

CHECKLIST FOR ADOPTION

1. Take your time to make a decision.
 - A. With all of the adorable “fur babies” in need of homes, you might be tempted to make a snap decision. However, it will be better for your future furry BFF if you put a lot of thought into it. For example, do you live in an apartment or a house with a yard? Does your family travel a lot? Who will be there to let your dog out when you’re not home? Does your family want a new dog as much as you do? Do you have other pets?
2. Make sure your family’s wallet can handle it!
 - A. **We ask a \$50 adoption donation for our dogs and puppies.** This is less than ¼ of the medical costs we have for each dog.
 - B. Dogs require a lot of care that can quickly add up to big bucks. When you’re responsible for a dog, you need to spend money on regular and emergency vet visits (just like humans, dogs can have medical emergencies!), bedding, a collar and harness, high-quality dog food, treats, toys, grooming ... the list goes on.
3. Keep an eye on what your dog eats
 - A. It’s important to feed your pup high-quality dog food and treats and be careful not to overfeed or underfeed—obesity (being super overweight) causes major health problems in dogs and makes them very uncomfortable. And regular meals are much healthier than leaving food out all day long.
4. Dogs need toys and entertainment
 - A. Before adopting a dog, it’s important to pup-proof your home. Hide dangerous items such as chemicals, electrical wiring, and sharp objects. But also, put away anything that could be viewed by your new dog as a toy. If you don’t want your home or favorite pillow chewed up, be sure to keep them out of your furry friend’s reach. Leave plenty of dog-friendly chew toys out—you don’t like being bored, and neither will your furry BFF!
5. Prevent fleas, ticks, and worms
 - A. This is especially important year-round when these little critters are the most common. Purchase products that keep fleas and ticks off your dog (such as NexGard) from your vet, Reimers or Agro stores.
 - B. And don’t forget about heartworms! Where there are mosquitos, you can usually find heartworms—and heartworm disease can kill dogs. Thankfully, heartworm prevention is as simple as giving your dog a monthly medication, such as Heartgard or NexGard Spectra (also available from your vet!).
6. NEVER leave your dog chained up outdoors!
 - A. It’s hard to imagine that anyone could ever leave their dog all alone outside to suffer, especially in bad weather, but unfortunately, some do. It’s cruel and dangerous. If you know anyone who does this, speak up! A fenced yard is a MUST to adopt through CAWS. A sheltered area away from hot or wet weather is also a requirement.

WE WILL ASK YOU THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IF YOU WANT TO ADOPT:

1. Do you have a fully fenced and securely gated yard?
2. Will the dog be inside or outside? If outside do you have a sheltered spot for them from hot or wet weather?
3. Do you have other dogs or pets? Are the other dogs spayed/neutered?
4. Is everyone in the home in agreement about a new dog?
5. Do you rent or own your home? If rent, is the landlord ok with you getting a dog?
6. Are you aware of the importance and cost of annual vaccines and tick and flea treatment for your dog?

