

New Introductions



Introductions: resident dog and new dog

Before considering adding another dog be sure that this will truly benefit your current pet.

Many dogs are social with other dogs they meet but may not actually want to live with another dog.

Your new dog must not only compliment your lifestyle and personality but also the needs of your current pet.

Initial meeting

Visit with our dogs with your human family first before putting together a shortlist of potential new dogs to greet your current pet.

- It's a good idea to bring your current pet for a walk before introducing him to your potential new dog so that he is a little calmer and more relaxed.
- Have both dogs on secure harnesses and nylon/leather leashes – no tightening collars or extendable leads.
- Have help handling two dogs – One adult per dog.
- Bring your own pet out for a walk to an unfamiliar place.
- Have the second handler bring the new dog out and make sure it is an unfamiliar area for him too.
- Do not allow the dogs to approach head on but rather walk parallel with one another and gradually close the distance (if safe) so that the dogs are walking near one another with the two humans in between.
- Allow each dog to sniff toileting areas in turn rather than at the same time.
- Keep the leashes loose at all times and keep both dogs on leash at all times.
- Don't bring or introduce valued items such as food or toys; if you want to reward each dog do so when the dogs are separated and feed directly into their mouth, rather than tossing food on the ground.