

## FOSTER agreement

Name of DOG \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 2017

**It is important that every possible measure is taken to prevent our FOSTERED DREAM dog from escape or injury and that you willingly accept any related financial responsibility incurred due to the escape or injury of our pet, during this trial period in your home.**

**As a FOSTER, I (and family) agree to the following:**

1. A safe collar with rabies tag and I.D. is provided and to be worn at all times by the pet
2. Monitor at all times the interaction of this pet with other animals, children and adult
3. This pet should be contained to your yard and house only for no less than 2 weeks because it can take at least 3 weeks for your new furry family member & companion to develop allegiance and loyalty to your "recall". This pet should be always leashed when outside on walks; it is easier to step on a leash than catch a running dog.
4. Introductions to other pets (outside your home) should be avoided for the first 2 weeks, then proceed always on leash and meet on neutral territory (outside of your house or yard) using the **3 second "Meet & Greet" rule**, (see attachment). Not all dogs like each other, unmannered dogs (dogs highly adrenalized should always be avoided); best solution.....walk away when there is uncertainty, and know the signals of a dog in an "aggressive/reactive or fearful" state.
5. A walk in the neighborhood is **acceptable when using a training collar and leash**
6. Monitor at all times the interaction of this pet when playing with toys and being fed.  
New environments and changes in routine or family can cause extra stress for a canine who might then show signs of aggression or fear. A feeding and sleeping station separate from other dogs visiting or a part of the family is required.
7. If pet becomes ill or hurt and requires vetting, DREAM must be contacted asap  
You may responsible for any medical fees incurred while this dog is in your care depending upon the reason and circumstance requiring veterinarian's care.
8. Foster family will obey all applicable laws governing control and custody of animals and consider this document legally binding

Vet records provided indicate your foster dog has been vaccinated against Rabies, Bordetella, and Distemper, is flea free and Heartworm negative. Spay and Neuter is a requirement of all our rescued pets. Surgery will be scheduled IF they are not already spayed or neutered.

[www.Dream4pets.org](http://www.Dream4pets.org)

[petsRRpassion@gmail.com](mailto:petsRRpassion@gmail.com)

## Foster Family Agreement

By signing this form, I agree to **FOSTER** a dog for DREAM (Dedicated Rescue Efforts for Animals in many counties). During the time that I foster, I agree that any dog or puppy is under the guardianship of DREAM. DREAM will provide food, veterinary care, crate (if necessary) and monthly heartworm preventative and flea preventative. I will treat this dog as a member of my own family. The dog will be kept indoors or outside within a fenced area (not chained and not during storms). I will provide a safe and nurturing environment.

FOSTER dogs are to be treated by a veterinarian designated by DREAM. If a medical emergency occurs while the dog is in my care, I will contact DREAM immediately and provide the necessary emergency treatment.

I will not hold DREAM responsible for any infectious diseases or other medical concerns that are transmitted to myself, my family or any pets that reside in my home. I have been provided with a DREAM Foster Packet that includes necessary information about fostering and adoption events.

## Release of Liability

I hereby agree to foster a dog with full understanding that such animal, by its nature, can be aggressive, and may cause injury to myself or others. In fostering a dog, I accept complete responsibility for the actions of the animal in causing injury to myself or others and to indemnify and hold harmless DREAM, its volunteers, board members, or employees for personal injury, death or damage cause by the dog/puppy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Foster parent ( print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Foster parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (HOME) Phone (CELL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
DREAM Officer Date

**DREAM P.O. Box 322 Tipp City, OH 45371**



# Letting Dogs Meet: The Three Second Rule

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As a dog owner, I'm sure you have been in the situation where your dog had to meet another dog he didn't know. If you haven't yet, you will.

Whether you're having a friend and their dog over for a BBQ or you happen to run across a new dog on a hike, there are some fundamental things you should do and be aware of to properly manage dog greetings. Remember, just because your dog may typically be happy-go-lucky, doesn't mean that all dogs are easy



to get along with and it doesn't guarantee that the chemistry will be good between your dog and the new dog right from the start. If you happen to stumble across a dog out in the world and you don't feel comfortable with having your dog meet him, that's ok. You can politely excuse yourself from the greeting by saying that your dog is in training and you need to keep him focused.

Know your dog. If your dog has a history of biting or aggression, your situation is beyond the scope of this blog. Consult a dog training professional to help your dog with his particular needs.

Before you let your dogs meet, both owners need to agree to let the dogs engage. When I say *agree*, I mean *be comfortable with*. Don't allow yourself to be talked into a meeting you don't feel good about and don't try to convince someone else if they don't seem at ease with the idea. It's a perfectly reasonable question to ask the other owner if their dog is dog friendly. If you are both comfortable with allowing the two dogs to meet, you should make sure everyone is calm (humans and dogs) and do so with a loose leash. Be sure to have an exit strategy. Don't allow their leashes to become a tangled mess potentially locking you in a game of Leash Twister Madness.

## The Three Second Rule:

- Three seconds is the maximum amount of time the initial greeting should last. When I say three seconds, it's one alligator, two alligator, three and walk away. Number three does not get an alligator. I've seen it time and again where dogs loose it on the third alligator. Now, if there's barking or growling that happens before that, walk away sooner. We don't want it to escalate.
- When you're walking away after number three, give the dogs a second to forget about one another. Once both dogs have been distracted, you can bring them back for another meeting assuming the first one went well.

- Keep your eyes peeled and be fully present (Don't be texting while a dog meeting is taking place.)
- Eye to eye greetings are a recipe for disaster. If there is a stare down going on, don't allow them to meet.
- Tails tell a tale. If tails are stiff, tucked or only the tip is wagging like a rattle snake, this is a sign that you either need to disengage before the three seconds are up or really watch closely for those initial three seconds.
- If one dog is positioning his head over the top of the other dog's head, walk away.
- If their jaws are tight and they're not breathing, walk away.
- What you want is a relaxed posture with loose wagging tails and relaxed jaws.
- It is common and good for dogs to sniff each other's butts. Believe me, they think that our hand-shaking ritual is weird too. That being said, even if the initial greeting is good, the three second rule still applies for the one out the gate.
- Last but not least, the three second rule is particularly important for the first greeting, but a very good practice for all dog greetings, even for dogs that already know each other. Give them their three alligators, walk away and if all goes well, take it from there. There will most likely come a time when you can eliminate the three second rule but it's always a good idea to work up to it.

Facilitating a proper greeting lays the foundation for your dog to have strong relationships not only with other dogs, but with you, their owner, as well. It is another opportunity for your dog to know that you've got things under control which builds trust.

Socializing with dogs and people helps to keep them balanced and fulfilled, so by no means do I want to discourage you from having your dog acquire new playmates. All I ask is that you set yourself up for success by having your eyes wide open and your attention on the dog.

As with any of these tips, if you have questions or are nervous, get a professional involved. It's always better to be safe than sorry.

--Chad Culp, Certified Dog Trainer and Canine Nutrition Consultant

[http://www.thrivingcanine.com/letting\\_dogs\\_meet\\_the\\_three\\_second\\_rule](http://www.thrivingcanine.com/letting_dogs_meet_the_three_second_rule)