

# Oliver



So it's been about a month since Oliver has come to live with us. It has been a total roller-coaster ride for sure. We haven't had a young pup around for a while (let alone a young Dal!) and we had gotten used to our very relaxed way of life with our 7 year old Border Collie mix Callie. Oliver has adjusted quite well to his new pack. After a couple of weeks of him and Callie trying to figure each other out, they have both discovered that they can co-exist in the same house and be happy.

Oliver is definitely the instigator in most play activities but Callie does try to get him to chase her around the house. It's funny to watch him try to figure out what she wants him to do. :-) They love playing tug of war with each other and as I call it "doggie smack-down" (you can imagine for yourself what that is)! Oliver is VERY smart; he is learning the rules of the house quite well but does have a stubborn streak. It sometimes takes a treat to get him to go where you want him to. He is 150% Dalmatian!! He is a snuggler and "nose pocker" and a smiler! He gives great smiles when I come home to let him out of his crate. He wags his butt (not just his tail) so hard you think it's going to fall off. He loves all of us including my 4½ year old son but is still wary of people he doesn't know. We have had some of our dog-friendly friends over to visit which has helped him a lot.

We don't have a fence so he and Callie get lots of walks. To help him burn off his unlimited amount of energy I purchased a device called a "Springer". It is made in Norway (you can google it). It attaches to my bike and dog and allows him to run next to me as I ride. It only takes 15-20 min of running/trotting to get him pooped out :-)

I highly recommend this unique invention. Before I end Oliver's story I thought I would share a few of his quirks:

1. He loves shoes/flip-flops/boots etc....he doesn't chew them though. He picks them up and relocates them to other parts of the house.
2. He loves a stuffed animal to carry around and sleep with. (I went to goodwill and picked up bunch cheap!). It is the cutest thing to watch him run around with a stuffed bear in his mouth. Eventually he and Callie play tug-of-war with it and he pulls all the stuffing out.
3. He LOVES to run and be outside. He managed to get away from me the other day and literally bounded around in the woods behind our house exploring everything. I was freaked out but he returned.
4. He prances. It is the cutest thing! All of our other Dals were fairly large and they never did this.
5. He really loves food. We have had to teach ourselves again to keep the counters clean. Last night he managed to get an entire bunch of bananas off the counter. Luckily I

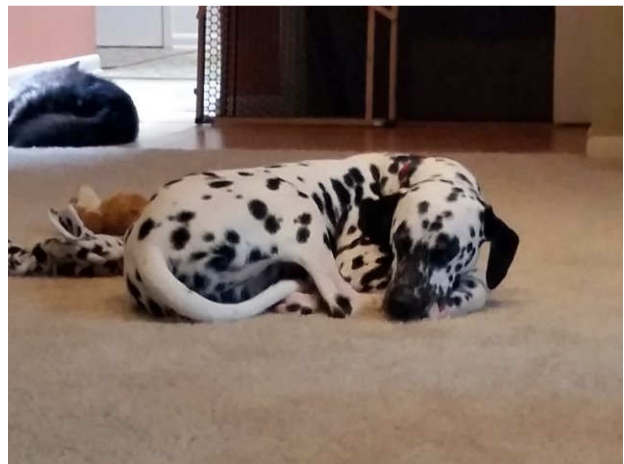
caught him after eating only one of them.

My son told me the other day that he "loves Oliver, he is my favorite dog". So I think that is how I will end Oliver's story..... Thank you again for allowing us to bring Oliver into our family :-)

Sincerely,  
Chip, Kathy, Max, Callie, and of course Oliver Olsen



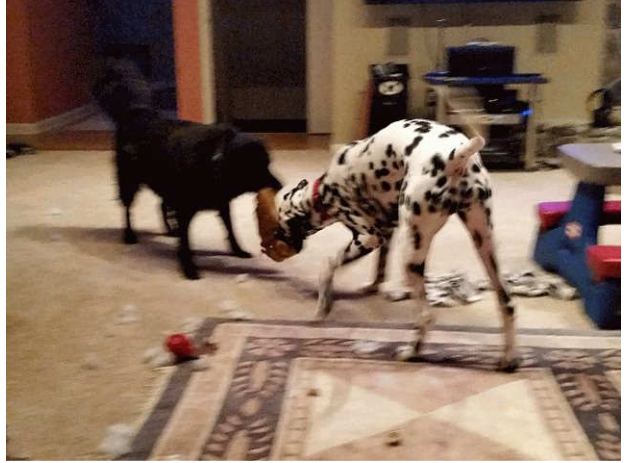
When is Mom coming home?



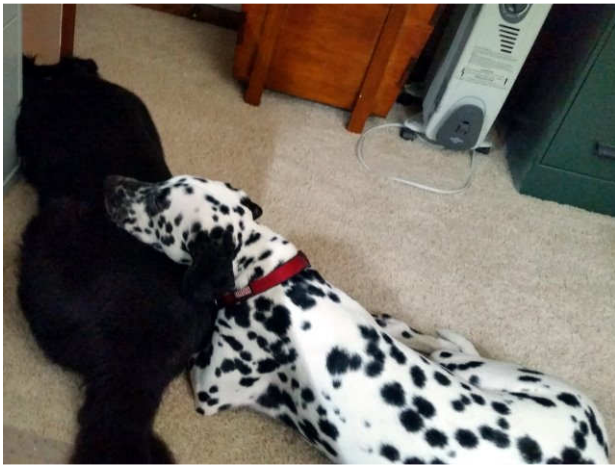
That silly dog wore me out... can't even make it to my bed for a nap!



That's my toy!! Let it go!



Now look at this mess you made!



Too tired. Hey, you make a great pillow!! 😊