Triangle Beagle Rescue: Home Visit Form

Dear Home Visit Volunteer,

Thank you so much for your dedication to beagles. We couldn't do this without you! Please review the tips and information below. The feedback form is below. After you have finished filling out the form, click the "submit" button (once). We look forward to hearing how the visit goes.

*** Home Check Basics ***

1) Fill out the form as completely as possible - not all questions will apply to all families. It may help to print out a copy of the form to take with you to the home visit.

2) Please DO NOT give a 'yes' or 'no' to the applicant when asked if they have been approved to adopt. It is not the job of the home check volunteer to make that decision. If they ask, let them know you are simply in charge of this one part of the application process, and that they can ask their adoption coordinator for more information.

3) Please DO take along a beagle if at all possible - either your own or a foster dog who is confident enough for a home visit (this is actually a good experience for a foster dog). It does NOT have to be a dog they will be adopting, nor does it have to be perfectly trained (although it should be completely trustworthy around children and other dogs).

4) The home visit is an opportunity for education as well as for study. Feel free to share any beagle or dog information you have with the applicants, especially if you have information about a particular dog they are interested in adopting.

5) Do emphasize, however, that questions such as housetraining, feeding, etc are highly personal and that there is more than one right way to do most things, and that pretty much every dog person has their own strongly-held opinions on these subjects. This way they will not be confused when they get six different feeding recommendations.

6) Answer all their questions to the best of your ability but do not feel as if you have to be an 'expert'. Questions you cannot answer can be answered by someone else.

7) Do encourage them to buy one of the premium foods, but do not insist on their buying a particular brand (you may, of course, mention your favorite brand). Same goes for flea prevention, heartworm preventative, toys, etc. - feel free to offer advice, but make certain it is clear that you are offering advice, not law.

8) Encourage as strongly as possible the purchase and use of a crate. Even if they are adopting an adult housetrained dog whom they intend to give full run of the house, they will still want a crate for the early days and for when their beagle becomes ill and/or requires 'bed rest' in the future.

9) Most applicants will understand that we ask so many and such penetrating questions because we care about the future of both our foster dogs and the family's enjoyment of their new family member. But it never hurts to mention it again if they seem uncomfortable or irritable.

10) Enjoy yourself! Take time to chat about incidentals, work, and hobbies. This is the time when most of the important things are observed. Watch the family dynamics and how they respond to the dog you've brought along.

11) If you have questions or concerns, contact the adoption coordinator at adopt@tribeagles.org.

Thanks for your help with this most vital part of our rescue effort! Note: This form was adapted (with permission) from NERR&R, Inc. We are grateful for their help.

* Required

Reviewer / Applicant Contact Info

1. **Reviewer's First / Last Name** *

2. **Reviewer's Email Address** *

3. **Reviewer's Phone Number**

4. **Reviewer, rate your dog knowledge**
   Mark only one oval.
   - ◯ Inexperienced
   - ◯ Intermediate
   - ◯ Expert

5. **Reviewer, how long have you owned a dog?**

6. **Reviewer, have you owned beagles yourself?**
   Mark only one oval.
   - ◯ Yes
   - ◯ No

7. **Reviewer, what other breeds have you owned?**

8. **Reviewer, rate your general attitude towards dogs:**
   Mark only one oval.
   - ◯ Strict
   - ◯ Firm
   - ◯ Tolerant
   - ◯ Lenient
   - ◯ Push over

9. **Applicant's First Name**

10. **Applicant's Last Name**

_____

11. **Applicant's Email Address**

_____

12. **Applicant's Phone Number**

_____

13. **Applicant's City of Residence** *

_____

Outdoor Environment

14. **Home type** *
Mark only one oval.

- ◯ House
- ◯ Condo
- ◯ Townhome
- ◯ Apartment

15. **Which best describes the home's location?**
Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Rural
- ◯ Urban
- ◯ Suburban

16. **Is the street busy or has lots of traffic?**
Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Lots of traffic
- ◯ Average traffic
- ◯ Little to no traffic

17. **Is the neighborhood safe and well-kept?**
Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

18. **Does the house look well-kept from the outside? from the inside? Please comment.**

19. **Is there a fence? What type and how tall? Is it in good shape or need repair?**

20. **Is there a kennel in the yard?**
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

21. **Any evidence that a dog is tied out? (i.e bare spots, chain around tree or dog runner)**
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

22. **Is there a pool in the yard? If yes, is it fenced to prevent a dog from getting in? Are there stairs in the pool for a dog to get out?**

23. **How large is the yard?**

24. **Is the yard well-kept?**
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

25. **Is there any junk or chemicals lying out that could harm a dog? If so, discuss their disposal or containment/sectioning off so dog cannot reach.**
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

Interior Environment

26. **Ask for a tour. Look around the house, look at all rooms including the bathroom, basement, den, etc. Neat? Clean? (We're looking for comfortable not compulsive) Dog-proofed? Or are there many valuable items lying out?**

27. **Are there any household items that could be poisonous or harmful lying out within a dog's reach?**
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

28. **Where will the dog(s) be fed?**

29. **Are food bowls and water clean and accessible?**

30. **Is there a crate in the home? Is it used for current dog? Where will the new dog's crate be kept?**

31. **Are there photos of dogs / pets visible?** *Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No

Family Interests & Reactions

Speak to each family member individually and note their comments and answers.

32. **Why do you want a new dog?**

33. **What will your responsibilities / activities be with the new pet? What are your responsibilities / activities with any current pets?**

Things to Note

34. **How are children with their pets? With your dog? Did parents supervise their children around the pets? With Your dog?**

35. **How do the applicants react to your dog?**

36. **How is the applicant's dog? healthy? well-cared for? Does he/she get along with your dog? Does he/she seem aggressive? fearful? submissive? outgoing? well-behaved?**

37. **Have the applicant ask his own dog(s) to sit, down for him/her. Does dog listen? How does applicant respond if dog doesn't obey?**

38. **Do adults treat each other in respectful manner? Are children overall well-behaved (age appropriate)?**

39. **Do both adults and children interact with pets and your dog in a respectful and comfortable manner? Have applicants handle your dog. Do they seem confident? afraid? intolerant? other?**

40. **Talk to applicants about their dog's history: Has your dog or any dog you've ever owned bitten anything or anyone? If so, what were the circumstances? And how did you react? Have you ever had any problems with your neighbors over your pets?**

41. **Discuss potential situations with rescue dog: What will you do if your new rescue originally got along with everyone and after being home few days had a problem with one of the family? How will you react if dog does not like all of your children's friends and is too playful for them? How will you deal with the situation? What will you do with the dog when you go out of town? What would you do if this dog got into a fight with your own dog?**

Overall Impressions

42. **Strengths of this home for a beagle?**

43. **Weaknesses of this home for a beagle?**

44. **Would you approve this applicant?** *
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

45. **Reviewer's comments / summary**