

Before your Toller comes home

Tick what is arranged. Use the notes for names and next steps.

For our dog / household (optional)

☐ Agree who is on dog duty

☐ Prepare a quiet resting place

☐ Check doors and tempting objects

☐ Ask for the familiar routine

☐ Gather records and contacts

☐ Plan collection and the first evening

An unchecked item is a next step, not a score.

From the New Owner Kit. Not a care or treatment plan.

Save a copy. Reopen in a PDF app to update it.

The New Owner Kit

A thoughtful start with your individual Toller.



This copy belongs to _____

Practical prompts. Worked examples. Room to think.

Use this before the big day

A practical arrival workbook for your individual Toller. Work through it with the people who will share the care.

Before collection

Prepare the home, ask for the familiar routine and collect original records. Complete the handover and first-day plan; you can leave the later pages until you need them.

During the first weeks

Use the observation pages to notice preferences and ask better questions. There are no deadlines for confidence, sleeping alone or mastering cues.

Scope

This kit organizes your decisions; it is not a veterinary or behavior treatment plan. Use reward-based methods and professional advice appropriate to your dog. All filled examples are fictional.

A note for our household

Social experiences, with choice

Discuss suitable puppy exposure and local health risks with your vet. This page is not a vaccination schedule.

Choose a quiet version

Watching one person from a comfortable distance can be more useful than being passed around a group. Plan a way to leave and avoid insisting on contact.

Watch the whole dog

Record movement, orientation and choices, not just whether a treat was eaten. If your dog freezes, tries to escape or becomes distressed, leave and seek guidance rather than pushing through.

FICTIONAL EXAMPLE

Maple watches a parked bicycle from across the driveway, sniffs and walks away with Jo. Next plan: a similarly quiet setup. No greeting or closer approach is required.

A note for our household

Our experience notes

Repeat this page as needed. A calm observation counts; this is not a race through a socialization checklist.

Date / experience / distance / environment / exit route

Before, during and after: what our dog actually did

What our dog chose / how we ended / anything concerning

Next time: repeat, make easier or ask a professional?

Next decision

Compare with your own dog's earlier notes. Do not compare progress with another puppy.

Sources & scope

Original worksheets by Toller Dog. Source pages checked 11 October 2026. Breed tendencies are context; the individual dog comes first.

Breed context

NSDTRC-USA's temperament overview informed the focus on retrieving, excitement and learning. We do not adopt its raw-bone suggestion or use "a tired dog" as a welfare target.

Training approach

AVSAB supports reward-based methods. Our exercises are owner planning prompts, not an AVSAB protocol, certification or endorsement.

Editorial limits

Not veterinary advice, an individualized behavior plan or a substitute for hands-on professional care. No veterinarian or breed club has endorsed this product. All Maple examples are fictional. No outcome or timetable is promised.

Your copy

Edition 2.2 · October 2026. Fill on screen or print. Keep a blank master; save a named copy for each week. Tap a ruled line and use Tab to move on. Save in a PDF app to keep fields editable; Print to PDF may flatten them. Keep private details secure.

NSDTRC-USA: Temperament

AVSAB: position statements