

3-3-3 RULE

The 3-3-3 Rule is a general guideline of the decompression process for a Canine in a new environment.

Every dog is unique and will adjust differently, so give them space and allow them to go at their own pace.

3 DAYS



In the first 3 days,

- May feel overwhelmed
- May be scared and unsure of what is going on
- Not comfortable enough to be "himself"
- May not want to eat or drink
- May shut down and want to curl up in his crate or hide under a table

What you can do...

- Give them space
- Stay calm
- Start your daily routine right away
- Do not force interaction
- Be patient & stay positive

3 WEEKS



After 3 weeks,

- Starting to settle in
- Feeling more comfortable
- Realizing this could be his new home
- Figures out his environment
- Getting into a routine
- Lets his guard down and may start showing his true personality
- Behavior issues may start showing up

What you can do...

- Work on basic obedience (sit, down, come, wait)
- Keep your training calm, clear, and consistent
- Reward desired behaviors
- Redirect unwanted behaviors
- Praise every success

3 MONTHS



After 3 months,

- Feels at home
- Building trust and a true bond
- Has a sense of security with this new family
- Will understand routine and start building habits

What you can do...

- Do not ease off training, keep it consistent
- Use affection as a reward for your dog



Naperville Area Humane Society

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REMEMBER, IT TAKES PATIENCE, CONSISTENCY, & TIME!