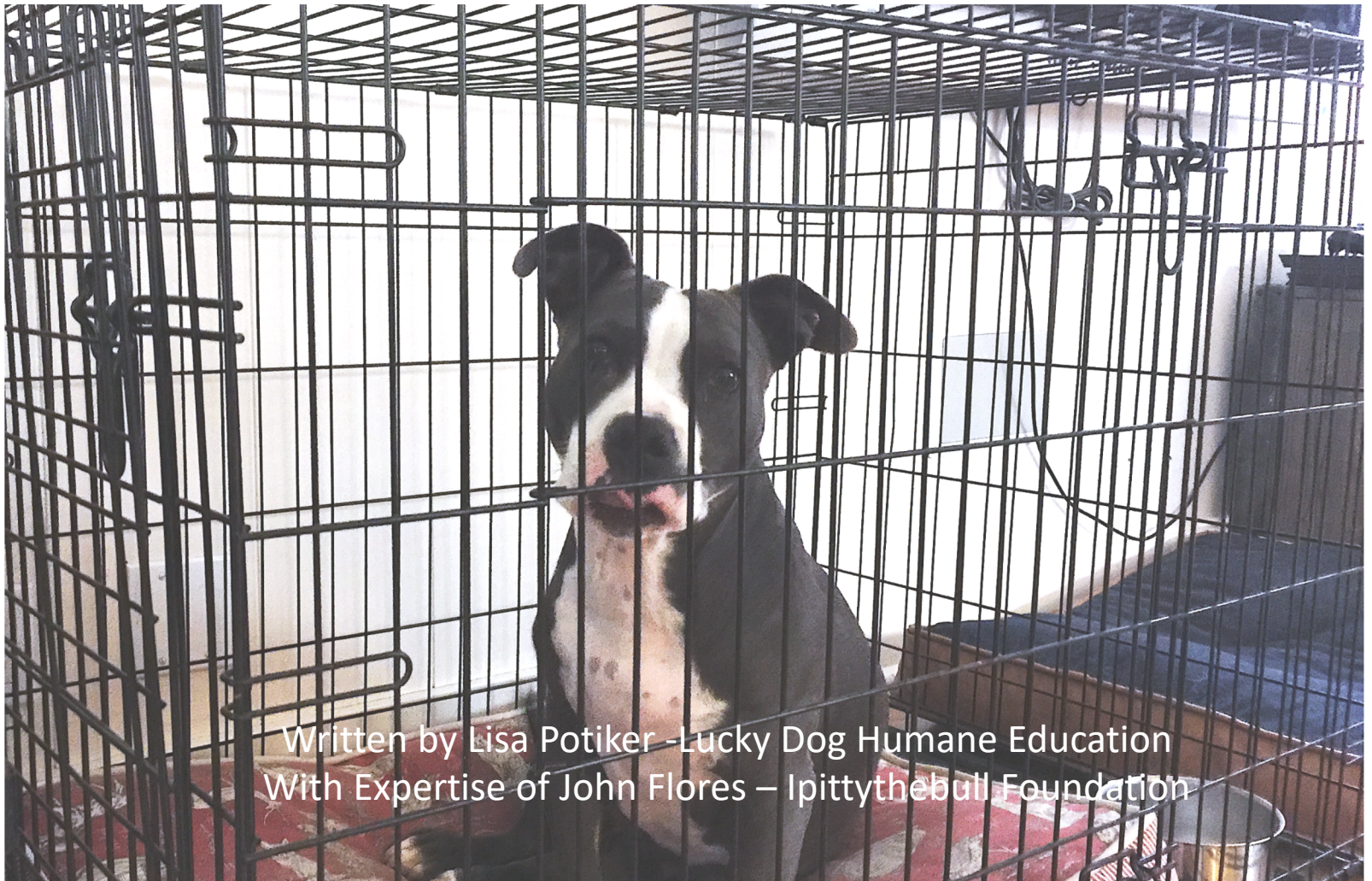


# CRATE, GATE, & WAIT

## A Guide to Foolproof Fostering/Adopting



Written by Lisa Potiker - Lucky Dog Humane Education  
With Expertise of John Flores - Ipittythebull Foundation

# *Avoid Common Mistakes*

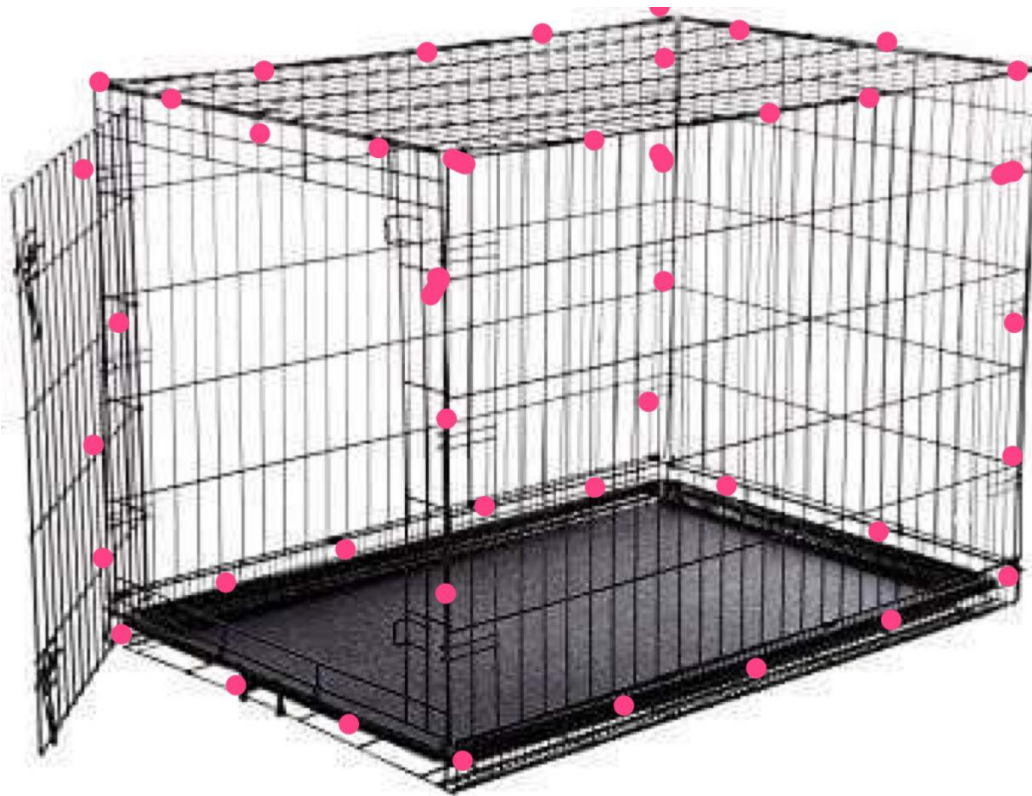




# Crate!

Prep your crate

- Reinforce your crate before bringing your dog home
- Place zip ties on all corners, sides, top, and bottom.
- Place Carabiner clips at top, middle, and bottom of the door



# Using a Crate



- Allows your dog to decompress
- Helps you teach your dog the house rules/routine
- Prevents chewed furniture and walls
- Prevents potty accidents
- Helps your new dog learn his place
- Prevents dog fights
- Prevents Escape

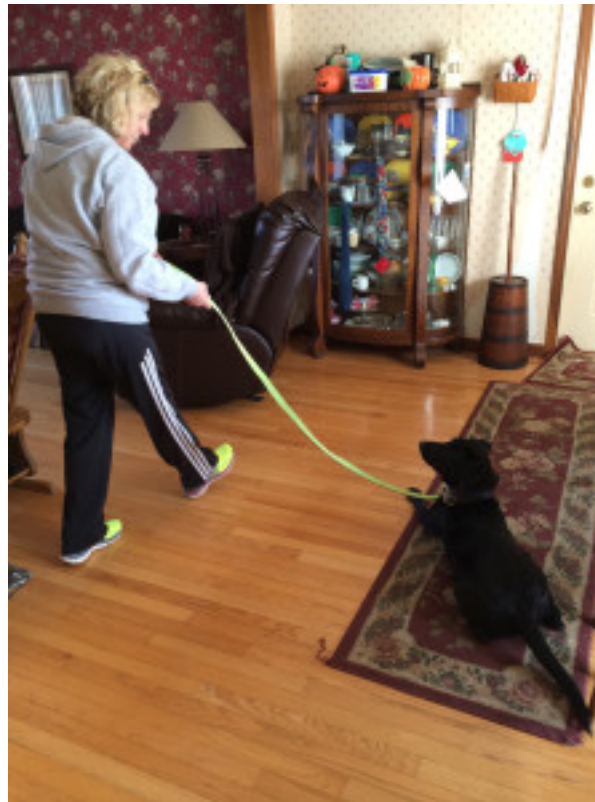
# Be Smart From the Start




Walk your new dog  
BEFORE going into the home.



Enter your home with dog on leash,  
**briefly** explore the home, give water  
and lead straight to crate.  
(on leash always)



## Decompression



When you get  
me home.  
Please let me  
relax for a bit.  
I love you.



# Decompress (first few weeks)

DO NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH, DO NOT GIVE TOO MUCH

- Allow your new dog to Smell, Hear, and See his new life without expecting him to LIVE his new life.
- Crate should be in an area where your new dog can smell and hear what is going on, but not right in the middle of things.

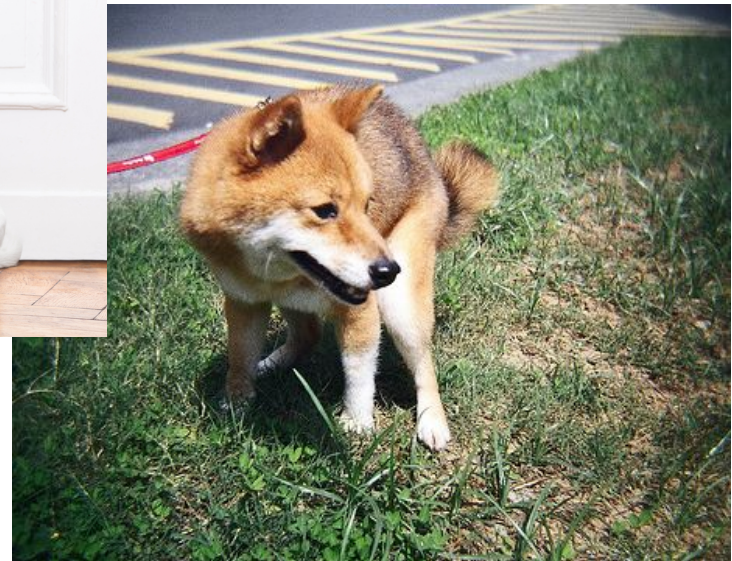


# Establish Routine

(always on leash, if out of crate)



1. After some time in crate, feed him and take him (on leash) to the door you will expect him to use to go potty, go out to potty

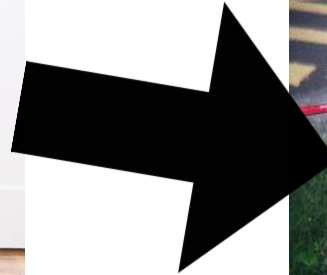


2. Come back indoors and spend a brief, calm, controlled, and leashed “out of crate” time.

NO couch, NO rough play, NO cuddles and kissy play, NO free roam.



3. Then back outside (same door) for potty... then back in crate



Do this routine for at least 2-3 weeks



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Using a crate sets you and your new dog up for SUCCESS!

Protect your dog, protect your home



# Preventing Escape

**Flat collars should be used for ID tags only. Not safe to attach to leash**



**Use a martingale collar or secure slip lead so your dog cannot “back out” of collar**





# Do NOT use Flat Collars for Leash

If he decided to back up and slip out, he will do it!



If she tries to back up and slip out, her martingale collar will tighten



A strong, sturdy slip lead with a catch  
is safe and secure for all dogs



GATE!



Remember to keep your pet on leash for the first 2-3 weeks



# Use Gates at Doorways

- A new dog will be afraid and may want to escape
- Protect your new dog by placing baby gates at any doorway that leads to an unfenced outdoor area
- Use baby gates to keep your new dog confined to a supervised area of your home



# GATE!!

Be responsible with outdoor gates!

- Make sure your gate is tall enough, sturdy, and has a strong latch
- NEVER trust that your gate is closed (check every time you let your dog(s) out in the yard)
- Know your gardener's/pool man's schedule and check to make sure gate has been securely closed and latched when they leave



# Be Safe, Be Responsible





# Wait!



- Allow your dog time to decompress, adjust, and learn the house rules/routine
- A new dog should spend the majority of their first weeks in a crate and only out for potty breaks and supervised (leashed) limited exploration.
- NO walks, NO unnecessary car rides, NO visits with friends, NO trips to Petco, NO dog parks

# WAIT!

(introducing to your established dogs)

1. Smell before see

2. See before touch

(walk before introducing)

1. No Nose to Nose





# Introducing Dogs

Smell Before See: (Allow your dogs to smell each other's scent first)  
This can be done on your blankets and clothing



# See Before Touch

Walk dogs: (Dog – Person – Person – Dog)  
Keep Dogs Moving With NO Direct Contact



# NO Nose to Nose

Do not allow your dogs to socialize Nose to Nose until you learn to read their body language



# Wait Until Your Dogs are Ready,

**DO NOT** Rush Introductions, **DO NOT** rush freedom, be patient and remember to **CRATE, GATE, and WAIT!!**

