



Introducing Your New Muttville Dog to Your Resident Cat

Congratulations on adopting from Muttville Senior Dog Rescue! Please follow these steps to ensure a long and happy relationship between your new mutt and your resident cat:

- First, plan to keep your new dog and resident cat separated for at least a few days. Do not rush introductions otherwise the animals may become overwhelmed.
- You can separate the dog and cat using a crate, a spare bedroom or section off a portion of your home using baby gates.
- Start by intermingling their smells. Pet the dog with a rag and let the cat smell it and vice versa.
- Feed the dog and cat where they can smell each other, like behind a closed door.
- Reward the dog for positive interaction with a happy, silly voice and treats.
- Keep the dog on-leash when first meeting the cat so it can't chase.
- Do not let the dog become fixated on the cat. Use a high pitched voice and treats to get the dogs attention off the cat and back on you.
- Whenever the cat is present the dog should receive lots of treats so it can have a positive association with the cat being present.
- Be mindful of any guarding behavior over people, food or other resources.
- Do not leave the dog and cat alone unsupervised.
- Most dog and cats can share a home in harmony once they've gradually become