

Lisa



I first met Lisa on December 14th, 2007 when I picked up this scared little girl at the Denver Dumb Friends League to transport her to meet her foster mom. After a tentative meeting at DDFL we completed her paperwork and loaded up in the car and headed south to Colorado Springs late in the evening. Around 7 p.m. we met with her foster mom who was happy to meet her and take her home to Divide. I didn't think much more about Lisa for a while - until I got a call asking if I would foster her because we needed to move a special needs senior girl to the Divide foster home. On May 16th, 2008 her foster mom delivered Lisa to me. My current foster (at that time, Eddie the Dalmatian/English Pointer Mix) became fast friends with Lisa. They didn't romp and play a lot but they really enjoyed each other's company.



I soon discovered that Lisa liked to jump on the fence. Not over it, though she could easily clear my six-foot fence if she wanted to. If there's something happening on the other side of the fence that she wants to see, she'll jump up and grab on to the top of the fence and hang there looking over until she's satisfied, then she hops off.

At one point there was a young man who was interested in adopting both Eddie and Lisa since they got along so well together. But his landlord wouldn't allow two dogs. Over the course of the next few months, several dogs came and left, but Eddie and Lisa seemed destined to be a household fixture. Until one day in late January when Eddie was adopted by a great guy up in Laramie, WY. Lisa seemed lost once we came home, running from room to room then outside and back in again looking for her buddy. Lisa became my shadow for the next two weeks until Tobi¹ showed up. They got along famously too. During that time we did short term fosters on several dogs and had a couple overnight doggie sleep over's. Lisa is really great at welcoming the newcomers and making them feel at home. And she seemed to understand that dogs will come and go.

And so it was, they did come and go. We have gone hiking, camping and been to the dog park a LOT.



Lisa seemed to enjoy and be enjoyed by everyone she met. But no one was hooked enough to want to make her a part of their family. And all the while, Lisa was working her way into my heart. When I started fostering about 30 or so dogs ago I promised myself that I would not adopt any of them because that would be one less space for a dog in need of a place to hang out till their forever home was ready for them.

It was during a visit by my mother that my sister-in-law said something that struck a cord with me. She said, of Lisa, "You can see how much she really loves you." And I thought about that comment for a several days and I just couldn't get it out of my mind. Now in hindsight, I think Lisa might have known all along that on the day she arrived as a foster - she had found her forever home. It just took me longer to realize it than she did. Guess some dogs are really smarter than people! So on June 25th, 2009 after living with me for just over 13 months, I adopted her and made it official - Lisa was home!

*– Karl Schill
Colorado Springs, CO*



Lisa shares some quality time with Clover and Tal