



# Adoption Agreement

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This agreement, made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 201\_\_\_\_ relates to the following rescue Basset Hound and adopting person(s).

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Name of Dog: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: Male Neutered Male Female Spayed Female  
Color / Markings: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Adopting Person(s)

Name of Family: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Apartment Complex: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. ADOPTING PERSON(S) AGREES THAT THE RESCUE DOG WILL BE A HOUSE PET AND WILL RECEIVE ALL CARE AND ATTENTION NECESSARY TO ENSURE ITS HEALTH AND WELL BEING. Adopting person(s) will provide adequate food, fresh water, shelter, exercise, veterinary care and yearly inoculations as recommended by attending veterinarian, and license said dog in accordance with state and local laws.
2. ADOPTING PERSON(S) WILL NOT PERMIT THE DOG TO RUN FREE OR OFF-LEASH OR OUT OF IMMEDIATE CONTROL. When outside, the dog will NEVER be staked out or chained.
3. PRIOR TO THIS ADOPTION the Adopting Person(s) will provide necessary protection around any swimming pool to prevent the dog's entry into the pool area and commit to supervising dog at all times around the pool area.
4. ADOPTING PERSON(S) WILL PROVIDE indoor sleeping quarters.
5. ADOPTING PERSON(S) WILL NOT transport the dog in an open pickup truck bed or in a boat without a dog life jacket for the dog's safety.
6. ADOPTING PERSON(S) agrees that the dog will, at all times, wear a collar with a current Rabies tag and identification tag.
7. ADOPTING PERSON(S) agrees to telephone Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc. immediately if the Rescue dog becomes lost or is stolen. Contact telephone number is 352-371-8082
8. ADOPTING PERSON(S) will notify Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc. at least ONE WEEK prior to any change of address.

9. ADOPTING PERSON(S) WILL KEEP THE RESCUE BASSET HOUND FOR SO LONG AS IT SHALL LIVE AND WILL NOT TRANSFER THE OWNERSHIP TO ANY OTHER PERSON WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF SUNCOAST BASSET RESCUE, INC. The "Rescue" dog may not be transferred to any other person, firm, corporation or organization for any reason.

10. IF CUSTODY OF THE RESCUE DOG MUST BE RELINQUISHED, Adopting Person(s) agrees to notify Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc. IMMEDIATELY to arrange for its re-adoption. Contact telephone number is 352-371-8082.

11. THE ADOPTING PERSON(S) TAKES THE RESCUE DOG AS IS WITH ALL DEFECTS EITHER OBSERVABLE OR UNOBSERVABLE, AND ASSUMES FULL RISK FOR THE DOG FROM THE DATE OF SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT. Though care is given to physical condition and temperament evaluation of each Basset Hound that is accepted in into Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc. and every possible effort is made to provide a rescue dog which is compatible with the Adopter's home, no warranty is made as to the physical condition or temperament of this dog. THE RESCUE SERVICE HAS OBSERVED THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS OF THIS DOG'S TEMPERAMENT:

12. ALL RESCUE BASSETS ARE ADOPTED SPAYED OR NEUTERED, IF SAID BASSET IS TOO YOUNG (LESS THAN FOUR MONTHS) A SPAY/NEUTER AGREEMENT MUST BE SIGNED.

13. THE ADOPTING PERSON(S) HAS FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEARTWORM STATUS OF THE BASSET THEY ARE ADOPTING.

The Basset known as \_\_\_\_\_ is HEART WORM NEGATIVE **or** HEART WORM POSITIVE (please circle).  
The above named hound is next due for his **Heart Guard** on \_\_\_\_\_.

Your basset has been treated with a **Flea Prevention** on \_\_\_\_\_.  
For your new bassets' health and welfare, the next treatment is due on \_\_\_\_\_.

14. Please note that your new hound's medical and adoption paperwork will not be mailed out until all paperwork is processed, in most cases, this takes approximately 2-4 weeks. Please be patient and realize that in the mean time, your new hound is fully up to date on shots. We understand that adopters are sometimes in a rush to get their new hound checked out with their veterinarian, but please give him/ her a little time to get settled into your home. If there is a medical emergency and you have to take your new hound to the Emergency vet, they do not need to see shot records to be able to help your hound.

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As of this date of this agreement, the Adopting Person(s) assumes responsibility for the dog's actions and shall hold Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc. and its individual members FREE from all claims for personal injury, injury to others, and/or property damage associated with this adoption.

Adopter Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc Volunteer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount of donation \$\_\_\_\_\_. **All monies for adoption are considered donations and are non-refundable.**

Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc. will mail a completed copy of this form to you for your records.



# Waiver Release

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The adopter is aware of the following:

1. Animals are different from human beings in their response to human actions
2. The actions of animals are often unpredictable.
3. Animals should always be closely supervised when they are with children.
4. We make no claims regarding the behavior, temperament, or health of an animal put up for adoption.
5. The animal being adopted is for a pet only and not to be used as a source of food for humans or other animals.

I accept disposition of and responsibility for the animal identified as \_\_\_\_\_.

I release and waive from any liability or responsibility to Suncoast Basset Rescue, Inc. in the event that any damages to person or property are caused either directly or indirectly by this animal.

This Waiver/Release agreed to and signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 201\_\_\_\_.

Adopter Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_



**SUNCOAST BASSET RESCUE, Inc.**

### Suncoast's Heartworm Protocol

I \_\_\_\_\_ am adopting \_\_\_\_\_. I understand

He/she has completed Suncoast's "Slow Kill" 8 week heartworm protocol.

I have spoken with various Suncoast representatives regarding this treatment and acknowledge full understanding of this treatment. I also acknowledge that this protocol takes up to 18 months for \_\_\_\_\_ to test completely negative for heartworms.

Date and sign \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

4142 Mariner Blvd #305 Spring Hill, FL 34609  
(351) 371-8082 Non-profit 501©(3) organization  
[www.suncoastbassetrescue.org](http://www.suncoastbassetrescue.org)



# About Your New Basset

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## SECTION A – General Information

Name of Basset \_\_\_\_\_ Tag Number \_\_\_\_\_ Adoption Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date (estimate is unknown) \_\_\_\_\_

Crate Trained? YES NO Need to be crated? YES NO House Broken? YES NO

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION B – Background

Please explain the background of this basset \_\_\_\_\_ ANIMAL SHELTER \_\_\_\_\_ OWNER-SURRENDERED \_\_\_\_\_

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION C – Medical

1. Date Spayed / Neutered \_\_\_\_\_ OR Deadline for Spayed / Neutered to be completed \_\_\_\_\_

Vet used to Spayed / Neutered \_\_\_\_\_ Vet's Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Vet's Address \_\_\_\_\_

2. Brand of Heartworm preventative medication given \_\_\_\_\_

Date of LAST Heartworm preventative given \_\_\_\_\_ Date NEXT Heartworm preventative due \_\_\_\_\_

Date next Heartworm test is due \_\_\_\_\_

3. Brand of Flea/Tick preventative medication given \_\_\_\_\_

Date of LAST Flea/Tick preventative given \_\_\_\_\_ Date NEXT Flea/Tick preventative due \_\_\_\_\_

4. Date NEXT Vaccinations or Booster Shots are due \_\_\_\_\_

5. Date of LAST Bordatella (kennel cough) vaccination given \_\_\_\_\_

6. Your Basset recently completes treatments for the following condition(s)

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

7. Other Medical conditions currently being treated or medications currently being administered

Condition	Medication Required	How to Administer <i>(i.e. tablet daily until gone)</i>
a. _____	_____	_____
b. _____	_____	_____
c. _____	_____	_____
d. _____	_____	_____

## SECTION D – Food & Nutrition

1. Type of food currently being given \_\_\_\_\_ WET FOOD    DRY FOOD
2. Quantity at each feeding \_\_\_\_\_
3. Feeding times \_\_\_\_\_ (NOTE: Two feedings per day is recommended)
4. Any special diet notes \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION E – Treats & Toys

1. Special treats or favorite toys

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## SECTION F – Obedience Training

1. Has this dog successfully completed obedience training?    YES    NO
2. Commands this Basset knows
- |              |          |             |              |            |
|--------------|----------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| HEEL         | SIT      | STAY        | DOWN         | COME/HERE  |
| LEAVE -IT    | DROP- IT | FETCH       | JUMP         | SPEAK/BARK |
| GO -OUT      | OUT      | GO- OUTSIDE | GO -INSIDE   | NO         |
| KENNEL/CRATE | SHAKE    | GIVE -HUGS  | GIVE -KISSES |            |

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION G – Sleeping

1. Where is the dog used to sleeping? (*Check one*)
- Inside, free roam of house
  - Inside, crated
  - Inside, confined to certain room(s)

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION H – Known Fears

1. Known fears that your Basset has (i.e. storms, loud noises)

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION I – Special Comments or Cautions

1. Any other special comments or cautions about your Basset

Notes \_\_\_\_\_

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## SECTION J – Adjustment Period

Your new Basset will need time and patience to adapt to their new family; usually 2-3 weeks. Until your Basset has completely bonded with you and the new surroundings, they may show some separation anxiety by standing at the door or window, as though “ready to go” or following you closely from room to room. During this adjustment period you may see signs of stress such as panting, pacing, shedding, or a more frequent need to drink or urinate. Many rescue Bassets were strays and used to running free; be careful not to let your Basset off leash near an open door for at least a couple of weeks, since they may try to push past and make an escape (children should be especially careful of this). Give your Basset a place they can get to and be alone if desired; many Bassets like to use their crates. It is completely natural for some Bassets to prefer to sleep in a nearby room by themselves. Do not force your Basset to interact with children or other visitors; respect signals that they prefer to rest or to be alone.

It will help your Basset adapt more quickly if they can count on some routines. Even people appreciate having routines in their lives, especially when faced with the stress of being in a new situation.

### Food Related Routines

- a. Feed the same brand and quantity of dog food
- b. Feed in the same place and at about the same time each morning and night
- c. If you change to a different brand of dog food, do it gradually (mix half new & half regular food for a few days before making a total switch). This will help prevent stomach upset or loose stools

### Sleeping Related Routines

- a. Keep your Basset’s bed in the same place
- b. Go to bed about the same time each night

### Obedience Training Routines

- a. Have regular obedience training sessions at home
- b. Consistently work on simple commands like Come, Sit, Stay, or walking (without tugging) on a leash

### Potty Routines

- a. Dogs usually have to eliminate more frequently if they are under stress (such as being in a new environment).
- b. Allow dog to eliminate first thing in the morning, immediately after playtime, shortly after dinner time, when they first wake up from long naps, and just before bedtime.
- c. Begin by walking your Basset frequently, then at gradually lengthening intervals as your trust level increases and the dog settles into the routine.

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## SECTION K – Children

It is exciting having a new dog, but be careful your Basset does not get over stimulated during the initial adjustment period. Do not leave your Basset unsupervised with small children (ages 6 and under).

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## SECTION L – Collars

As soon as possible, get an I.D. tag with your name and address. Prong or choker type collars can easily strangle or injure a dog by catching on fences, crates, etc. **Never** leave these types of collars on outside of training sessions.

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## SECTION M – Crates

Suncoast Basset Rescue strongly encourages the use of crates for training puppies and adults. The large 20 X 30 plastic crates are preferable to wire crates because they are escape proof and provide a more den-like “home”. Plastic crates can, however, retain heat and should be placed in an area with moderate temperature, not too hot or cold. Remove all “training” collars before placing your dog in his crate to prevent injury or strangulation.

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## SECTION N – Toys

Make sure your Basset has indestructible or completely edible chew toys, especially if they will be alone for several hours each day. Consult with a reputable pet store or veterinarian about the best kinds of toys to have available. Rawhides can also be choking hazards and should not be used without supervision.

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## SECTION O – Current Pets

**Cats:** If your Basset is not used to living with a cat (or vice versa) it may take several weeks or even months before you can safely leave them alone together. Leave a short leash on your Basset and if they try to chase the cat, give a short jerk on the leash and shout "NO!" It is important to be consistent as you try to correct a powerful chase instinct. Be sure your cats always have a safe escape route and do not leave them alone with the new Basset until you are completely certain their relationship is safe.

**Dogs:** If you have more than one current dog, introduce them one at a time to the new Basset - preferably your most dominant dog first. Both dogs should be on leashes, on neutral ground such as a neighborhood sidewalk or park so your current dog will not feel obliged to protect his/her territory. Do not allow the dogs to rush up to each other with their entire bodies; let only noses touch first and be prepared to separate them quickly if necessary. After the initial sniff session, take both dogs on a walk together. Then let them enter your house together. Your current dog will need more reassurance and praise during this period of adjusting to a newcomer and should be given the benefit of the doubt if a dispute arises. In other words, if the dogs fight, put the new Basset in a 'Time Out'. It is the newly-adopted Basset that must learn to adapt to the current rules of the house. Help your current dog understand they have not been 'replaced' in your heart and home. Do not leave the dogs alone together until you are completely certain their relationship is safe.

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## SECTION P – Training & Safety

As with any new pet's arrival, safety issues cannot be over-stressed - for family members, friends, current pets, and the new Basset. It is best to err on the side of caution until you and your new Basset become completely familiar with each other in all kinds of circumstances.

Introduce your Basset slowly to new people, sights and sounds while observing his/her behavior. This will be your best guide in knowing how quickly or slowly to proceed. Some rescued Bassets (and puppies) have not had a wide range of experiences and most will adjust more easily if they receive plenty of patience, reassurance and praise.

Suncoast Basset Rescue strongly recommends obedience training classes for all new dog owners. These classes can help you learn what to expect from your Basset (and vice versa) in the years ahead, and cover a wide range of topics such as health care, proper feeding, first aid, etc.

Do not let your Basset off leash outside a fenced area. Bassets think with their noses and if they pick up the scent of another animal they will wander away and not find their way back.

Make sure fence gates are locked & secured so your Basset could not be easily stolen from your yard if unattended.

Keep doors and gates latched securely. Use caution when they are opened so the Basset cannot push past. A good practice is to teach your Basset never to go through a door until you give the "magic word."

If you live near water or have a pool, remember that not all Bassets know how to swim and can easily drown. Do not give your Basset access to water while unattended. Install barriers or use other measures to prevent your Basset from falling into the water or through a pool cover. Teach him/her how to get out of the water using the stairs.

Many foods, plants or substances can be harmful or deadly to dogs (such as chocolate, avocado seeds, onions, poultry bones, antifreeze). Check with your veterinarian for a complete list of these toxic items.

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## SECTION Q – If You Adopted a Basset Puppy

**Feeding:** To discourage any food protectiveness or anxiety about eating, once or twice a week pick up the food dish during mealtime, wait a few seconds, then give the food back. Other times just gently pet and praise your puppy once or twice while eating.

**Health:** Puppies' immune systems are very fragile. Until all puppy shots have been completed, avoid public areas where diseases may be present (pet stores, rest areas, parks).

**Housebreaking:** To help your puppy hold his/her bladder until the morning walk, you could discontinue water after 9:00 P.M. but have plenty available at all other times.

**Safety:** Take time to puppy-proof your home, garage, and yard. Put away anything your puppy can reach with paws or teeth. Things like electrical cords on lamps can sometimes be moved around behind a table or chair so the puppy can't get to them as easily.

**Training:** Snapping or being "mouthy" is inappropriate for puppies and adult dogs alike, and should be discouraged at every instance. Help your puppy become accustomed to standing still and being touched so s/he will feel more comfortable at the vet's office or when strangers visit. Gently brush fur, inspect ears, hold each paw and look between the toes where rocks may be stuck, and even check teeth by gently lifting up your puppy's lip and touch his/her teeth, tongue, and gums.