

CONGRATULATIONS!

*New
Pet Owner*



North Carolina Responsible Animal Owners Alliance

The journey begins

You have selected a pet and are now looking forward to years of enjoyment and wonderful memories.



Building a relationship

Inside this package you will find some helpful information for your dog or cat – keys to success – for building a lasting relationship with your newly chosen companion.



For the pet owner

Included also are a variety of articles such as:

- Substances toxic to pets
- Winter & Summer care tips
- Cats and clawing
- Puppy training checklist



The basics

Make a checklist:

- **Vet visit for health check**
- **Grooming supplies**
- **Crate/carrier**
- **Pet-proof your home**



First things first

If there is an existing pet, introductions should be on neutral territory and always supervised.

The initial experience is lasting, it should be slow and positive.





What to expect

Your new pet is not pre-programmed to adjust instantly to your home and lifestyle. In fact, it may have some habits you will find less than charming.



Make the commitment

No matter how we acquire them, they now belong to us and we are responsible.

Rescue dogs will not reach their potential without commitment, guidance and training.



Make the commitment

Decide what behaviors you are willing to accept. If you are having problems, ask for help. Read more in the attached article “*Rescue Dogs From an Obedience Instructor’s Perspective*”.





What to expect

Most cats will instinctively use the litter box. The new cat needs easy access to his litter box. If he has to travel two flights of stairs, he may decide to seek out an alternative – such as the corner of a room.



Read more

The litter box should also be large enough for the cat to move around in. Read more in the attached article, *“Bringing your new cat or kitten home”*.



Resources

Pet owners are fortunate today that an almost endless amount of information is just a click away on the internet.



Resources

Links can also be found at NCRAOA
www.ncraoa.com for:

- Professional trainers
- AVMA pet care
- Online reading
- Behavior and special needs
- Health, nutrition



Resources



Never be afraid to reach out for help. If the problem or question is important to you, then it needs to be answered.



Best Wishes to you



and to your new pet!

