

Alone Training

Alone training is essential and should be started within a couple of days of the arrival of a new hound. **NEVER** expect a hound to be left alone for a full day without alone training.



Your hound will have been in the company of other dogs most of its life, so being without canine companions will be a new experience for it. Your hound can be taught to accept being alone as long as you don't rush the transition process. Each dog responds differently, but in most instances, they will learn to patiently await your return and suffer little or no anxiety.

Only bring your new greyhound home when someone can be present to supervise the adaptation for at least a week.



When you arrive home with your new hound, stay with it for the rest of that day and the first night. Be prepared for it to be restless and unsettled. Use this time to concentrate on introducing the hound to the whole house and the area outside to be used for potty breaks.



The following morning leave the house for 5 to 10 minutes and then return, without making a fuss. That afternoon, repeat the same procedure, but extend your absence by another 10 or so minutes. If that goes well, try 30 minutes the next morning and extend your absence again in the afternoon. Slowly work up to 4 hours. Usually, if a hound can be left alone for 4 hours, it can adapt to the full day absence without incident.

If there are issues, reduce your time away and then work up to 4 hours again.



The first day that the hound is to be left alone for the full day - someone should return home at lunch.

Repeat this for the next 2 or 3 days, continually reassuring your pet that you will be back.



Hopefully, by the end of the week, your new hound will understand that someone will always return home. This helps alleviate the hound's fear that it has been abandoned whenever you leave the house.

Tips:



Don't make a big fuss when leaving or arriving.



Leave for a short period of time and return home (5 to 10 minutes at first) - this can be done 2 or 3 times in a single day.



Extend the period of time away in small increments and assess the reaction of the hound.



Provide items that can distract the hound, i.e. Kong filled with frozen peanut butter or bananas, bones or antlers.



Leave a radio or television on with volume set low.