

OREGON HUMANE SOCIETY

“Diamond in the Ruff” Foster-to-Adopt Program

We believe every animal deserves a home.

Sometimes though, finding these homes takes more time than you would expect.

Animals with medical conditions or who may benefit from additional behavior training or are slow to open-up to people, often take longer to find a home than some of their counterparts at the shelter. Staying in a shelter environment can take a toll on an animal’s mental wellbeing. These wonderful pets are sometimes overlooked due to the extra time or effort it may take to see their true colors shine through.

We developed the **Diamond in the Ruff** program for this very reason!

Animals who have a note in their adoption profile for **Diamond in the Ruff** are eligible to participate in this special program designed to help them find their homes and people.

To participate in this program, inform us of your interest when you come into the shelter and ask the front desk to meet. We will discuss the animal’s information in your meet and greet with the animal, and if your home and lifestyle are a good match for that pet, you'll bring them home for a period of two weeks. During this time, they will be hidden from our adoption page on the website. To minimize stress on the animal, we ask that you commit to keeping them in your home for the entire two-week period when possible.

During this time, you will have regular phone check-ins with members of the Adoptions Team to make sure everything is going as smoothly as possible and to help set you, and your foster pet, up for success. You can decide at any point during this two-week period to adopt your pet if things are going really well or you can complete the full two weeks together and then make your decision.

At the end of the two weeks, we will ask for your decision and will provide you with three potential routes:

- Adopt your foster.
- Return your foster to the shelter.
- Continue to foster until they find their home with someone else.

If you continue to foster, we will put the animal back on our website and we ask that you are available to bring them to the shelter for any adoption appointments (usually with a 48-hour notice). You could still adopt your foster animal during this time, but we ask that you notify us the moment you wish to adopt.

If the Adoptions Team contacts you about a pending adoption appointment with a third party, and you haven't told us you'd like to adopt, we will prioritize the third-party appointment first.

If you have any questions, please reach out to salemadoptions@oregonhumane.org.