

Fritz Finds a New Home

Fritz must be one of the luckiest dogs in coastal Maine, but, he was not always so fortunate. When his current family heard about his plight, they drove for hours in the pouring rain to save him. This is how they found him and the result of a kind family's adoption:

According to his new owners, "Fritz had a heavy chain, pronged choke collar on him. His fur was matted badly, and in places he was missing fur. He had an obvious limp. He looked pathetic. On the way home, we stopped in Augusta at a local pet store and brought him in the store. We found a nice collar and leash for him. Under the lights of the store, we could see the source of his limp, as his nails appeared to have never been trimmed and were broken, and poking into the pads of his feet. The groomers agreed to trim his sore feet. The difference was amazing. He was able to walk out of the store free from pain. The first night, he was overwhelmed and scared. We took turns over the week sleeping beside him on the floor. He startled easily and when he would eat, he would gulp his food quickly, watching warily.

In the first week, we took him to be groomed. Five hours later, after a bath and grooming, Fritz emerged a new dog. He almost seemed to know how handsome he was as he trotted out to greet us. The groomers shared they had given him a deep conditioning which included a massage. They said he was so funny because as they massaged him, he sounded like a big bear, groaning and clearly enjoying his spa day.

We later learned Fritz spent most of his time on a chain, outside. At times he went days without food and water, and, was neglected. We will never know the full extent of the abuse he suffered but at times the triggers were there, and we would see him react in fear. For months, he seemed afraid and angry at the world. A soft bed, comfy couch, regular meals and love appeared to be foreign to him. However, over time, he gradually began to trust and he became the dog he was always meant to be. On one outing, we took him to the ocean and he waded out to his tummy, sat in the cold water and gazed out across the sea for several minutes. His back was to us and we let him stay in this position as long as he desired. Eventually, he sighed loudly, jumped up and started running through the waves and barked playfully.



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