

Male-to-Male Placements

One of DAR&E's often-questioned policies is our practice of not placing male Dobermans in homes that already have a male of any breed, neutered or not. Many people argue that they have had two males living together in the past and have never had a problem.

Some potential adopters may believe that as a rescue we have too many restrictions and requirements when they feel they have a loving home to offer. The following is meant to educate and clarify why we have this policy.

While Dobermans are a very loving and dedicated breed, they need a structured environment that includes a clear understanding of who is in charge. The Doberman breed is not one in which males easily live with other males in harmony - sometimes even multiple females do not succeed. While it is not uncommon for a male to allow a female to walk all over him, male Dobermans will often challenge each other and males of other breeds. It must be understood that a home environment is a pack situation and males will challenge other males for dominance of the pack. This could show up suddenly and without warning over a simple game of fetch, or in any other situation where one male decides he needs to establish who is in charge.

When two males are brought together in the same home you may not see aggressive behavior toward each other for weeks, months, and often years of living together. Even when adopting a Doberman as a puppy people are under the impression that because the two males will grow up together this aggressive behavior will not happen. Many males we have taken in have been relinquished by their owners because they were living with another male and began to fight. For these reasons, many Doberman rescues and responsible breeders will not place a male Doberman with another male dog of any breed. This does not mean that all male Dobermans cannot be exposed to other male dogs. Many males get along just fine with other males in playgroups, at dog parks, or just meeting on a walk.

Living with two dogs that have to be separated for the rest of their lives is not a good quality life for the dogs or the owner. Since dogs in rescue have already been given up on once, our goal is to eliminate any potential risks for them being returned again and find them their FOREVER homes.



Courtesy of Doberman Assistance, Rescue and Education
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