

Dear Volunteer Dog Walker.....a short factsheet from the dog!



Thank you for volunteering to help walk me....a daily walk is the highlight of my day! Going for a walk can provide me with more than just a toilet break. It gives me physical exercise and mental stimulation and a quick chance to keep tabs on my neighbourhood!

**Here's a few things to check with my owner before you take me out on a walk....**

- Do I have any particular likes or dislikes i.e. I prefer to walk by the kerb, walk in front of you, walk behind you, take a ball or a toy along with me.
- Whether I have any health issues that you need to be aware of.
- What sort of personality and temperament do I have i.e. I like other dogs, I don't like seeing cats, I am spooked by cars passing by.
- Where do I prefer to toilet i.e. a grass area or pavement.
- How far do I usually walk?
- Do I have any favourite routes?

Please be aware that it might be a little strange for me at first, so please be patient. Don't take it too personal, as I may take a few walks before I get into the swing of things. I really do appreciate your help though!

**Here's a few useful Do's and Don'ts to take into consideration:**



**Do**

Keep your distance from other people, not just because of Coronavirus, but it's just best if other members of the public, children or dogs don't come near and distract me while I am walking with you.

Take some dog poop bags and some hand sanitiser out with you, so that you can clean up after me and dispose of the bag in the nearest bin. Thanks, as I don't want to leave a mess.

Check if I need a coat if it is bad weather, or some water if the sun is strong.

Make sure you feel comfortable with my lead, especially if it is a retractable one.

Check if I usually wear a dog muzzle when I am out and about.

Turn back if you are in any doubt, or any possible danger. Your safety (and mine) is important.

Always take a mobile phone with you.

Tell my owner what I was like on my walk and what I got up to.



**Please Don't**

Feed me any treats while out on a walk, unless previously checked with my owner.

Let me roll on anything that I shouldn't if on the field!

Let me mix with other dogs, for my own safety really, especially while I am in your care.

Let me run free or let me loose at all, or take me off my lead when walking, again for my own safety.

Let me pull too far ahead, especially if I am on a retractable lead.

Walk me with any other dogs, unless it has been previously agreed by my owner.

I know you may already have your own dog or already be very knowledgeable in dog walking, so I hope you don't mind me sharing these top tips. Thank you once again for being so helpful and kind.

