



copper's dream
animal rescue

Foster To Adopt

What is a “foster to adopt” situation? Copper’s Dream Rescue typically does not allow trial periods for regular adoptions, because we prefer not to have dogs moved around from home to home. However, if an animal you are interested in adopting does not currently have a foster home (either because Copper’s Dream is still arranging transport from the shelter or because the dog’s current foster family cannot continue fostering), we allow adopters the opportunity to foster the dog. This means you would be allowed to house a dog temporarily to see if you think it is a good fit. Fostering to adopt also gives you an advantage in that you would be first in line to adopt the dog yourself. Often, this is the best way to adopt our youngest and most highly adoptable puppies, because they tend to get adopted so quickly.

Here are the main things to keep in mind if you want to foster to adopt:

1. You would have three days after you receive the dog where we hold back any other application from the general public. This gives you time to decide if you want to adopt yourself. After the first three days, however, any other applicant would be allowed to proceed with adoption. Please remember that once an applicant from the general public has been told the dog is available, ***we cannot allow you to adopt over that applicant.***
2. You may borrow a Copper’s Dream leash, collar, and crate, but if you choose to do so, you are committing to drive the supplies back to either our Pacifica, Sunnyvale or San Rafael location. If this is inconvenient, it is best to use your own supplies.
3. If you end up deciding it is not a good fit, as a foster, you are expected to keep the dog until the dog finds a permanent home. For a young puppy, this often only takes about a week. For older puppies and adults, it can take longer. Of course, if the dog is aggressive or falls *seriously* ill, etc, we can make exceptions to our policy and find an alternate foster family.
4. As a foster parent, you are also committing to driving the dog to our closest vet (Oakland, San Francisco, or Mountain View) to get spayed or neutered. All of our animals must be fixed within two weeks of arrival.

5. If you decide to try to “foster to adopt,” please submit a completed adoption application to alyce@coppersdream.org. This can be used as your foster application and prevents you from having to fill out additional paperwork if you do decide to adopt. The vast majority of our foster to adopt situations result in the family adopting the dog.

Thank you for your interest in adopting a rescue animal!