

Exercise and Mental Stimulation

- **Daily Walks:** Engage in daily walks to provide exercise and mental stimulation.
- **Interactive Toys:** Provide interactive toys to keep the dog mentally engaged and prevent boredom.

Patience and Understanding

- **Allow Adjustment Time:** Be patient and understanding as the dog adjusts to the new environment.
- **Consult a Veterinarian:** If the dog exhibits severe anxiety or behavioural issues, consult a veterinarian for advice and potential medication.

Monitor for Separation Anxiety

- **Gradual Leaving:** If separation anxiety is a concern, gradually increase the duration of leaving the dog alone.
- **Consult a Trainer:** Consider consulting a professional dog trainer for guidance on managing separation anxiety.



REMEMBER, EVERY DOG IS DIFFERENT, AND WHAT WORKS FOR ONE MAY NOT WORK FOR ANOTHER. BE PATIENT, OBSERVANT, AND WILLING TO ADJUST YOUR APPROACH AS NEEDED.

MORE INFORMATION

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MAKING THE

TRANSITION SMOOTHER



**KENNEL LIFE
TO HOME LIFE
TRANSITION**



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THE KEY FACTORS DOGS MIGHT FACE WHEN TRANSITIONING FROM KENNEL LIFE TO HOME LIFE:

Environmental Changes

Kennels are often noisy and crowded, while homes are typically quieter and more individualised. This change in environment can be overwhelming for some dogs.

Social Changes

Kennels involve interactions with many different dogs and humans, while homes usually have a smaller, more consistent social circle. This can lead to anxiety or confusion for dogs used to a more chaotic social structure.



Routine Changes

Kennels often have strict feeding and walking schedules, whereas home routines can be more flexible. This change in routine can disrupt a dog's sense of security and predictability.

Separation Anxiety

Some dogs may develop separation anxiety when transitioning to a home environment, especially if they were in a kennel for an extended period. This can manifest as destructive behaviour, excessive barking, or house soiling when left alone.

Dietary Changes

Kennel food may differ from home food, leading to digestive issues or picky eating habits. It's important to transition to a new diet gradually to avoid upsetting the dog's stomach.

Training Needs

Kennels may not provide much training, so dogs may need to learn basic cues and house rules in their new home. This can be challenging for both the dog and the owner, requiring patience and consistency.

THE STRATEGIES TO HELP DOGS COPE WITH THE TRANSITION FROM KENNEL LIFE TO HOME LIFE:

Gradual Introduction

- **Short Visits:** If possible start with short visits to the new home to acclimate the dog to the environment and people gradually.
- **Familiar Objects:** Bring familiar objects from the kennel, like blankets or toys, to provide comfort and a sense of security.

Establish a Routine

- **Consistent Schedule:** Create a consistent routine for feeding, walking, and playtime. This helps dogs feel secure and reduces anxiety.
- **Calm Environment:** Provide a quiet and calm space where the dog can retreat and relax.

Socialisation and Training

- **Positive Reinforcement:** Use positive reinforcement techniques to teach basic cues and good behaviour.
- **Social Interaction:** Gradually introduce the dog to new people and animals in a controlled and positive manner.