

Keeping a Greyhound on a Lead

It is understandable that when we first give a home to a dog whether it is our first or not, we would all like to think of them strolling along side of us while we are walking, or having a run and play in the park or on the beach. However Greyhounds can be a law unto themselves when it comes to being let off a lead. They are sight hounds and most of them have spent the last few years of their life running around a racetrack chasing a mechanical hare. Greyhounds are able to see things far off in the distance that we are not able to see, and before you know it, they are darting off in hot pursuit with you behind them screaming "Come back here"!

There are many down sides to letting greyhounds off a lead, like:-

1. Greyhounds are natural chasers of small animals.
2. They have absolutely no road sense, which could cause a major accident making you liable, for any injuries or damages.
3. When they are off a lead, you cannot control them as they run at great speeds.
4. When greyhounds are running around at full speed they are unable to stop straight away, like many other dogs, they have to slow down gently. Many greyhounds have had awful injuries caused by running into tree stumps, wire, fences etc.. because they were unable to stop in time.
5. Many greyhounds are not sociable with any other dogs except greyhounds, being off a lead in a park or other area where there are other pet dogs can cause problems, and can sometimes lead to dog fights.

If you know for certain that your dog is 100% fine to be let off a lead ie. the Rescue have told you that they are when you adopted them, then you should not have any problems as long as you are always aware of your surroundings. Otherwise, please try and keep them on a lead at all times unless they are in an enclosed space where they cannot cause or get into any problems.