



# THE 3 DAYS, 3 WEEKS, 3 MONTH RULE OF TAKING HOME A RESCUE PET

**The 3-3-3 rule is a general guideline.** Every pet is unique and will adjust differently. Give your pet space to go at their own pace.

## 3D

**IN THE FIRST 3 DAYS**



- Feeling overwhelmed
- Feeling scared
- Feeling unsure
- Not comfortable enough to show their personality
- May not want to eat or drink
- Shut down and may curl up in crate or hide under a table
- Testing boundaries

## 3W

**AFTER 3 WEEKS**



- Feeling more comfortable
- Starting to settle in
- Realizing this could possibly be their home
- Figuring out their environment
- Getting into a routine
- Letting their guard down and may start showing their true personality
- Behavior challenges may show up and require additional training

## 3M

**AFTER 3 MONTHS**



- Finally feeling completely comfortable in the home
- Building trust and a true bond
- Gained a complete sense of security with their new family
- Set in a routine

*Thank you for taking in a pet from Dallas Animal Services!*

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