

Greyhounds make great pets, and are wonderful companions.

With good advice and support you should be able to enjoy many years with your wonderful new dog as well as becoming part of a wonderful community of fellow greyhound lovers who have a wealth of experience amongst them.

As with all dogs, your greyhound will need regular exercise, appropriate food, clean water, shelter from the weather, environmental enrichment, regular grooming and appropriate vet care as well as learning appropriate lifestyle skills and behaviours. Greyhounds will respond well to a positive and friendly environment as well as patience while they learn to live with you and your routines and lifestyle.

If you need help with your greyhound, please reach out to your dog's previous carers. Greyhound rescue and adoption agencies have years of experience in helping the greyhounds that have come into their care as well as support for the people who adopt them, don't be afraid to ask for support, most behavioural issues can be resolved with greyhounds as long as you are willing to put in some time and effort. The greyhound community is also very welcoming and informative, just look for a local Greyhound walk or meet up through social media, there are bound to be some friendly greyhound people not too far from you.

Formal Dogs offers discounted greyhound consultations and we love helping these wonderful dogs and their people, so if you would like some one on one help with your new greyhound, or just to chat about how to prepare for adopting a new dog, give us a call.

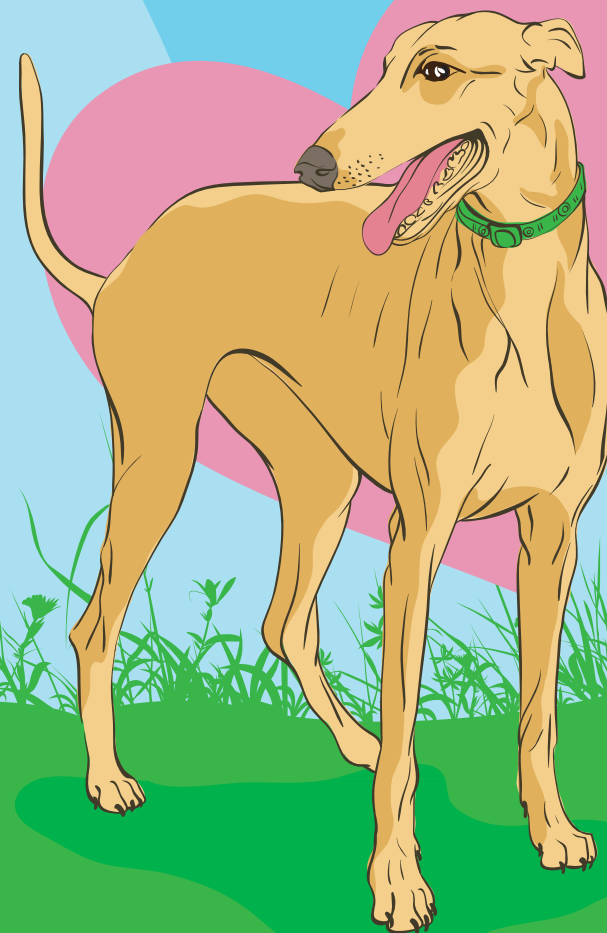
Greyhounds have brought years of happiness and joy to my family and I wish you and your new greyhound many years of happy companionship together

Ruth



*Formal*DPAWGS

Greyhound Adoption



*Formal*DPAWGS



ruth@formaldogs.com.au 0438 423 230

www.formaldogs.com.au

G

Guardian Congratulations you are now the guardian of your new dog, you have legal and ethical responsibilities to care for your dog and provide it with a safe and secure home, food, shelter, as well as appropriate training.

R

Respect Respect is a two-way street. Remember to respect your dog's unique canine experience of our humanised world. Your dog will adjust to pet life more easily if he or she learns to respect your role as guardian and that you have his or her best interests at heart. Remember respect is earned, not something that happens automatically. You can work on developing mutual respect for each other, through learning new skills and spending time together.

E

Educate Greyhounds often have a different background to other dogs. Educating yourself about your dog's history will help you to help your dog adjust to domestic pet life. If you are new to dog ownership, a little bit of pre-planning will go a long way. Find a behavioural and obedience trainer you can connect with and ask for advice whenever you have questions.

Y

You You are going to have so much fun. Some words you may become familiar with are: "couch potato" – greyhounds are known for their love of a comfy spot to sleep; "roaching" – short for cockroaching – when they turn themselves upside down with legs all over the place; "sleep nose" – Greyhounds have sleeping on their bent nose down to a fine art; "bower bird" greyhounds seem to like collecting things, they can often be found hidden underneath the dog's bed well loved, but unharmed; 'zoomies' – you will know this when you see it, often a laugh out loud experience.

H

Help If you are encountering any problems with your new greyhound, reach out to the people you adopted your dog from or a dog behaviour consultant who is experienced working with greyhounds. Formal Dogs offers discounted greyhound consultancy to help you understand your greyhound better.

O

Off Leash In Victoria, at present, greyhounds are not allowed off lead in public places, this also includes off lead dog parks. Your greyhound is permitted off leash on private property, at registered dog training events (this should include your dog obedience/behaviour school) or at slipping tracks. This is for their safety as greyhounds are very fast and sometimes don't see dangers when in full flight.

U

Unconditional Positive Regard A concept developed by the humanistic psychologist Carl Rogers. It is the basic acceptance and support of a person (or dog) regardless of what the person (or dog) says or does. We need to support and accept our dogs for who they are, and help them to fit into our society. Undesired behaviours are not done to annoy you, if you approach problems from a position of unconditional positive regard you are in a good position to work with your dog to help resolve them.

N

New It is not uncommon for an adopted greyhound to be new to being a family pet. You can help them learn about our world by being consistent and having clear expectations. If your greyhound is a little shy about new experiences, create socialisation experiences as you would a young puppy by providing small gentle exposures to new things.

D

Displacement Behaviours When a dog is under stress, there are physical signs. A displacement behaviour is a normal canine behaviour that is done out of context. For example: excessive yawning, looking sleepy or drowsy, excessive grooming, salivating, licking the tip of their nose. If your dog displays these behaviours, ask yourself "is this behaviour normal for this situation?" If your greyhound is displaying a lot of displacement behaviours, getting some advice to help your dog feel more relaxed and secure can be very helpful for you both.

S

Sleep Startle "Let sleeping dogs lie" is a great saying to remember, greyhounds in particular sleep very deeply and have probably spent the first part of their lives being able to sleep uninterrupted. Members of your home should be advised not to disturb your greyhound when he or she is asleep. A greyhound woken suddenly may growl or snap. If you must approach your dog when they are sleeping, calling their name and making some gentle noise can help them wake up before you interrupt them but mostly it is unnecessary to wake a sleeping dog.



Formal **Dogs**

