



DOG ADOPTION & CARE PASSPORT



Silicon Valley
Animal Control Authority





The mission of the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority (SVACA) is to ensure the well-being of both animals and people through advocacy, education, and cost-effective yet efficient services by providing a superior level of care, compassion, and respect for all living things. SVACA's dedicated, passionate, and enlightened Board of Directors, Technical Advisory Committee, volunteers and staff accomplish our mission by enforcing animal control laws, offering progressive programs and services, promoting responsible and humane guardianship, investigating cruelty and abuse, and operating a warm, inviting and state-of-the-art animal care center that encourages the community to participate and help us foster life-long relationships between residents and their animal companions.



Dear New Adopting Family:

Thank you for adopting your new companion from the Silicon Valley Animal Care Center. We are thrilled that you decided to open up your heart and home to a new furry friend. We hope you will have a life-time of happiness and love. This packet should help you with your new friend.

If you have any questions, we are here for you. Call us at 408-764-0344.

Sincerely,

SVACA Staff





IMPORTANT MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NEW COMPANION

- Every animal that enters the SVACA's Care Center is given a vaccine to protect them from several viruses. It may take 5-7 days for the vaccine to work. During this time, there is a possibility that an animal may become infected with a virus. Also, some animals enter our center already exposed to disease. If an animal is ill, vaccines will not prevent disease or help to make your animal better.
- **SVACA recommends that you isolate your new companion from any other animals for 10 days.** During this time, watch for any signs or symptoms of disease. This can include coughing, sneezing, diarrhea, vomiting and loss of appetite. SVACA recommends that you develop a relationship with a private veterinarian and that you make an appointment within 7 days of adoption for a physical exam. Please see insert for a list of veterinarians that offer one free wellness exam.





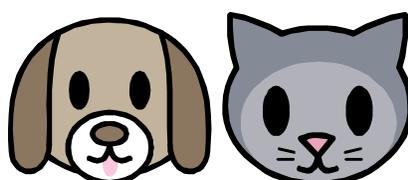
The following is information on the services that your new companion received while at SVACA's Animal Care Center:

*Dogs are given a 4 in 1 injection that helps prevent Distemper, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus, and Adenovirus. They also receive an intra-nasal vaccine that helps prevent kennel cough.

*All animals over four months of age are given a Rabies vaccination. If an animal is under four months your vet will give your animal it's rabies vaccine when your animal turns four months old.

*You will need to make an appointment with your veterinarian to continue the vaccine booster series to help ensure your animal stays healthy as s/he matures.

*Your new companion has a unique microchip number that has been entered in the SVACA and San Jose Animal Care and Services database. Enrollment into HomeAgain's national database is important and will never "time out" of the system; it is important to keep this information current and updated with HomeAgain and with your local animal control agency. Having current address and phone number information attached to your animal's microchip allows a shelter or veterinarian to contact you in the event your animal ever gets lost. Instructions on how to enroll have been included in your animal's medical history. Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.





DOG DISEASES

These are the diseases that your dog is currently vaccinated against. It is very important to stay up to date with your animal's vaccines. Your vet will set up a schedule with you and let you know when your next shots are due.

Disease	Signs/ Symptoms	Transmission	Treatment
Distemper	Congested lungs Nasal discharge Coughing Weight loss Vomiting Diarrhea	Airborne; Contact with fecal matter or urine; Contact with infected dogs or objects	No specific cure; Supportive care—fluid therapy, treatment of individual symptoms
Kennel Cough	Dry hacking-cough Nasal and/or Ocular Discharge Fever	Airborne	Antibiotics, Supportive care, Cough suppressants
Parvovirus	Lethargy Loss of Appetite Vomiting Bloody diarrhea	Contact with feces or contaminated objects	No specific cure; Supportive care—fluid and nutritional therapy, antibiotics



Medical issues affecting dogs:

- Kennel Cough (infectious tracheobronchitis) is a common illness that can be prevalent in areas where dogs congregate (shelters, dog shows, obedience classes). It is similar to the common cold a child may get when they go to school. Although your dog has been vaccinated, it is possible that the illness was in the incubation stages and your dog may still get it. The majority of cases resolve themselves without treatment, but if symptoms persist please consult a veterinarian.
- Fleas and Ticks can be a serious problem for dogs. These tiny parasites feed off of your pet, transmit tapeworms and irritate skin. Check your dog once a week for fleas and ticks. There are several methods of flea control; consult your veterinarian for the method that suits you best. Make sure all products used to control fleas in your house are safe for all animals.
- Dogs and cats are victims of intestinal parasites frequently referred to as *worms*. The most common are roundworms, tapeworms, hookworms and whipworms. Most worm infestations cause any or all of these symptoms: diarrhea, weight loss, dry hair, vomiting, and general poor appearance. At the Care Center, your dog has been given a dewormer before going home. Your vet will routinely take a stool sample to determine if worms are present.



POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

Your animal may have recently undergone general anesthesia and surgical sterilization. For the safety and well being of you, your animal and the other animals in your household, we recommend the following post operative instructions be followed carefully:

- When anesthesia is used, stomach upset can occur for up to two days after the procedure. Diet changes and environmental changes can add to the problem. To reduce the negative effects of surgery and stress, please feed your animal small amounts of high quality pet food several times a day. Return to a normal diet in two days. Water should be kept available at all times.
- Check the incision daily until healed (approximately ten days). Should you notice drainage, swelling, or an open incision, please call your vet immediately.
- Do not allow your animal to get wet for at least seven days after surgery. If the incision becomes dirty, gently clean the area with a cotton ball and hydrogen peroxide. Only bathe your animal if the incision has healed and show no signs of infection.
- Do not allow your animal to lick or chew the incision.
- Do not give any pain medication unless prescribed by your veterinarian. Many drugs can be toxic to your animal.





Medicines and Poisons

Many prescription and over-the-counter medications can be harmful or fatal to your dog. Only use medications prescribed by your veterinarian. Call your veterinarian or the ASPCA National Animal Poison Control for 24-hour animal poison information if you suspect your animal has ingested a poisonous substance. The numbers are: 1(888) 4ANI-HELP, 1(888)426-4435; or 1(900) 680-0000. A consultation fee applies.

Local emergency vet clinics:

Adobe Animal Hospital

4470 El Camino Real
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 948-9661

Emergency Animal Clinic of

South San Jose

5440 Thornwood Drive
San Jose, CA 95123
(408) 578-5622

United Emergency Animal Clinic

905 Dell Avenue
Campbell, CA 95008
(408) 371-6252

Any sick or injured wildlife
should be brought to:

Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley

3027 Penitencia Creek
Road

San Jose, CA 95132
(408) 929-WILD





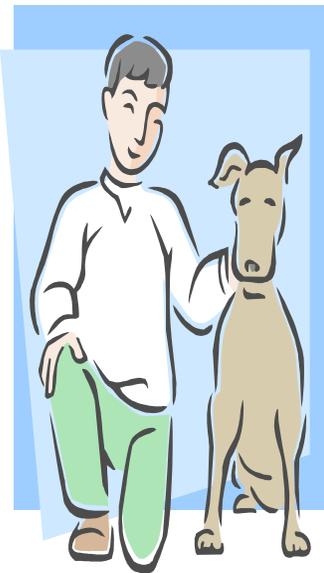
GENERAL DOG CARE

Bringing Your New Dog Home

Congratulations on adopting a new member of the family! But what do you do now? No doubt you're excited and looking forward to forging a lifelong friendship with your new buddy. But try and keep in mind the confusion your new dog is feeling right now. He is likely a little disoriented, wondering where he is and who all these new people are. The key to helping your new dog make a successful adjustment to your home is being *prepared* and being *patient*. The following tips can help ensure a smooth transition.

Supplies

You will need a collar and leash, food and water bowls, food, grooming supplies, a dog bed, interactive toys, and a dog crate.



House Rules

Work out your dog-care regimen among the human members of your household. Who will walk the dog first thing in the morning? Who will feed at night? Will your new pet be allowed on the couch, or won't he? Where will he sleep at night? Figuring out these questions early will help ease the transition into your home and avoid confusion later.

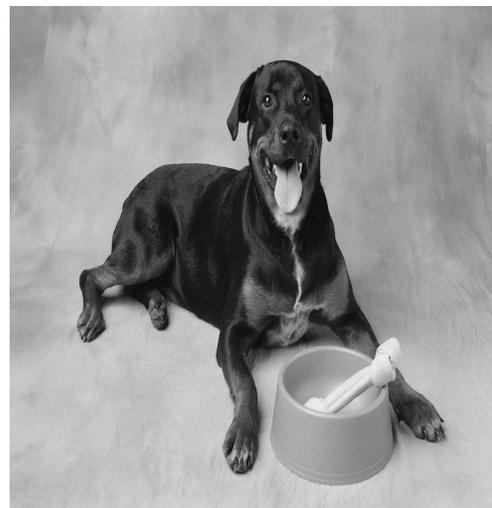


Housing

It is important to keep your dog indoors as much as possible. Dogs are pack animals that thrive on companionship. Dogs should have a clean, dry place of their own in the house. A dog bed or thick blanket will provide your animal with a comfortable place to lay. Dogs prefer having their bed in a room where people are likely to spend time, like a family room. Be sure to wash the bedding often.

Feeding

Feed your dog a high-quality, brand name dog food (avoid generic brands). Provide fresh, clean water at all times. Adult dogs and puppies over 3 months of age should be fed two meals each day. Puppies under 3 months of age should be fed 3 times a day. Feeding quantities can be found on the back of the dog food package, or as directed by your vet.



Grooming

Every dog needs regular grooming, regardless of coat length. Frequent brushing helps keep your dog's coat clean and reduces the amount of shedding. Regular bathing will cut down on dander and lessen the effects of dry or oily hair. Certain breeds of dogs need regular hair cuts and brushing to prevent matting.



Kids and Dogs

The most bitten members of society are children under the age of 12. The success of your dog with children depends on several factors.

- First and foremost, never leave any child 12 or under unattended with any dog or puppy. Children should be taught to pet softly, stay away from food dishes, toys and bones, and not to startle the pet when it is sleeping.
- Avoid tug of war, wrestling, ear pulling, pony riding, toy hitting, fur grabbing, chasing and any other rough play. All these activities teach your dog to be rough with humans and to grab and bite.
- Involve your child in your dog's care. Have your child help you in feeding and walking your dog. Having your child present while your dog is receiving it's favorite things or activities can help build a positive association to children.
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Barking

If your dog's "talkative nature" has gotten out of hand, you will need to find out why he is barking. Most barking is simply a way for your dog to communicate something to you. But continual barking for long periods of time is a symptom of a problem that needs addressing. Dogs bark for many different reasons. Sometimes it's out of fear. Other times it's stress, excitement, or boredom. You will need to do some detective work to figure out why your pet is barking, and then take the appropriate measures to fix it.



Housetraining

Being housetrained means that your dog can remain inside your house for a reasonable amount of time (up to 8 hours) without eliminating in it. Many older dogs in shelters already have been housetrained, it is simply a matter of acclimating them to your home and where *you* want them to go potty. For puppies and dogs who have never been housetrained, you can expect to spend about six to eight weeks training your pet. Your local bookstore or library has many excellent books on housebreaking, the internet has a wealth of information on this subject. A trainer can be a valuable resource when dealing with this issue.



Crate Training

While many people cringe at the thought of placing their new dog or puppy in a “cage”, crate training is a natural and relatively comfortable experience for the dog. Dogs, are den animals, feel safe and secure in small, confined areas. A crate is simply an artificial den. Crate training helps prevent many of the things that cause problems when bringing a new dog home. When choosing a crate for your dog, make sure it is only large enough for the dog to easily stand up, turn around, and lie down comfortably in.



Play and Exercise

Playing and exercise are essential components to having a healthy, happy pet. Taking your dog for a walk is a good basic way to start. Puppies, and even some adult dogs, have little or no leash experience. Practice walking skills in your yard first. Leash your puppy, and with your voice and some food treats, encourage him to follow you. Dogs love to play with toys, other dogs, and humans. Provide your pet with interactive toys and lots of opportunities to play. Avoid rough games like tug-of-war. This teaches your dog dominance and aggression. Walking and playing with your pet are enjoyable activities for both of you. Not only does your dog get exercise, but positive interactions also take place.

Training Class and Meeting Other Dogs

Training your new dog is an important part of the adoption process, dogs of all ages can benefit from training class. It will strengthen the bond between you and your pet, and help make your dog a permanent member of your family. You and your dog will start learning how to understand body postures. A dog crouching with its front legs on the ground and its hind end in the air (a “play bow”) is inviting another to play, it is usually elicits friendly behavior. Watch carefully for postures that indicate an aggressive response, including hair standing up on one dog’s back, teeth-baring, deep growls, a stiff-legged gait, or a prolonged stare. If you see such postures, interrupt the interaction immediately by calmly getting each dog interested in something else.



Insert Pet Photo
Here

ANIMAL'S NAME _____

BREED _____ MARKINGS _____

DATE of BIRTH _____ SEX _____

GUARDIAN _____

ADDRESS _____

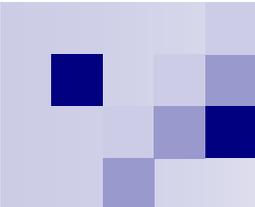
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

VETERINARIAN _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____



SVACA Animal Care Center

3370 Thomas Road
Santa Clara, CA 95054

408-764-0344

www.svaca.com

Animals lost in the cities of Campbell,
Monte Sereno, Mountain View and Santa
Clara are sheltered at our Center.



Hours for receiving stray animals:

Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun 8:00a to 5:30p

Wed 8:00a to 7:00p

Closed Monday

**Check out our
Web Site!**

www.svaca.com

Hours for adoptions/lost and found tours:

Tue, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun 11:00a to 5:00p

Wed 11:00a to 6:30p

Closed Monday

HELP SVACA HELP THE ANIMALS!

The Animal Assistance Fund was created by the SVACA Board of Directors in March 2005 in an effort to further assist homeless animals in need.

Donations may processed online at www.svaca.com

or can be sent to:

SVACA — Animal Assistance Fund

3370 Thomas Road

Santa Clara, CA 95054