

FOSTER TRAINING CHECKLIST & TALKING POINTS



<p><input type="checkbox"/> THANK & ACKNOWLEDGE FOSTER</p>	<p>Fosters are central to the success of POMDR’s adoption program. When we have fosters available and willing to foster dogs, we are able to bring more dogs into our care. (Thank the potential foster for helping a dog on its journey to his/her forever home.)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> POMDR ID TAGS (BLUE & SILVER)</p>	<p>Each POMDR dog is issued a unique ID number. All information associated with a dog is linked to that ID number. Please keep the POMDR ID tag on your foster dog at all times as VISIBLE identification that he/she is a POMDR in the event it becomes loose. In addition to a microchip, it is the first line of defense in ensuring the dog will be returned to POMDR should it be found or turned into a shelter.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> FLIGHT RISK!</p>	<p>Any dog moving to a new environment (foster or adoptive home) is a HUGE flight risk! Assume ANY foster dog is on a mission to escape and be extremely vigilant with open doors (house doors, car doors, gates) or leaving the dog unattended in a yard, etc. for at least the first 72 hours (or until the dog has bonded with you). Please keep a collar (and POMDR temporary tag) on your dog, and walk the dog with its POMDR-provided harness. (We have crates, barriers, gates available to loan out to make your home secure. Refer to “Supplies for Fosters”).</p> <p>At no time should the dog be walked or exercised off leash.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> ESTABLISHING ROUTINES</p>	<p>Your foster dog will want to please you so help him/her do so by creating a routine for potty habit, feeding, etc. Plan to take your foster dog out to take care of business more often than you think necessary initially until a routine is established. (There will likely be a few accidents in the initial days, but your patience and praise will help your foster dog learn successful behaviors that will help him/her find a forever home!)</p> <p>Tip: Initially, when bringing a new foster dog into your home, you should consider limiting access to areas of your house where you can provide initial supervision to prevent accidents until you feel comfortable your foster dog understands daily routines. (This is also helpful when progressively introducing your foster to other pets in your home.)</p>

☐ **MEDICAL
PROTOCOLS &
CONTACT LIST**

ROUTINE CARE:

Each dog that comes into our care receives a recommended medical intake treatment plan (microchip, spay/neuter, vaccination, lab work, dental, etc.). Most of the time, these procedures have been completed by the time a dog goes to his/her foster home. Occasionally, fosters may need to take the dog to the vet for a follow-up visit which is covered by POMDR. Aubrienne Culbertson (Clinic Manager) coordinates all medical care for POMDR dogs and will work with fosters to communicate details and logistics. **(Fosters are not responsible for the cost of medical care for foster dogs when this protocol is followed.)**

If you have any medical concerns about your foster dog, please refer to the **Contact List** in your Foster Packet, and **communicate with Aubrienne Culbertson first before taking your dog to the vet. If you are unable to reach Aubrienne, Allison or Carie within a reasonable timeframe, continue to contact the NEXT name in the contact list.**

Upon making contact with Aubrienne or other POMDR staff member, a Treatment Authorization for your foster dog's vet care will be sent to an approved vet in advance of your visit to ensure you are not expected to pay.

EMERGENCIES:

If you believe your dog is experiencing a true medical emergency, again, refer to the **Contact List**. If you are unable to make contact and your foster dog is experiencing a life-threatening crisis, please contact the emergency vets listed at the bottom of the **Contact List**.

PLEASE SHARE THE CONTACT LIST AND REVIEW THIS MEDICAL PROTOCOL WITH ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD.

☐ **SUPPLIES FOR
FOSTERS**

We appreciate all our fosters do to help POMDR dogs find their forever home. We offer a variety of foster supplies so **you do not incur any expense other than the cost of providing a reasonably high-quality pet food diet.** We can provide bedding, barriers/gates, flea medication, dietary supplements (if recommended by our vets), etc. Please inquire with our office staff.)

<p><input type="checkbox"/> RESOURCES FOR FOSTERS</p>	<p>GROOMING: To keep your pup looking his/her best, we offer free grooming and nail clipping for foster dogs. (Some dogs may require professional grooming/clipping, while others are able to be bathed at home.)</p> <p>BEHAVIORAL ISSUE: If your foster is displaying behaviors that may be barriers to adoption, please contact POMDR office staff so we may offer you the expertise/guidance of trained professionals.</p> <p>“TEMPORARY FOSTERING”: In the event you need to be away from your foster dog for travel, holiday, etc., we have approved volunteers who are available to “temp foster” your foster dog while you are gone. Please contact Ellie Paolini at your earliest opportunity to communicate your plans so she can coordinate a temporary foster arrangement for your dog.</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> ADOPTION LIFECYCLE OVERVIEW & YOUR ROLE (Foster role highlighted)</p>	<p>To help you understand our adoption process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Dogs join our program after passing a basic behavior evaluation (from guardian surrenders or shelters) and move to a foster home. <input type="checkbox"/> Foster guardians help dogs learn routine; they advocate for the foster dog at adoption events, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Fosters help screen applicants. Potential adoption applications are screened by POMDR staff and forwarded to fosters who make contact and share information (realistic) about the dog. Fosters are encouraged to ask questions of potential adopters to help determine lifestyle “fit”. If you have any concerns when talking with potential adopters, communicate them directly to Bryan, our Adoption Coordinator. <input type="checkbox"/> Potential adopters will have a home check completed in advance of a “meet & greet” with your foster dog. <input type="checkbox"/> If the “meet & greet” goes well, the potential adopter is cleared to take the dog home on a trial adoption. (Fosters will want to bring several days of the dog’s diet, any medications, bedding, toys, etc. to this potential adoption meeting, as well as notes for the adopter to ensure a smooth transition. <input type="checkbox"/> Bryan (Adoption Coordinator) will be in touch with the adopter to finalize the adoption in the days following the adoption. <input type="checkbox"/> On occasion, an adoption does NOT finalize. We ask fosters to remain available for about 10 days to welcome the dog back so the dog does not have to make another transition.

<p><input type="checkbox"/> ADOPTION EVENTS: (“ADOPT ME” BANDANA & LEASH SLEEVE”, POMDR ATTIRE</p>	<p>As a foster volunteer, you will receive emails regarding upcoming adoption events (during non-covid times). If you can make your foster dog available to attend, you increase his/her exposure and likelihood of adoption. Your foster dog should “sport the POMDR colors” by wearing his/her “Adopt Me” bandana and leash sleeve. As a POMDR representative, you will also want to wear official POMDR attire (t-shirt, vest, etc.) which can be purchased at the office on Forrest Avenue at a nominal cost.</p> <p>(We also recommend you walk your foster with the “Adopt Me” bandana and leash sleeve, which is a “conversation starter” to promote your foster.)</p>
<p><input type="checkbox"/> QUESTIONS FOR ME?</p>	<p>At his point...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> What questions do you have for me? <input type="checkbox"/> Please feel free to reach out to any one on out POMDR staff on the Contact List in your packet if you have any questions. <input type="checkbox"/> You will receive emails about “Foster Needs”.
<p><input type="checkbox"/> THANK YOU FOR BECOMING A POMDR FOSTER!</p>	<p>Closing: “It takes a village to get a dog adopted; we thank you for playing a critical role in advocating for a POMDR dog looking for his/her forever home!”</p>