

## 10 Things to Consider Before Getting a Dog

1. Are there any size or weight restrictions on dogs within your condominium or community? Many won't allow dogs weighing over 30 pounds.
2. Do you keep your home very warm? Some dogs are bothered by warm room temperatures. A Chihuahua would be a better choice than Shih Tzu in that case.
3. How much dog can you lift? A Pug is a happy-go-lucky companion but may weigh 18 pounds while a Yorkshire Terrier usually doesn't exceed 7 pounds.
4. How much grooming can you do? If arthritis is a problem, avoid longhaired breeds such as Pekingese or Maltese and look at short, smooth-haired dogs such as Toy Manchester Terrier. Beautiful coats are beautiful because they're groomed daily.
5. How much exercise does the dog need? Any Terrier is a high-energy dog requiring outdoor exercise. On the other hand, an English Toy Spaniel or Japanese Chin can get all the exercise they need inside an apartment.
6. Is the breed's temperament a good match with you? Some people find Toy Poodles too challenging and would do better with the sweet-tempered Papillon.
7. Are you prepared for the costs of dog ownership? The bare minimum estimate for dog ownership is \$1 a day.
8. Can you acquire pet insurance? Many companies offer group rates to their employees and retirees.
9. Would being a "foster" owner satisfy your need for canine companionship? Even if you don't want to take a dog into your home, shelters always need people who can walk and play with the dogs or provide temporary housing.
10. Finally, have you considered what happens to your dog if you can't care for him? Toy breeds often live 15 years or longer. Be sure to include instructions in your will on how your pet should be placed.

With a little forethought and planning, you can select the right breed of dog for your lifestyle and enjoy many happy years together.

## Calendar of Events

### November

- 4 Adoptions at Petsmart (Germantown)  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- 11 Adoptions at Petsmart (Germantown)  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- 11 Capital Cat Fanciers Shows  
Montgomery County Fairgrounds  
11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- 12 Capital Cat Fanciers Show  
Montgomery County Fairgrounds  
9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 15 Annual Luncheon, Fashion Show,  
Boutiques  
& Silent Auction - TPC at Avenel  
10:30 a.m. - Boutiques and Silent Auction  
12:30 p.m. - Lunch Served
- 18 Adoptions at Petsmart (Germantown)  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### December

- 2 Adoptions at Petsmart (Germantown)  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- 9 Adoptions at Petsmart (Germantown)  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- 16 Adoptions at Petsmart (Germantown)  
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Many thanks to . . .

- ◆ Posey Fox for her artistic face, and occasional back of the head, paintings.
- ◆ Margie Grant for donating and embroidering the FMCA cat group tee shirts.
- ◆ Elizabeth Goggin for continuing to clean all the litter boxes and towels used at cat/dog adoption clinics.
- ◆ Leigh Hughes for making the cage covers used at the cat shows.
- ◆ Brian Virts for making replacement shelves for the tokyo cages.
- ◆ Petsmart for allowing us to hold our open houses at the Germantown store.
- ◆ Our participating veterinarians for providing our felines and canines with wonderful vet care.



Brian Virts models one of Posey's creations!