



## Getting to Know Your New Dog - Part 2 Expanding Your New Dog's Horizons

Once your new dog is comfortable with your home and family, you can begin to slowly introduce them to new people and environments. Always pay attention to your dog's [body language](#), as new experiences can sometimes be stressful.

### Do's

- Keep your dog on a leash when on walks. Start with walks in quiet areas, and as your dog gets comfortable, take them on more adventurous excursions to busier areas.
- Let your dog sniff and explore their new surroundings at their own pace.
- Introduce your dog to friends, neighbors and strangers as they become more comfortable meeting new people. [More information about introductions](#)
- Although some dogs don't want doggie friends, other dogs will welcome a canine pal. Begin by introducing your dog to a dog you know that is calm and friendly. [More information about dog introductions](#)

### Don'ts

- Don't take your dog to crowded events during the first week unless you have a foster dog who goes to carefully supervised adoption events. For the first week or so, focus on you, your new dog, and your immediate family.
- Don't let people crowd your dog. Make sure to give your dog space to move away from people who overwhelm or scare your dog.
- Don't leave your new dog tied up outside of stores, businesses or restaurants. Your dog could get injured or stolen.