive with the following supplies; notify the Foster Coordinator if you did not receive:

- Collar with ID tag listing Tailwaggers 911 and phone number (adult dogs)
- Food (approximately one month supply)
- Food to provide to adoption applicants (5 pound bag of Fromm)
- Toy(s) (when available)
- Medication (if applicable)

Supplies that you may need to provide as a foster (but not limited to):

- Crate (www.craigslist.com to purchase used crates)
- Food Bowls
- Leash
- Blankets/Bedding
- Toys

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Transport

You foster dog will most commonly arrive directly from transport to your home. Monitor your dog's activities and behaviors and notify the Foster Coordinator immediately with any concerns. The stress from transport can weaken the immune system making your foster dog more susceptible to contract an illness they may have been exposed to. There are a few items to monitor to ensure your dog's health:

Give your dog fresh food and water

- Recently transported dogs may not be hungry. Depending on the dog, they may not want to eat for a day or two after transport.
 - Your dog should be allowed to eat as much food as it wants for up to 72 hours after transport before putting on a regular food schedule. *Note: Emaciated dogs will receive separate care instructions.*

Listen to your dog

- If your foster dog is coughing (dry, barky, gagging) it is possible that your dog may have been exposed to Kennel Cough.

Monitor your dog's waste

- Diarrhea/Vomiting
 - It is not uncommon for recently transported dogs to have diarrhea. Diarrhea and/or vomiting typically subside within 24 hours of transport.
 - It is important to keep dogs hydrated to avoid dehydration.
 - Bloody stool for a day is not uncommon however it should not exceed three days.
 - Pepto Bismo (liquid) Pepcid AC, or Kaopectate along with clear Pedialite can be given, if necessary.
- Worms
 - While your foster dog has been treated for worms (roundworms, hookworms, tapeworms, and/or whipworms) it may be possible that they still may need to receive medication. Worms are contagious and can be spread so until your foster dog has received treatment, be sure to:
 - Clean up feces as soon as possible; dispose in a plastic bag and put in the garbage.
 - If possible, disinfect area with bleach solution (bleach and water) or ammonia solution (1 oz. ammonia to 32 oz. of water) depending on the surface.
 - Keep all other animals away from the feces
 - Disinfect your hands, etc. after handling.

Altering

- If your foster dog has been altered, they should not be bathed for 7-10 days after surgery.
 - Dogs altered prior to transport may need to have stitches removed 7-10 days after surgery if disposable stitches were not used. The Foster Coordinator will assist with removing stitches (if needed).
 - Dry shampoo that is age appropriate may be used, if needed.

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Being a Successful Foster Parent:

There are some guidelines that should be followed when caring for your foster dog. These guidelines will help you be a successful foster parent:

- First and foremost – be patient!! Your foster dog has had to deal with many changes in a short period of time. Minimize the exposure of your foster dog to new situations until they've had a chance to get acclimated to their new surroundings. Do NOT take them to parties, invite over the neighbors, or expose them to stressful situations for at least 72 hours from their arrival.
- Your adult foster dog should always wear their Tailwaggers 911 tag at all times.
 - Some dogs may inevitably run off. Wearing their Tailwaggers 911 tag will help return your foster dog to your care if they are found.
 - If your dog is missing, contact the Foster Coordinator and Dawn Boeselager immediately.
- Dogs should always be monitored outdoors even if they are in a fenced in yard or tethered.
- All dogs should be on a leash when taken for a walk
- It is recommended to have a crate available for your foster dog during times when you are not home. This will ensure that your belongings as well as your foster dog are protected while you away.
 - This will also assist with helping your foster dog become house broken.
- Provide your foster dog with age appropriate toys, food, shampoo, and medication.
 - Puppies cannot have everything that an adult dog can have.
- Know the hours, location and phone number of a local 24 hour animal medical emergency facility.
- Update your foster dog's picture and profile within 5 days of their transport arrival, and at least every 3 weeks afterwards, this will heighten their chances of finding their forever home sooner.

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Training

Once your foster dog has settled in, you are encouraged to begin teaching them proper behavioral techniques to help them learn the correct behaviors. You are encouraged to work with your foster dog to get them accustomed to:

- Crate Training
- Being Housebroken
- Barking Habits
- Bathing/Grooming
- Socialization with dogs, cats, and people

Training techniques may include:

- Clicker training
- Treat training (in moderation)
- Hand/signal training

You are encouraged to take note of the situations that your foster dog does well in and progressively work on those situations where your foster dog may need to improve on.

Behavioral issues

Not every dog has learned manners and not every dog is going to be accepting of every situation they are put into. In some cases, many foster dogs are still puppies and need to be taught the appropriate behaviors to ensure that they are ideal candidates for an adopter's home. If you are not certain of the corrective techniques that will benefit your foster dog, the Foster Coordinator may be contacted to discuss your dog's behavioral issue.

It is imperative that any corrective actions be completed immediately while the negative behavior is being completed. It is not suggested to use corrective action once the bad behavior has ended as this can have a negative result in your foster dogs training progress.

NOTE: Tailwaggers 911 does not recommend the use of choke collars for general training or everyday situations. On occasion, there may be a need to use a training collar as a corrective measure. If you feel that this training technique would benefit your foster, please contact the Foster Coordinator who will teach you the proper way to use the training collar.

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Vetting Appointments

Occasionally, it may be necessary to get your foster dog to a veterinary appointment. Vetting appointments may vary based on your dog's age or needs. Vetting appointments will be coordinated with the Foster Coordinator and Event coordinator.

General Vetting

General Vetting appointments may be arranged for shots, checkups, etc. with the Event Coordinator.

Altering (Spay/Neuter)

Tailwaggers 911 will have altering completed when possible prior to transport. In the event this was not completed prior to transport, you will be notified by the Event Coordinator if your foster dog needs to be altered.

The Event Coordinator will provide you with a date and time of the appointment and where the dog should be taken to have the surgery completed.

- Dogs should not have anything to eat or drink after 9pm on the night prior to surgery
- Post-surgery instructions will be provided by the Veterinarian and should be followed.
 - Dogs should have limited activity and should not be allowed to run, jump, or be bathed for 7-10 days after surgery.
 - Dry shampoo that is age appropriate may be used, if needed.
- The Foster Coordinator should be contacted immediately if any complications arise after surgery.

Heartworm/Flea & Tick

All adult dogs have already been tested for Heartworm. Tailwaggers 911 uses Heartguard, Iverheart, or Interceptor as Heartworm preventatives. Frontline Plus is also used for Fleas/Ticks.

- Heartworm and Flea/Tick Preventatives are administered every 30 days year round.

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Profile & Picture Updates

Prior to arriving in Wisconsin, there is minimal information to share about your foster dog. Once your foster dog has been able to settle into their new surroundings and show their personalities, we ask that you take new pictures and provide an updated profile to picsandprofiles@tailwaggers911.com.

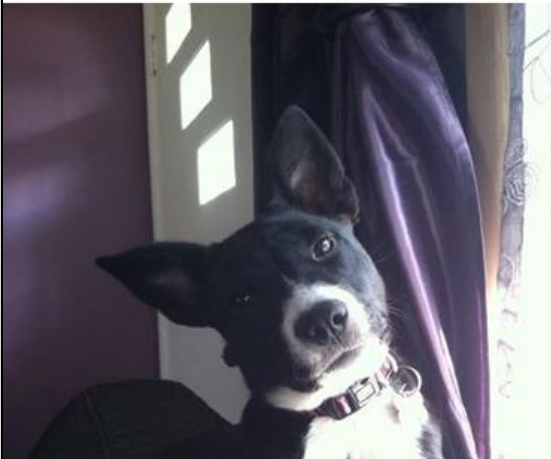
In addition to taking updated pictures, it is beneficial to include as much of the following detail as possible:

- Approximate Weight
- Crate trained
- Housebroken
- Temperament
 - Good with children, dogs, cats
- Rides well in the car
- Needs a fenced in yard
- Barking habits
- Bathing reactions
- Plays with toys
- Alpha/Submissive personality
- Grooming reaction/issues with touching feet, ears, tail
- Food/Toy aggression

Frequent updates and pictures will help your foster dog find their forever home so be sure to continue sharing progress updates and new pictures as your foster dog grows and learns.

Sample Profiles:

Sweet Suri sunshine here! I'm growing fast! I hope my forever family comes soon so they don't miss out on all my cute puppy moments!! I love to play hard then cuddle up close for my snuggles. I go in my crate super nice and sit on command! I'm so close to saying I'm potty trained. Sometimes I still mess up when I am too busy being a puppy. I love exploring outside and off leash is the best! I run super fast but I'm learning to walk nice on lead too. 😊 can't wait to see some old friends tomorrow and hoping to meet my forever family!!! I promise ill kiss you!



WANTED: MUST LOVE DOGS!!!

PFHM (Petite female hound mix) desperately seeking loving family to grow old with. Loves going for walks, playing ball in the yard, chilling in the house with a favorite rawhide, cuddling by your side. I am an energetic 6 month old weighing 25 pounds, brown eyes, marbled caramel coat and white "boots", chest and tip on the tail and nose. I love meeting other dogs but lack experience with cats or children. I am potty and crate trained. I let you know when I need to go out. I know the commands sit, wait, crate, leave it and we are working on gentle walking. I am a real sweetie and I'll be waiting to meet you. ♥♥♥ Chicken (If you meet the qualifications to adopt this sweet little girl, please fill out an application on our website at www.tailwaggers911.com under How To Adopt)



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Events

Events help your foster dogs meet the public and help gather interest, sometimes before an application is submitted, so it is important to have your foster dog attend, when possible.

For events there are a few key items that need to be remembered:

- Prompt response is requested to ensure event coverage.
 - Events are open to all volunteers and fosters to attend. The venue size and number of people participating may determine if shifts are needed to ensure coverage and prevent overcrowding.
 - Tailwaggers 911 will post which dogs are attending events so the sooner a response is received, the sooner we can notify the public that your foster dog will be attending.
 - Depending on the number of responses received for an event, in some cases we may ask that attendance be staggered in shifts OR we may ask you to attend another event.

- If you cannot attend the event, we can reach out to volunteers for assistance with getting your foster dog to and from the event.
 - Many events require responses from fosters *BEFORE* we can request assistance from volunteers, the more notice we can provide the easier it is to ensure the foster dogs attendance at the event

- Watch your dog's behavior
 - At events that have a larger crowd or people and or dogs, it may be possible for your dog to become agitated and/or restless. It is important to watch this behavior and prevent any escalations.
 - If your foster dog is becoming restless or agitated, they should be removed from the situation temporarily to allow time to relax.
 - If your foster dog continues to be agitated, they may be asked to leave the event for the safety for your foster dog as well as other people and/or dogs attending the event.

- Please wear Tailwaggers 911 apparel, if possible or red.

Meet and Greets with Adopters

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Foster families are a big part of the adoption decision making process. You know your foster dog better than anyone else and we rely on our foster families to match the dog's personality and energy level with the correct adoptive family. It is our goal to find forever homes for each of our dogs so matching the right family to your foster dog is imperative.

Inquiries

On occasion, you may receive an inquiry regarding your foster dog to see whether or not they would be a good fit for an adoption applicant. Be sure to note that this is only an inquiry and should not to be used for scheduling a meet and greet for various reasons. Some reasons may include:

- Multiple applications being processed for your foster dog
- Appropriate background checks may not have been fully conducted on the potential applicant.
- Each application received is not always approved.

NOTE: No one is to schedule a meet and greet with a foster dog without an approved adoption application.

Approved Adoption Application

After an adoption application is processed, the approved application will be forwarded to the foster family to follow up with the potential adoption applicant. The phone call to the applicant should be completed within 24 hours of receiving the approved application. This will allow you to speak with the applicant and find out what they are looking for in a dog. This will also allow you the opportunity to ask questions to validate that your foster dog is the right fit for the applicant before scheduling a time for the meet and greet.

- If the applicant does not return your phone call, place another call within 24 hours. If the applicant still does not return your phone call notify fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com and rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com.

Once the applicant has been contacted and you have determined that your foster dog may be a good fit, a date and time can be scheduled for the applicant to meet the foster dog in its current environment, your home.

- An email should be forwarded to fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com and rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com with the details regarding the conversation as well as the date and time of the meet and greet, if applicable.

During your phone interview, you may ask the applicant questions regarding their interest in your foster dog. Some questions may include but are not limited to:

- What are you looking for in a dog?
- What type of activity level are you looking for in a dog?
- What is your typical day like?

The Foster to Adopt Questionnaire can be used for additional question examples that can be asked during the phone interview (refer to page 12).

Meeting the Applicant(s)

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It is **mandatory** that all applicants and family members living at the same residence attend the meet and greet. If all family members are not available, the meet and greet should be rescheduled to when everyone is able to be present. It is also mandatory that that any dogs residing in the applicant's home attend the meet and greet. This allows you to see how the entire family including any existing dogs interacts with your foster dog.

- During the meet and greet the focus should be on your foster dog and how they are interacting with the adoptive family. We ask that you put any other pets away during this timeframe.

During your meet and greet interview, you may ask the applicant questions regarding their interest in your foster dog as well as about themselves. Some questions may include but are not limited to:

- What are you looking for in a dog?
- What type of activity level are you looking for in a dog?
- What is your typical day like?

The Foster to Adopt Questionnaire can be used for additional question examples that can be asked during the meet and greet (refer to page 12).

This is also an opportunity to provide the applicants with specific details regarding your foster dog such as:

- Schedule for feeding and potty training
- Daily activities
- Personality
- Activity Level

The About My Foster Dog Worksheet can be completed and provided to adoption applicants with additional details regarding your foster dog (refer to page 13).

Proceeding with Foster to Adopt

At the end of your interview, if you feel that the applicant is a good fit for your foster dog, you may discuss the Foster to Adopt (FTA) program (*refer to page 14*).

Declining Foster to Adopt

If you feel that the foster dog did not engage with the applicant(s) or if you felt that the applicant(s) were not interested in the foster dog, you are **not** required to give your foster dog under the 5 day Foster to Adopt program.

Send a follow up email to fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com and rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com with a recap of the visit and why you felt that the applicant was not a good fit for your foster dog.

- The Foster Coordinator will follow up with the family to discuss the results of the visit.

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Foster to Adopt Questionnaire

The Foster to Adopt Questionnaire provides example questions to help you learn more about the applicant interested in your foster dog if this detail was not already included on the approved adoption application. This will assist you in completing a better assessment of whether or not your foster dog will be a good fit for their home/lifestyle. **Please be sure to read through the approved adoption application in detail.**

Example Questions to ask the adoption applicant:	Example questions to consider while meeting the adoption applicant:
Why are you looking to add a dog to your home?	
What made you consider a rescue dog?	Does the applicant appear to be excited to meet my foster dog?
What made you consider my foster dog?	
Do you have any experience with dogs or is this your first dog?	Do I need to suggest any type of training if the applicant is not familiar with my foster dogs breed?
	Does my foster dog have any special training that I need to make the applicant aware of?
	Will my foster dog get any type of training?
Does the applicant have any other pets in their household?	Will my foster dog get along with the applicants pets?
Tell me about your family?	Are all of the family members present for the meet and greet?
	Do the applicant and/or family members appear to be engaged with my foster dog? Does my foster dog get along with the applicants?
Tell me about a normal day for you?	
Tell me about your work schedule?	Where will my foster dog stay while the applicant is away from home?
What activity level are you looking for in a dog?	Will my foster dog have enough activity or too much activity? How did the applicant do when taking my foster dog for a walk?
What types of activities do you like to do?	
Where will my foster dog sleep when you bring him/her home?	Will my foster dog be kept in someplace other than the main living areas? (basement, garage, etc.)
Are you aware my foster dog has special needs? (if applicable)	Does the applicant seem prepared to work with my dogs special needs?
What types of questions do you have regarding my foster dog?	Does the applicant seem interested in learning more about my foster dog?

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About My Foster Dog Worksheet

This guide will help to track your foster dog's activity/training/behaviors so you can readily provide to applicants during your phone interview and meet and greet.

About My Foster Dog:		Notes:
Dog Food Given:		
Feeding Time(s):		
Food Motivated:	YES NO	
Potty Schedule:		
Housebroken:	YES NO	
Crate Trained:	YES NO	
Sleep Schedule:		
Activity Level:		
Leash Trained:	YES NO	
Walk Schedule:		
Play (i.e. Fetch):	YES NO	
Trained Commands:	YES NO	
Daycare/Dog Park:	YES NO	
Special Training:	YES NO	
Temperament:		
Good with Dogs:	YES NO	
Good with Cats:	YES NO	
Good with Children:	YES NO	
Special Care needs:	YES NO	
Medications:	YES NO	
Additional Notes:		

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Foster to Adopt Program

Once the meet and greet is concluded and it is determined that the adoption applicant is a good fit for your foster dog, they may choose to begin their Foster to Adopt (FTA) trial period. You will need to complete and provide the following:

1. **Review the Foster to Adopt contract** with the applicants (*See page 15 for example*) to ensure that they understand:
 - Adoption applicants are only taking over fostering responsibilities; the foster dog is still owned by Tailwaggers 911 until the Home Visit is conducted and the Adoption contract is signed.
 - The foster dog cannot be taking for any veterinary services without the consent of Tailwaggers 911
 - The foster dog cannot be signed up for any classes

Two copies of the Foster to Adopt contract should be printed and completed in full. One copy is provided to the adoption applicant and the other copy can be emailed to rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com or mailed to: 2137A Valley Court, Grafton WI 53024.

NOTE: This is the only documentation that indicates the dog is owned by Tailwaggers 911 and **MUST be completed, signed and returned to rescuedogs@tailwaqqers911.com.*

2. **Provide completed About My Foster Dog Worksheet** (*refer to page 13*)
3. **Discuss the How to Rate your Dog Food Worksheet** (*refer to page 16*)
4. **Provide 5 pound bag of FROMM Dog Food**

Once the Foster to Adopt contract is completed, the applicant can take the foster dog for a trial period of up to five (5) days. Tailwaggers 911 will reach out to the applicant prior to the end of the 5 day trial to confirm if the applicant will proceed with adoption.

- If the applicant decides to adopt the foster dog, the dog would remain in their home until a Home Visit Counselor is able to conduct a Home Visit and finalize the adoption. Home Visits are typically conducted within 7-10 business days after the applicant makes their determination.
- If the applicant would decide not to adopt, it would be their responsibility to return the foster dog to your home.

NOTE: Adoption fees are paid at the time the Home Visit is conducted and the adoption contract is signed.

- Once the visit is completed, send a follow up email to fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com and rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com with a recap of the visit and indicating that your foster dog went into FTA.

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SAMPLE: Foster to Adopt Contract



Tailwaggers 911 Foster to Adopt Agreement

This Agreement (hereinafter referred to as "Agreement") is made and entered into this 1 day of August 2014, by and between Tailwaggers 911 (hereinafter referred to as "TW911") and the following individual(s), (hereinafter referred to as "Foster").

NAME(S) Susie and John Adopter

WHEREAS Foster wishes to foster (Name) Patches (Breed) Lab mix, approximate age 3 months year (circle one) (hereinafter referred to as "Animal"), for a period of five (5) days (hereinafter referred to as "Trial Period"), during such time the Foster will evaluate the Animal for adoption by the Foster. Foster will notify TW911 on or before the end of the Trial Period as to whether or not they wish to pursue adoption of the Animal. Following said notification, 1) A mutually agreeable date/time will be scheduled between the parties to allow TW911 to perform the home visit or; 2) arrangements will be made between the parties for the return of the Animal to TW911. In the event the Foster wishes to pursue adoption of the Animal, this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and the Trial Period shall be extended until such time as the home visit is completed.

Now, therefore, for good and valuable consideration, the parties to the Agreement agree as follows:
Foster will provide compassionate and loving care for the Animal taken into their home. This care includes, but is not limited to, adequate food, water, shelter, and medication if required.

- > **SA** Foster will be patient and tolerant during the Trial Period. Foster is prepared to work with the Animal on basic training, including housebreaking if necessary. Foster will keep the Animal primarily inside the home; the Animal will not be outside without proper adult supervision.
- > **SA** Foster will immediately notify TW911 if the Animal shows any sign of illness during the Trial Period, and will seek medical treatment only as deemed necessary by TW911. (if Foster is unable to reach TW911, Foster will leave a message detailing the Animals symptoms along with a number where the Foster can be reached).
- > **SA** Foster will not authorize veterinary treatments, procedures or medications without the authorization of the TW911. Any and all medical treatment not authorized by TW911 will be at the sole expense of the Foster.
- > **SA** Foster will make certain that the Animal is wearing a collar that securely fits with a proper identification tag securely fastened to the collar with a readable name and phone number on the tag.
- > **SA** Foster will immediately notify TW911 of any problems or difficulties resulting from caring for the Animal.
- > **SA** Foster agrees to keep the Animal leashed outside whenever he/she is not in a securely fenced area. Foster will not tie or chain the Animal in the yard for long periods of time and will never do so unless a competent adult is outside with the Animal, and the Animal has more than adequate moving space.
- > **SA** Foster will not use prong collars or employ harsh training methods. Foster will never strike or choke the Animal in an attempt to discipline.
- > **SA** Foster will never leave the Animal outside in a yard or elsewhere without adequate adult supervision. Foster will not allow strange people or animals -- people or animals unknown to the Animal -- to approach the Animal without being in full control of the Animal and the situation.
- > **SA** Foster understands and accepts that the procedure for adoption will be the same for him/her as it would be for any other applicant, and Foster will be asked to sign the same contract and pay the same fee to TW911 that any adopter would. Foster understands and accepts that Foster may not keep the Animal without the approval and consent of TW911.
- > **SA** Foster understands and accepts that the Animal is and shall remain the sole property of TW911. Foster will not schedule any appointments for the Animal, including but not limited to, veterinary wellness exams, obedience classes, Doggie Day Care, until after the home visit is completed. Foster further understands and acknowledges that Foster does not have any right or authority to keep or place the foster Animal in other homes or with other individuals. Moving the Animal or placing him/her in permanent homes can only be done with the full knowledge and approval of TW911.
- > **SA** Foster understands and accepts that TW911 makes no representations or warranties concerning the health, temperament, behavior, and/or previous ownership of the Animal.
- > **SA** Foster agrees to indemnify and hold harmless TW911 from any direct or consequential damages arising from this Foster To Adopt Agreement. This includes any and all manner of actions and causes of actions, suits, debts, dues, accounts, bonds, covenants, agreements, judgments, claims, and demands whatsoever arising from or relating to the adoption, placement, and /or possession of the Animal.

Foster Susie Adopter Date 08/01/14 Foster John Adopter Date 08/01/14

Tailwaggers 911 Representative Mary Foster Date 08/01/14

Name(s) of Foster(s)/please print Susie and John Adopter

Address 1234 Forever Home, Adoption City, WI 55555

Home Phone 414-555-1212 Work Phone 414-555-2121

Cell Phone 262-555-1212 E-Mail Address ilovedogs@k9.com

Tailwaggers 911 2137A Valley Court Grafton, WI 53024 262-617-8052

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How to Grade your Dog's Food Worksheet



How to Grade Your Dog's Food

Start with a grade of 100

- 1) For every listing of "by-product", subtract 10 points
- 2) For every non-specific animal source ("meat" or "poultry", meat, meal or fat) reference, subtract 10 points
- 3) If the food contains BHA, BHT, or ethoxyquin, subtract 10 points
- 4) For every grain "mill run" or non-specific grain source, subtract 5 points
- 5) If the same grain ingredient is used 2 or more times in the first five ingredients (i.e. "ground brown rice", "brewer's rice", "rice flour" are all the same grain), subtract 5 points
- 6) If the protein sources are not meat meal and there are less than 2 meats in the top 3 ingredients, subtract 3 points
- 7) If it contains any artificial colorants, subtract 3 points
- 8) If it contains ground corn or whole grain corn, subtract 3 points
- 9) If corn is listed in the top 5 ingredients, subtract 2 more points
- 10) If the food contains any animal fat other than fish oil, subtract 2 points
- 11) If lamb is the only animal protein source (unless your dog is allergic to other protein sources), subtract 2 points
- 12) If it contains soy or soybeans, subtract 2 points
- 13) If it contains wheat (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to wheat), subtract 2 points
- 14) If it contains beef (unless you know that your dog isn't allergic to beef), subtract 1 point
- 15) If it contains salt, subtract 1 point

Extra Credit:

- 1) If any of the meat sources are organic, add 5 points
- 2) If the food is endorsed by any major breed group or nutritionist, add 5 points
- 3) If the food is baked not extruded, add 5 points
- 4) If the food contains probiotics, add 3 points
- 5) If the food contains fruit, add 3 points
- 6) If the food contains vegetables (NOT corn or other grains), add 3 points
- 7) If the animal sources are hormone-free and antibiotic-free, add 2 points
- 8) If the food contains barley, add 2 points
- 9) If the food contains flax seed oil (not just the seeds), add 2 points
- 10) If the food contains oats or oatmeal, add 1 point
- 11) If the food contains sunflower oil, add 1 point
- 12) For every different specific animal protein source (other than the first one; count "chicken" and "chicken meal" as only one protein source, but "chicken" and "" as 2 different sources), add 1 point
- 13) If it contains glucosamine and chondroitin, add 1 point
- 14) If the vegetables have been tested for pesticides and are pesticide-free, add 1 point

Score:94-100+	=A
86-93	=B
78-85	=C
70-77	=D
69 -	=F

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Scores:

Here are some foods that have already been scored:

Timberwolf Organics Lamb and Venison / Score 136 A+
Solid Gold Bison / Score 123 A+
Dick Van Patten's Natural Balance Ultra Premium / Score 122 A+
Eagle Pack Holistic / Score 119 A+
Authority Harvest Baked / Score 116 A+
Chicken Soup Senior / Score 115 A+
Innova Dog / Score 114 A+
Innova Evo / Score 114 A+
Eagle Pack Holistic Chicken / Score 114 points A+
Natural Balance Duck and Potato / Score 114 A+
Taste of the Wild High Prairie Canine Formula / Score 113 A+
Whole Earth Farms, Senior Formula / Score 113 A+
Premium Edge Adult / Score 112 A+
Canidae Original / Score 112 A+
Fromm Puppy Gold / Score 111 A+
Kirkland Signature Chicken, Rice, and Vegetables / Score 110 A+
Wellness Super5 Mix Chicken / Score 110 A+
Dick Van Patten's Duck and Potato / Score 106 A+
Foundations / Score 106 A+
Royal Canin Natural Blend Adult / Score 106 A+
Fromm Adult Gold / Score 105 A+
ProPlan Natural Turkey & Barley / Score 103 A+
American Natural Premium / Score 103 A+
Diamond Naturals Chicken and Rice Adult / Score 100 A
Royal Canin Bulldog / Score 100 A
Diamond Large Breed 60+ Formula / Score 99 A
Sensible Choice Chicken and Rice / Score 97 A
Wolfking Adult Dog (bison) by Solid Gold / Score 97 A
Diamond Adult Beef Meal and Rice / Score 94 A
Diamond Lamb Meal & Rice / Score 92 B
Eagle Pack Large and Giant Breed Puppy / Score 94 A
Eagle Pack Natural / Score 94 A
Hund-n-Flocken Adult Dog (lamb) by Solid Gold / Score 93 A

Flint River Ranch / Score 92 B (non-specific fat source)
Eukanuba Natural Lamb and Rice / Score 87 B
Nutrisource Lamb and Rice / Score 87 B
Nutro Natural Choice Large Breed Puppy / Score 87 B

Nutro Natural choice Lamb and Rice / Score 85 C
Nutro Chicken, Rice, & Oatmeal / Score 85 C (nonspecific fat source)
Eukanuba Large Breed Adult / Score 83 C
Iams Large Breed / Score 83 C

Iams Lamb Meal & Rice Formula Premium / Score 73 D

Science Diet for Large Breed Puppies / Score 69 F
Bill-Jac Select / Score 68 F
Pro Plan All Breed / Score 68 F
Diamond Maintenance / Score 64 F
Science Diet Advanced Protein Senior 7+ / Score 63 F
Purina Dog Chow / Score 62 F
Science Diet chicken adult maintenance / Score 45 F
Pedigree Complete Nutrition / Score 42 F
Pedigree Adult Complete / Score 14 F
Pet Gold Adult with Lamb & Rice / Score 23 F
Purina Beneful / Score 17 F
Purina Come-n-Get It / Score 16 F
Ol Roy / Score 9 F

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Keeping your Foster Dog

Occasionally, fosters may decide that they wish to adopt their foster dog. Fosters will need to complete the same process as adoption applicants.

NOTE: If there is an approved application submitted to meet your foster dog prior to submitting an adoption application, the approved applicant has priority and the foster is required to set up a meet and greet to meet for the applicants to meet the foster dog.

Additionally, adding an animal to your home may limit or eliminate your ability to foster. Please review the laws within your community to ensure that adopting does not create non-compliance with local ordinances.

If you think you may be interested in adopting your foster dog, complete the adoption application found on the Tailwaggers 911 website and send an email to fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com and rescuedogs@tailwaggers911.com.

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Dog Food/Treats

The “Rate your Dog food” worksheet should be provided to adoption applicants once they have completed the Foster to Adopt agreement. This discusses how to identify a quality brand of dog food and ensures that your foster dog will continue to have good quality food at their new home.

Dog food is provided to all fosters with Tailwaggers 911. If your supply of dog food is running low, additional food can be requested by contacting the Foster Coordinator.

Dog bones/treats can be provided to your foster dog at your own expense. The following options are recommended:

- Raw or smoked bones can be purchased from a processing plant or local butcher.
- Bully Stick (without rawhide)
- Merrick treats (cow ears, snouts, etc.)
- Sweet potato chews
- Fromm Treats
- Old Mother Hubbard
- Homemade (recipes for homemade/holistic treats can be found online)

It is suggested to review the products labels and purchase healthy treats with natural ingredients and less fillers and by products.

As a reminder, treats should be limited. They should not be considered a primary source for nutrition and should be given in moderation.

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Resources/References

Medical/Health Resources:

- To learn more about worms: <http://pets.webmd.com/dogs/worms-in-dogs>
 - Ringworm: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ring_worm
 - Roundworm: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Round_worm
 - Hookworm: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hookworm>
 - Whipworm: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trichuris_trichiura
- To learn more about Heartworm: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heartworm>
- To learn more about Kennel Cough: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kennel_cough
- To learn more about Parvo Virus: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parvovirus>
- To learn more about Bordatella: http://www.ehow.com/about_6170603_bordetella-vaccine_.html

Training:

To learn more about general training techniques: <http://www.cesarsway.com/channel/dog-training>
<http://www.dog-obedience-training-review.com/>

To learn more about crate training: <http://www.perfectpaws.com/crt.html>
<http://www.netpets.com/dogs/reference/training/cratetrain.html>

References:

- WebMD
- Wikipedia
- Ehow.com

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Foster Acknowledgement

- *I understand that the goal of Tailwaggers 911 Dog Rescue is to continue to help rescue dogs from high kill shelters and that in order to do so, I need to actively help find my current foster dog a forever home.*
- *I understand that my role as a foster parent includes keeping my foster dogs' profile and pictures up to date, maintaining their kennel card and ensuring that they are kept updated on vaccinations and attending events when possible to help my foster dog gain exposure.*
- *I understand that if I did not feel that my foster dog was engaged with the adoption applicant (s) OR if the applicant(s) did not engage with my foster dog, I am **NOT** required to give my foster dog under the 5 day Foster to Adopt Program.*
- *I understand that as a foster, I must follow the same adoption guidelines as applicants if I decide to adopt my foster dog. I acknowledge that I must wait for the 2 week waiting period, will be required to complete an adoption application and must be approved in order to proceed with adoption. I understand that any applicant approved during the waiting period, or while I am waiting for my approval will have priority and I will be required to set up a meet and greet with the applicant(s) to meet with my foster dog.*
- *I understand and acknowledge that I have read the details outlined in the Tailwaggers 911 Dog Rescue Foster Handbook. Any violations of the Tailwaggers 911 Foster program may result in immediate termination of participation in the Tailwaggers 911 Foster Program.*

Printed Name

Signature

Date

*Please sign and return a copy to: Fostercoordinator@tailwaggers911.com