

# COMING HOME It Doesn't Happen Overnight

## 3 Days. 3 Weeks. 3 months.

The Rule of 3s is a general guideline for the adjustment period of a dog to his new home. Every dog is unique and will adjust at his own pace.



### 3 DAYS to decompress and relax

- Change is hard!
- Doesn't understand your good intentions
- Scared/insecure and may try to run away

Your new dog will be overwhelmed with his new surroundings. He will not be comfortable enough to be himself. Don't be alarmed if he doesn't want to eat for the first couple of days, many dogs don't eat when they are stressed. He may shut down and want to curl up in his crate or under the table. He may be scared and unsure what is going on. Or he may be the opposite and test you to see what he can get away with, kind of like a teenager.



### 3 WEEKS to learn the routine

- Starts settling in and feeling more comfortable
- Figures out the environment
- Gets into a routine
- Lets his guard down
- Behavior issues may start to appear

Your dog is starting to settle in, feeling more comfortable, and realizing this really may be his forever home. He has figured out his environment and getting into the routine that you have set. He lets his guard down and may start showing his real personality. Behavior issues may start showing, this is your time to be a strong pack leader and show him what is right and wrong.



### 3 MONTHS to start feeling at home

- Finally feels comfortable and gains sense of security
- Has developed a bond and is building trust in his family
- Understands this is his new home!

Your dog is now completely comfortable in his home. You have built trust and a true bond with your dog, which gives him a complete sense of security with you. He is set in his routine and will come to expect his dinner at the usual time.

**The process takes time and patience, but it's worth the wait!  
Give your dog a chance to become part of the family and  
finally feel forever home.**



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