



# Lap-Letter

## A Tail of Two Lap Dogs: The Bond of Best Friends

Every dog who comes through our doors at Lap Dog Rescue of New Mexico (LDRNM) is looking for a forever home. Sometimes, however, a dog's forever home is with their very best friend. This is the case with bonded pairs—two dogs who share a special connection and rely on each other for comfort, confidence, and companionship.

Lap Dog Rescue foster Patricia Chavez has successfully fostered and adopted out two bonded pairs this year, and their stories show just how important it is to keep these duos together.

One of the pairs, Mimi and Snooki, were two 9-year-old chihuahuas who came to LDRNM after their owner could no longer care for them. "They had a tough transition, but they had each other," Patricia shared. "It was challenging to find a home for them since they were older, but we were lucky to find a wonderful woman in Alamogordo who adopted them both." Knowing they could stay together was the most rewarding part of the experience for Patricia.



*Mimi and Snookie before they were adopted.*

The story of the second pair, Mandolin and Millie, is a perfect example of a new bond forming. Patricia first began fostering Mandolin, a shy black chihuahua who came from a hoarding situation. "It took her weeks to let me pick her up," Patricia said. A short time later, she began fostering Millie, a brown terrier mix. The two became instant friends. Mandolin, who had been so fearful, immediately took to Millie, following her lead and gaining confidence. "They were inseparable," Patricia said.

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# A Tail of Two Lap Dogs, cont.



*Mandolin and Millie's adoption photo*

When Mandolin was adopted, Patricia showed the new owners videos of the girls together. The family saw the incredible bond and, after just one night, called back to adopt Millie, too! Patricia believes that without Millie, there was a huge chance Mandolin would have been returned. "Mandolin really relies on Millie," she explained. "Without her, Mandolin's confidence wouldn't have grown in the same way."

For Patricia, the biggest surprise was how a powerful bond can form even if the dogs weren't raised together. "It's amazing," she said. "Keeping them together is essential to their growth and confidence." While the challenge is finding the right adopter for a pair, the reward of seeing them stay together makes it all worthwhile.

By adopting a bonded pair, you aren't just giving one dog a home—you're providing a complete family for two deserving animals. You're also bringing home twice the love, laughter, and companionship. As Patricia puts it, "It's like taking care of one dog instead of two. They keep each other company and aren't as dependent on you, so you can just enjoy their friendship."

If you're considering adoption, we encourage you to look at our bonded pairs. You might just find that your new best friend comes with a built-in buddy.

## ***Tips to Keep Your Lap Dog Safe This Halloween***

Halloween can be a night of fun, but it can also be scary and dangerous for our small dogs. Follow these five tips from Lap Dog Rescue of New Mexico to ensure your pet has a safe and happy holiday.



- **Create a "Safe Zone":** The constant doorbell and costumed visitors can be overwhelming. Designate a quiet room away from the front door where your dog can relax with their bed and toys.
- **No Human Treats:** Halloween candy is toxic to dogs. Keep all chocolate, xylitol, and other sweets stored securely and out of your dog's reach.
- **Choose Costumes with Care:** Make sure any costume is comfortable and doesn't restrict your dog's movement or breathing. Avoid small pieces that can be chewed off and become a choking hazard.
- **Watch Out for Decorations:** Keep all decorations, especially lit candles and electrical cords, in a safe location where your curious pup can't get to them.
- **Update Their ID:** With more people and open doors, it's easy for a dog to slip out. Double-check that their ID tag is on their collar and that their microchip information is up to date.

To learn more about our current adoptables, programs, and to donate to Lap Dog Rescue of New Mexico, please visit us at [www.lapdogrescue.org](http://www.lapdogrescue.org).