

## JUST "PLANE" ADORABLE

### James Travels with Pilots N Paws to Meet His New Family in Sunny California



PILOT GREG (LEFT) PICTURED WITH DOCTORS BEN AND SHANNON ESPY

This photo was snapped just minutes before James departed on a double flight to his forever home! Due to the volunteer efforts of pilots Greg and Peter with Pilots N Paws and his devoted foster mom, Patti, James traveled all the way from SA to CA. James has had a long "ride" with SNIPSA, having arrived with entropion in both eyes. This means that both of his eyelids were rolled in, rubbing against his corneas for weeks! After some paw-lastic surgery and a brief healing period, James was ready to hit the skies and meet his new mom. He now weighs 49 lbs at 5 months old. No wonder he wouldn't fit under the seat in a traditional plane! Thanks Pilots N Paws for making this adoption possible.

*Bitch,  
Please*



**Q:** Dear "BP,"

What do I do about my dog's gross mouth? My dog is almost 11 years old, and she fills her days licking her paws like it's a full-time job. As a result, she gets hair caught in her gums. And because she has hair caught in her gums, she licks her paws. It's a vicious cycle. How do I get her to take a chill pill?!

- Chill Pill in Corpus Christi

## SPEED DATING FOR DOGS

Introducing dogs is far from an arranged marriage... It takes a little bit of time to learn to love each other! Here are a couple ideas for introducing your new pups:



When you bring home your new furry friend, give them a chance to adjust to their new surroundings. Wait to jump in and introduce your animals face to face. That could be very overwhelming for both dogs involved!

Instead, recruit a helper and take the dogs on a walk around the block for a good ten minutes with ample distance between pets. Allow them to have a moment to take in all of those new sights and smells, which is a healthy distraction. Then, gradually reduce the space between the dogs based on how they are responding to each other. This will ensure a much more successful transition and reduce stress between both the pets and the owner.



If things go poorly, start over - and start SLOWLY! Nobody likes a forced relationship. Above all... don't give up. Things almost always work out!

**A:** Dear Chill Pill,

Ah yes, the distinct sound of a dog licking its paws... Like the sound of breaking glass or a squeaky floorboard, it can awaken even the deepest sleeper at two in the morning. There are a couple of reasons dogs lick their paws, some warranting more attention than others.

If there's bleeding, swelling, or if your dog starts limping, see a vet. Duh. That may sound obvi, but it's important to see your vet ASAP because these behaviors can become obsessive. Once that happens, it becomes more difficult to break the habit. Think of it as the equivalent of your dog picking up vaping. Shut it down sooner rather than later.

In addition to pain and allergies, dogs can lick their paws due to gastrointestinal issues, hormonal imbalances or skin conditions. If something on your daily walk is causing the irritation, you can try wiping their paws with a washcloth after walks or increasing your dog's bathing routine/frequency. Keeping their mind off paw licking will also help, so make sure a safe toy is available and play with your dog to keep their mind distracted from the inclination to lick.

If all else fails, maybe get some earplugs?

If you've got the itch, ask...

- The Bitch