Pup Profile

Crate Training

There are many benefits to using a crate, especially with a puppy!

- **Avoid destructive behavior:** Using a crate while you're out of the house prevents them from getting into things, keeping your dog and your house safe.
- **Training Tool:** Teaching a dog to comfortably settle into their crate can ease separation anxiety when you aren't around. Crates also aid in house training, as dogs are less likely to use where they sleep as a restroom.
- **Safe place:** Dogs can get overwhelmed or overstimulated, especially in a new environment. A comfy crate gives them their own space to relax and decompress. When used correctly, it provides a den-like atmosphere.



QUICK TIPS



- **Introducing your foster to the crate:** Leave the door open at first, to allow your dog to go in and out. Use treats to encourage them to go inside their crate. Once they become accustomed to it, close the door and let them settle while you sit with them. Repeat the process a few times and make it a positive experience, so the crate is a happy place for them. Avoid rushing them or using the crate as punishment.
- **Make the crate safe and comfortable:** Put your dog's favorite toy and a cozy dog bed in there with them.
- **Feed your pup in their crate:** This creates a positive association with the crate. Never leave your dog unattended with a chew - this is a choking hazard.
- **Patience is key:** Try to keep all interactions positive. Crate training can take a few days to a few weeks depending the dog's past experiences, age and temperament.