

# MIDLANDS & NORTHERN RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK SUPPORT & RESCUE TRUST

Registered Charity 1146704



## Surrendering Your Ridgeback – The Process

If you have found that your circumstances have changed and you are thinking that you might have to re-home your Rhodesian Ridgeback the information below is aimed to answer some questions you might have. We appreciate that it can be a heartbreaking time and sometimes we can help to find solutions that mean you can keep your beloved companion.

- 1 If you have discovered an individual Rhodesian Ridgeback being offered for re-homing or for sale on a website or on social media and you feel it is a matter that should involve breed rescue please contact the advertiser and suggest that they contact us directly. We can only deal with the owner of the dog when they contact us and we cannot buy or sell Rhodesian Ridgebacks.
  - 2 As a Kennel Club Breed Rescue we cannot re-home Rhodesian Ridgeback crosses and we cannot re-home Rhodesian Ridgebacks from outside of the UK mainland.
  - 3 If you own a Rhodesian Ridgeback that you wish to re-home the first step is to contact our volunteer Rescue Co-Ordinator, Janice Ellis, by emailing [janice@ridgebackrescue.co.uk](mailto:janice@ridgebackrescue.co.uk) In cases of emergency you can telephone 01889 508295. We must have direct contact with you and following an email we will need to talk to you. We cannot re-home Rhodesian Ridgebacks solely through email, Facebook messages or via third-parties.
  - 4 Please put as much information as possible in the email. If you are calling please have the information to hand. If you were supplied with any paperwork, when you acquired your Ridgeback, then this will be useful. We will also require recent, clear photographs of your Ridgeback. We will want to know about your Ridgeback's medical history. We will also need to know your Rhodesian Ridgebacks' microchip details. It is now the law that all dogs are microchipped and if your dog is not microchipped we will ask that this is done as soon as possible.
  - 5 You will initially be asked to contact the breeder of your Rhodesian Ridgeback to see if they can help. If you no longer have their contact details our Rescue Co-Ordinator may be able to help. We will then ask you various questions, including the reasons why you need to give him/her up, if they are used to other pets, children, being left at all, and any particular problems or good points. If during this conversation you feel that you might want to keep your Rhodesian Ridgeback we will try to work with you, where possible, to help you achieve this.
  - 6 If your dog has bitten, for whatever reason, or has a temperament problem, you must let us know. You have a legal responsibility to tell us the correct information and we have a legal responsibility to advise new owners of all issues no matter how big or small. We reserve the right to refuse Rhodesian Ridgebacks with serious temperament problems as it is unlikely that a home could be found that will take such hounds in.
  - 7 We will ask a Ridgeback Rescue Volunteer close to you, to contact you to arrange a visit to assess your dog. They will not undertake the rehoming. All rehoming will be co-ordinated by the Rescue Co-Ordinator and the Assistant Rescue Co-Ordinator.
  - 8 When we take a Rhodesian Ridgeback in, we require owners to sign the ownership over to the M&N Rhodesian Ridgeback Support and Rescue Trust and hand over any Kennel Club registration documents, if available; microchip details and vaccination records. If at all possible, make sure that vaccinations are up to date.
  - 9 If your Rhodesian Ridgeback needs to be taken in urgently, then we will try to help as quickly as possible. However, we have limited kennelling available so we do not always have space available and where possible we ask that Rhodesian Ridgebacks remain in their own home until a new home is found for them.
  - 10 We aim to find the best possible permanent home for all our Rhodesian Ridgebacks as soon as possible. New Rhodesian Ridgeback owners are home checked by our Volunteers, before being able to adopt a hound from us. Many of our homes have owned Rhodesian Ridgebacks for many years and are experienced owners.
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