



Guide
Dogs

Sponsor
a Puppy



Bailey

Final stages
of training

Pupdate 6

Bailey

is preparing to meet his new owner!



“Hello, it’s Nicola here, Bailey’s Trainer. I’m preparing Bailey in his final stages of training to be matched with his new owner.”

Fortunately, there’s been no disruptions to Bailey’s environment and living conditions with his transition into advanced training. Bailey has adapted remarkably well, and I’m really pleased to say he is consistent and positive with his training!

Preparing for partnership training means building on the skills he has already established with his previous trainer, Jo, and using that as a building block to progress. I usually pick Bailey up from his Fosterer’s home, which is a fantastic place to start as he is already relaxed, so I don’t need to focus on settling him when getting to training school. We then will do a task to challenge his brain, such as chin touch, navigating around obstacles, then have a drink and play, and go on a harness walk!

Life at advanced training

Bailey has a good general understanding of basic skills. He walks well in harness and is good at stopping at the kerb. Bailey knows how to turn in different directions and can locate the button at a pelican crossing in his training harness.

His destination finding is great too. I first practised with Bailey on finding a chair, to give him a place to focus on, and he picked it up quickly and confidently. This allowed us to then practise destinations on our harness walks, and he has a very good route memory.

To help build his confidence in new areas, I have taken Bailey inside a shopping centre without his harness on. This was to reduce any pressure to allow him to have a look and get used to the busy environment. Bailey had no trouble with having other people around him and he was able to locate doors and stairs — but he wasn't quite sure what to make of the lifts!

Bailey is a fun dog

I absolutely love Bailey's sense of humour and lust for life – I've never met a dog who submerges into puddles quite like him! I can see Bailey being partnered with somebody who likes being out and about and has a purpose in their day-to-day routine. Since Bailey is quite an active dog, I think it's important to have someone who can handle his attentiveness.

(Continued overleaf)



See how much Bailey has grown in his own video:
guidedogs.org.uk/puppy-bailey

Future Plans

I will continue to work on Bailey's exposure to different environments, including public transport, to gain his optimum focus and build on his confidence. Though he disengages from other dogs well, sometimes Bailey can get distracted if there is a louder dog nearby. I want to focus on teaching him that it is alright to look, but he must know when to focus back on his task with his handler. Bailey is very willing and motivated to take part in training, which makes him a pleasure to teach!

**Thank you for sponsoring Bailey.
Look out for an update on Bailey's
new life with his owner.**



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