The 3 Days, 3 Weeks, 3 Month Rule of Adopting a Rescue Dog

The 3-3-3 rule is a general guideline, every dog is unique and will adjust differently. Give your dog space and allow him to go at his own pace.





In the first 3 days,

- □ Feeling overwhelmed
- May be scared and unsure of what is going on
- ☐ Not comfortable enough to be "himself"
- ☐ May not want to eat or drink
- ☐ Shut down and want to curl up in his crate or hide under a table
- ☐ Testing the boundaries

3W



After 3 weeks,

- □ Starting to settle in
- □ Feeling more comfortable
- Realizing this could possibly be his forever home
- ☐ Figured out his environment
- ☐ Getting into a routine
- Lets his guard down and may start showing his true personality
- Behavior issues may start showing up

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3M



After 3 months,

- Finally completely comfortable in his home.
- Building trust and a true bond
- Gained a complete sense of security with his new family
- ☐ Set in a routine

