

Adopt A Pet

As seniors become lonely or bored after retirement or their children move away, pets can help overcome their unhappiness, according to American Humane.

Animal companions are shown to provide affection, company and a sense of responsibility that keeps our minds active. Welcoming a pet into your home can be a joyous occasion when done correctly. Before rushing to a local shelter to bring home your new furry friend, it's essential to consider several factors to avoid developing regret.

CHOOSING AN ANIMAL

Cats and dogs are common household pets throughout America but can result in two completely different experiences. When deciding which animal is right to welcome into your family, consider how the two vary when they're young. Puppies are generally full of energy and require constant attention to ensure they are comfortable, housebroken and respecting their surroundings. If you face limited mobility, chasing a small dog around your home may lead you to second guess your decision. On the contrary, kittens tend to require less maintenance regarding grooming and potty training. They are also content with staying indoors, so pet owners avoid making multiple trips outside each day.

FINDING A SENIOR PET

While raising a puppy or kitten can be a rewarding experience, it can be difficult to find the energy to train them properly. For many seniors, adopting an older pet who has already been disciplined can be a more comfortable experience. Reach out to your local shelter to find well-behaved companions that are in search of a new forever home.


CONSIDER THE EXPENSES

Pets can't survive on your love alone. Before committing to adopting an animal,


consider if your finances are in line with the increased costs you will experience. When adopting a puppy, kitten or senior pet, they will likely rely on a specific food to ensure their optimal health. It's important to visit a veterinarian's office to discover any medical issues that may become aggravated when eating the wrong diet. You will also want to plan for vaccines and wellness exams for your new companion. Depending on their age, breed and current health condition, visits to the vet can be constant. Make sure you have room in your budget to protect your pet during regular checkups and medical emergencies.



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