

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ.

Our dogs are rescued from shelters and we do not know much about their past experiences or behavior. Due to our rescue facility setting, the dogs may not be exposed or accustomed to many activities or situations that pets experience on a regular basis. Although we make attempt to socialize and expose the dogs to different situations as much as possible, we cannot make any guarantees regarding their behavior in different settings. To ensure the safety of you, your family, other pets, and your new dog, please, exercise caution and diligence when introducing their dog to his/her new home, new experiences and new places.

- Every Akita is unique and should be treated as such. You cannot expect a dog to be exactly like your other dog.
- Your newly adopted Akita needs time to settle in, bond with you, and understand that you are his or her leader and protector.
- Give your dog space until they learn to trust you. Do not force the dog into new situations.
- All living creatures will experience a fight or flight reaction to a perceived threat. A dog that is fearful may run away or bite.
- Keep your dog on a leash or enclosed in a secure area at all times. Make sure the dog cannot jump out of windows or doors in your home AND car. In just a second, a dog can escape, be badly injured or killed, or injure another person or animal.
- Make sure your fence, gates, doors and windows are secure and do not leave your dog unsupervised in your yard or home until you are sure that they are. All residents of your home including children, and all visitors (gardener, pool/delivery man, etc.) must understand that the area must be kept secure to contain the dog.
- **Until your dog knows you and trusts you, you should not place your dog in situations where they may feel afraid, insecure or wary. DO NOT SET UP YOUR DOG TO FAIL.**

DO NOT:

Take your dog to social gatherings or crowded areas with many strangers. This includes restaurants, parties, having a bunch of friends over to the house, street fairs, beach or heavy public traffic areas



Take the dog to the groomer or veterinarian until you have a better idea of how your dog will behave



Stare the dog directly in the face, hug the dog, or kiss the dog, or allow strangers to get too close to the dog or in the dog's face. Dogs may interpret face-to-face interaction as confrontational, and it may trigger a fight or flight response.



Immediately introduce your new dog to your other pets or other animals. Again, your dog must learn to trust YOU as the leader and there are steps to carefully introduce dogs to avoid problems. **DO NOT** take your dog to a dog park or allow the dog off leash at the park/beach, etc.



No matter how long you have had your dog, **NEVER, EVER** leave small children alone with a dog. Even if your child does not mean to hurt the dog, accidents can and do happen and dogs may bite out of pain or fear. Even small dogs can inflict great injury on a child. Caution is key!

