

WHAT TO  
**EXPECT**  
WHEN **ADOPTING**  
A **DOG**



A GUIDE TO  
**SUCCESSFUL DOG ADOPTION**  
FOR EVERY FAMILY

**DIANE ROSE-SOLOMON**

WHAT TO  
**EXPECT**  
WHEN **ADOPTING**  
A **DOG**

*Thank you for everything  
you do to help animals  
and their people.  
With gratitude -  
Diane Rose*

A GUIDE TO **SUCCESSFUL DOG ADOPTION**  
FOR EVERY FAMILY

**DIANE ROSE-SOLOMON**



SOP3PUBLISHING.COM

SOP3 Publishing  
1507 7th Street #420  
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Copyright © 2016 by Diane Rose-Solomon

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without written permission from the publisher. All Rights Reserved.

For information about  
special discounts for bulk purchases,  
please contact [info@SOP3.com](mailto:info@SOP3.com)

Book design by Nate Myers, [wilhelmdesignco.com](http://wilhelmdesignco.com)  
Editing by Misty Cook, [logophileediting.com](http://logophileediting.com)  
Chapter illustrations by Lisette Rotman, [lisetteart.com](http://lisetteart.com)  
Front and back cover photos courtesy:  
Shelter Me Photography [www.facebook.com/ShelterMePhoto/](http://www.facebook.com/ShelterMePhoto/)

Published by SOP3 Publishing  
[www.sop3publishing.com](http://www.sop3publishing.com)

Paperback ISBN: 978-0-9857690-4-8  
Digital Edition ISBN: 978-0-9857690-5-5  
Library of Congress Control Number: 2016908844

## CONTENTS

About This Book.....	viii
Introduction.....	xi
<b>Module 1: Taking the First Steps.....</b>	<b>1</b>
Part I: Am I Ready? .....	1
Do I Have the Time/Energy? .....	3
Do I Have the Resources?.....	4
Part II: Beginning the Search.....	6
Age.....	6
Size.....	9
Breed .....	9
Temperament .....	12
<b>Module 2: Ok, You're Ready. What Now? .....</b>	<b>15</b>
Part I: Where Do I Go to Adopt a Dog?.....	15
Animal Shelters .....	16
Rescue Organizations .....	17
Where Do I Find Shelters and Adoption Events?.....	19
Fostering .....	20
What About Searching Online? What Are My Options?.....	22
What Do I Do if I Find a Dog in the Street? .....	24

*people on the front lines committed to  
either working or volunteering directly in  
adoption or in any other capacity. Your efforts  
and make a difference.*

Part II: What to Expect at the Shelter/Rescue Organization	
Adoption Event.....	26
How to Greet a Dog at a Shelter/Rescue Event.....	26
Sample Questions You May Be Asked .....	27
Sample Questions to Ask the Shelter/Rescue Organization.....	28
Part III: Dog Adoption vs. Dog Breeders.....	31
Myths about Shelter Dogs .....	31
Respectable Breeders .....	37
The Importance of Dog Adoption .....	38
<b>Module 3: Preparing Your Home .....</b>	<b>41</b>
Part I: Items You Will Need .....	41
Items Explained.....	43
Optional Items .....	56
Part II: What You Will Need to Do.....	62
To-do Explained .....	62
<b>Module 4: Integrating Your Dog Into Your Home .....</b>	<b>77</b>
Part I: Getting Acquainted .....	77
Patience.....	77
Multi-Pet Families .....	79
Tips for Introducing Dog to Dog.....	80
Tips for Introducing Dog to Cat .....	81
Housebreaking .....	81
Part II : Kids Roles, Expectations and Safety .....	84
Safety and Bite Prevention for the Whole Family.....	85
At Home .....	86
Out and About.....	87
Expecting a Baby?.....	89
Walking Safety For Kids .....	90

Shelter/Rescue Organization	26
Shelter/Rescue Event	26
Be Asked	27
Shelter/Rescue Organization	28
Breeders	31
	31
	37
Adoption	38
me	41
	41
	43
	56
Do	62
	62
<b>Dog Into Your Home</b>	77
	77
	77
	79
Dog	80
Cat	81
	81
s and Safety	84
for the Whole Family	85
	86
	87
	89
	90

Part III: Safety For Your Dog	92
Extreme Weather	92
Holidays	93
Part IV: Training, Exercise and Socialization	95
<b>Module 5: Advanced Dog Parenting</b>	105
Part I: Living Your New Life	105
While You're Away From Home	105
Traveling With Your Dog	110
Part II: Advanced Training and Special Certifications	113
Canine Good Citizen Designation	113
Service and Therapy Dogs	114
Advanced Bonding Activities	118
Part III: Specialty Health and Wellness	121
Advanced Veterinary Care	121
In Case of Emergency	127
Part IV: Exceptional Dogs	130
Special Needs	130
Physical Challenges	131
Emotional Challenges	131
Senior Dogs	134
Rehoming as a Last Resort	137
Saying Goodbye	138
Giving Back	146
Contact Me	151
Acknowledgements	152
List of Article Links	156
Links to Contributors	163
Bibliography	167
Index	173