

Top Tips for Transporters

Please read BEFORE setting out and ask if you have any questions!

DO:

- Check with your insurer that you are covered to carry an unknown dog on a voluntary basis.
- Ensure your OWN dogs are up to date on all their vaccinations.
- Ensure that the dog will be secured safely for the journey (crate or seatbelt harness)
- Bring a slip lead with you (or suitable collar & lead)
- Bring a map with you, as well as all documentation you are sent.
- Read through the journey planner before setting out - you are usually part of a chain.
- Make sure you have contact details for EVERYONE involved before setting out (these are found in your Journey Planner).
- Remember to collect and pass on the dog's documentation at each handover
- Bring a FEW treats or biscuits for winning the dog's trust
- Bring some water & a bowl
- Arrive early and allow yourself plenty of time to handover
- Remember you are transporting a dog whose behavioural and medical history is unknown. If you are worried, seek advice.
- Adopt a 'neutral' stance, act calm, confident & let the dog to approach in its own time.
- Stay in contact with the transport coordinator during the run, advising of any delays.
- Allow the dog a chance to stretch its legs (on lead) and go to the toilet

DON'T:

- Take you own pets or young children with you on transport runs.
- Feed the dog too many treats during the trip - it may get travel sick!
- Allow the dog off leash at any time
- Allow the dog to travel unsecured in your vehicle
- Leave the dog unattended under any circumstances
- Allow members of the public to approach the dog - remember it has not been assessed and is probably unvaccinated.

If you are transporting more than one dog:

Remember the Golden Rule:

THE DOGS DO NOT KNOW EACH OTHER and YOU DO NOT KNOW THEM.

DOGS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH EACH OTHER DURING THE RUN AT ANY TIME - INCLUDING ON ENTRY/EXIT FROM THE VEHICLE.

DO:

- Read all transport documents thoroughly before setting off, particularly the details on each dog. Dogs that are nervous, in season, undersocialised etc will need careful handling. If you are unsure about transporting any of the dogs, please ask.
- Ensure the dogs are safely SECURED in crates for the journey and not able to get anywhere near each other.
- Consider blocking the dogs' view of each other to reduce stress levels
- Get dogs in and out of the vehicle ONE AT A TIME, ensuring each is safely handed over and well out of the way before getting the next dog out of their crate.

DON'T:

- Allow the dogs to travel loose in the vehicle under any circumstances, no matter how calm they seem. A fight can break out in seconds and pose a serious risk to yourself, the dogs and other road users.
- Be tempted to introduce the dogs to each other or take them for a quick walk together.
- Leave the dogs unattended together at any point.
- Put two dogs in the same crate.
- Remove both dogs from your vehicle at the same time - the slightest knock or twisted lead could result in a nasty fight.