

LOST GREYHOUND *EMERGENCY!*



This booklet contains the most successful methods used by greyhound adoption groups across the country.

I'd like to thank Michael McCann and Jennifer Conti Saker for presenting a search seminar many years ago at Greyhounds Reach the Beach in Dewey, DE that sparked my interest in the need to learn more about searching for lost greyhounds. Over the years Janet Wagner and Carol Goodwin joined me on many searches, traveling many miles to help find lost greyhounds.

Thanks also to the writers of search articles I have gathered over the years:
Marcia Herman, MN Greyhound Rescue, Deborah Messersmith, Pet FBI, Lost Dogs of America, Lost Dog Illinois, and others whose names I have forgotten.

This booklet is available for viewing at www.greyhoundfriends.com, shared in the hope that greyhound owners never have to use it and that they will be prepared ahead of time.

Ducky McComas
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MY GREYHOUND ESCAPED!

~who to contact immediately~

My **adoption group** phone number(s):

My **Animal Control agency** location and phone number:

My **veterinarian's** phone number:

My **emergency veterinarian hospital** location and phone number:

My **friends, neighbors, and relatives** who can help:

INTERNET SITES TO JOIN NOW BEFORE YOU NEED THEM

Always record the sites you post on.

You'll need to monitor them for sightings and to post updates.

- [Greyhound Amber Alert](#) group on Facebook
- Facebook Lost & Found Pet pages local to your town and specific neighborhood
- Facebook pages for general interest groups in your area
- Nextdoor.com for your area

EMERGENCY CONTACT RESOURCES

My Adoption Group

Phone number:

Email:

Facebook page:

My Greyhound Info

Name:

Color:

Left ear tattoo:

Right ear tattoo:

Emergency Vet hospital

Phone number:

Address:

My Veterinary Clinic

Phone number:

Address:

My Local Animal Control Office

Phone number:

Address:

Police / Sheriff's Department Non-emergency Number:

Space to list any **additional greyhounds** you have:

CREATE THAT FLYER NOW!

Use the lost greyhound template in this packet.

Do **not** use a photo of your dog. Do **not** add your dog's name.

Using the name is not suggested because people will yell the name. Dogs hear panic and fear, even in the owner's voice, which they'll interpret as something scary is happening and so they run off.

Use simple wording in **bold** letters for best visibility from a distance.

Use 2 or 3 phone numbers that will be answered 24/7. *First number can be the team leader or monitor, followed by the owner.*

Include at the bottom of the page in very small letters: "This flyer will be removed when the search is over."

Do **not** offer a reward. Rewards bring out scammers and crazy people.

PRINT THAT FLYER

Start with **500** flyers on **bright neon paper**. Again, this is for optimum visibility.

Using an inkjet printer? That ink will run when wet. Use protective sleeves for any flyers that will be hung outdoors, including laser-printed.

You can send in your created flyer to your local Staples or print shop but make sure they will use bright color paper, not white.

Call to confirm your incoming order, find out when you can pick it up, and ensure that they are using the neon-bright paper.

Purchase document sleeves while you are out at the store.

TOOLKIT FOR HANGING FLYERS

Clear document sleeves: Insert flyer in the clear sleeve from the bottom up and staple shut.

Clear packing tape. Do not use duct tape.

Staple gun and refill staples. Do NOT use nails or roofing tacks!

Scotch tape for hanging flyers inside store windows.

Thumbtacks for bulletin boards.

Notebook to record where flyers are posted (street or business) so you'll know where to take them down.

Map of the area.

Highlighter to mark where you have posted in one color, a second color to track sightings.

FLYER IS MADE - NOW WHAT?

- Hand flyers out to everyone you see.
- If someone doesn't want to take a flyer, ask them to take a photo of it on their phone.
- Have a copy of the flyer on your phone.
- Insert your first 200 flyers into the clear plastic sleeves from the bottom up and staple them shut to prevent water damage.
- Tape a flyer to the rear and side windows of your vehicle. Use your flashers if you are moving slowly. All search team members should also have flyers on their vehicles.
- If you create a Facebook search page, tell the people you see about it and the Greyhound Amber Alert Facebook page.
- Always be polite and tell them that the flyers will be removed when the search is over.
- Keep a notebook logging where you have hung flyers, including businesses.
- Change your phone message to: *"If you are calling to report a sighting of the lost greyhound, please give the date and time, location, directions, and your phone number."*

DO NOT:

- X Use nails
- X Damage vinyl posts or fencing
- X Put it in a mailbox. Instead, roll up the flyer and tuck it beside the mailbox flag.
- X Do not trespass.

SAFETY NOTE:

Do not post sighting locations on Facebook or other sites. You do not want people to scare your dog further away from the area.

Location of sightings should only be shared with your search team.

If a caller says they have your dog, do not meet them alone. Also tell a team member any information you have about that caller and their location.

You do not need to include the color of the collar your dog is wearing on your flyer. Instead, ask the finder what color collar the dog is wearing.

MANAGING THE SEARCH

*As the owner, you will want to do everything but it will be overwhelming.
The first 24 to 48 hours are critical. You need a team to share the load.*

The designated **MONITOR** will:

- be available 24/7 to assist the owner and **Search Team Leader**
- make note of the date, time, location, direction of travel, and description of the dog
- help manage all incoming calls and share immediately with the search team leader and the greyhound's owner
- monitor and update Facebook and other online postings and share immediately with the search team leader and the greyhound's owner
- keep a notebook of contact info for all team members and local non-greyhound owners who have offered to help
- maintain a record of all sightings in the notebook.

Note that the Monitor and the Search Team Leader can be the same person if you are short on volunteers.

The designated **SEARCH TEAM LEADER** will:

Establish a command center where volunteers meet to get flyers, plastic sleeves, clear shipping tape, staple guns, and maps from a bin on the porch. This does not have to be exactly where the dog was lost. It can be at the owner's house or with a team member close to the lost site. Include a sign-in sheet for volunteers to leave their name, phone number, and the area they are covering with flyers.

- coordinate where to focus the search and where to expand the area
- remind searchers that lost greyhounds are most active in the early morning between 5am-8am and in the evening from 6pm-9pm
- coordinate the distribution of flyers, guiding volunteers to hang in which locations and businesses
- remind searchers to always have a leash, smelly treats, water, and flyers on hand
- remind searchers to have a flyer taped to their car windows
- help the owner by maintaining the availability of flyers, plastic sleeves, staple guns, tape, maps, and thumbtacks. These items can be kept in a bin on the owner's porch and/or with someone close to the search zone.
- remind all searchers to not chase the dog and not call out his name, but to call the owner and the Monitor immediately
- remind all searchers of the "calming signals" to not frighten the dog (see Resources section)
- remind searchers to not use a squawker unless the owner knows the dog will respond. If used and the dog runs away, do not use it again.

*Avoid doing a "group march" of greyhounds with their owners. This only gives visibility in a small area. It also puts those greyhounds at risk in inclement weather and a chance of escaping. Manpower can be better used in other tasks as directed by the **Search Team Leader**.*

DISTRIBUTING FLYERS IN THE LOST ZONE

Expand the zone further over time

Always ask permission before posting at a business

What other businesses and services are in your area?

Each flyer you give out or hang up increases your chance of a reported sighting!

- any utility pole at intersections, if power lines are below ground, tape to the large junction boxes
- gas stations/convenience stores
- grocery stores
- schools and school bus drivers
- churches
- parks and dog parks
- apartment and community mailbox centers
- coffee shops and diners
- post office, mail carriers, FEDEX drivers, UPS drivers
- newspaper delivery drivers
- food delivery drivers
- landscapers/lawn servicers, golf courses
- propane delivery drivers, septic tank services, garbage collectors
- utility workers: power, cable, water
- Petco, Petsmart (or your local pet store)
- library
- equine and farm animal veterinarians - farmer's feed stores - Tractor Supply
- humane societies, veterinarians, and emergency vet hospitals
- your local Animal Control office (in person)
- ask local farmers and hunters to check their game cameras.
- police, sheriff's departments, Highway Patrol: email a flyer to their local office
- your state or county's Highway Dept that disposes of deceased animals found on roads

Be courteous and engage with everyone you meet. Be respectful of private property

ONLINE POSTING

**Do not offer a reward. Do not post the greyhound's name.
Do not give the exact location of where the dog was lost.**

Rewards bring out scammers and crazy people who are more likely to chase the dog.

Calling the dog's name could cause it to panic and run away. Lost dogs may go into feral mode after a few days and not respond to their name.

Posting updates on exact sighting locations may cause people to chase the dog, no matter how well-meaning they are.

Create a Facebook page just for the search. Example: "Hampstead Lost Greyhound" identifies the town. This same page was used for another search two years later and in doing so, established a huge network of people keeping an eye out.

Do not rely solely on your personal Facebook page. *Your page must be set to Public for it to be seen and shared by people you don't know.* Instead, create one using "your town or neighborhood + Lost Greyhound". Certainly, post about your lost greyhound on your personal page, but also include a photo of the flyer.

Also post on:

- **Local Nextdoor.com** if that's where it was lost, or ask someone who is within that Nextdoor area to post for you.
- **Local Lost & Found Pet** pages for your county and town on Facebook.
- **PawBoost.com**
- **Craigslist.org**
- Email **radio, television stations**, and specific human interest **newspaper reporters**

Always include the image of your flyer on every site you post to or email.

ALWAYS CHECK YOUR LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER IN PERSON AT LEAST EVERY OTHER DAY. *Sometimes employees and volunteers misidentify the breed of an animal brought in.*

Don't lose hope: a few days or a week of searching can be discouraging, especially with no sightings. Just remember, your hound is still out there, and someone has seen him. You have to find that person. Don't think the worst - greyhounds are survivors. Don't give up, your greyhound is counting on you.

If response has been low, create a half-sheet photo flyer of your dog. This is only to be handed out or placed on bulletin boards and is not to be hung outdoors. You only want the basic bright color paper for that.

HOW AND WHERE TO SEARCH

Change your mindset: This is the most important and most difficult step. You have to stop checking every street and yard - you need an army to do it for you. Most greyhounds are found within a mile or two of where they were lost, but a 2-square-mile area is impossible to adequately search alone. Having a search gear bag and a search team prepared in advance saves you precious time.

Have a backpack ready to grab and go!

The small list:

- ~ leash and collar ~ smelly food and treats ~ cell phone charged up ~ water
- ~ flyers to hand out ~ photo of the dog ~ binoculars ~ flashlight with new batteries
- ~ small pocket mirror ~ muzzle
- ~ map of the area, printed or saved in Google Maps including a satellite view
- ~ pen or highlighter to mark the map
- ~ reflective wear and lights for humans and dogs for night searching

Add to that list if you can or at least have ready in your car:

- ~ small first aid kit ~ blanket to carry the dog ~ bug spray ~ night vision glasses
- ~ squeaky toy or squawker only if the owner says the dog will respond to one

The owner should have a **Ziplock bag** containing a piece of their unwashed clothing, bed linens, and/or a blanket used by the dog. These will be placed in the area of known sightings and where you will set up a feeding station. Cooking meat on a portable grill may also draw the dog in.

Work in teams as assigned by the team search leader. Talk to everyone you meet, giving them a flyer or having them take a picture of it on their phone.

Greyhounds can easily blend into the background, yet be right under your nose. Look for:

- water sources
- food sources left out for outdoor cats
- in sheds or barns
- under porches
- parks and dog parks
- yards with an open gate
- cemeteries
- shady and wooded areas
- restaurants, grocery stores, and fast food joints dumpster areas
- railroads tracks and powerline easements
- pawprints in the dirt
- flattened grass where an animal may have been laying
- listen for the sound of barking dogs that may be alerting to a stray dog nearby

***Do not call out the dog's name as it may spook him.
Always ask permission before searching on private property***

THE CAPTURE

You got lucky. Multiple sightings were reported thanks to all the flyers distributed and internet postings. Your dog has been returning to the feeding station you set up.

You can see him! The first thing you want to do is run to him calling his name. You want to tell him how much you loved and missed him but... he doesn't remember you. It is not uncommon for a greyhound to become feral in a matter of days of being lost. He is in survival mode and everything around him has become scary.

FINESSE CAPTURE

- When you and your volunteers see him, do not chase or follow him, make him think you have no interest in him.
- Turn away, don't make eye contact, sit down on the ground, and toss some smelly treats in his direction but not directly at him.
- If you have another greyhound with you, give some treats to him: there is nothing that will make a hungry dog more curious than watching another dog eat.
- If he approaches you, stay on the ground, avoid eye contact (use a mirror instead), and continue to toss smelly treats: you are gaining his trust through food motivation.
- Lick your lips and yawn, a lot. These are **"calming signals"**. Have a looped leash ready in case he gets close enough to gently slip it on.
- If he won't approach anyone, and is fond of his crate, bring the crate to his location, and place food inside.
- If he likes riding in the car, leave the car door open overnight as you wait onsite for him to appear.
- Leave his bedding in places where he's been sighted, near a bowl of food. He may connect the bedding and food with home and stay close to the area.
- If possible, set up his feeding station in a fenced area with a gate. Closing a gate behind a hound is easier than trying to get him to come to you.
- A squawker or predator call is a device that trainers use to recall hounds at the track, It is a good tool to have *but be aware that it rarely works with shy, spooky greyhounds*. If the dog doesn't react to, or runs from the noise, don't use it again. Alert your search team to not use one either.
- Practicing with a squawker or predator caller at home, in the house or in your fenced yard with treats, is a good thing to train for recall. *Note that even a greyhound who is used to hearing and responding to a squawker at playgroups with other greyhounds still may not respond when he is lost.*
- Now that you have your hands on your dog, resist moving until you have double checked that the slip lead is secure: to him and to you. Add a collar and leash, making sure the collar is snug.
- Keep both the slip lead and leash on when you are ready to move him.
- Wait for helpers to arrive and if your dog is injured or you are afraid he may escape from you.

THE CAPTURE, continued

CALMING SIGNALS—in relation to catching a stray dog—are as much about what you DON'T do as it is about the actions you take.

Things you SHOULD NOT DO:

- Don't make eye contact with the dog. If you do make eye contact, then look to the side next.
- Don't chase a stray dog.
- Don't expect your dog to behave in a normal way, even if you have known the dog for years.
- Don't move toward a dog if the dog shows signs of getting ready to bolt.
- Don't kneel or squat.
- Don't call the dog's name, even if it's your dog!
- Don't grab for the dog.
- Don't put your hand over the dog's head.

Things you SHOULD DO:

- If this is your dog, just talk in a normal tone of voice, or turn to the side and call the name of another dog in your house.
- Watch the body language of the dog and adjust your actions to what makes the dog more comfortable.
- Have plenty of high-value treats, such as hot dogs, fried chicken, cheeseburger, or pizza. Call a friend to bring treats to you if you don't have any.
- If at all possible, try to lure the dog away from busy streets—to a yard, park, or quiet street—before you continue with calming signals.
- Get closer to the dog by walking in a path 45 degrees to the side of the dog and gradually spiraling closer.
- Sit on the ground with your legs stretched out in front of you.
- Turn your body to the side so you are not facing the dog.
- Pretend to eat the dog's treats and "accidentally" drop some.
- Eventually, toss some treats toward the dog, but not at the dog.
- Instead of looking at the dog, look at your phone and use the front or back camera to monitor the dog's behavior. As far as the dog is concerned, you are completely ignoring him and engrossed with your phone.
- Get a picture, in case this attempt fails and the dog runs off again. Silence your camera phone so the shutter noise doesn't scare the dog.
- Take your time, and let the dog come up to you when he is ready.
- Have an assistant keep people away, so you have room to work and no one interferes.
- Let the dog eat out of your cupped hand.
- Yawn several times.
- If the dog is eating out of your hand, gently rub under the chin. Don't force the dog!
- Let him see the leash and smell it before you put it over his head.
- Another trick you can use is to run away from the dog and get him to chase you. This can put a dog at ease.
- After you catch the dog, one way or another, it is very important to continue using calming signals to help the dog relax and learn to trust you.

THE CAPTURE, continued

LIVE-TRAP CAPTURE

If the finesse capture isn't working, you can switch to using a human trap. Don't undo all the trust you've built by grabbing at him.

*The trap for a greyhound must measure **72" long by 20" wide by 26" tall.***

Using a smaller trap will spook the dog and he will never try to open it again.



The time to use a trap is only after you have confirmed multiple sightings in the same area. Make sure you have permission from the property owner before placing the trap and securing it with a heavy lock and chain. Monitor closely if the trap is set in an area where children may find it, including overnight.

If you have located the dog but he won't approach people, start feeding him regularly at the same place each day, *then* set up the trap at that location. If you are unsure if it is the dog eating the food, sprinkle flour around the bowls to look for paw prints. If it is raining, use sand instead.

Put kibble in the bowl and top it with something wet and smelly. Wildlife will usually only eat the stinky stuff and leave the kibble, whereas a dog will eat all of it. Set up a night vision trail camera to confirm who is eating the food. Also put a water bowl near the trap.

Set the trap in the area where you have been feeding the dog. Once set up, feed the dog only in the trap. If the dog refuses to enter at first, don't take the food out of the trap. You want to train him to eat in the trap.

Greyhounds have sensitive feet. These cage-type traps have wire floors, so when setting the trap, put some kind of cushioning on the floor. A blanket or straw will work well.

Be sure to identify the trap using an identification tag from your adoption group. Also attach a Lost Greyhound flyer.

THE CAPTURE, continued

- **Monitor the trap 24/7** with watchers in the distance using binoculars.
- Trail cams can also be used. Standard trail cameras have an SD card you can remove to view and insert in your cell phone or computer. Cellular trail cameras send the footage directly to you via a third-party cellular network like AT&T or Verizon, allowing you to easily review footage. Research which style works for your needs and budget. www.FocusCamera.com has an article titled, "The Best Standard and Cellular Trail Cameras 2021".
- **Never release the greyhound if you are alone. Wait for help. Best to carry the crate to your vehicle without releasing the dog.**
- Use caution and wear gloves if you have to release any wildlife from the crate.

Use a trap measuring **72" L x 20" W x 26" H**. A smaller trap will only spook a greyhound before they can get fully inside it. (Never use a "humane *snare* trap". It has not been effective in capturing greyhounds because of the unique shape of a greyhound's neck and head. If used it must be constantly monitored, because a dog captured with this type of trap can injure himself in his panic to get free.)

Check with your adoption group to see if they have a greyhound-sized humane trap or if they know where the closest one is. Animal Control officers usually do not have a large enough trap. You will need a pickup truck or a van, with seats folded down, to transport. You will need to secure on-site with a sturdy cable and lock to prevent theft.

Tomahawk Live Trap model 610 C "Large Dog, Coyote Trap with one Trap Door and Rear Door Access" \$355 plus a freight shipping charge of several hundred dollars. The WK4 Wheel Kit will fit this trap and make it easier to move. This trap is a non-folding model. Available www.LiveTrap.com (715) 356-4600. Also sold via www.WildlifeControlSupplies.com

CHEMICAL CAPTURE

This is the least effective and most dangerous method of capture because greyhounds are extremely sensitive to drugs and anesthesia.

Do **NOT** put drugs like Acepromazine ("Ace") into the dog's food. The drug will take time to work and the dog will almost certainly be far from your search area. A drugged dog is susceptible to attack by other animals, may fall into a body of water, or wander into traffic. There have been no known successful captures using ingested drugs.

The only chemical capture method, which has been effective with greyhounds, is a **drug dart with a radio tag administered by a qualified technician**. The technician must be able to get within 25 feet of the dog to make a good shot. When darted the dog will run, sometimes for a good distance, until the drug takes effect. The radio tag will lead the searchers to the dog.

THE CAPTURE, continued

A veterinarian should be available to administer a reversing agent and to deal with any after-effects of the drug.

Although some animal control officers have dart guns and are eager to use them, if the ACO has no experience with sighthound capture or radio tags, don't allow it. It is just too risky!

TRAIL CAMERAS AND DRONES

Trail Cameras Research which style works for your needs and budget.

www.FocusCamera.com has an article titled, "The Best Standard and Cellular Trail Cameras2021.

Drones

Before using a drone, review your local regulations regarding where they can or can't be used. Get permission from property owners before flying over their land.

Ask local drone flying clubs. Ask real estate agents who they use for drone photography.

Professional Tracking Services

If a tracking dog is needed to help find your greyhound, hire a professional trained and certified for lost pet recovery.

A directory for tracking services in your state is posted by **MARN, the Missing Animal Response Network**. [/www.missinganimalresponse.com/mar-directory/](http://www.missinganimalresponse.com/mar-directory/)

A notice from their website:

"The individuals or teams listed in our directory are MAR Trained, please use the contact information in our directory to make sure you are communicating with the proper entity. Unfortunately, many of our members have had their identities or logos stolen to try and steal money from people that have lost their pets. Most if not all of our members will not ask for money using cash apps."

What if you have a multi-dog household? How will a pet tracker have a "pure" scent of that missing dog? Here's a tip from a MARN tracker:

- wear latex gloves
- use a sterile gauze pad
- swipe the pad over the dog to collect the scent
- place in a Ziplock bag labeled with the dog's name and the date collected
- store in the freezer for up to 6 months and replace every 6 months

WHEN THE SEARCH IS DONE

Thank your team!

Remove all flyers. Having the list of where you hung them is a tremendous help. Also ask any team member who put them up to take them down.

Update all online postings: Facebook, Pawboost, Nextdoor, Greyhound Amber Alert, Humane Societies / rescue groups, Animal Control, Police, every neighborhood group page your original post was shared to, and any media outlet (newspaper, TV, radio).

If you've saved the contact information on individuals you met on the search who offered to search or called in a sighting, thank them too.

Save all your contacts and notes from the search for reference.

Review:

- How can you prevent another escape?
- What worked well during the search and what didn't?

There may come a time when you or a fellow greyhound owner will need search help again. What you have learned can be a big help to others in the future.

ESCAPE PREVENTION

Keeping your greyhound safe is the responsibility of everyone in your family.

The frequent means of escapes are: through an open gate, through an open door, dropped leash, slipping out of the collar, over a fence, under a fence, through a broken fence, getting in or out of a car, out of a window, or let off-leash.

REVIEW YOUR SAFETY KNOWLEDGE

FENCES

- Look for loose boards, gaps hidden by shrubbery, holes dug under the fence, have recent high winds blown a section down or caused a tree to fall on it, has there been a build of snow that would make jumping over easy, keep lawn furniture, equipment, or a shed away from the fence line.
- Fences should be 4-6 feet tall, depending on the dog and your adoption group's requirements.
- Never leave your dog outside alone. A terrified dog can jump a fence when normally they would not. They can dig under a fence quicker than you would think.

GATES

- Check that all gates to your yard are closed prior to letting your dog out.
- Consider having gates that can only be opened from the inside so that no one can just walk in.
- Always check your gate after meter readers, mowers, or kids have been in the yard.
- Always lock that gate! A greyhound nose can easily flip open an unlocked chain-link gate latch. That may be inconvenient at times but that's preferable to a lost dog.
- Use a brass padlock because it won't rust or a carabiner to prevent unauthorized trespassers.
- Put a sign on your gate that you have dogs in the yard and gates must be kept closed.
- Teach kids that only adults will open the gates. A neighbor's child may not heed that rule.

GARAGE DOORS

Before pressing the remote to lift the door, are you sure that the door from the house to the garage, or from the backyard to the garage is closed?

WINDOWS

- Keep your car window up or at least not down so low that your dog can jump out after that squirrel running across the road.
- Your greyhound could also easily push out a screen window to chase the bunny hopping in the yard.

ESCAPE PREVENTION, continued

DOORS

- Never hold a door open unless the dog is crated, baby-gated in another room, or have someone hold his collar firmly. An escape can happen when you have guests, your children have friends over, you are bringing in groceries, you are stepping partway out to meet the pizza delivery guy, or there are workmen going in and out of the house.
- Invest in your dog's life by using a baby gate, whether it be fixed-mounted or pressure mounted.
- If your dog easily pulls down a lever door handle, you may need to switch to a knob.

AWAY FROM HOME

- Never let your greyhound off-leash unless you are within a securely fenced area with all gates closed.
- When walking on lead, wrap the leash loop around your wrist and hold the leash in your hand.
- Don't be distracted by your phone.
- Pay attention to your surroundings. Be alert for loose dogs.
- Avoid dog parks unless there for greyhounds-only playgroup and keep an eye out for open gates.
- Don't let your dog be spooked by an automatically opening door to a business.
- When on a walk with you your greyhound may see a small animal or a piece of trash rolling down the road, and just like that your dog is chasing it. Greyhounds are not streetwise, and no car could stop in time.
- *Never, ever use a flex-lead retractable leash. The cord can slice open your dog's legs and yours. If dropped, the plastic handle banging on the pavement will spook your dog.*

NEVER OFF-LEASH

If you have no fence, a leash is mandatory - always, even if obedience-trained. Greyhounds have remarkably poor recall because of their ability to focus on whatever has their attention.

MARTINGALE COLLARS

Your greyhound should wear a well-fitted martingale collar at all times when outdoors. Routinely check the adjustment of the collar to make sure it is not too loose. Have you checked your collars lately? Are you seeing any fraying of the fabric? If the hardware is too easy to adjust it is at risk for sliding and making the collar too loose. Some collar makers use cheap materials. Do you see any cracks in the hardware? Can you easily twist the fabric? A stiffer, thicker collar is better than a thin flimsy fabric collar.

ESCAPE PREVENTION, continued

TAG COLLARS

- Greyhounds look beautiful without a collar on, but how will you be able to grab the collar if they dash out the door? Use a tag collar! Don't like the jingling? Get a tag wrap or silencer. Want something safe and streamlined? Use a Boomerang flat tag that slides onto the tag collar. Breakaway collars are fine in the house if you are worried about the tags getting caught on something.
- If your house has in-floor air ducts, use the Boomerang flat tag!
- *Never, ever clip tags to the D ring on the collar.* Doing so may snag the leash clip, either popping it open or breaking the hardware.
- A greyhound found loose wearing tags will be reunited quicker to his owner than waiting for the finder to get a microchip scan.
- Have you checked the phone numbers listed on your dog's tag?

LEASHES, AND HARNESSSES

- Routinely check the condition of the leash clip. Has it become loose or cracked?
- The claw or scissoring style will stay tighter (good) than the older style of just thumbing the down release button (bad). A loose release mechanism increases the chances of an accidently release, especially if the tags are on the D ring.
- If you use a harness, get one designed for a greyhound's body shape. A generic harness will be very easy for the dog to back out of it. Three-point harnesses are even better and provide a grip when dealing with an elderly hound or one with a neck injury. Add an ID tag to the harness too, but not on the D ring.
- Are you holding the leash securely? Could it be yanked out of your hand if your dog bolted?

CARABINER CLIPS

- Use a carabiner clip to provide an extra layer of safety, coupling the collar to the leash hardware of the clip (but not the piece that releases).
- Clip a carabiner to your belt loop to be hands-free briefly.
- Clip a carabiner securely in your car as a safety measure to prevent an open-door escape.
- Another product loops onto the leash and then clips to the collar.

MICROCHIPS

- Verify that your adoption group or vet have registered the microchip in your name. Not all vet offices take that step after inserting the chip.
- Does it have your current address and phone number?
- Unsure about the chip? Register it yourself, free of charge at www.freepetchipregistry.com
- If your greyhound has escaped, contact your microchip company immediately.

ESCAPE PREVENTION, continued

DOG SITTERS AND DOG WALKERS

Do you use either of those services? Explain to them all the rules in this booklet. They must only use a martingale collar when taking the greyhound out of the house. If not made familiar with a martingale, they may exit with the leash clipped to a tag collar that can slide off at the first tug.

SEASONAL THREATS

- Halloween, fireworks, snowstorms, thunderstorms, tornados, and hurricanes - oh my! All may cause your dog to bolt
- Snow build-up beside a fence creates an easy escape ramp.
- Noises from storms can spook a dog to jump a fence, or have a leash ripped from your hand.
- If you anticipate fireworks, leash-walk your dog in your backyard only.
- Keep your screen door/storm door closed and locked and lower or remove only the top screen or window to pass candy out to trick or treaters. Even better, baby-gate the dog away from the door or gate him in another room at Halloween and especially if you are entertaining guests.

TRAVELING

BEFORE LEAVING

- Have a flyer ready for printing
- Have contacts on your phone of those who could help remotely
- Have a plain clear photo, printed or on your phone to prove this is your dog (if needed)
- Make note of greyhound groups near your destination and en route
- Make note of emergency vet hospitals near your destination and en route
- Have a copy of updated vet records on your phone and keep a printed copy in your car
- Keep a photo of the medical reference cards provided in this packet with you
- Verify that phone numbers on tags are current
- Consider adding a temporary tag noting your travel destination
- Verify that your microchip registry is current
- Bookmark these sites: PetFBI.org, [Lost Dogs of America.org](http://LostDogsOfAmerica.org), and [Lost Pets of Auto Accidents Group](https://www.facebook.com/LostPetsOfAutoAccidentsGroup) (Facebook only)

ON THE ROAD

- Do not make frequent stops for potty breaks. This increases the chances of an escape
- Secure your dog in the car
 - Crate, soft crate, harness connected to a seat belt,
 - Leashes connected to a secured carabiner clip attached inside the car
- Disengage the power windows and sliding doors
- No one opens a door unless a leash is on the dog and you are holding that leash
 - especially if your car has a rear lift-up hatch
- Muzzle your dogs or have muzzles handy. Close quarters with multiple dogs can
 - lead to a kerfuffle
- Bring water from home to limit tummy upsets from what your dog is used to
- Have blankets, towels, and treats handy.
- Meclizine is an OTC med for nausea. It is cheaper than Dramamine but if Dramamine
 - is all you can find, make sure it is the formula with Meclizine as the ingredient.

HOTEL SAFETY

- Having your room door open directly to the outside increases the risk of escape. Doors opening to an inside hallway are safer.
- Use caution near lobby doors that open automatically. They may spook your dog.
- Use the Do Not Disturb sign.
- Use a baby gate with a bungee cord and secure the lever door handle. This prevents your dog from escaping by jumping on that lever handle.
- If possible, crate your dog in the room.
- ALWAYS leave the collars on, otherwise you'll have nothing to grab if your dog bolts.
- Everyone traveling with you must use caution when entering/exiting the room.
- Use a carabiner clip to attach the dog's leash to you when unloading your car.

Appendix: Martingale Safety Checklist



MARTINGALE SAFETY CHECKLIST

1.



ADJUST TO LOOSEN

2.



3.



ADJUST TO TIGHTEN

✓

THE COLLAR IS TOO LOOSE
IF THESE 2 SLIDES TOUCH



✓

ADJUST COLLAR BEHIND EARS
(largest part of head) TO FIT
3 FINGERS BETWEEN SLIDES



✓

DO NOT ADD TAGS TO THE D-RING
{ tags & charms can snag }
ATTACH TO SIDE INSTEAD



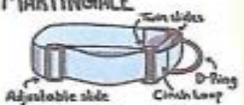
HANG TAGS HERE

more info at www.classichound.com

A GREYHOUND GUIDE TO: COLLAR SAFETY

• TYPES •

MARTINGALE



TAG COLLARS



• FITTING •

1. Pull adjustable slide to loosen



2. Slip collar over both ears



3. Fit excess material through slides to tighten. There should be 3" slack.



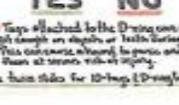
4. Check fit by lifting D-ring. There should be 2-3 finger's worth of space between the two slides.



!IMPORTANT!



YES



NO

• Tags attached to the D-ring can easily get caught on objects or teeth during play. This can cause wounds to gums and pull down at corners, risk of injury. Use these slides for ID-tag (D-ring for leash).

• FIT MISTAKES •



Too Loose

• Two slides should NEVER touch



Too Tight

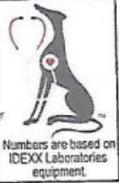
SHARE & TAG:
 IG: @INKHOUNDARTS
 FB: @INK HOUND ART

Appendix: Greyhound Medical Reference Cards

Greyhounds are not "normal" dogs

Normal blood values in Greyhounds are not the same as other breeds. The information on this card does not replace proper diagnosis or veterinary care. Use it to consult with your veterinarian as part of a diagnostic workup.

Lab Tests	Greyhounds	Other Breeds
WBC	3.5-6.9	5.8-20.3
Platelets	110-205	173-497
Total Protein	4.8-6.3	5.1-7.1
Globulin	1.7-3.0	2.2-3.9
Creatinine	1.0-1.7	0.6-1.6
Total T4 (nMol/L)	8-20*	20-33
HCT/PCV	50%-70%**	42%-62%



Numbers are based on IDEXX Laboratories equipment.

*Hypothyroid is rare in Greyhounds. Ask your veterinarian to check TSH levels and discuss clinical signs before accepting a diagnosis of hypothyroid.
 **A Greyhound with HCT/PCV <50% is anemic.

Important medication dosages for greyhounds.

For Bleeding:

Aminocaproic Acid (Amicar) dose: 500-1,000mg 3x/day for 5 days

For Thrombosis/Stroke:

Aspirin dose: 1/2 - 1 Cardio Aspirin (81mg) once a day



My Vet #: _____ ER Vet #: _____

The Greyhound Health Initiative is a nonprofit focused on the education of sighthound owners & veterinarians regarding these breeds' special characteristics. Donations are graciously accepted at GreyhoundHealthInitiative.org.

GREYHOUNDS ARE DIFFERENT

BEFORE ACCEPTING A MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS BASED ON LAB REPORTS, MAKE SURE THE VALUES ARE SPECIFIC TO GREYHOUNDS.

	Greyhounds	Other Dogs
RBC	7.4 - 9.0	5.5 - 8.5
Hgb	19.0 - 21.5	12.0 - 18.0
PCV	55% - 65%*	37% - 55%
* <50% check for TBD & parasites ~ greyhound is anemic		
WBC	3.5 - 6.5	6.0 - 17.0
Platelets	80,000 - 200,000	150,000 - 400,000

Reference source: www.greyhealth.com

	Greyhounds	Other Dogs
Total Protein	4.5 - 6.2	5.4 - 7.8
Globulin	2.1 - 3.2	2.8 - 4.2
Creatinine	.8 - 1.6	.0 - 1.0
T4	.5 - 3.6	1.52 - 3.60

If clinical signs of hypothyroid are present, consider testing T4 with cTSH. Ask your vet about Amicar or Tranexamic Acid to control post op bleeding.

My Vet #: _____

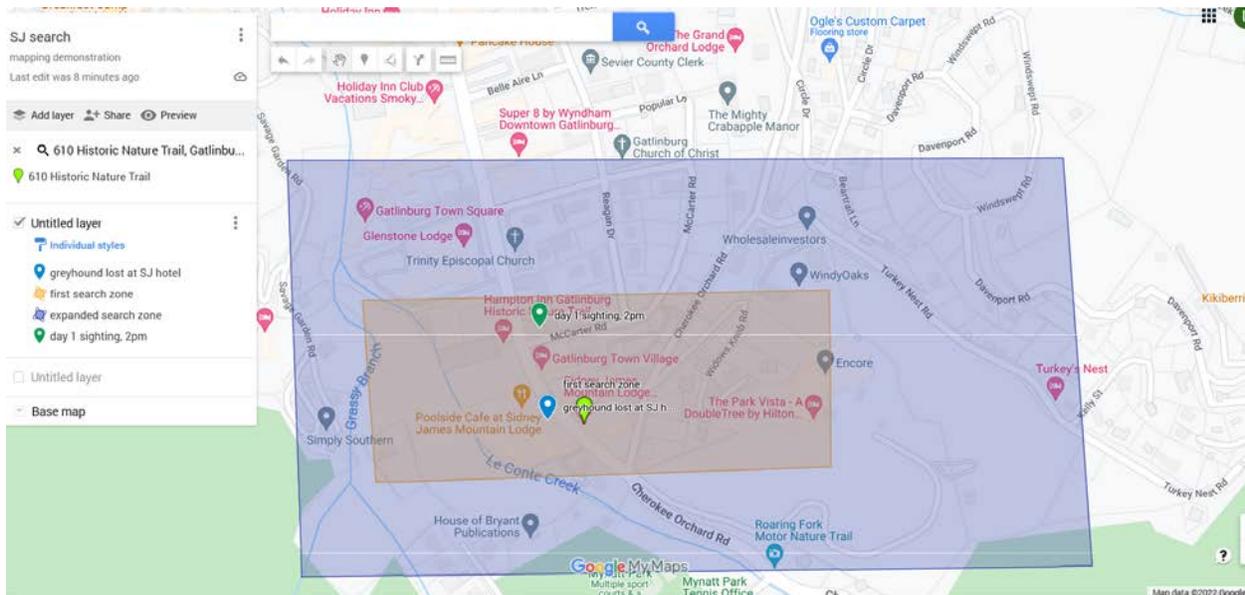
ER Vet #: _____

Order form: greyhoundmedcard@gmail.com ©2013

Appendix: MAPPING

*Experiment with your preferred map program before you need it for a search.
Below is an example created in Google.*

- Go to **Google.com/MyMaps** (not Google Maps)
- Create New Map
- Enter address
- Pin where dog escaped
- Title that location > “Individual Styles” > add wording “greyhound lost at SJ hotel”
- Click on Draw Search Area and create a square by dragging
- Title this area “search area” > click on Style to choose color
- Repeat Draw Search Area steps as your search widens >
- Title this area “expanded search area” > click on style to add a different color
- Pin sightings > title with date and time
- Be sure to title your map
- Click on Share to select who can view it and copy the link



Appendix: PRODUCTS

Some tried-and-true products you may want to consider.

FLAT TAGS that slip onto the collar

<https://www.boomerangtags.com/collartags/>

THREE-POINT HARNESES

<https://www.hound-safe.com/collections/jackets-harnesses/products/spooky-dog-harness>

<https://ruffwear.com/products/web-master-harness>

LEASH-COLLAR CONNECTOR FOR EXTRA SAFETY

<https://www.hound-safe.com/collections/collars-leashes-harnesses/products/leash-safety-strap>

CARABINER CLIPS FOR A LEASH-COLLAR CONNECTION

- 3" will fit most standard leash clips
- 2.5" will fit most claw-type leash clips

Available at Walmart, Lowes, Home Depot, REI, Amazon, etc.

SQUAWKER

<https://gemstore-185419.square.site/product/squawker-scotch-predator-call/36?cs=true&cst=custom>

FLEXTONE DYING RABBIT PREY CALLER

<https://www.academy.com/p/flextone-dying-rabbit-predator-call>

Appendix: LOST GREYHOUND FLYER TEMPLATE

>>>>>>Sample of the HANDOUT flyer. Do not use this format for posted flyers<<<<<<<

LOST GREYHOUND

Male, black w/white, collar & tags



May seek shelter around buildings, or in open sheds or garages. PLEASE CHECK YOURS!
A lost greyhound may avoid people and run.

DO NOT CHASE! PLEASE CALL:

910 - 555 - 5555

LOST GREYHOUND

male, black w/ white, collar & tags



May seek shelter around buildings, or in open sheds or garages. PLEASE CHECK YOURS!
A lost greyhound may avoid people and run.

DO NOT CHASE! PLEASE CALL!

910 - 555 - 5555

*For Illustrative Purposes Only!
Do Not use this format for posted flyers.*

LOST GREYHOUND



.

.

.

Do not chase! Report any sightings!

Facebook page:

Flyers will be removed when the search is over

LOST GREYHOUND



>>> "briefly enter color, sex, if wearing collars w/tags, and is microchipped" <<<
>>> do not add the dog's name <<<

() **XXX- XXXX**

() **XXX- XXXX**

Report any sightings! Do not chase!

Facebook page:

Flyers will be removed when the search is over