

Newfie News



That
Newfoundland
Place
Rescue With A Heart

July 2020

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Getting the Perfect Shot of Your Newfoundland

If you own a Newf, you undoubtedly have some of *those* photos. The ones that look like a big black blob on the couch with a tiny pink tongue sticking out or a bearskin rug on the floor. Photographing a large dark colored dog is difficult (even Landseer's usually have dark colored faces). Add thick hair to the face area and it seems to be nearly impossible.

Fear not. Mindy Dutka, a professional pet photographer and owner of Dogs I Meet (dogimeet.com) in Natick, MA, offers some tips on taking photos to capture the true beauty of Newfoundlands.

To start, **set the tone**. Mindy suggests spending some time with your dog, conditioning him or her to the camera or iphone. You want picture taking time to signal fun and treats for your dog. You can play a game sitting next to your dog, snap a picture then give your dog praise and a treat. After a few times of sitting with your dog ask him/her to stay and you move back and take a photo. Let your dog hold the stay and you move to where your dog is and give him/her a treat (you do not want your dog to come to you for the treat that will condition the dog to always walk up to you when he or she sees you trying to take a photo).

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iphone Camera Tips

Lock the focus. The iphone's camera uses auto-focus (automatically focuses and refocuses), which means it is your phone that decides the most important part of the picture taking process. Typically, this feature works fine, but if you really want to take the image of your dark colored dog to the next level, you need to have full control over the focus and exposure.

You can lock the focus of your iphone by tapping on the face of your dog on the screen and holding your finger until the AE/AF LOCK message yellow square appears on the screen. Once you have locked the focus of your camera, you can then adjust the exposure on the area where you have locked the focus. To unlock it, simply tap anywhere on your iphone's screen.

Use portrait mode to create a bokeh or blurry background, making your dark colored dog stand out.

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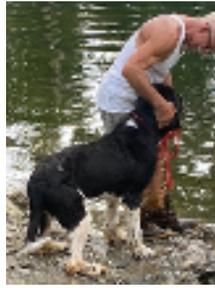
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Who's at TNP?

Alfie and Rita

Alfie and Rita arrived at TNP in late June from the Humane Society in NY and are settling in nicely. They are roughly 6 years old, although they act younger. Both are eating well, happy, active and sweet - typical Newfs! They like to run and explore.

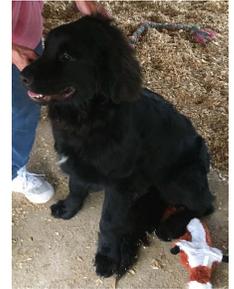
TNP staff will be vetting and evaluating Alfie and Rita in the coming days and preparing them for their new home.



Rita (l) and Alfie (r) get their feet wet at the pond with Ed

Gus is an 8 month old Newfie who just arrived at TNP on June 28 after his owner realized he needs more time and attention while she is caring for an ill parent.

Watch the TNP Facebook page for updates. on all dogs.



Recently Adopted

June saw a few adoptions from TNP, in all shapes and sizes.

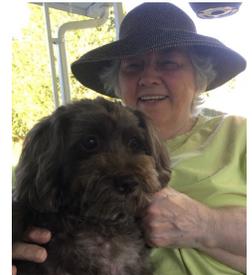


Quinn, a grey Newf pup, arrived at TNP at the end of May and left for her forever home with Erik, Leonora and Hunter in Fairfield, CT a few weeks later. She's adjusting well and is crate trained, sits,

and goes to the door when she has to potty. Quinn will be 5 months old on July 6.

Rudy, a 9 year-old Yorkie/ Bichon mix didn't stay long at TNP. Picked up in the morning and brought to the groomer, he coincidentally met Elizabeth before his afternoon vet appointment.

Soon after, Rudy was on his way home with Elizabeth. He keeps her active in retirement, mostly cooking, as he demands different foods every other meal. They enjoy short walks, visits from neighbors and, most of all, relaxing in the breeze on the porch.

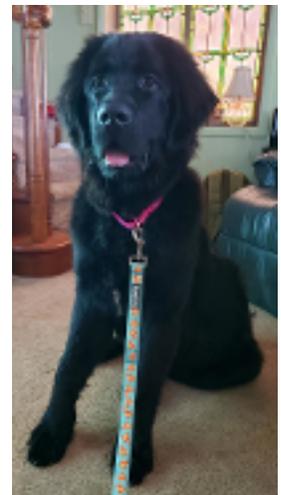


TNP was notified of a French Bulldog Pup - who is deaf - in need of a home. Shannon and Guy, who are TNP neighbors, moved quickly to adopt this adorable little girl, named **Bella**.



She is settling well into her new home with 2 cat sisters and is working on her potty training. Bella loves to go outside and run around. She is already bonded with Shannon and is a family favorite.

Hudson, a 5 month old male, arrived mid June at TNP. He is settling in nicely with his family in Sullivan County, NY - Todd, Kathryn and Lauren. Hudson knows how to sit, give his paw and is working on "laying down." He's enjoying getting to know his family and living by the lake.



Expert Excerpts

*With Dr. Lauren Flanagan of
Pepperell (MA) Veterinary Hospital*

It's a fact that Newfoundlands and heat are not a good mix, but we can still enjoy the warm summer weather with our pets if we take precautions.

Enjoy your walks early in the morning, before the sun has heated up the world or at dusk when the sun's heat is dissipating. Be mindful of the temperature of the pavement. Place the back of your hand on the asphalt. If you can't keep it there for 5 seconds it's too hot and can burn your Newf's pads. Limit strenuous activity to those cooler hours as well, and give your dog plenty of rest breaks in the shade if you are engaging in more strenuous activities.

Always provide fresh cold water for your Newf. A kiddie pool is great cool down fun for many dogs or play time with the hose works too! You might also want to consider a cooling pad.

Be cautious with heat and humidity if your dog is geriatric, overweight, or has any underlying heart or respiratory conditions. It's best to keep these Newfs in the a/c. If your dog is outside during the day, be sure there is a cool shady spot to retreat to if needed.

Above all, do not leave your dog in the car for any amount of time on these hot days! Plan your adventures accordingly so there are no stops in between home and the park or trail and the return trip home. After all, this is time for you to bond with your dog; errands can wait!

Next Month: Signs and treatment of heat stroke.

TNP Friends

When Crystal Weiss joined the That Newfoundland Place Facebook page she didn't realize that TNP was a rescue organization, but after posting about surgery complications for her Newfoundland/Bernese Mountain Dog mixed boys Tuxedo (Tux) and Chewbacca (Chewy) and receiving a slew of information from Cathy and other TNP Facebook members, she knew she found a welcoming group.

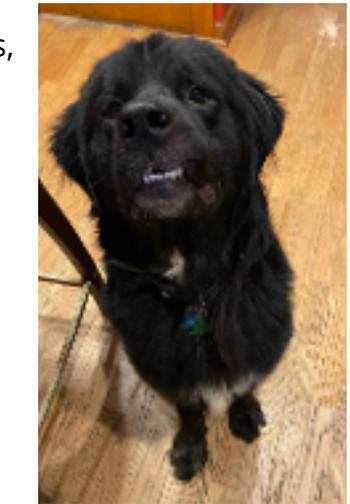
Crystal joined the Facebook group in November 2019, after Tux and Chewy were both neutered on October 15. Soon after, both dogs developed allergies to the sutures, staph infections, hematoma and more.

Complicating matters further, Tux has anxiety. "He's afraid of loud noises, public places and new people," Crystal said. He takes medication, but frequent trips to the vet caused further anxiety.

It took 3 months for the healing process to be completed and resulted in a lot of discomfort for the dogs and Crystal. During that time, Cathy reached out offering support from TNP, and



Chewy



Tux

although Crystal had paid for the surgeries and follow up visits, there wasn't much money left for dog food. A few days later Crystal received a shipment of four 33 pound bags of Eukanuba dry dog food and two cases of wet food. "I was just so appreciative," Crystal said.

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Next, **lighting is everything**. But the type and intensity are important. “Dark fur absorbs all the light. Outside lighting is better,” Mindy said. “Early in the morning or an hour before sunset are the optimal times. Try to avoid photographing midday when the sun is its brightest and harshest. You want “open shade,” not bright, harsh light. It’s also better not to use a flash, as that can reflect off the fur.”

Now that you have good lighting, the most important tip is having your Newfs **eyes facing a light source** to catch the light in their eyes. Focusing on the eyes captures the spirit and essence of the dog (see tips on focusing with iphone in sidebar on page 1).

It’s also important to **keep your dog stationary** while you move your position to the best spot. You may have to move a few times to catch the right angle to capture the light in your dog’s eyes.



Get down on the dog’s level. If your Newf is laying down, get close to the ground for the photo. “Ideally, you want the camera to be at the same level as the dog,” Mindy said. “Another good angle is to have the dog look up at you, again focusing on the eyes.”



Try to **select background colors that are in the yellow, light blue and green shades**. You don’t want a busy background, as you want your Newf to be the star of the photo. Using portrait mode on your iphone can bring your photography skills to a whole new level, because the portrait mode usually creates a bokeh or blurry background which makes your dark or black dog stand out.

Most important, **practice!** Photography is a lot of trial and error. Fortunately, it costs nothing to take as many photos using your phone as you want and deleting the less-than-perfect ones is just a click away. “When I’m in a session, I take about 50 photographs that equals 15 or so great shots,” Mindy said.

Mindy feels sincere joy and gratefulness that her work is her passion and has been crafting her pet photography skills for the past several years. Combined with her passion for animals, especially dogs, she creates opportunities for businesses, rescue organizations, and families to use photographs to tell stories that illustrate the human-dog connection, inspire, fundraise, and give back to these beloved animals that don’t have a voice of their own. Mindy believes that every dog has a tale, and these tales should be shared and heard.

Mindy’s photographs have been used to tell the stories of wonderful organizations such as the Veterinary Emergency Group and dog rescue organizations in Mexico and Puerto Rico. “A good photo for a dog being adopted can literally be the difference between life and death,” she said.



Upcoming Events

Open House Canceled for the Remainder of the Year

That Newfoundland Place has made the difficult decision to cancel open houses through September 2020 due to the coronavirus. The safety of all TNP guests is paramount and TNP staff does not want to jeopardize that in any way.

The status of the annual Reunion and Fundraiser, the most popular event of the year, held in the fall has not been determined yet. Check the [TNP website](#), Facebook page and future issues of the newsletter for up to date information.

Intakes and Adoptions have Resumed

This past month saw intakes and adoptions resume at TNP. Home checks for new potential adoptive homes remain suspended, due to the coronavirus pandemic. That Newfoundland Place will announce when they are able to complete home checks again.

Stay tuned to the [TNP website](#), Facebook page and future issues of the newsletter for the latest information.

*TNP Friends - Tux & Chewy -
Continued from page 3*

Slowly the brothers began to heal and are now fully recovered. "Health wise they are fantastic," Crystal said. "They are like puppies again." Crystal has had Tux and Chewy since they were 8 weeks old and while they are litter mates, they are opposites. "Chewy is a cuddlebug and loves you as soon as you walk in the door," Crystal said. "Tux is more of a loner. He stays within eye distance but in another room or his crate. "They both adore each other and love to be together, sharing a crate if the door is open.

Tux and Chewy, who turned 2 in March, share their Nantitoke, PA home with Crystal's fiancé, 17-year-old stepson and, every other weekend, 15-year-old stepdaughter. They have 6 dog brothers and 1 dog sister ranging in size from Shih Tzu to Malamute, a bearded dragon and a beta fish.

Each dog has his/her own cage and an area where they can be alone if needed, but the dogs are all a tight pack. "They all curl up in a ball together no matter how hot it is," Crystal said. And Tux and Chewy are both demanding in seeking out affection from Crystal, pushing the other dogs out of the way to get their fill, their Newfie side shining through.

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That Newfoundland Place Inc. is a nonprofit corporation organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes. Specifically, this organization has been formed to prevent cruelty to animals. Our mission is to offer quality of life to senior dogs of various breeds, to assist in rescue, rehabilitation, and re-homing of dogs in need, with a focus on Newfoundland dogs, and to provide humane education as related to care and life quality. of animals. Cathy Derench, President