

HUG Homing Process

CHY 19414



Why homing, not re-homing?

The majority of our greyhounds have usually spent all of their lives in kennels and have never lived in a home as part of a family, so unlike other rescues where dogs will have lived with families before, we at HUG are really finding first time family homes for hounds. A lucky few may have spent some time with one of our small but dedicated band of volunteer foster carers, or have spent time in their owner's or trainer's home.

The homing process

This begins when you discover HUG, perhaps via Facebook, our website, or you've seen a poster. Maybe you've met one of our hounds out and about with his adopter or one of our volunteers. However it happened, you have decided that a greyhound is just the dog for you.

Get in touch with us

We ask that you fill in our homing application form, which can be found online and also filled in and returned to us online. If you prefer, you can print out a copy and return it by post. Filling in the form will help you to think about what is important to you in a dog. Your answers to the questionnaire will help us to get an idea of your lifestyle, working hours, any children and other pets in your home so we can begin to match the right hound to your situation.

We get in touch with you

When we have received your completed questionnaire our homing co-ordinator will make contact with you by phone or email. Depending on where you live the co-ordinator will arrange for a HUG volunteer, or a volunteer from a nearby partner rescue group, to carry out the home check at a time that suits both of you.

The home check

This is an informal visit to talk through the information on your questionnaire, to meet you and your family (human and animal) and to see your home and garden. We can then advise you about flooring, stairs, glass windows etc. make sure that your garden is secure and advise about where your hound will sleep. Our hounds are homed as indoor pets only, their unique physiology doesn't equip them for outdoor life in Ireland. The homechecker will also answer any other questions you may have and talk to you about what you can expect to happen during the settling in process and how to manage it.

Have I passed?

If all goes well with your home check you will know right away as our volunteer will then talk to you about your choice of hound(s) you may have taken a fancy to among those currently on offer. Your home checker will be then consult with the HUG team who will be familiar with the hound's personality. We may not be able to confirm immediately that the hound is available during the visit, but a member of the team will get back to you as soon as possible to let you know. If the team member feels that the hound is not suitable to your family situation they will be able to advise on a more suitable hound for you. If a volunteer from another rescue carries out the home check then they report back to the HUG team who will progress your application.

HUG Homing Process

CHY 19414



Choosing your hound

When we make initial contact and you tell us that a particular hound has caught your fancy we can reserve him/her for you pending the outcome of your home check. We will advise you about the hound's suitability for your home. We work on a first come, first served basis with home offers for hounds. If you are not planning to adopt immediately, then we regret that we will not be able to reserve a hound for you and ask that you wait until nearer the planned adoption date to select a hound. Every kennel and foster place that is filled for weeks to months means that another unwanted hound waits and and waits.

Vet treatments

Every hound we home has been spayed or neutered, vaccinated, microchipped and wormed. He or she has also had a veterinary check, including a dental scale and polish, when they come in to our care. These treatments would normally cost between €300 - €450 if you had to have them done by your own vet. We also incur transport, kennelling and feeding costs while our hopeful hounds are with us waiting for you to discover them.

Donation

We ask you for a donation of €115 for your hound to help towards these costs, payable when you adopt your hound. For this we also supply you with a copy of "Retired Racing Greyhounds for Dummies" which we at HUG consider the greyhound owner's "Bible". If you are on a limited income and cannot afford the full amount we can discuss this with you. Also if you take two greyhounds from us we are happy to talk about the amount of donation if you wish to. Please make cheques out to Homes for Unwanted Greyhounds.

Adoption Agreement

We ask you to sign an adoption agreement when you adopt a dog from us. This is a standard agreement similar to that used by most rescue organisations, and includes an agreement that if things don't work out with your dog for any reason and the problems can't be resolved you will hand the dog back to us, rather than passing the dog onto someone else. We can give you a copy of our adoption agreement to read at any time if you would like to see one.

Getting your hound to your home

In most cases we will bring your hound to your home, but if you are willing to travel to meet us part way that can also be arranged. You must have a collar with an ID disc, with your phone number/s on, for the hound before we can leave him or her in your care. HUG recommends martingale collars as the most secure collar type for hounds. You also need food, bowls, and a bed before your hound comes into your care. Raised dog bowls are preferable for greyhounds. A duvet folded up makes an inexpensive, comfortable bed and is a favourite bed for many of our adopted hounds.

After care

If this is your first dog, or it's a long time since you last had one, you will need to find a vet practice to look after your hound. Your hound will not usually need to see a vet when they first come to you as all veterinary treatment will normally be up to date. As with any dog it is also a good idea to take out pet insurance.

HUG Homing Process

CHY 19414



Keep in touch

A few days after your hound has come to live with you we ask you to let us know how the hound is settling in. If you have any questions or any problems we ask you to phone us for advice at any time. We love to hear how our hounds are doing in their new lives as family members so photos and stories about them are always welcome for publication on our website, Facebook page, or our newsletter

Last, but not least!

We ask that you enjoy your new family member/s and hope that you have many happy years together!