

Prince

Foster Care Notes



We had the honour of fostering Prince for a couple of days at our home. Although a short foster, we learned a lot about this handsome boy and his lovely personality and behaviour.

Unfortunately, Prince and our cat were not going to see eye to eye, hence the short stay.

Foster Family: The Smook Household

Arriving Home:

Prince arrived at our home in the morning and was taken straight outside via one of our outside gates to do wees. He was then quickly greeted by our little fluffy dog, Max, the Imperial Shih Tzu. It



took a moment for them to suss each other out, but soon became comfortable with one another.

Prince appeared to be happy as his tail was wagging. However, we could also sense he was a bit nervous and apprehensive as he was in a new environment. We let him discover things around the house and sniffed every possible thing!

By the afternoon he had settled and laid outside in the shade.



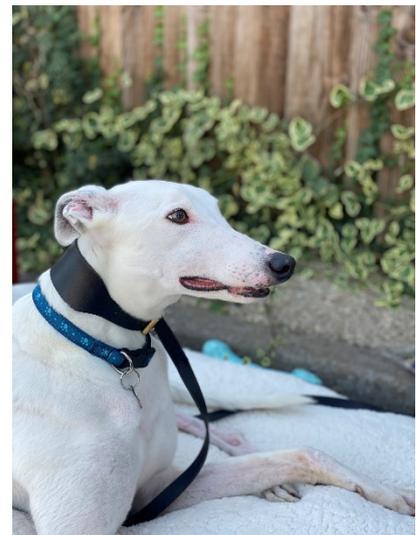
First Evening:

Prince met the neighbours as there was a little street gathering late afternoon. He was extremely social and happy to greet everyone, and he was very popular. He enjoyed laying on his bed watching while the social activities happened for a couple of hours.



Prince enjoyed a nice evening meal and a little 40 minute rest before a little evening walk where he met some local hounds.

Wees and poos outside and in bed by 10pm.



Day Two:

Wake up at 7:30am. Wees and poos in the garden followed by breakfast. Outside again after brekkie.

Prince watched the morning activities of getting ready for the day. A lot of observing.

Prince joined us for lunch at the Swan Pub in Walton-on-Thames. He was very well behaved at the table and laid in his bed quietly while we had a quick bite to eat. When other dogs appeared at the pub, he would show some interest but would soon lay back down in his bed and ignore them.

A quick little walk along the river where he met some swans. He soon realised that the swans were bossy and steered away from them.



Second Evening:

Prince was a lot more relaxed and enjoyed snoozing most of the afternoon/early evening in his bed inside. As we spent most of the afternoon outside enjoying the last of the sunshine and having a BBQ, he did not mind the comings and goings of humans in and out of the house as he laid and rested. If we walked past him, he would look at us with his tail wagging.



Another bowl of yummy dinner and a little rest before walkies again. He remembered the night before so was very excited to go on his walk. Walked over a bridge footpath over the M25 with a lot of traffic. He was curious at first but did not struggle to walk across. A lot of 'good boy' and encouragement made him feel at ease. Coming back, the traffic did not worry him.

Wees and poos outside and in bed again by 10pm.

Children:

Prince showed no signs of discomfort with children. We have a nine year old girl in our household who showed lots of love towards Prince and he was happy to receive attention from her.



Bed:

Listens to 'lay down' when standing over his bed and pointing. If this continued in Prince's new home life, he would be very disciplined with this command.

On the lead:

Prince is very calm and gentle on the lead. He does not pull and enjoys walking beside you. He interacts well with other dogs on his walks, with a little excitement initially but calms down. His ears do perk up when he sees another dog playing catch in parks etc. A little firm 'no' and encouragement to keep walking on soon veers his attention away.

Flooring:

We had taken Prince on a walk offsite before fostering him a few days before and decided to go to a pub for a quick water break. Prince was quite afraid of the wood flooring in the pub and refused to go inside. We proceeded to find our way to the outdoor area without going inside.

When Prince arrived at our home for his foster care, he was soon faced with more wood flooring. It took quite some encouraging and 'good boy' to get him feeling safe and comfortable to come inside. A few hours of patience, he was roaming around freely and not scared of the wooden floor.

Unfortunately, we ran short of time to tackle the tiles in the kitchen which he seemed nervous about. However, we also thought that perhaps this was not a bad thing as it would be best that he is kept out of the kitchen.





Toilet:

Prince was taken outside in the garden immediately after arriving with us for wees. He was praised for doing this. We were very impressed that there were not accidents inside during his time with us. As the weather was quite warm, all the doors were open, so he was able to freely go outside when he needed to. Very well toilet trained.

Car Trips:

We did some training so that Prince would jump in the back of the car without needing to be picked up. We used some treats which worked first time. We did this going to the river and he was happy jumping in and out. He lays down straight away and does not get up during the car journey. He enjoyed sitting on his bed for these journeys.



Food:

Prince did not appear to be gutsy and did not beg for food when going to the kitchen. When we sat down for dinner, he did come over and he did try to have a sniff. A firm 'no' and he very quickly went away and did not disturb us again while we ate. Prince really enjoyed treats,



especially for good behaviour and listening.

Max and Prince's Interaction:

At first, Prince would occasionally watch Max but would then quickly lose interest and carry on doing his own thing. By the second day we felt it was safe enough to allow Prince without a muzzle around Max. Someone would always be around to supervise this. There was never any signs of hostility or aggression or chasing during their brief time together.



Discipline:

Overall, Prince was a very well behaved, calm, gentle soul and would make a great addition to any family (without a cat). He listened to commands and responded well to 'no', 'lay down', 'leave it'. He is a social dog, and always greeted humans coming and going from the home with a tail wag.

Prince is a happy boy who will steal your heart, and we really do wish him a happy and loved life with his new family.

