What to Expect When Adopting EARPS a Rescue Pet



Day One

- Your new pet may be scared and nervous in an unfamiliar place.
- The urge to cuddle, watch, and handle your new pet is difficult to resist, but they will settle in better with some time to adjust.
- We recommend getting them home in their new space, then leaving them alone.

Day Two

- Monitor your pet closely to be sure they are eating, drinking, and producing normal stool, but continue a hands off approach.
- Talk quietly near the cage, to allow your new pet to get used to your voice without being startled.
- Provide blankets or t-shirts that you have worn or slept to help them get used to your scent even when you aren't around.
- You will want lots of photos, but be sure not to use the flash.

Day Three

- By the 3rd day, your pet is beginning to learn the sounds and smells of home and should start to feel more comfortable.
- You can slowly begin to bond with your pet by allowing them to get used to your hands in their cage.
- You will want to snuggle them, but resist the urge to pick them up or chase them into their hiding places.
- Offering treats by hand is a good way to let them come to you.
- If you plan to bond to an existing pet, you may begin introductions.

Three Weeks

- During this time, your pet will learn the routine of the home and begin to feel settled.
- It is best to limit visitors and focus on establishing routines with your new pet.
- If you have children, they should be closely monitored during this time as your pet's personality begins to come out.
- Bonding sessions will get longer, and your new pet may be ready to live with new cagemates full time.

Three Months

- Your pet should feel more at home and may become territorial about their personal space and belongings.
- Your pet's true personality will be revealed, as they feel safe and comfortable.
- Bonding should be complete, although some pets may only ever peacefully coexist.