



What to Know when Adopting a Dog.



Other Considerations:

- What do you expect your pet to contribute to your life? For example, do you want a running and hiking buddy, or is your idea of exercise watching it on TV?
- If you are thinking of adopting a young animal, do you have the time and patience to work with the pet through its adolescence, taking house-breaking, chewing and energy-level into account?
- Have you considered your lifestyle carefully and determined whether a younger or older animal would be a better match for you?
- Can you train and handle a pet with behavior issues or are you looking for an easy-going friend?
- Do you need a pet who will be reliable with children or one you can take with you when you travel? If they get carsick, 1 Dramamine 30 min. before a car ride will help.
- Do you want a pet who follows you all around the house or would you prefer a less clingy, more independent character?

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Shopping Checklist:

- It may be a good idea to wait until you select your new pet before you begin shopping for supplies.
For example, some items, such as food and water bowls or collars and harnesses, depend upon the size of the pet you will be adopting.
- Also, be sure to find out which food your pet was eating in the shelter or foster home so that you can provide the same in the beginning, again to ease the transition. After the pet has settled in, talk with your veterinarian about switching to the food of your choice.

Necessary Items for Dogs:

- Food and water bowls- Larger depending on Size of Dog, avoid chicken for dogs, it can be an allergy that can cause scratching
- Dog chews, natural bones or KONGS for dogs when you are away, it eases their anxiety and can keep them occupied
- Dental Chews for Clean Teeth
- Flea/Tick and Heartworm medicine regularly
- Food (canned and/or dry)
- Collar, snug enough to put two fingers under the collar
- Four to six-foot leash, retractable is good too
- A Fenced Yard is ideal, if not, walks are a must for bathroom breaks and to burn off energy
- **ID tag with your phone number**- AMAZON, Petco, or PetValu sells them
- Hard plastic carrier or foldable metal crate- Check Facebook marketplace
- Dog bed- Walmart, Amazon, Petco or PetValu, wash monthly
- Doggy shampoo and conditioner, bathe monthly
- Nail Grinders, Pet Dremel's are best for dogs' nails, or go to a Groomers for them to do it easily as needed, usually every 2 months as needed.

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- Canine toothbrush and toothpaste
- Brush or comb (depends on your pet's coat length and type)
- Super-absorbent paper towels
- Sponge and scrub brush- Dollar Tree
- Non-toxic cleanser
- Enzymatic odor neutralizer for accidents- Walmart or Amazon
- Plastic poop baggies (biodegradable ones are best) or pooper scooper- Walmart or Amazon
- Absorbent house-training pads- Walmart, Amazon, Petco, PetValu, Chewy.com- Generic is fine
- Variety of toys (a ball, rope, chew toy and puzzle toy are good starts)
- Variety of treats (such as small pet cookies, larger rawhides, etc.), Training specific treats work best for any type of training. Look up You Tube Videos for specific breed training to help you. Join Breed specific groups on Facebook too for helpful tips.
- Baby gate(s)- Goodwill, Yard sales, Amazon Marketplace

Time Considerations:

- Pets need to be fed two to three times a day, more often in the case of puppies, and need a constant supply of fresh water.
- Outdoor time and dogs' walks are mandatory.
- Do not leave your dog chained up outside.
- A responsible pet parent should spend at least one hour per day giving direct attention to his or her pet. This may include training, exercising, grooming, and playing or, with cats, may just be lap time on the couch. Dogs will need to be taken out to potty several times a day.
- A pet with an abundance of energy needs more time to exercise and interactive toys to keep them entertained.
- Pets with long coats need 20 minutes a day of grooming to prevent matting.
- Pets with certain medical conditions may need additional attention, including specifically timed injections in the case of diabetic animals.

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- Remember that adopted pets may need additional bonding and reassurance time in the early weeks.

Pet Costs:

- More likely than not, the adopting agency will charge a fee to help defray the cost of taking in unwanted or lost animals. The adoption fee you pay will be a tiny fraction of the money you will spend over the life of your pet.

Some expenses are mandatory for all pets, including:

- Food- Purina One is a reputable brand, avoid Chicken it can cause allergies in dogs which causes scratching, Salmon based food is great for dogs with allergies, Purina One makes one. Chewy.com has a customizable delivery program and has great daily specials. Food, bedding, kennels, treats and medications may be ordered and delivered to your home from here.
- Routine veterinary care- Apple Tree Animal Clinic, Hillside Veterinary Hospital or Jefferson Animal Hospital are local
- Annual Vaccines and Rabies Shots- AWS does a Spring & Fall Rabies Clinic, watch for announcement of the date
- Licensing according to local regulations- Dog registration
- Collars, leashes, and identification tags- Amazon, or Walmart
- Basic grooming equipment and supplies- Walmart or Amazon

Other expenditures that may not be required but are highly recommended:

- Training classes & Boarding- Greensburg Bed & Biscuit (304) 263-4485, Ridgeside K-9 training (703) 586-8968 and 3 Dog Farm (5710) 215-4902 are all local trainers & boarders.
- Additional grooming supplies or professional grooming (depending on your new pet's needs)- Tri State Pet Care, LLC (Boarding and

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Grooming) (304) 725-7336, or Grooming Room Pets and Suites (Boarding and Grooming) (304) 260-1234, Rover Pet App for Dog Walkers or Pet Sitters

- A spare collar or leash
- A bed and toys- Walmart or Amazon
- A crate or carrier- Walmart or Amazon, check on Facebook Marketplace for used carriers- just bleach and clean before use.
- Unexpected costs: Accidents and illness can result in costly emergency veterinary care. Recovery tools for finding a missing pet can include posters and rewards.
- A pet with special physical or behavioral challenges may require specialized professional support to overcome any obstacles these issues present.

My Dog's Sick with:

- Diarrhea- stop all regular dog food, give the dog plain white rice and boiled chicken to aide in the diarrhea. It could just be a bug or some grass they ate. If it persists past 2 days, call your veterinarian
- Scratching Non-Stop- It could be the dog food or fleas. Try buying dogfood that does not have chicken in it. Give a flea bath in Blue Dawn Dish soap to kills fleas, let sit on dog for 5 minutes before rinsing, or take to a Groomer for a Flea dip. If the itching persists, call your Veterinarian
- Not eating, very lethargic/tired- they may have a bug, feed them white rice and boiled chicken, top with cheese. If they still will not eat or drink water after 2 days, call your veterinarian immediately.
- Rubbing their ear on the ground or scratching their ears non-stop. Dogs need their ears cleaned monthly, especially if the ears lap over and covers the ear canal.

Swab the outside of the ear, not the interior canal with a Q Tip swab, you can see the brown mushy debris to clean away. Use a liquid ear cleaner and if it is still rubbing and itching, apply an Anti-

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Inflammatory ear drop to the inside of the ears. If that does not help after 2 applications, call your Veterinarian, it could be ear mites. Both medications can be found at Walmart, Amazon, Petco or PetValu.

- My dogs scooting their bottom on the ground- Your dog has worms in their stool or need their anal glands expressed by a groomer. If it is worms in their stool, give them a Liquid Dewormer from Petco, PetValu or Amazon. If it does not stop after finding worms in their stool, contact your veterinarian. Bring a stool sample into the appointment.
- **You would not want to be left uncomfortable, your dog or cat does not want to be either.**
Please follow up with animal care as needed.

Spay/Neuter your Pet and a Microchip

- **When you adopt your pet with AWSJC, you will receive a spay/neuter coupon to use at a local veterinarian. This coupon also includes your new pets Microchipping. A microchip allows a Veterinarian to scan a found pet if ever lost and then found. Please make sure to register your pets Microchip number once you get home and update the registration if you move or a phone number changes.**

Local Veterinarians to call are:

- Apple Tree Animal Clinic (304) 725-8840
- Ranson Animal Hospital (304) 724-5055
- Hillside Veterinary Hospital (304) 728-2203
- Jefferson Animal Hospital (304) 725-0428

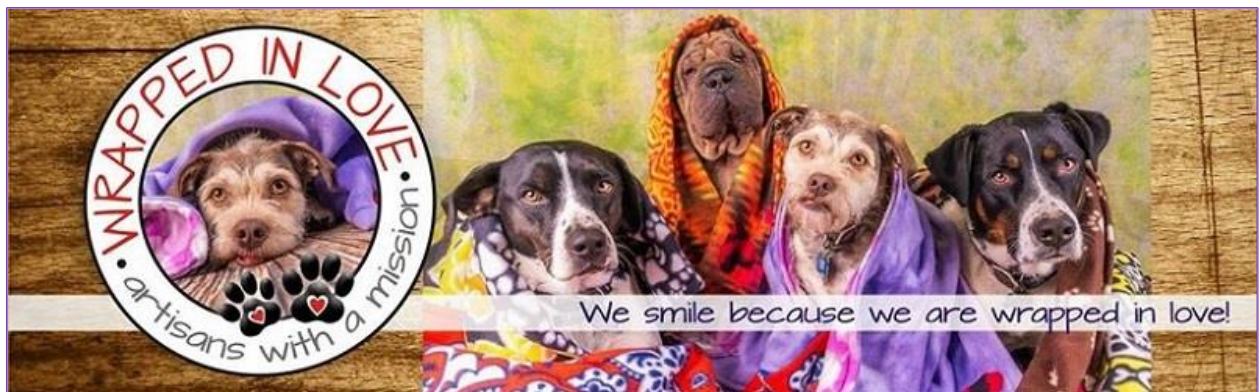
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Emergency Veterinary Care

If your pet experiences a medical emergency after normal business hours, please reach out to an Emergency Veterinarian for assistance. You can call them to discuss your case and they can advise if you need an Emergency visit or if it can wait to see your veterinarian during regular business hours.

An emergency to seek care for may be a bad cut on a pet, injured by a car, bleeding from the rectum, non-stop vomiting, digestion of a deadly item or chemical, etc.

- Valley Veterinary **Emergency** & Referral Center- Winchester (540) 662-7811
- VCA **Emergency** Critical Care- Leesburg- (703) 777-5755



Your pet is being sent home with a blanket donated from our volunteers with Wrapped in Love.

<http://www.wil4u.com>

- **WIL MISSION:** To promote the hand making of dog and cat blankets to be donated directly to rescue groups from WIL membership. The primary focus is to donate blankets as a group" to 501c3 dog rescue groups, along with other crafted items when possible.

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