



giving gentle giants a helping hand

Adopting a Great Dane that has not lived with Cats

We do often get asked if a Great Dane who has not lived with Cats before will be ok with a potential homes Cat.

The short answer is that it cannot be guaranteed.

It is important to remember that the Great Dane was originally bred to hunt so its 'chase' instinct is still very much intact in some Great Danes today.

There is no denying that there are also plenty of Great Danes that live safely with Cats and would never intentionally harm them.

Some new owners of Great Danes opt to work with a Behaviourist initially so they can learn how to best introduce the dog and the cat and keep a harmonious relationship. Even with the help of a Behaviourist the two may never be friends.

If you choose to adopt a Great Dane who has never lived with Cats (or has lived with Cats) you commit to love and care for the Dane for the rest of its life regardless of if it hurts / kills your Cat or Small animal or causes the Cat to run away.

That is a big commitment and you will need to decide if that is something you can live with. Resenting the dog after the fact isn't fair.

Ensuring you provide a safe place for your cat and a safe escape route is always going to be an important thing when bringing home a new dog regardless of whether they have lived with Cats before or not.

Please don't be lulled into a false sense of security that because your previous Dane was OK with the Cat that a new Dane will also be or that training will make sure they are safe together. Training is a great start however some Danes and Cats can never be trusted together.

Please contact a Behaviourist if you would like to discuss this further. At www.greatdanerescue.com.au we list our recommended Behaviourists that you may like to touch base with.