

Are You Ready for a DOG?



Ah, the family dog.

A 4 legged fur bearer of unconditional love, affection & companionship. You can almost see your new dog right now . . . running in the sun, chasing Frisbees, doing adorable tricks, vomiting on the rug at 3:00 a.m., howling at 4:00 a.m. to go outside for a pee, chewing up your toys and shedding on everything in sight.

Still want a dog?

Here's a little "pup quiz" that will help determine if you are ready to add one more member to the family. Answer "yes" or "no" to the following questions:

1. Do you like dogs?
2. Does the health of your members of your household allow for a dog? (allergies)
3. Does your building allow dogs?
4. Are you financially secure?
5. Are you OK with picking up dog poop, mopping up dog pee or cleaning up dog vomit?

There are many factors to look into before you bring a new dog into your family.

Our goal is to have you sit down with your entire family and go over the information in this flyer.

Things you need to know

There are many things to consider before you get a dog and all are equally important.

Lifestyle:

Where do you live?

- Apartment or condo
 - Check your contract and make sure they allow dogs.
- House:
 - Do you have a fenced backyard?

Do you really have time for a dog?

- Do you work full or part time?
 - How far away from work or school do you live?
 - Can someone come home at lunch time?
- What other activities are you already committed to, sports, music lessons, etc.
- How much traveling do you do?

Transportation:

- Will the dog be allowed in your current vehicle?

Family:

- Is everyone agreed and committed to getting the dog?
- Make sure no one in the house has allergies.

Finance:

- Can you afford a dog?
- It's not just the initial adoption fee, but a lifetime 12+years of food, toys and medical expenses



If everyone in your family is comfortable with the above points, you are ready for the next step.

Who's doing what?

Go over the list below and see who is going to handle these common duties that are associated with pet ownership.



Walks

- At least once a day.
- Don't forget you will have to pick up after your dog

Training:

- At the class
- At home

Grooming

- Coat
- Teeth
- Baths
- Nails



Feeding

- Making sure your dog is getting their daily nutrition.
- Constantly checking and refreshing the water dish.

Medication:

- Eye and/or ear drops
- Pills
- Creams



Cleaning up messes, inside and outside the house.

- Vomit
- Pee
- Feces
- Fur - Vacuuming

Trips to the veterinarian

So, everyone has agreed to help with all aspects of dog care. Let's now see what we need. **Before you bring your dog home make sure you have researched and chosen the following:**

The best dog for your family

A veterinarian

A trainer

Food types



Here is a basic list of items you will need to have before the dog comes home.

Poop Scoop & a supply of bags

Food

Food and water dishes

Treats for training

Collar and leash

Identification tags

Brush and/or comb

Shampoo for Dogs

Nail clippers

Toothbrush and paste for Dogs

Toys

Crate

Bed

Washable blankets

First Aid kit

Dog's Medical History



When looking for a new dog, please visit the rescue groups in your area.

NEVER buy from a puppy mill.