

# Pima Animal Care Center's Online Dog Foster Orientation

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## PACC's Adult Dog Foster Orientation



### Adult Dog Foster Orientation

Welcome to PACC's Adult Dog Foster Program! This orientation is primarily geared toward physically healthy large dogs in need of a shelter break. If you are interested in small breed or medical dogs, please email [pacc.foster@pima.gov](mailto:pacc.foster@pima.gov) and voice your interest.

This online orientation is comprised of 9 sections and should take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Thanks and welcome to the PACC Foster Family!

\* Required

Email address \*

Your email

Phone Number \*

Your answer

First Name \*

Your answer

Last Name \*

Your answer

I am interested in fostering... (choose all that apply)

- Medium and large adult dogs
- Long-stay dogs
- Dogs in behavioral decline
- Shy or undersocialized dogs
- Seniors
- Dogs that need help learning people manners
- Dogs that need help learning dog manners
- Couch potatoes
- Running buddies
- Other:

I have \_\_\_\_ in my house (choose all that apply) \*

- Kids
- Big dog(s)
- Little dog(s)
- Cat(s)
- Other pets
- Other adult(s)
- It's just me in here!

Do you like dogs? \*

1 point

- Yes

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# PACC's Adult Dog Foster Orientation



## Adult Dog Foster Orientation

\* Required

Welcome!

Watch this introductory video and answer the following questions.



1. How is PACC's foster program funded? \*

1 point

- PACC's foster coordinators are volunteer positions
- Girl Scout cookies
- Through a grant from Maddie's Fund

2. Where can you find a current list of dogs we're seeking foster placement for? \*

1 point

- Under the bed
- The foster plea board: [www.tinyurl.com/paccdogfoster](http://www.tinyurl.com/paccdogfoster)
- Hidden within Ryan Gosling's expansive Wikipedia page

3. Which dogs are eligible for foster-to-adopt? \* 1 point

- Unaltered and short term medical needs animals
- All PACC pets
- Purebred dachshunds only

4. Which physically healthy adult dogs are most in-need of foster? \* 1 point

- Large dogs
- Pit mixes
- Dogs in behavioral decline
- All of the above

5. What's the first step to joining PACC's foster program? \* 1 point

- Filling out the foster signup application: [www.tinyurl.com/fostersignup](http://www.tinyurl.com/fostersignup)
- Filling out a volunteer application
- Joining the AKC

6. Who is Louie? \* 1 point

- The best dog in the world.

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# Adult Dog Foster Orientation

\* Required

## Why Foster? (Get Hype)

Watch the short video below of someone who is definitely not me detailing all the best reasons to foster and then answer the following question!

### Should You Foster A Shelter Animal?



#### 7. So why should you foster then?? \*

1 point

- It's freakin' fun
- Any time away from the shelter is quality enrichment for a dog
- Your house is bigger than a dog kennel
- Fostering expedites adoption when you pair it with marketing
- Dog's recover faster in a home environment
- Living at the shelter sucks
- You make more space for other animals
- It significantly lowers a dog's stress levels, making them more adoptable
- All of the above and more. Obviously.

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## Good Idea/Bad Idea

Let's test your Dog IQ! Evaluate the scenarios in each picture below and decide it's a good idea or bad idea!

### 8. Off-leash dog parks



#### Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. I love putting myself, my foster and potentially other dogs at risk.
- Bad idea. I take safety seriously and as my foster's guardian, I know better than to put my foster in a situation as reckless as this.

### 9. Retractable Leashes



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. I can't wait for my foster to break this thing and run away.
- Bad idea. I prefer to keep my fosters on a sturdy short leash using two hands for full control.

### 10. Rewarding with treats for good behavior



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. Rewarding dogs for good behavior is a great way to encourage all sorts of training and create a solid bond between foster and caregiver.
  - Bad idea. I hate happy things like smiles and laughter. I don't even think I like dogs. Why am I here?
-

### 11. Holding the leash with both hands



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. Dogs are strong and curious. Using both hands ensures the dog has my full attention and that I have full control.
- Bad idea. I want the dog to walk me.

### 12. Leaving children or babies unsupervised with dogs



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. Sometimes babies need to learn the hard way that you don't poke a dog in the face.
- Bad idea. Even the most laid back dogs are uncomfortable in certain situations and this is a recipe for a dog bite.

13. Leaving dogs unsupervised in the backyard



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. I didn't want to foster a dog anyway. This was my girlfriend's idea.
- Bad idea. Dogs are curious explorers with springs in their legs. There is a high chance of me returning to an empty yard if I leave my foster outside unsupervised.

14. Squatting or sitting during dog introductions



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. I understand that some dogs are wary or shy of people. The lady in this picture is bringing herself to the dog's level so as not to overwhelm him when they first meet. It is also a good idea to let the dog approach you on their terms during introductions. Do not force an interaction.
- Bad idea. I'm here to scare dogs.

15. Treat puzzles



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea. Dogs benefit from mental stimulation and enrichment. Puzzles and toys are a great way to tire them out, keep them happy and teach them appropriate things to put their mouth on.
- Bad idea. Dogs are lame.

16. Making the world acknowledge your foster dog!



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea! One of the greatest benefits of foster care a dog will receive is the gift of a human to champion them. Social media and public outings are great ways to meet people who might want to adopt a foster.
- Bad idea. I should keep my foster a secret from the world. I think I'll even stop answering phone calls from my foster coordinator.

17. Crate-training



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

- Good idea! Using a crate could potentially save my couch. HOWEVER, I understand that it's important for a dog to feel comfortable in a crate before being left alone for long periods of time and I will work on or research proper crate-training in advance if I plan to use one.
- Bad idea. Let's roll the dice and see what happens when I leave the house.

18. Taking treats or toys away from dog while in use



Good idea or bad idea? \*

1 point

Good idea! Everyone loves sharing and especially dogs.

Bad idea. Some dogs have no problem sharing but many will feel the need to "guard" their food, treat or toy which could result in a bite or a dog fight. It's best practice to either leave them be until they're finished with said item or actively work with them on resource guarding with positive reinforcement training. If I would like to pursue the latter, I will talk to my foster coordinator for safety tips and suggestions.

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**Dog Body Language 101**

Refer to the chart (or your personal knowledge or the vast expanses of the internet) to think about and answer the questions about dog body language below!

**DOGGIE LANGUAGE**

starring Boogie the Boston Terrier



19. Which action is a possible sign of stress? \* 1 point

- Nose lick
- Yawn
- Whale eye
- "Shaking it off"
- Scratching
- Panting
- All of the above

20. Which action is a possible sign of a relaxed dog? \* 1 point

- Loose body
- Soft ears
- Soft wagging tail
- Blinky eyes
- All of the above

21. Which action is a possible sign of alertness? \* 1 point

- Stiff body
- Tall, stiff ears
- Wide eyes
- Straight tail
- Closed mouth
- All of the above

22. Which action is a possible sign of an anxious or scared dog? \* 1 point

- Tail tuck
- Ears back
- Crouch
- Whale eye
- Raised hackles
- Teeth baring
- Growl
- All of the above

23. Which action is a sign of joy or comfort? \* 1 point

- Play bow
- Stretch
- Wiggles!
- Rolling over for belly rubs
- Sniffing the ground
- All of the above

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## The Decompression Phase

Understanding that your foster will be in "recovery mode" for a little while as they decompress in your home is very important. Watch the videos below to learn about best practices during the decompression phase.



24. What should you AVOID doing with your foster for the first couple days? \* 1 point

- A. Introducing them to every person I've ever met in my life
- B. Tiring them out with mentally and physically enriching activities and exercise
- C. Throwing them into a room with my other dogs unsupervised
- D. Both A & C

25. What should you DEFINITELY do with your foster for the first couple days? \* 1 point

- A. Tire them out mentally and physically with enriching activities and exercise.
- B. Limit meet and greets to only members of the household and make sure they are seated.
- C. Avoid overstimulation. Keep the household as calm as possible and just let them relax between walks.
- D. All of the above.

26. What is a kong? \* 1 point

- A. A good idea.
- B. A giant gorilla with a penchant for blondes.
- C. A tasty way for your foster to tire themselves out.
- D. All of the above.

27. What are some ways to help your foster relax? \* 1 point

- A. Blasting death metal at 150 decibels.
- B. Diffusing lavender essential oil into the air.
- C. Taking them on a long walk.
- D. Both B & C

## Best Practices - The First Two Weeks



28. What should you do with the leash during the decompression phase? \* 1 point

- A. Leave it on
- B. Throw it away
- C. Wear it like a scarf

29. What does your foster need most during the decompression phase? \* 1 point

- A. Hugs
- B. Kisses
- C. Structure and exercise
- D. Quiet
- E. Both A & B
- F. Both C & D

30. Crate training is not mandatory but highly encouraged. 1 point  
If you are going to crate train, what are first steps you should take? \*

- A. Throw treats in the crate
- B. Lay a blanket down in the crate
- C. Let the dog experience multiple short, positive bouts in the crate before being left longer.
- D. All of the above

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## Managing Dog to Dog Behavior at Home

Watch the short videos below and answer the following questions. Keep in mind that these are just snippets of dog language and behavior and that there is an endless library of dog videos and literature online that exist to further educate.



## Proper Dog Introductions



31. When is an ideal time to let dogs meet? \*

1 point

- A. On a tight leash
- B. When they are visibly relaxed
- C. When they are REALLY excited!
- D. After you've tired them out
- E. Both A & C
- F. Both B & D

When to Interrupt Play



32. How is the dog on the right communicating discomfort? \*

1 point

- A. Body symmetry
- B. Lip lick
- C. Whale eye
- D. Yawn
- E. Showing teeth
- F. B, C, D & E
- G. Both A & C

### Dog Play - Positive Signs



33. What are some signs that play is going well? \*

1 point

- A. Body symmetry
- B. Raised hackles
- C. Play bows
- D. Exaggerated, bouncy movement
- E. Whale eye
- F. A, C & D
- G. Both B & E

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## From Foster to Adoption

Watch this quick vid on foster marketing and adoption logistics and answer the following questions!



34. What are the 4 guidelines for foster marketing? \* 1 point

- Disclose everything upfront, be creative, make interested parties wait, be everywhere
- Avoid stop language, be everywhere, be accessible, be creative

35. What should your first stop in foster marketing be? \* 1 point

- Getting my foster's name plastered on a rocket headed to Mars
- Updated photos and information for their shelter adoption profile
- Wrapping my car with a large scale printout of my foster's face

36. If you adopt your foster out from home, who is responsible for bringing adoption paperwork and fees to PACC within 48 hours? \*

1 point

- You
- The adopter (spoiler alert: not this one)

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### PACC Logistics, Resources and Contact Info

Last section! You did it! Watch this last video and answer the following questions!



37. If you have a question where are you most likely to quickly find an answer? \*

1 point

- The foster resource page: [www.pima.gov/petfoster](http://www.pima.gov/petfoster)
- THE FOSTER RESOURCE PAGE: [WWW.PIMA.GOV/PETFOSTER](http://WWW.PIMA.GOV/PETFOSTER)!
- THE FO000STERRR REEEEEESOURCE PAAAAAGE!!! - [WWW.PIMA.GOV/PETFOSTER](http://WWW.PIMA.GOV/PETFOSTER)
- IDK maybe the foster resource page? - [www.pima.gov/petfoster](http://www.pima.gov/petfoster)

38. If you need to return your foster, what should you do? \*

1 point

- Schedule a return appointment via the foster resource page
- Show up unannounced... Imma give you a freebie right now and just tell you this is not the correct answer.

39. If your foster needs to be seen for a medical issue, what should you do? \* 1 point

- Take them to your personal vet and bill PACC later
- Schedule them to be seen at our PACC Clinic via a link on the foster resource page
- Diagnose and treat the problem with Windex

40. What should you do in the event of an after hours foster emergency? \* 1 point

- Call my dad
- Call the foster emergency line: 520-724-5988. This number can also be found on the foster resource page.
- Tuck and roll

41. If you can't get a hold of your foster coordinator for a general question that is not answered on the foster resource page, what should you try next? \* 1 point

- Emailing the general foster inbox: [PACC.Foster@pima.gov](mailto:PACC.Foster@pima.gov)
- Calling the foster emergency line

42. What are some avenues for getting in touch with other PACC fosters and volunteers? \* 1 point

- Basic Training Support: [tdfosterhelp@gmail.com](mailto:tdfosterhelp@gmail.com)
- Decompression Program Support: [decomfosters@gmail.com](mailto:decomfosters@gmail.com)
- PACC Foster Facebook Group
- PACC Volunteer and Staff Page Group
- All of the above

A copy of your responses will be emailed to the address you provided.

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SUBMIT