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TIPS FOR ADOPTING A DOG

Adopting a dog is a big decision for any family and not one that should be entered into lightly. With such a wide variety of dogs and breeds, you want to find one that will fit well into your family dynamics. The following tips will help you find the perfect pet for your family.

1. All family members in the household should be involved in the decision process of selecting your dog.
2. Will the dog you choose need an adequate yard or do you need a dog best suited for apartment living?
3. Determine if your families schedule will allow time to devote for exercise, grooming and training that your dog will need.
4. Pure bred dogs can cost quite a bit, as opposed to adopting a dog from a local animal shelter. You need to consider your financial situation when making your decision.
5. Does your family have the time and patience needed to devote to the training of a puppy, or would your family be better suited with an adult dog?
6. Identify what temperament and personality you would like in a dog, not just its looks.
7. Research the different dog breeds to find one that is well suited for your family's lifestyle, habits, interests and energy level.
8. Each family member should spend some one-on-one time with the dog prior to finalizing the adoption.
9. Find a reputable breeder or adoption center. Know the history and background of your dog before you bring him into your home.
10. For additional tips go to American Kennel Club (AKC) web site.
<http://www.akc.org/puppybuyerinfo/>