
Choosing to Adopt a Rescued Cat

Cats are not right for every household. Problems such as allergies, apartment restrictions, or moving issues should be discovered before adopting a new pet. Small pets may be too delicate for children.

Research to understand cat behavior. Basic training helps owners communicate better with their pets and strengthens the human-animal bond. Cats behave differently than dogs; negative behavior can communicate displeasure or be the sign of a medical problem. Learn what is appropriate behavior and what can be changed with training, if needed.

Decisions, Decisions

Choosing a Personality - If you stroll past a few cat cages at our shelter, you will notice that some cats meow for attention, some may act shy, and others choose to simply lie back and look at you with an air of arrogance. What disposition is best for you?

Cat or Kitten? - Kittens are curious, playful and energetic, while adult cats are more relaxed and less mischievous. Kittens will require more time to train and feed. Young children may not have the maturity needed to handle kittens responsibly, so a cat four months old or older may be the best choice for a home with children under six years of age.

Short hair or long? - The choice of a long-hair or short-hair cat is simply one of preference. There will usually be more short-hair cats available at the shelter since they're the most popular cats. Long-hair cats require frequent grooming to keep them mat free.

Older Pets are Greats - Sure kittens are cute, but don't forget about older pets that may fit into your life perfectly.

With an older pet, you will get a less destructive, more graceful animal, and one that has probably passed "basic training"- you may not need to house train the pet, and it will most likely know to come when called and what "no" means. The animal may have been neutered, which will save you money. And if you work, a full-grown pet is better able to stay home alone during the day - this is especially true for dogs. Older pets are just as loving as young animals, but because most people want "cute" kittens, millions of older animals must be euthanized each year.

If you're looking for a good companion, look at the older cats at your animal shelter. They have lots of love to give and the admirable qualities that come with maturity.