

# 3-3-3 RULE FOR ANIMAL ADOPTION

## 3D



### IN THE FIRST 3 DAYS:

#### *To Expect...*

- overwhelmed
- scared & unsure
- uncomfortable
- may not eat or drink
- shut down & may hide

#### *To Do...*

- give them space
- stay calm
- start daily routine
- don't force interaction
- don't intro to new people or places

## 3W



### AFTER 3 WEEKS:

#### *To Expect...*

- starting to settle
- feeling more comfortable
- adjusting to environment
- learning routine
- behavior issues may arise

#### *To Do...*

- set clear boundaries
- work on basic skills
- set up their space to encourage good behavior
- use positive reinforcement & praise success

## 3M



### AFTER 3 MONTHS:

#### *To Expect...*

- completely comfortable
- built trust & bond
- gained sense of security
- set in routine
- responding well to training

#### *To Do...*

- continue training
- seek additional training/behavior help for unique issues if needed
- start introducing to new people & places slowly

This is a general timeline you might expect with a newly adopted animal; however, of course, each individual animal will be unique.