

What do greyhounds eat?

Retired racers need only high-quality dry dog food with a protein content of 20 to 21 percent to provide nutrition and prevent weight gain.

Do greyhounds have special medical needs?

Greyhounds have no unusual health problems, but your vet must be familiar with the breed. They are sensitive to barbiturates and some flea medications. The following medical procedures will have been performed before you receive your dog: DHLPP, Rabies, Bordatella and Corona vaccinations; spay or neuter; heartworm testing; teeth cleaning and any necessary extractions; de-worming.

What is the cost of adoption?

The charge for adopting an ex-racing greyhound is \$300. Your adoption fee pays for the medical care listed above, an identification tag, martingale collar and leash.

How do I apply?

You can apply online at www.greyhoundadoptioncalifornia.com or contact your local placement representative for information and an application.

Recommended Reading:

“ADOPTING THE RACING GREYHOUND”

by Cynthia A. Branigan

“RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS FOR DUMMIES”

by Lee Livingood

**GREYHOUND ADOPTION
CALIFORNIA -
GREYHOUND PETS OF
AMERICA /
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT RETIRED RACING GREYHOUNDS

For more information, please contact:

**GREYHOUND ADOPTION CALIFORNIA
JIM SHOFSTAHL**

925-484-5570

2greys@mindspring.com

www.greyhoundadoptioncalifornia.com



What is Greyhound Adoption?

We are a local non-profit organization dedicated to finding good homes for ex-racing greyhounds. We do not have our own kennel, but work with several other adoption agencies. We take your application and process it through the agency with the most greyhounds available. This way, you do not have a long waiting period to get your greyhound.

Are the greyhounds housebroken?

Greyhounds are kennel trained, which means that they are taught not to soil their own space. At the track, greyhounds are taken outside three or four times a day to relieve themselves. There may be an accident or two, but taking your greyhound out frequently and giving it lots of praise when it finds the right spot is the best way to avoid these.

Can they be kept outdoors?

NO! Greyhounds need to be indoor pets. Because of their thin coats and lack of body fat, they cannot stand temperature extremes. Greyhound Adoption California requires every adopter to commit to keeping his or her greyhound as an indoor dog.

What kind of personalities do greyhounds have?

Greyhounds are very intelligent, adaptable dogs that fit easily into their new environment, following a brief adjustment period. They are eager to please and respond well to any love and attention that is given to them. Most greyhounds are clean, quiet, gentle, good-

natured dogs that adapt and get along well with other animals and children.

How old are the greyhounds when they are put up for adoption?

They are anywhere between the ages of two to five years old. The younger dogs may not have qualified for racing. Most of the older dogs were retired from racing because they were no longer competitive. We also place dogs from local animal shelters or from families who can no longer keep their dog. With proper care, retired greyhounds have a life expectancy of twelve to fifteen years.

How large are greyhounds?

Greyhound males stand 26 to 30 inches tall at the shoulder and weigh between 65 and 85 pounds. Females stand 23 to 26 inches tall at the shoulder and weigh 55 to 65 pounds. They come in many different colors and shapes. Racing greyhounds are bred for speed and not for conformation of any kind.

How much exercise do greyhounds need?

Greyhounds are the fastest breed of dog in the world, but they are sprinters without a lot of endurance. A retired racer is quite content to be a “couch potato” and spend most of the day sleeping. Exercising your greyhound with walks and occasional chances to run around in a completely fenced area are all that is required, **but you can never let your greyhound out of a fenced area when not leashed!** These dogs have been trained to run and chase things since they were puppies and they will continue to do this no matter how much you yell or how much obedience training they have had.

Also, because they have been raised in a sheltered environment at the track, greyhounds have no street smarts. Let loose, they are sure to get hit by a car or become lost very quickly.

Do greyhounds shed?

Yes, but less than most dogs. Their coats are short and sleek and they don't smell “doggy”. They are easy to maintain with a quick brushing once a week. They also don't have the same dander as most dogs, so people who are allergic to other dogs can often live with greyhounds.

Are greyhounds good with children?

More so than most breeds, of children over six. Children under six should be supervised at all times when the greyhound is present. They are not as playful as puppies, since they are mature dogs, but they are very tolerant of children and will usually walk away rather than growl or snap at an overbearing child. But, like any dog, they have their limits and children must be taught to respect those limits.

Are greyhounds good with other pets?

Greyhounds are friendly by nature and socialize well because of their experiences with other greyhounds in the racing kennel. Greyhounds have never been exposed to other breeds of dogs. They know other greyhounds but may be perplexed, frightened or simply ignore other breeds, but most greyhounds learn quickly to get along with other breeds of dogs. Most learn to accept cats and are cat-tested before being placed into your home.