

Questions to Consider Before Adoption

The following are questions you may wish to ask yourself prior to adopting. Please read each carefully and initial in the blank.

Can you afford a pet?

There are three basic expenses with pet ownership that should be considered: food supplies and veterinary care. Depending on your lifestyle, there may be additional expenses such as licensing fees, boarding costs, and transportation fees. When it comes to budgeting for your pet, are you able to sufficiently and comfortably provide for it? _____

Do you have the patience?

No matter how well behaved a pet is, there will be times when accidents may occur. When a pet is brought to a new home it takes time to adjust, ranging from a few days to a few months. Are you patient enough to train your new animal and assist it through its transition period? _____

Are you willing to make the commitment?

The average lifespan of a dog or cat is fifteen years. Can you imagine where you will be in ten years? Will you marry or have children? Consider how many times you have moved in the last ten years. Are you aware that owning a pet may greatly reduce your choice of housing? _____

Dog and Cat Adoptions

1. What is the name of the animal you are interested in adopting? _____
2. Why does this animal appeal to you? _____

3. Please list all animals currently living in your household (this does not include animals at your permanent address):

Name	Sex	Altered?	Cat/Dog	In/Outside?	Age	Current on Vaccinations?	Yours or Roommates?

4. What is the name and phone number of the veterinarian clinic that the above animals attend regularly?

5. Whose name would the animal be listed under at the vet?

6. Please list all animals owned in the last five years, but that are no longer with you.

Name	Sex	Altered?	Cat/Dog	Kept where? Inside or Outside?	Age	Where is this animal now?

6. The Lee County Humane Society cannot guarantee the health of its animals. Though the dog or cat may appear to be in good health, it could be incubating a disease, while showing no external symptoms. Due to this, we strongly recommend that you keep your new pet separated from other family pets for a minimum of one week, so that you do not risk infecting your pets at home.

Are you willing to do this? YES NO

If yes, how do you plan on doing this? _____

7. How many hours will it be kept alone without human companionship? _____

8. How many people live in your household? _____ Do all of the adults, including roommates and spouses, know that you plan to adopt? YES NO

Are there any children under the age of 16 in the household? YES NO

9. Who will primarily be responsible for the animal? _____

10. Have you brought an animal into the shelter in the past six months? YES NO

If yes, what were the circumstances? _____

11. Do you live in a: (please check one)

House Duplex Apartment Condo Mobile Home Townhouse

12. Do you: (please check one)

Rent Lease Own Parents or Roommate's Parent's Own

If you Rent/Lease Please fill out your:

Landlord's Name _____ Phone ____-____-_____

If you own who is your Mortgage Company _____

Parents or Roommate's Parents Own:

Parent's or Roommate's Parents Name _____

Phone ____-____-_____

13. Are you at least nineteen (19) years or older? YES NO

Will you allow an officer of LCHS inspect your property? YES NO

Do you authorize the employees of LCHS to contact your landlord, veterinarian, and/or anyone else necessary to confirm the above information? YES NO

Cat Adoptions Only

1. What are your reasons for adopting this cat? Check all that may apply.
 House Pet Mouser Breeder Companion Barn Cat
 Companion Recent Death / Disappearance of a Pet
 Gift (If so, for whom? _____) Other _____
2. Will this cat be allowed outdoors with no supervision? YES NO
If yes, under what circumstances? _____
3. Many cats have developed such destructive behaviors as scratching. Would you like some advice on fixing this problem? YES NO
4. Cats that are declawed are more likely to adapt biting (as opposed to scratching) as a defense mechanism.
Do you plan on having your new cat declawed? YES NO
Would you like some information on alternatives to declawing? YES NO
5. Are you familiar with the following:
Feline Leukemia? YES NO
Feline AIDS or FIV? YES NO

Dog Adoptions Only

1. What are your reasons for adopting this dog? Check all that may apply.
 House Pet Watch/Guard Dog Companion Company for other Pet
 Recent Death / Disappearance of Pet Gift (If so, for whom? _____) Breeder Other _____
2. Alabama state law requires that animals be confined to their owner's property. What will be the primary means of confining the animal to your property? Check all that may apply.
 House Outdoor Kennel Fenced Yard Tether/chain Garage
 Patio Runner Electronic Fence Pen Other _____

If the dog will be living outdoors, please briefly describe the environment in which he/she will live (i.e. yard completely enclosed by chain link, etc.):

3. How much time will the dog spend chained or on a runner (this does not include leash walks)? _____
Under what circumstances? _____
4. The Lee County Humane Society cannot guarantee the house-training status of ANY animal. Would you like some information on how to house-train your new family member? YES NO

5. While some of our animals have begun obedience training, most have not. There is a chance that the animal may disobey and even possibly show such destructive behavior as chewing on furniture. Would you like some information on obedience training? YES NO
6. Are you familiar with the following:
 Leash and Licensing Laws? YES NO
 Heartworm Disease? YES NO
 Distemper? YES NO
 Parvo? YES NO

Spaying and Neutering

Are you aware that over 6,000 animals are brought to LCHS each year? Of these 6,000, only about 12% are adopted. On a larger scale, over 5,500 puppies and kittens are born every hour in America, compared to only 415 humans. There simply are not enough homes. Help us control this overpopulation by spaying and neutering your pets before they have *any* litters. In July 2006, a new Alabama law was put into place stating that any animal adopted from a shelter, rescue, or veterinarian must be spayed or neutered with 30 days of sexual maturity.

By adopting from the Lee County Humane Society, you are obligated by a legal, binding contract to have your new pet spayed or neutered at your own expense by an acceptable time determined by the Lee County Humane Society and your veterinarian.

14. If you are adopting an intact animal, please **rewrite** the following sentence:

I agree to have my new companion spayed/neutered in the amount of time determined by the Lee County Humane Society and my veterinarian.

LCHS reserves the right to refuse any adoption and all adoptions may be subject to a waiting period.

Under penalty of law, I swear or affirm that I am willing to comply with state and local laws concerning vaccinations, licensing, and the health and welfare of the animal. The answers to the above questions are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

For Office Use Only

LCHS Staff Member Accepting Application: _____ Time: _____