

Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue & Rehabilitation



I Got a
Adora-Bull
Rescue
- Now What?





I Got a Adora-Bull Rescue - Now What?

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	2
2. Bringing your Rescued Bull Terrier Home	
2.1. Bringing your Rescued Bull Terrier Home - General Guidelines	3
3. Bringing your Rescued Bull Terrier Home - The First 7 Days	
3.1. Day 1: Bringing Your Rescued Bull Terrier Home	5
3.2. Day 2: Getting Your Bull Terrier Comfortable	6
3.3. Days 3-7: Creating a Routine for Your Rescued Bull Terrier	6
4. Settling Into Their New Life	8
5. Bringing Home a Rescued Bull Terrier with Other Pets	9
6. It Doesn't Happen Overnight - A Quick Guide	10
7. Adora-Bull Terrier Approved Training Methods	
7.1. Introduction	11
7.2. Positive reinforcement training	12
7.3. Rejected training methods	12
7.4. Literature on training	12
7.5. Identifying Fearful Body Language in Dogs	13
8. Bull Terriers and Children	
8.1. Introduction	14
8.2. Do's and Don'ts for Children	15
9. Bull Terriers and Dog Parks	16
10. Giving your Bull Terrier a Bath and Grooming	17
11. Potty Training your Bull Terrier	
11.1. Introduction	18
11.2. Signs That Your Bull Terrier Needs to Relieve Themselves	18
11.3. How to Start the Process	18
11.4. Rule out Medical & Behavioural Problems	19
11.5. What NOT TO DO when Potty Training!	20
12. In Conclusion	21
13. Disclaimer to Sign	22

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



1. Introduction

Welcoming a newly adopted rescue Bull Terrier into your family is an exciting time, as you have the opportunity to select a new furry family member. However, the first few days and weeks with your new Bull Terrier can be challenging for both you and your pet. It is important to understand what to expect during this time to help ease any worries and ensure your new companion adjusts to their new life.

It is essential to remember that your rescued Bull Terrier is a stranger entering your home. Your rescued Bull Terrier has probably been through a lot. At the very least, the Bull Terrier is experiencing a rehoming situation and a change in their residence, which can be very stressful, even for a well-adjusted dog. They may have experienced abuse, neglect, or other challenging situations, which can lead to stress and anxiety during the transition period. Therefore, it is unrealistic to expect them to adjust to their new family instantly. Instead, you need to be patient, observe and adapt to their wants and needs as they learn about yours.

It is common to assume that rescue dogs exhibiting nervous, shy, timid, or neurotic behaviour must have been physically abused or beaten. Of course, some certainly bear the scars of physical abuse. However, this is not necessarily the case. Dogs that have been isolated, for example, kept as "yard dogs," without socialization, mental or physical stimulation, may exhibit stress, anxiety, lack of confidence and poor people skills, which can be mistaken as physical abuse.

Despite their previous experiences, dogs are highly adaptable creatures, and Bull Terriers are particularly adaptable. With time, the right environment, and their needs met (that is physical, emotional and intellectual needs), all dogs can adapt and habituate to a new environment. Therefore, handling your rescued Bull Terrier appropriately from the beginning is critical to their successful rehabilitation.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



2. Bringing your Rescued Bull Terrier Home

2.1. Bringing your Rescued Bull Terrier Home - General Guidelines

Here are the guidelines to follow for at least 3 weeks after bringing home a rescued Bull Terrier:

- The first priority when bringing a rescued Bull Terrier into a new home is to give them TIME, and SPACE!
- It's important to create a calm, stress-free environment where you can be in control of the management thereof.
- Even if the dog seemed friendly and playful at the rescue or previous home, the transition to a new environment can be very frightening for them. It's important not to take any changes in their behaviour personally and to give them space to adjust. It has nothing to do with you at all. Stress can almost paralyse some individuals, so step back and give them some time.
- Stress is a commonly used word that describes feelings of strain or pressure. The causes of stress are exceedingly varied. These are the most common signs in dogs:
 - a. Pacing or shaking
 - b. Whining or barking
 - c. Yawning, drooling, and licking
 - d. Changes in eyes and ears
 - e. Changes in body posture
 - f. Shedding
 - g. Panting
 - h. Changes in bodily functions
 - i. Avoidance or displacement behaviour (like sniffing, licking or simply turning away)
 - j. Hiding or escape behaviour
- If your rescued Bull Terrier is stressed, first remove them from the stressor. Find a quiet place for them to regroup.
- Trigger stacking occurs when a dog is exposed to a number of triggers (stress factors) all at once, or one after the other. Each additional trigger "stacks" on top of the last, raising stress and arousal levels and pushing the dog closer to their coping threshold.
- We do not want this to happen. Too much stimulation is just as bad as too little.
- Don't force any kind of interaction, social or other.
- Many people feel that they have to give a rescue dog extra love and double attention in order to make up for what the dog has lost out on. Bull Terriers habituate behaviour very quickly, and from the beginning, the rules you set could quite likely be the ones that you are stuck with, and in some cases, you could live to regret!
- Don't fuss or attempt to play "fetch", or solicit play behaviour.
- As tempting as it may be, don't invite people to meet your rescued Bull Terrier. It is better to not let people come over for several days even.
- However, as much as we have said not to fuss too much and to try and be a little aloof with your rescued Bull Terrier, if they appear to gain comfort from your presence, then of course give them some company and affection. Just don't fuss, crowd, or go "over the top".
- If your rescued Bull Terrier approaches you, certainly give a kind word and a smile with physical contact if they are actively seeking this out.
- Sit back and observe your rescued Bull Terrier. Let them come to you. If they walk away, let them. This is their way of saying "I need a little space". It's not uncommon for a stressed or abused dog to react in a frightened or aggressive manner when handled.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



- If your rescued Bull Terrier becomes consistently stressed, see your veterinarian. After ensuring that your rescued Bull Terrier's behaviour does not have a medical basis, your veterinarian may refer you to a trainer or behaviourist to evaluate stress-related issues. They may also prescribe anxiety-reducing medications if appropriate.
- It's important not to set the rescued Bull Terrier up for failure by putting them in situations where they might make the wrong decision.
- Your rescued Bull Terrier can fulfil many expectations, and some rescued Bull Terriers quickly fit into a new home or new routine with new people. However, without some time, energy, and effort on your part as the new owner, things can go horribly wrong.
- Do not have unrealistic expectations of your new rescued Bull Terrier! 9 out of 10 times, rescue Bull Terriers were surrendered or abandoned because they weren't trained.
Please see the Section 7 below about Bull Terriers and Approved Training Methods.
- Expectations need to be realistic. Generally speaking, there are no quick fixes. In most cases it takes, time, patience and understanding to see improvements.
- Kids should be guided. Don't allow them to hang on the rescued Bull Terrier, hug them, put their faces to the bullies' face, etc. In other words, explain to your children they need to give the new Bull Terrier some space for a little while.
Please see Section 8 below about Bull Terriers and Children.
- Finally, make sure you have everything you need to care for the rescued Bull Terrier, including collars, leashes, ID tags, beds or crates, food and water bowls, food, treats, chew toys, grooming supplies, waste bags, and cleaning materials. It's also a good idea to fence off-limit areas with baby gates if necessary.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



3. Bringing your Rescued Bull Terrier Home - The First 7 Days

3.1. Day 1: Bringing Your Rescued Bull Terrier Home

- Adopting a rescued Bull Terrier is a heart-warming experience, but it can be challenging for both the dog and the new owner. It's important to understand that your new furry friend might have been through a lot before ending up in your care. They may have been in a rescue centre, a foster home, or bounced around between different homes. All these experiences can make them confused, stressed, and uncertain about their future.
- Therefore, it's crucial to make sure that their first few days in their new forever home are as uneventful and stress-free as possible.
- The first thing you should do when you bring your rescued Bull Terrier home is to take them outside to the area where you want them to go potty. This will help them understand where they should relieve themselves. You can also take them for a walk around the garden or let them sniff the yard to get familiar with their new surroundings. Please see Section 10 below on Potty Training your Bull Terrier.
- After that, it's essential to let your rescued Bull Terrier decompress. They need some space to find their feet and catch their breath. It's best to set up a space for them where they can relax and feel safe.
- When setting up a space for your rescued Bull Terrier, you should make sure it's an area of your home that they can chill out in without being disturbed. Let them choose where they feel comfortable and safe. Initially, their rights in this regard should be respected.
- A crate with a bed or blankets is an excellent start. You don't need to shut the door to the crate; just have it as a space for them to retreat to if they want.
- Also, make sure they have easy access to clean water.
- Your rescued Bull Terrier may or may not want to eat in the first few days. This is normal as they are still adjusting to their new environment. Try to feed them the same food they were eating in the rescue or their previous home. This can help alleviate any stomach discomfort they might have. Keep things simple. You may change the food, or try different diets once they are settled. Also, make sure they are drinking water to prevent dehydration.
- We feed our Bull Terriers twice a day, with a meaty dish or broth to go with the dry pellets.
- It's essential to ensure that nobody pesters them while they are eating, as they may have had to fight for food before. Which means they could resource guard their food. In all fairness, would you like if someone hassled you, or attempted to take your food whilst you were eating?
- Although it might be unpleasant, you should observe your rescued Bull Terrier's poop for the next few weeks. Sometimes, worms and parasites can creep up on them under stress or over time. If you notice anything abnormal, it's best to visit your vet to ensure they are healthy.
- Your rescued Bull Terrier is likely to be exhausted in the first few nights. Therefore, it's best to let them sleep alone in a room or crate at night. This will keep them safe and out of trouble when you are sleeping.
- Also, you don't know how they will react to the dark, noises, or movement, so it's best not to let them sleep on your bed, especially not in a room with children.
- Try to get them outside to relieve themselves before bedtime, but don't worry if they don't comply. It's possible that they might have a few accidents, so be prepared.
- Overall, adopting a rescued Bull Terrier requires patience, understanding, and love. It might take some time for them to adjust to their new home, but with a little effort and care, they will eventually feel safe, comfortable, and happy.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



3.2. Day 2: Getting Your Rescued Bull Terrier Comfortable

When you bring a rescued Bull Terrier into your home, it's important to remember that every dog is unique and may require a different approach. On the second day, your Bull Terrier may start to explore their new surroundings. However, it's normal for them to prefer hiding under a table or in their crate as they adjust to their new environment. This process is known as decompression, and it can take several days or even weeks for your rescued Bull Terrier to settle in.

- If your Bull Terrier wants more attention, it's important to give it to them slowly. Don't overwhelm them with too much affection or attention at once, as this can be stressful for them.
- If they approach you, be sure to show pleasure and praise them with positive, non-invasive body language. Avoid leaning over them or being too invasive, as dogs can perceive this as a threat. Instead, approach them with your shoulder leading or make yourself smaller without leaning forward. If your Bull Terrier is an only dog, you can offer them a soft, high-value treat each time they approach you on their own. However, be cautious if you have other dogs that may be defensive or have resource guarding issues.
- If your Bull Terrier prefers to keep their distance, it's important not to force the issue. In the early stages, it's crucial to let your rescued Bull Terrier interact with you on their own terms.
- If they show fear of anything, never force them to confront their fears. Once they have settled in, you can work with a qualified trainer or behaviourist to create a program to help them overcome their fears using counter conditioning and positive reinforcement.
- It's important to keep in mind that your rescued Bull Terrier may have never seen or experienced things that you take for granted. Stairs, television, vacuum cleaners, kids, bicycles, and other household items can all be unfamiliar and strange to a rescue.
- When introducing your Bull Terrier to new experiences, always be patient, positive, and reassuring. However, be mindful of their reactions and manage your expectations accordingly.
- With patience, consistency, and positive reinforcement, your Bull Terrier will learn to adapt to their new environment and become a loving and loyal companion.

3.3. Days 3-7: Creating a Routine for Your Rescued Bull Terrier

Bull Terriers are a breed of dog that thrive on structure and routine. They need boundaries and rules to feel safe and secure. When owners take on the role of decision-makers or parents, it reduces the stress and responsibility placed on the dog's shoulders. This is especially important for rescued Bull Terriers, who may have experienced trauma and uncertainty before finding their forever home.

- To help your rescued Bull Terrier adjust to their new home, it's important to establish a routine right away. This can include meal times, potty breaks, and play time. Having a schedule helps both dogs and humans alike feel more secure and comfortable.
- It's also important to slowly introduce new activities and experiences throughout the first week. Every dog is different, and each rescued Bull Terrier will need its own amount of time to adjust to their new environment.
- However, it's important to lay down the rules from the beginning. Don't allow certain behaviours just because you feel sorry for your new pet. This will only make it harder to change these behaviours later on. If you don't want your dog on the couch or begging at the kitchen table, make sure to enforce these rules from day one.
- At some point, you'll likely want to give your rescued Bull Terrier a bath. This can be a smooth process or a challenging one, depending on the dog's individual temperament.

Please see Section 9 below on Bathing your Bull Terrier

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



- Over the next few days, you can begin to introduce family members to your new pet. It's best to introduce them one at a time, rather than overwhelming your dog with a large, rowdy group.
- Keep visitors to a minimum, and allow your rescued Bull Terrier to decide if they want to interact or not.
- Instruct visitors to be non-influential and to offer soft, high value treats if the dog seems interested.
- When giving treats, make sure to hold your hand flat so the dog doesn't snatch or become too aggressive. This can be especially important for rescue Bull Terriers who may not have good manners when it comes to taking treats.
- Remember to set your dog up for success in all interactions and experiences.
- Don't force your dog to interact if they're not ready, and take things at a pace that's comfortable for your new pet. It's still early days, and you have plenty of time to help your rescued Bull Terrier adjust to their new life with you.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



4. Settling Into Their New Life

When bringing a rescued Bull Terrier into your home, it's important to remember that they will need time to adjust. While some may adapt quickly, many will need a period of time to get to know their new surroundings and become comfortable in their new home.

- It's important to be patient and understanding during this adjustment period.
- It's also important to remember that your rescued Bull Terrier will likely make mistakes as they learn the rules of your home. They may not be familiar with your routines, your rules, or your friends, so it's important to gently guide them into your routines and introduce them to any house rules.
- Keep in mind that Bull Terriers have a tendency to seize any opportunity that presents itself, especially when it comes to finding comfort and pleasure. Even if they have never been allowed on a sofa or bed before, they may still try to jump on them just to see if they can get away with it. Similarly, they may try to beg for food or snatch a treat off the counter if they think they can get away with it.
- Please do not to punish your Bull Terrier for trying these things, as they are just testing boundaries and exploring their new environment.
- Instead, try to limit their choices and not put them in the position where they are able to make the "wrong" choice. For example, if you don't want your Bull Terrier on the sofa, provide them with a comfortable bed of their own and redirect them to it if they try to jump on the sofa. If you don't want them to beg for food, feed them their meals at set times and in designated areas, and avoid giving them table scraps or treats that may encourage begging.
- Remember, positive reinforcement and redirection are more effective ways to establish desired behaviours than punishment or scolding. If you consistently reward and reinforce good behaviour and redirect or ignore unwanted behaviours, your Bull Terrier will quickly learn what is expected of them and settle into their new home.
- To help you bond with your rescued Bull Terrier, it's important to involve the whole family in their care. Everyone should take turns providing meals and good things in life, as well as participating in calm play.
- Basic training should also involve the whole family, using reward-based positive reinforcement methods. It's important to focus on rewarding and giving attention when your Bull Terrier displays good behaviour, rather than reinforcing negative behaviour by giving attention when they misbehave.
- When establishing rules, be careful which behaviours you give attention to.
- Giving attention while the Bull Terrier is exhibiting unwanted behaviours could reinforce that behaviour and lead to further escalation.
- Instead, focus on redirecting negative behaviour and praising positive behaviour.
- It can also be helpful to think outside the box and find alternative behaviours that your Bull Terrier can engage in to replace unwanted behaviours.
- Finally, it's important to make an appointment with your vet to have your rescued Bull Terrier checked out, even if they have already received a clean bill of health from the rescue organization. This will ensure that any health issues are addressed and that you have a complete record of their health history.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



5. Bringing Home a Rescued Bull Terrier with Other Pets

Adora-Bull Rescue has a strict policy when it comes to homing a Bull Terrier. They require a successful meet and greet with your existing pets before allowing the adoption to take place. However, even if the meet and greet goes well, your work is far from over. Bringing a rescued Bull Terrier into your home can be a stressful experience for both the dog and your existing pets.

- It is important to keep in mind that even the friendliest of dogs can become stressed and lash out when introduced to a new environment.
- Therefore, it is crucial to monitor their interactions constantly, particularly during the first few weeks of living together.
- All play and interaction should be kept calm and relaxed, and any signs of excitement should be stopped immediately. It is also recommended that interactions be kept to intervals to allow all dogs to relax.
- A good rule of thumb is to allow 15 minutes of interaction for every 2 hours apart during the initial phase of introduction.
- One useful way to help the dogs get used to one another is to take them for a walk together in a quiet park or neighbourhood.
- However, it is important to stay clear of any other dogs that could cause stress or distract the dogs from getting to know each other.
- During walks, different people should walk each dog, as holding both leashes when a fight breaks out can be dangerous.
- High-value rewards, such as toys or treats, should not be given during this time as it may lead to resource guarding and trigger fights.
- You need to anticipate potential triggers that could cause fights, such as food, toys, or even people. Therefore, it is recommended to feed each dog in their own separate area and not give treats when they are together.
- Giving bones to chew on should also be avoided as it has been known to trigger fights in the past.
- If your existing pets and the rescued Bull Terrier are socially compatible, it is recommended to put them in the same sleeping area to help them feel safe and secure. This can also help the rescued dog learn from their existing pets and develop new habits in their new home.
- Overall, introducing a new dog into your home requires patience, attention, and a willingness to monitor interactions constantly. However, with time, patience, and dedication, your new rescued Bull Terrier can become a beloved member of your family.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



6. It Doesn't Happen Overnight - A Quick Guide

IT DOESN'T HAPPEN OVERNIGHT

THE 3/3/3 RULE IS A GENERAL GUIDELINE FOR THE ADJUSTMENT PERIOD OF A DOG AFTER ADOPTION. EVERY DOG IS UNIQUE AND WILL ADJUST DIFFERENTLY.

<p>3 DAYS</p>	<p>3 WEEKS</p>	<p>3 MONTHS</p>
<p>TO DECOMPRESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FEELING OVERWHELMED ● MAY FEEL SCARED/UNSURE OF WHAT'S GOING ON ● NOT COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO BE "HIMSELF" ● MAY NOT WANT TO EAT OR DRINK ● SHUTS DOWN AND/OR HIDES UNDER FURNITURE ● TESTS THE BOUNDARIES 	<p>TO LEARN YOUR ROUTINE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● STARTS SETTLING IN ● FEELS MORE COMFORTABLE ● REALIZES THIS COULD BE HIS FOREVER HOME ● FIGURES OUT HIS ENVIRONMENT ● GETS INTO A ROUTINE ● LETS HIS GUARD DOWN, MAY BEGIN TO SHOW HIS TRUE PERSONALITY ● BEHAVIOR ISSUES MAY START TO APPEAR 	<p>TO START TO FEEL AT HOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FINALLY FEELS COMPLETELY COMFORTABLE IN HIS HOME ● BEGINS TO BUILD TRUST AND A TRUE BOND ● GAINS A COMPLETE SENSE OF SECURITY WITH HIS NEW FAMILY ● SETS INTO A ROUTINE

GIVE THEM A CHANCE

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
 Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



7. Adora-Bull Terrier Approved Training Methods

7.1. Introduction

Have you ever heard any of these phrases when discussing Bull Terriers with other people?

- "You have to be the pack leader for your dog"
- "Don't let them dominate you"
- "You need to have physical strength to handle these dogs"
- "They need to be kept in their place and shown who is boss"
- "Only certain people are cut out to own a Bull Terrier"
- "You have to use force to control them"
- "Bull breeds require different training than other breeds"

These beliefs are often based on the mistaken idea that "strong" dogs require a "strong" hand. However, if you agree with any of these statements, it may be time to reassess your approach to potentially adopting an Adora-Bull Rescue or reconsider what you've been taught in the past. At Adora-Bull Rescue, we only use positive reinforcement training with our Bull Terriers. It's important to remember that some of our dogs have come to us from situations of abuse, neglect, and deprivation of affection. We don't know what kind of treatment they have received before, but we do know what kind of future we want them to have. We want our Bull Terriers to be loved and cared for as a cherished member of your family, not as a means of dominance or control.

7.2. Positive Reinforcement Training

Positive reinforcement is a scientifically proven and efficient method of teaching your dog new behaviours that is also fun for both you and your pet. Using positive reinforcement establishes a pattern of learning and trust that can deepen your bond with your dog. Positive reinforcement can increase desired behaviours and decrease unwanted ones without resorting to force. By channelling your dog's energy into something constructive, many behavioural problems can be solved, and new positive behaviours can be learned. For example, teaching your dog to sit, down, stay, come, and leave it are all tricks that can help create positive behaviours.

All animals learn in the same way - by repeating behaviours they find rewarding and avoiding those they find unpleasant. Positive reinforcement training uses rewards to reinforce good behaviour, rather than punishment or fear. While punishment may work, it comes at a cost to your dog's physical and mental well-being, and can damage your relationship. Why train with force, pain, and fear when you can train with rewards?

At Adora-Bull Rescue, we have rules for our dogs, but we never use fear, force, or intimidation to implement them. We simply use rewards to reinforce the behaviour we want to see more of. It's important to take the time to teach your Bull Terrier what you want them to do and to reward them for doing it. Positive reinforcement works for all breeds of dogs, so there's no need to use force.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



In conclusion, there are no excuses or exceptions for using positive reinforcement training with your dog. It's a proven and effective way to build a strong bond with your pet and increase positive behaviours without resorting to force or punishment.

7.3. Rejected Training Methods

Please understand that aggressive training methods can actually lead to aggressive behaviour in dogs, especially if they are considered to be a "strong" breed. As a responsible dog owner, it is your obligation to properly train your dog and ensure that they are well-behaved members of society. However, it is crucial to avoid using fear, force, and intimidation during training, as this can create fear and aggression in your pet.

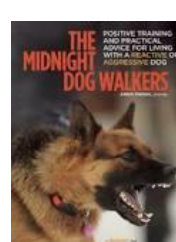
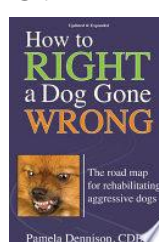
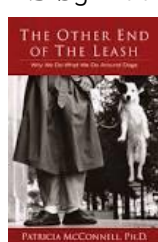
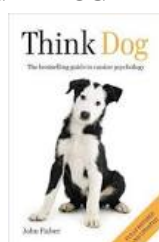
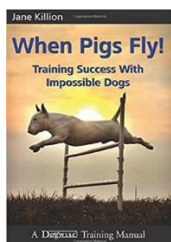
At Adora-Bull, we strongly reject any form of abusive, fearful, and forceful, or punishment-based training, as we believe that positive reinforcement is the best method for training any dog, including Bull Terriers. This means that we do not advocate for alpha-rolling, which involves forcefully pinning your dog to the ground to show dominance.

We also do not support the use of prong collars or choke chains, which can cause physical pain and discomfort to your pet, potentially leading to negative behavioural changes. Instead, we recommend the use of martingale collars, which provide more control without the choking effect of a slip collar, or a well-fitting, comfortable harness. For ultimate reassurance, both can be used together to ensure the safety and comfort of your pet during walks and training.

Take note that Adora-Bull reserves the right to reject any adoption application or even confiscate an adopted Bull Terrier if it comes to light that any aversive training methods are being used. We believe that every dog deserves to be treated with love, kindness, and respect, and we will do everything in our power to ensure that the Bull Terriers in our care is placed in safe and loving homes.

7.4. Literature On Training

- WHEN PIGS FLY - TRAINING SUCCESS WITH IMPOSSIBLE DOGS by Jane Killion
- THINK DOG by John Fisher
- THE OTHER END OF THE LEASH by Patricia McConnell
- HOW TO RIGHT A DOG GONE WRONG by Pamela Dennison
- THE MIDNIGHT DOG WALKERS by Annie Phenix



BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue

7.5. Identifying Fearful Body Language in Dogs

Identifying Fearful Body Language in Dogs

These body language signals indicate that a dog may be fearful.



Ears back



Tucked tail



Trembling



Avoids eye contact



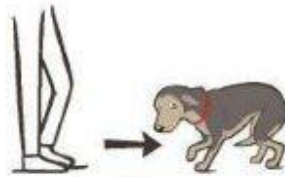
Crouching



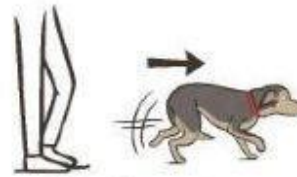
Cowering



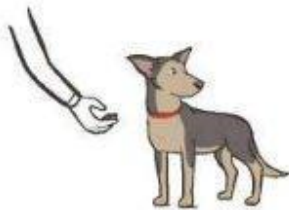
Lip licks



Backing away



Running away



Not interested in food



Does not approach



8. Bull Terriers and Children

8.1. Introduction

One of the most common questions we receive from first-time dog owners or those unfamiliar with the Bull Terrier breed is whether these dogs are good with kids. It is a valid concern as children may not always understand how to interact with dogs properly, and a dog's temperament can play a significant role in how they respond to kids. However, like many other breeds, the Bull Terrier's temperament depends on how well it was socialized from a young age.

It is crucial to socialize any dog with people, especially children, so they can learn to tolerate their behaviour. Kids tend to be curious and playful, but they may inadvertently tease or provoke a dog without realizing it. The dog's response to this behaviour will depend on how it was raised and socialized. Therefore, we strongly advise against putting any child around a dog that has not been well socialized.

Bull Terriers that have been raised correctly around children are fantastic pets and as kind-hearted as they come. They love children and make great playmates! However, since we deal with rescue Bull Terriers, we often don't know their history or background. Our behaviourists assess the dogs themselves by spending time with them and observing them.

We will never place a Bull Terrier in a home if we are not entirely sure that it will work. We won't set a dog up for failure, but it's also important for new owners to follow our guidelines. It's essential to take extra care when you have children in your home.

Remember that when you rescue a dog, you're bringing a virtual stranger into your home. This stranger has no idea what the rules and boundaries are, so it's essential to teach them and ensure that everyone in your home follows the same rules and boundaries. Parents must lay down the "do's and don'ts," and it's essential to maintain respect for the dog at all times. Unfortunately, a lack of knowledge on the child's part has led to instances where the dog was frightened, leading to a bite or nip, and the poor dog being blamed for lack of human parenting skills. This could even result in a dog being re-homed or, worse, euthanized.

The most crucial rule to remember is that smaller children and dogs should never be left alone unsupervised. Although older children may be more compatible, respect for the dog must always be maintained. By following these guidelines, you can ensure a harmonious relationship between your Bull Terrier and your family.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



8.2. Do's and Don'ts for Children

- Bull Terriers are prone to getting overexcited, so it is important to keep their excitement levels under control.
- Children should be taught not to excite a dog too much. Loud screaming, yelling, and rough play must be discouraged around any dog.
- Children should also be taught not to tease a dog or push them beyond their limits. Dogs that are teased or pushed too hard will snap or bite.
- Children should never pull a dog's tail or ears, slap them, jump on them, or try to ride them. Hugging or kissing a dog should also be avoided.
- A dog will let you know when they are comfortable receiving affection by leaning on you, licking you, or lying down in your presence.
- Never chase a dog that is walking or running away, and always give them space when they turn away or avoid interacting. Explain to children why the dog does not want to interact.
- Never disturb a dog while they are eating, and do not attempt to take their food while they are eating.
- Never disturb a sleeping dog. Always call the dog and let them know you are approaching.
- Discourage letting a dog sleep with smaller children on their beds until you are 100% sure the dog will not react if the child has a nightmare or startles the dog.
- A wagging tail does not necessarily mean the dog is friendly.
- Teach children basic signs that a dog is unhappy and may become reactive, such as yawning, lip licking, whites of eyes showing, avoiding, growling or lip raised, head low and tail between legs, hair raised behind neck, etc.
- If a dog is injured, children should be taught not to touch or try to help it and to get an adult to assist. Even family dogs have been known to bite in a situation where they have been injured.
- Encourage children to participate in the daily care of the dog, such as feeding and watering, and allow them to come with you to take the dog for a walk.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



9. Bull Terriers and Dog Parks

Dog parks can lure in dog owners with the promise of free-spirited canine play. However, these parks often fall short of expectations for several reasons. The unpredictable nature of other dogs' temperaments is a major concern.

Firstly, ask yourself - Do you know your rescued Bull Terrier well enough? How would they react in a situation where other dogs are running up to them? Did you adopt a Bull Terrier as an only dog? If so, this is even more reason never to go to a dog park. That said, even the most friendly and trained Bull Terrier might not match the behaviour of others. Just because your Bull Terrier gets along with your other pets, doesn't mean they will get along with all other dogs at the park. This mix can lead to conflicts and fights, a prevalent worry.

Neglectful supervision at dog parks is common, allowing dogs to misbehave and escalate tensions. Even attentive owners might lack understanding of basic dog behaviour cues, turning a fun outing into a stressful or perilous one. For Bull Terriers, the risk is even greater, as these environments offer little control and understanding. Unpredictable interactions can lead to blame and conflicts. Bull Terriers may not start fights, but they will usually finish them and then - of course - the Bull Terriers will be the one blamed.

Exposure to unhealthy pets and potential diseases is another downside, facilitated by shared resources and inadequate vaccinations. Dog parks can inadvertently foster undesirable habits and illnesses between dogs. Contamination and lack of control in such areas can easily lead to health risks. Sharing drinking water or coming in contact with another dog's faecal matter can cause things such as kennel cough, canine influenza, giardia, fleas, and other parasites to spread easily. Furthermore, not all animals may be up-to-date on their necessary vaccinations.

It is simply unwise to expose Bull Terriers to strange dogs in an environment you cannot control, and a dog park is probably the definition of an uncontrollable environment.

Opt for controlled walks as the superior choice, whether in your neighbourhood, or in any other parks. Minimizing interactions with other animals is best. Keep your Bull Terrier on a leash or harness at all times during outings. It's highly recommended not to let your Bull Terrier off leash anywhere, under any circumstances.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



10. Giving your Rescued Bull Terrier a Bath

Giving a bath to a rescue Bull Terrier can be a stressful experience for both the dog and the owner. However, with a little patience and understanding, it can be a positive bonding experience. In addition to the usual considerations for bathing a dog, such as having shampoo, conditioner, towels, and a non-slip bath mat, there are some additional things to keep in mind when bathing a rescue Bull Terrier.

- Firstly, it is important to keep the bath simple, short, and low-stress. Pay attention to your rescued Bull Terrier's behavior to ensure that they are not becoming overwhelmed or showing signs of aggression. It is helpful to walk or play with the dog beforehand to tire them out and establish a positive bond.
- When preparing for the bath, it can be helpful to put cotton balls in the dog's ears to prevent water from entering the ear canals. Additionally, have all necessary items within easy reach to minimize the time your dog spends in the bath.
- To introduce your Bull Terrier to the bathwater, fill the tub with a few centimeters of warm water and carefully lift the dog into the tub, supporting them around their chest and abdomen. Watch their reaction and proceed slowly.
- To wet down your rescued Bull Terrier, use a cup or container to gently scoop water over them. If they are calm and do not mind water, you can switch to a handheld shower to wet them down, if available. However, if your dog seems nervous, it is best to continue using a cup to wet them down. Use a washcloth to wet their face and talk to them in a calm, friendly manner to reassure them.
- When shampooing and conditioning your rescued Bull Terrier, start from the neck back and use a washcloth to apply soap to the face, being careful to stay away from the eyes and mouth. Rinse thoroughly and apply conditioner in the same manner.
- Pay special attention to your dog's ears and eyes, as rescue dogs may have issues such as wax buildup, fungal infections, or tear stains.
- As you bathe your rescued Bull Terrier, be on the lookout for parasites such as fleas, ticks, and mites, which are common in rescue dogs.
- Be patient and reassuring throughout the process, and if your dog shows signs of aggression, stop what you're doing and take precautions to avoid injury.
- When it comes time to dry your dog, remove them from the tub and pat them dry with a towel. If your dog is comfortable with it, you may try using a blow dryer on a low setting. However, if your Bull Terrier seems frightened by the blow dryer, allow them to air dry instead.

In conclusion, bathing a rescue Bull Terrier requires extra attention and patience, but it can be a rewarding experience for both the dog and the owner. Keep the bath simple, short, and low-stress, and pay attention to your dog's behavior throughout the process. With patience, care, and understanding, your rescued Bull Terrier can enjoy a clean and comfortable experience.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



11. Potty Training your Bull Terrier

11.1. Introducton

House training your dog or puppy necessitates patience, dedication, and unwavering consistency. If your rescued Bull Terrier is having accidents indoors, even after you thought they were potty trained, there's no need to be alarmed. This is a common issue during the training process, and accidents are to be expected. By adhering to some fundamental house training guidelines, you can guide the newest member of your family in the right direction. Whether you're dealing with a puppy or an older dog, potty training techniques remain essentially the same. The only distinction is that adult dogs tend to grasp potty training more quickly than puppies, so don't believe the saying that old dogs can't learn new tricks. The advantage of an adult dog's ability to hold it for longer periods can make the process smoother than with a puppy, but remember not to force them to wait excessively.

11.2. Signs That Your Bull Terrier Needs to Relieve Themselves

Sniffing is one of the first signs that a your Bull Terrier needs to be let out. They will start to sniff the floor to search for an area to relieve themselves. Other signs include:

- Abrupt changes in activity, behavior, or play
- Circling
- Whining
- Going to the door, scratching or pawing at the door
- Returning to a previously soiled area in the house
- Sniffing or licking the groin/rear

11.3. How to Start the Process

- Sniffing is one of the first signs that a your Bull Terrier needs to be let out. They will start to sniff the floor to search for an area to relieve themselves.
- Take your rescue Bull Terrier outside frequently, ideally every hour, and especially after they wake up, eat, or drink.
- Allow them some time to sniff around, exercise, and explore before they relieve themselves. The more opportunities they have to do their business outside, the faster they'll understand what's expected of them.
- Choose a specific bathroom spot outside and always take them there on a leash. While they're relieving themselves, use a consistent word or phrase that you can eventually use as a cue for them to understand what to do. After they've finished, you can take them for a longer walk or playtime.
- Reward your rescue Bull Terrier every time they eliminate outdoors. Offer praise or treats, but remember to do it immediately after they finish, not when they come back inside. This step is crucial as it helps teach them the desired behavior. Ensure they have completely finished before giving rewards, as Bull Terriers can be easily distracted and may forget to finish if praised too soon.
- Establish a regular feeding schedule for your rescue Bull Terrier. What goes in on a schedule is more likely to come out on a schedule.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



- Keeping a housetraining chart or jotting down notes about your dog's elimination patterns can help you identify trends and better support their learning process.
- Do not allow your rescue Bull Terrier to roam freely indoors if they haven't eliminated outside.
- Avoid using newspaper indoors as a place for them to relieve themselves, as it may convey the wrong message. If possible, set your alarm clock and take them outside a couple of times during the night for the first few days.
- Limiting their choices indoors can reduce the likelihood of accidents, although there are no absolute guarantees.
- With persistence and consistency, your rescued Bull Terrier will soon adapt to the desired behavior and become a well-trained and cherished member of your family.

11.4. Rule out Medical & Behavioural Problems

There are several reasons why your rescue Bull Terrier might have accidents, including the possibility that they were never properly trained or have never lived indoors before. It's not uncommon for dogs who have spent extended periods relieving themselves on concrete, in pens, or even in crates to struggle with housetraining.

While occasional accidents can be expected, they can also signal more significant underlying issues. If your dog was making progress with housetraining but then suddenly regresses or seems unable to grasp the concept despite your consistent efforts, there might be a medical problem.

In such cases, it's essential to schedule a comprehensive veterinary checkup for your dog. Early diagnosis of medical conditions can save both you and your pet from unnecessary stress and embarrassment. After all, it's difficult to learn proper potty habits when feeling unwell or dealing with an infection. Some medical problems that can cause setbacks in potty training include:

- Urinary tract infection
- Bladder inflammation ("cystitis")
- Bladder or kidney stones
- Kidney disease
- Skin infections of the vulvar or preputial folds
- Metabolic/endocrine diseases like diabetes, Cushing's, and Addison's disease
- Certain gastrointestinal upsets
- Canine Cognitive Dysfunction (Doggy Dementia)
- Brain diseases that can disrupt the normal elimination patterns

If medical reasons have been ruled out and your dog is still having accidents indoors, there might be behavioral factors at play. Some potential behavioral reasons for accidents include:

- Lack of proper house training
- Incomplete house training
- Breakdown in house training
- Preference for specific surfaces
- Anxiety

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



- Fear of going outside
- Dislike of cold or rainy conditions
- Urine marking
- Separation anxiety
- Submissive/excitement urination

Identifying and addressing the root cause of your Bull Terrier's accidents is crucial in helping them become a well-adjusted and properly housetrained member of your family. Patience, understanding, and consistent training can go a long way in overcoming these challenges.

11.5. What NOT TO DO when Potty Training!

It's possible that your adult dog might already have negative associations with people or their surroundings, which could contribute to behavioral issues and accidents. In such cases, it's crucial to approach their training with patience and utilize positive reinforcement techniques.

- Avoid resorting to punishment or harsh treatment if you discover an accident in the house. Actions like rubbing their nose in the mess or yelling at them will only instill fear in your dog and won't yield any positive results.
- Negative punishment can cause significant psychological harm, and it's best to steer clear of such methods.
- Instead, calmly and without making a big fuss, immediately guide your dog to their designated outside bathroom spot when you catch them having an accident. Once they finish eliminating in the correct spot, offer praise and a treat to reinforce the desired behavior.
- Additionally, make sure to thoroughly clean the soiled area. Dogs are highly motivated to continue soiling in spots that smell like urine or feces, so proper cleaning helps discourage repeat accidents in the same location.
- Avoid Ammonia-Based Products to clean, because you may actually amplify the "bathroom smell" because pee contains ammonia. Cleaning accidents using ammonia-based products, therefore, will only attract them to potty in the same exact spot. The best cleaning products to clean accidents are enzyme-based products.

By employing positive reinforcement, being patient, and maintaining a supportive training environment, you can help your drescue Bull Terrier overcome their challenges and foster a healthy and trusting relationship.

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



12. Conclusion

Adopting a rescue Bull Terrier can be a very fulfilling experience, as you are giving a second chance at life to a wonderful animal that is in need of a loving home. Although they may come with some challenges, such as fear and anxiety due to past experiences, it is incredibly rewarding to see them thrive in their new environment.


One of the most notable characteristics of rescue Bull Terriers is their loyalty. They have a deep-seated desire to please and will give their all to their new family. With time, patience, and love, they will come out of their shell and become a cherished member of the family.

However, it's important to understand that the transition to their new home may take some time. Depending on their past experiences, it could take days, weeks, or even months for them to feel comfortable in their new surroundings. This is where patience and self-restraint come into play, as it's important to let them adjust at their own pace.

Once your rescued Bull Terrier feels at home, the bond that you develop with them is truly special. They will show you an unconditional love and appreciation that is hard to match. As you work through their issues and earn their trust, you will be rewarded with a loyal and devoted companion for life.

We want to express our gratitude for choosing Adora-Bull Terrier Rescue and Rehabilitation and for opening your heart and home to a rescue Bull Terrier. Your adoption has made a tremendous difference in the life of an animal in need, and we thank you for being a part of this rewarding journey.



—  —
Thank you for making
Adora-Bull Rescue
part of your Family



BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue



13. Disclaimer to Sign

I, _____, hereby confirm that I have read and fully understand the information provided in this document before starting the application process. Please initial every page of this document.

Signature:

Date:

BANKING DETAILS

Adorabull Terrier Rescue, Nedbank, current Account: 1110947801
Branch: Clearwater 18250500, Ref: Rescue