

New dog. Clear plan.

A first-week checklist for your household. Adapt it with your rescue, trainer and veterinarian.

Dog's name: _____ Coming home: _____

01 Before arrival

- ☐ Prepare food and water bowls, waste bags and a comfortable resting area.
- ☐ Check the fit of a collar or harness and arrange identification details.
- ☐ Put away loose cables, medicines, cleaners and small chewable objects.
- ☐ Confirm food, routines, records and any special needs with the current caregiver.

02 Share the first-week jobs

- ☐ Write down who handles meals, toilet breaks, supervision and quiet time.
- ☐ Keep the first few days manageable; follow the rescue or trainer's settling-in advice.
- ☐ Book a veterinary appointment and bring the records you received.
- ☐ Check equipment fit again as your dog grows or you learn what works.

03 Keep the important details together

Veterinary clinic / phone: _____

Out-of-hours clinic / phone: _____

Rescue or previous caregiver: _____

Meals / toilet breaks / supervision: _____

Measure before shopping

Crate: compare actual interior space. Harness: use the exact model's current size chart.

Free sizing tools and this sheet: pawbench.com/cheatsheets

Planning aid, not veterinary or behavior advice. No product endorsement or fit guarantee.

Source for equipment basics: AKC New Puppy Checklist. Original planning prompts: PawBench.

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