

## Introducing your Greyhound to your Cats and Dogs

Much care has been taken in testing your Greyhound's compatibility with small animals however, not all small animals are created equal. We ask that you follow these directions when introducing your new dog to your current pets:

**Muzzle** - Please use the muzzle we have provided if you have small dogs and/or cats.

**Dogs** - Introduce your Greyhound to your other dog(s) on neutral territory. With leashes on, have them meet on the sidewalk or down the block from your home. Let them greet each other and then take them for a walk together. When you arrive back home walk them around your property (leashes still on) and then bring them into the house. Always let your first dog enter the house before your new Greyhound.

**Cats** - Introduce your greyhound to your cat indoors with the Greyhound muzzled and leashed. *Hold the leash in your hand.* Leave the cat on the floor.

Look for the following signs:

- **Teeth clicking or snapping.**
- **Ears alert** - although by itself this merely could indicate curiosity, as this is probably one of the first times your Greyhound has seen a cat up close.
- **Fixed gaze or stare** - which cannot be broken even when you run your hand in front of the Greyhound's eyes or call his name.
- **Trembling and/or lurching.** Your Greyhound will be curious about your cat, but interest combined **with the above signs** can indicate that your Greyhound is one of the few that may require additional training to live safely with small animals.

**Separation** - For the first several weeks, keep the dogs and/or cats separated when you are not at home or cannot supervise their interaction. Watch them carefully when they are interacting.

**Safe Space** – Create a safe place for the cat by using a baby gate in a doorway and leaving just enough space under it that the cat can get through but, the Greyhound can't.

**Crate or Muzzle** – Make sure your Greyhound is muzzled when free in the house for the first several weeks.

**No Chase** - Never let your Greyhound chase any of your small animals, even in play. Play can turn to hunt in a flash and no cat or small dog is fast enough to get out of the way of a determined greyhound.

**Correct** – “NO KITTY” if your Greyhound shows interest. Use a can with change in it to draw attention away from small animal or a spray bottle with water.

**Feeding** - Feed your cats/dogs in separate areas. You can feed your greyhound in his/her crate. Always reinforce the pecking order in your house at feeding. The top animal should always be fed, or given treats, first.

**Indoor/Outdoor cats and small dogs-** Although your Greyhound and your cat or small dog have come to terms within the house, outside is a different story. Your Greyhound may see your cat or small dog as prey when running in the yard. **Never** let your Greyhound and your cat out together in your fenced yard and it is recommended that you supervise your Greyhound and small dog when turned out together.

**Remember,** your Greyhound and your cat may be best friends however a new cat or a cat in another home may become prey.

If you have any questions or are not sure if you are reading the warning signs correctly, please call MoKan Greyhound Adoption immediately; we will be happy to discuss this with you.