

ARE

YOU

READY

FOR A

PUPPY?



*are you ready*  
**FOR A PUPPY?**

Real Talk. Are you mentally, physically, and financially ready to tackle puppyhood? Puppies are so much fun, but they also require consistent commitment from you. Puppies are not born with perfect manners, nor do they come house or crate trained. They don't naturally know how to walk nicely on a leash. Raising a puppy will test your patience! You have to be willing to take on the responsibility to teach them and mold them into a confident, well-mannered, and well-adjusted adult. I know these may seem like "givens", but trust me when I say that people forget what it takes or they underestimate the responsibility of raising a puppy.

# QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF

## AM I FINANCIALLY READY TO COMMIT TO A PUPPY RIGHT NOW?

Puppies are not cheap! The initial cost of purchasing the puppy and getting all the supplies that you will need is no small sum! You also need to be prepared for the ongoing costs of properly raising a dog. Good quality dog food isn't cheap! Don't forget about scheduled and unexpected vet visits! You should be prepared to invest into professional training and professional grooming.

## IS MY HOUSE AND YARD SUITABLE AND SAFE FOR A PUPPY?

Do I have adequate indoor and outdoor space for a dog? Do I have a safe way to care for the puppy while it is susceptible to viruses like Parvo. Do I have a suitable area of my house where the puppy can play and be trained?

## AM I ALLOWED TO HAVE A DOG WHERE I LIVE?

It is important to consider restrictions by your landlord, building management company, or local bylaws. Many apartments, especially in cities, have breed size restrictions, or don't allow dogs at all. Unless you own your own home, make sure your landlord is okay with the specific breed you plan to get, and ask whether there is an increased cost in rent.

## HOW MANY HOURS A DAY DO I WORK?

How many hours will the puppy need to be left alone during the day?  
Is my work schedule something that could cause issues?

## HOW OFTEN DO I TRAVEL?

Can I take my dog with me? Do I have a plan in place for when I am away? Do I have friends or family members that are willing to help take care of my dog while I am away? Do I have sufficient boarding options in my area?

## WHAT DOES MY LIFESTYLE LOOK LIKE? DOES A PUPPY FIT IN?

Do I have the time to raise a puppy properly? Am I committed to the lifestyle changes that bringing a puppy into my home will cause. Am I willing and ready to put the work into raising a puppy properly? Can I take time off work if need be?

## MY DOG WILL NEED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY. AM I ACTIVE MYSELF?

Am I willing to make sure my puppy gets enough exercise every day throughout their life. Am I physically fit enough to keep up with a puppy? Do I have sufficient space at home for a dog to play? Can I & will I hire a dog walker if needed?

## IS EVERYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD ON BOARD?

You will want everyone in your house to be on the same page when it comes to bringing home and raising your new puppy!

## WILL MY OTHER PETS BE ACCEPTING OF A NEW ADDITION?

Do I have other pets in my home? Are they friendly? Are they healthy enough to keep up with a puppy? Is bringing a puppy into my home fair to my current pets? Make sure your current pets are comfortable having other pets in their home (their territory).

*What your puppy*  
**NEEDS FROM YOU**

