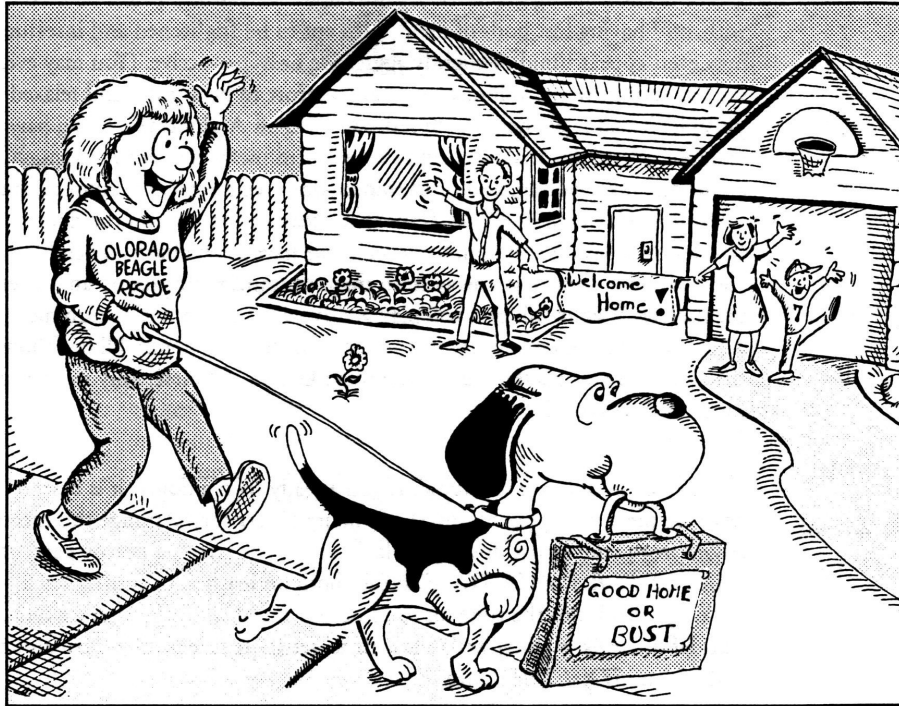


THANK YOU FOR CARING ABOUT MY LIFE!

(As written by a RESCUE BEAGLE, or "RB" for short)



HOME AT LAST

I'm very happy to be here and all I want to do is to please you and make you ever so glad you adopted me. But first, there are some important things you need to know about us little Beagles (some good, some bad)! Most of the "stuff" may be repetitious of what the Beagle Rescue Rep has already told you during the adoption interview or home visit, but I wanted to reiterate (REITERATE??...REPETITIOUS??...can you believe little "RB" using these big words?) There is a lot to cover concerning us clever Beagles, so please read on.

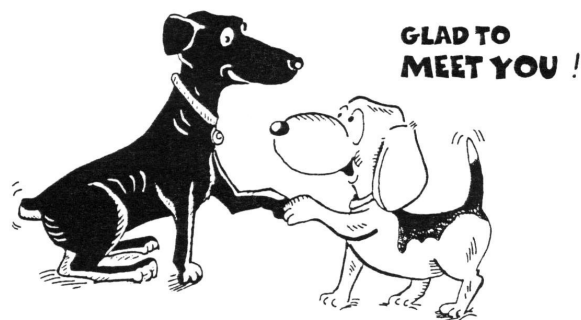
WHAT YOU SEE IS WHAT YOU GET

With a pet puppy you are taking a chance, not knowing how large it will be, or what sort of disposition it will have. With a grown, or nearly grown pet, what you see is what you get! However, what you do NOT see is my PAST. It's very important to remember this. I may or may not have been housebroken or trained. A dog's security depends upon people and places he is familiar with, and having lost both of these, I am apt to be frightened and insecure. I may even appear timid or slightly aggressive or hyperactive. (You may even say I'm acting "weird"). Please make every effort to be as calm and relaxed as possible, it will really help me to settle in quicker. And, oh yes, if you have children, please don't allow them to overwhelm me at first with too much attention and handling, and of all things--don't let them come running and screaming after me!! (It COULD make me leave a wet spot on the floor.) Beagles usually love children, however, some have been abused by children and now only want to get away from them or stand their ground and defend themselves. If your children will play gently with me, do not disturb me when I am sleeping or eating, I'm sure it won't be long before I'll be following them all over and maybe even giving them kisses (of course, only to keep the food off their faces)!

THE NEW ARRIVAL

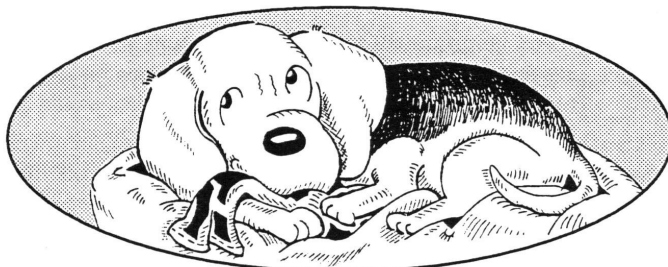
Remember all dogs are territorial. If you already own a dog(s) it is best to have me meet your present dog(s) on "neutral" territory. Arrange this meeting *AWAY* from your house down the block, across the street, a nearby park, etc. *TAKE US FOR A WALK TOGETHER*, both on leashes, of course. Keep walking...this is not the time for us to do our ritual sniffing. After a short time (if the walk is going well) allow us to get acquainted...then turn around and take us

TOGETHER into the yard. Now your present dog(s) has a "new friend" instead of an intruder. It's fun to form new relationships! Don't leave us together without your supervision until you are *SURE* we can get along and will not fight. Also remember to spend equal time with each of us.



PERIOD OF ADJUSTMENT

Remember, beloved master, when you bring me into the house for the first time, walk with me (on leash) around the house, while I sniff all the wonderful new smells. (Remember, we are scent hounds). This will make it easy for you to give the leash a gentle (I say "gentle") jerk and tell me "no" if I should decide to urinate, either from the instinct to mark new territory or from excitement (yes, the girls do this too). I need to learn that "inside" is where I live, and consequently not where I "go." Maybe I was an outside dog and do not yet understand house manners. In either case, there is apt to be an accident before I learn that I have a new place to live and therefore, a new place to keep clean. Praise profusely when I urinate or defecate outside, (there's more of those *BIG* words!), and give me a sharp "no" if you *CATCH* me going inside. I should learn quickly if you take the time to



watch me. If you don't catch me in the act, forget about trying to make the point (*I CAN* be sneaky and go to the back of the house where you can't see me) and never, never, ever rub my nose in it. You are trying to *TEACH* me, not change the color of my nose.

It will help immensely if you *DO NOT* give me run of the house unless you follow me around, day and night, or until you know I am reliable. If you need to go out for two or three hours, put me in the crate/kennel with my favorite toy. Make sure it's not something I can choke on while you are gone.

Show me where I am to sleep, where fresh water is always available and where I am to be *FED* (I especially like that part). My food and water dishes should be washed daily --- my sleeping blankets washed at least weekly.

I will need to be treated with watchful kindness. Anticipate problems before they occur. Don't leave tempting items such as shoes, clothing, handbags, wastebaskets or dinner plates within reach of me. Beagles can jump *VERY* high to get something off the table. (Having a Beagle can have quite a tidying effect on a family, don't you think?)

CALL ME BY MY RIGHTFUL NAME

If you simply cannot stand the name I came with, you may change it, but I ask that you still use it *BEFORE* the new name for awhile. (If someone said to you, "Mary, sit"...and your name was Evelyn, would YOU sit??) I'll probably get used to the new name before too long if you use it frequently and try always to associate it with good things; affection, approval, fun, etc.

FEEDING



Most Beagles seem to do better on two smaller meals a day rather than one. Please serve his meals at the same time and in the same place each day...this will keep him more regular if you know what I mean. Do not leave the food down and let him nibble all day. Give him 20 minutes to finish his food, and if he doesn't eat, pick it up! Do not offer him anything else until his next feeding time when you will again do the same thing. Don't worry...he will not starve himself. Not every dog requires the same amount of food and usually the amount printed by the manufacturer on the dog food bag is way too much for a Beagle. Don't be fooled by his sad eyes and the begging that he will undoubtedly do. It's for his own good

that you keep him in proper weight. Because of our strong teeth and large stomach, we can down a lot of food in a small amount of time and are also prone to obesity.

NO TABLE SCRAPS PLEASE. It's healthier if you will confine the treats to things such as raw vegetables...bite size pieces of carrots, broccoli, green beans or even small pieces of fruit. These treats, of course, should NOT be given at the table, but used for training treats. Like anything else, moderation is the key - don't overdo the treats. *SOME FOODS SUCH AS CHOCOLATE OR ONIONS CAN BE FATAL TO YOUR DOG, AND YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT BEAGLES WILL EAT ALMOST ANYTHING WHETHER IT'S GOOD FOR US OR NOT!* It's up to *YOU* to be on constant alert against excessive weight gain. It's also up to you to keep the trashcans where we can not possibly get into them.

BASIC TRAINING

I thought they only did that in the armed forces!

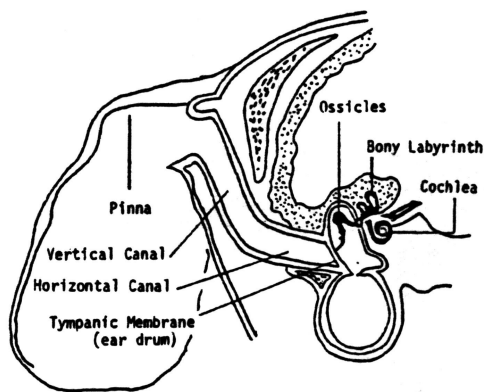
Obedience training can be very helpful to the adult dog and to you. I may have learned commands other than the ones you use so it may take awhile for me to adjust to yours. Wait until after the first two weeks to start formal obedience training. The training period can be a good way to create a strong bond between us. In addition, I'll learn what you expect of me and how to please you, both of which are very important to me. Beagles especially like the "treats" part of training! Please go only to a trainer who uses motivation and not to a trainer whose method is "jerk and jerk some more." Due to our sensitive nature, motivational training is especially effective for Beagles.

Be consistent. Decide on the rules and stick to them, making sure that *ALL* members of the family understand whether or not I am allowed on furniture. And does that mean *ALL* furniture or just some of it? If you change the rules, I will be confused. Don't allow me to do something one time and forbid it the next.

Included in the packet that came with me are numerous articles covering crate training and training in general. Here's a good "family activity" that you can do at home and it *DOESN'T COST ANYTHING*. Sit down together and read the materials (this could take several sessions but you will probably find it fun). You can even include me, if you will read aloud. Some of it may even rub off!

EARS

Ears should be cleaned weekly. Because of the Beagle's pendulous ears, they tend to become infected easily if not kept clean. Cleaning can be done with a cotton ball wrapped around your finger and dipped in a little alcohol or peroxide. Don't be afraid to clean your dog's ears thoroughly. The canine ear canal takes a rather sharp bend, blocking off the avenue to the sensitive eardrum, so you can safely wipe the orifice of the ear clean with a Q-Tip. However, do not insert anything far enough into the ear to injure the ear drum. Have your Vet show you how. He/She can also provide you with a good cleaning solution for the ears. If your dog is walking with his head down and turned to one side, shaking his head a lot, or scratching at his ear(s), a trip to the Vet is in order.



WALKING

When walking your dog in the summer take him out only in the early morning or later evening hours, when the temperature is not so hot. Never walk him on hot pavement or asphalt as it will burn the pads of his feet.

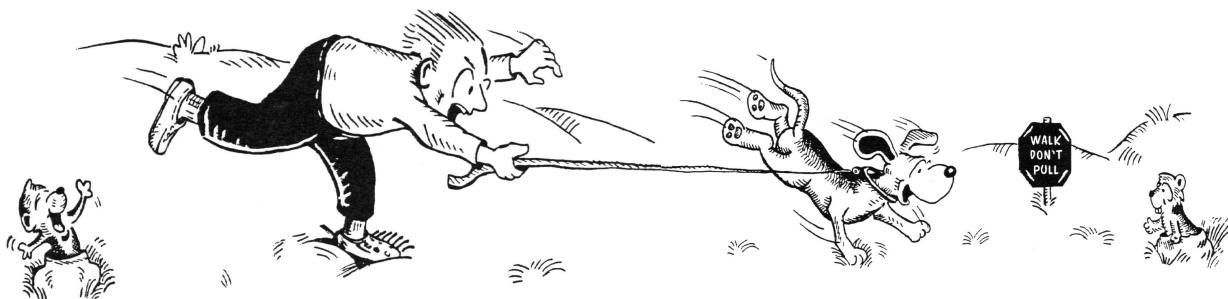
Speaking of walking, the best leash to use is made of soft leather. Soft leather will not easily slip out of your hand or cut into your hand like the slick nylon ones.

Since we are scent hounds and very strong for our size we are often seen pulling our masters down the street (simply *OUT OF CONTROL*). Most humans find this to be an unpleasant experience. As a result they usually just give up and stop taking us for walks ! You would be wise to check with Beagle Rescue about a *NO-PULL HALTER*.

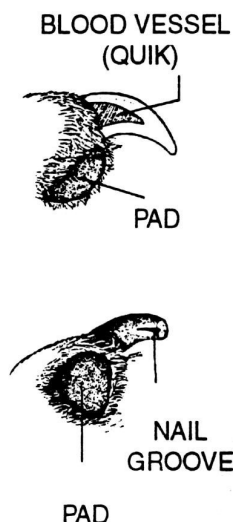
When walking your dog in the winter, consider a sweater or coat for *HIM* (you can wear one too if you like). Rock salt put down in winter on sidewalks and streets can burn the pads of his feet, so please rinse and dry them as soon as you get home.

A basic soft rolled leather collar is a good choice for everyday use. This collar will accommodate the rabies tag, Beagle Rescue I.D. tag and any necessary city tags.

Choke collars are for training purposes and are to be used *ONLY* under the guidance of an experienced trainer. Choke collars are to be put on when training begins and removed when the training session ends. *NEVER, NEVER* leave a live choke collar on your dog when he is left alone. Choke collars can get caught on almost anything and in an attempt to free himself the dog can choke to death.



TOE NAILS



Nails need to be kept short (check weekly) as longer nails can get caught, torn and even pulled out. This may be a job for two people if your dog is not used to having his nails done. Have one person hold him sitting up in their lap, and the other person can clip the nails. Sounds simple doesn't it? Not so! I fought like a tiger when it was first done to me.

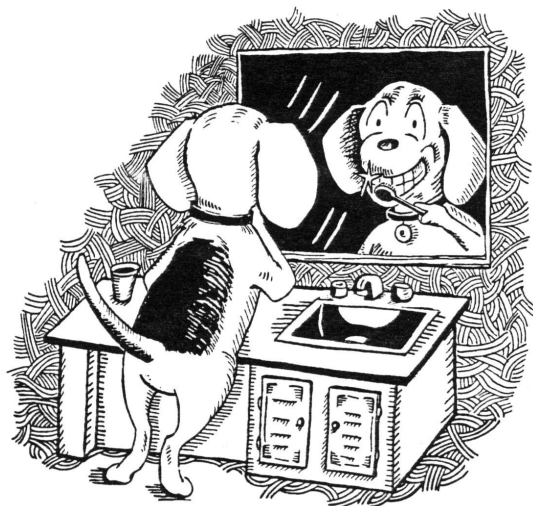
Unpigmented (QUICK) nails are easy to trim since you can see the small pink triangle extending from the base of the nail, narrowing toward the tip (quick). This triangle contains nerves and blood vessels, so be sure you don't cut into it. If nails are black, you won't have the "quick" as a guide, but there is something else that you can use as a reference point. The nails will have a slight groove where they split on the underside of the curve. If you cut just in FRONT of this split, you should miss the quick. To be safe, cut a small amount of the nail at a time. Should the nail begin to bleed, apply pressure to the nail with a cold compress. Both, a clean rag or a wad of cotton soaked in cold water will serve as a compress. *HINT* Make happy, silly sounds to your dog while doing this and promise him real doggie cookies if he is good. And once you start, *FINISH*. If you let him win, he's gotcha! If you make sure you don't cut the quick and hurt him, it won't be long before he will enjoy the attention *AND* his cookie. This is also a great time to inspect the pads of the feet for any cuts, stones between toes, etc. If your dog has dew claws, also clip the nails on these. Here again if you have doubts about cutting the nails have your Veterinarian show you how, or take him to a reputable groomer. If you really want to make him look "spiffy" you can trim the hair around his feet — really looks cool!

EYES

Eyes should be clear with no redness or thick discharge. If you see these symptoms lasting more than a day or two, take him to your Vet — he may have a slight conjunctivitis or allergies. Beagles with a looser eyelid tend to tear more, so keep the face wiped clean of these tears so they will not stain that adorable face.

TEETH

Pay close attention to his teeth and gums. Get him used to a soft toothbrush and toothpaste made especially for dogs. Ideally teeth should be brushed daily to help prevent tarter build-up and gingivitis (how would your mouth taste if you didn't brush daily?) Beagles, like most smaller dogs have a tendency for quick tarter build-up so a regular teeth-cleaning program should be established with your Veterinarian. Gum infections and bad teeth can affect your dog's health. *HINT* If your dog just hates to have his teeth brushed, start him out by rinsing the toothbrush with hot water to soften it even more and then use *BEEF BROTH* instead of toothpaste. *WOW!* That will make him sit up and take notice! Gradually start using doggie toothpaste as he gets used to the brush. Nylabone's "Plaque Attacker" is an example of a proper chewing device. Be sure to read the instructions. Stay away from items such as "Nylafloss"; pieces of this "dental device" if ingested can cause an obstruction of the small intestines and can kill your dog.

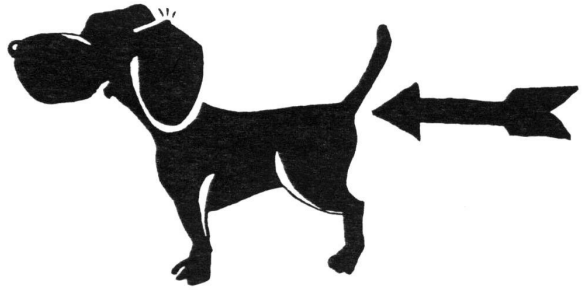


Bones should never be used to maintain healthy teeth/gums as splintering may cause small pieces of bones to pierce your dog's mouth or intestinal tract. Knuckle bones can cause intestinal blockage and are NOT safe for your dog as previously thought. Any items harder than the dog's teeth (such as

shank bones) can lead to tooth fracture.

ANAL GLANDS

The dog has two anal glands or sacs located at about five and seven o'clock in reference to the circumference of the anus. The openings of the anal sacs are found by drawing down on the skin of the lower part of the anus. By applying a small amount of pressure directly below these openings, fluid can be expressed. (YUCK!) These sacs are normally emptied by rectal pressure during defecation, however, if there is a build-up they will need to be expressed. Care should be taken not to squeeze too hard.



If these sacs should fill up and not be expressed normally or by you, they can become impacted and require surgery. I knew a Beagle who had that happen and boy was he miserable. Needless to say, he didn't "sit up" for a while. Some of the symptoms are: protruding and/or itching of the rectal area, playing "sleigh ride" across the floor, or he may even leave a spot on your skirt or pants after sitting on your lap! Have your Veterinarian show you how to express these glands and if you are "squeamish" about doing it yourself, take him to your Vet at least every 4 to 6 months to have it done. Your dog will thank you for this. If this needs to be done more than 4 times a year, removing glands is indicated by a vet who does this procedure often.

BATHING



Bathe only as often as necessary, using warm water and a good doggie shampoo. Make certain that you rinse all of the soap out of his coat (this can only be done thoroughly with a spray attachment). Dry him briskly with a lot of clean towels — he will love this. I say a lot because it will take several good towels to dry your Beagle since we are double-coated dogs and it takes quite awhile for the undercoat to dry. *DO NOT LET YOUR DOG GET CHILLED WHILE HE IS STILL WET AND KEEP HIM AWAY FROM COOL DRAFTS.* In this dry climate, you can use a bit of mink oil (or any good conditioning spray) on his coat after he is dry. Just spray a little on his back then brush to a shiny slickness with a soft hand towel or hound's glove. Don't use too much spray; it will only serve to pick up more dirt and dust on your dog. Also, be careful not to get any of this spray in his face or eyes.

MISCELLANEOUS Some common sense tips that humans sometimes forget

- Dog's water (outside) should be changed several times a day in summer *AND* winter. In winter, do not use a bowl that will make your dog's tongue stick to it if it freezes. Also the water in his "inside" bowl needs to be changed several times a day. Keep his food and water bowls clean. Do not let him load up on water before going to bed. *YOU* know what this will do!
- Do not feed him right before or right after strenuous exercise. When taking long hikes or walks, remember to take water along for him and do not keep him in the sun too long. Remember, we dogs do not sweat like you humans to expel excess heat from our bodies. For that reason we should never be left in a car when hot, even with the windows rolled down.
- Keep him away from *ANY* brand of antifreeze for it will kill him. There is *NO* brand of anti-

freeze that is safe for children or dogs no matter what you have seen advertised.

SMILE PLEASE

It would be very helpful if you would take a picture of me in my new home with my new family. The Beagle Rescue people keep a scrapbook with pictures of all of the Beagles they place, not only for sentimental reasons, but to assist them with identification if the dog should become lost.

IF HE DOES GET LOST, CALL BEAGLE RESCUE IMMEDIATELY THEY OFTEN GET A CALL THAT YOUR DOG HAS BEEN FOUND BUT THEY CAN'T FIND YOU!

**HERE'S TO
A LONG AND
HAPPY LIFE
TOGETHER**

Remember, keep those gates padlocked, and be careful at the front door...Beagles are quick! Like so much in life, you'll get out of this experience exactly what you put into it. It's not always easy to bring a Rescue Beagle into your home, but patience and trying to see the problem from the dog's point of view will help you over the rough spots. Think of me as a displaced war orphan.. I don't know your language, your habits, your food. *GIVE ME TIME AND LOVE AND YOUR REWARDS WILL BE MANY.* I hope before long you may in-fact find it difficult to remember a time when I wasn't one of you.

THE OLDER SHELTER DOG

by Ardie Haydon

I don't know why they left me here,
was it something I had done?
I miss my master's loving voice,
and playing in the sun.

Another dog was in with me,
I think that he was old,
They came and took him yesterday,
his time was up I'm told.

I wish they'd come and take me home,
I'm getting really scared,
But I heard them talk of moving,
there'd be no room for me there.

My years they number only six,
so I'm not old you see,
But everyone who comes to look,
says "He's too old for me."

A nice young couple came today,
Their children were quite young,
I tried and tried to let them know,
That I'd be the right one!

You see I'm used to children,
and am old enough to know,
Not to nip and scratch at them,
Like younger puppies would.

But that couple also left,
They said they'd have to talk,
"The children want a younger dog,
they'd have to give it thought."

My spirit's almost broken,
no more sunlight will I see,
The shelter's getting fuller,
Soon the death toll rings for me.

Next day I hear the voices,
Of someone I think I know,
It's the couple with the children
And they're coming down *my* row!

Now I'm home with Sue and Jeff,
Their daughter and their son,
I thought my life was over,
but its really just begun!

***THANK YOU FOR CARING
ABOUT MY LIFE!***

Rescue Dog's Name

Rescue Number

Gender

Birthday

Date Adopted

Last Booster Shot Given

Next Booster Due

Last Rabies Shot Given

Next Rabies Shot Due

Heartworm Test Given

Next Heartworm Test Due

Colorado Beagle Rescue is available to answer any questions pertaining to your new Beagle. Please do not hesitate to call CBR at 303-464-9403.

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