

Chapter 1 : 7 Signs You Should Not Get a Dog

4. *You're not financially ready. Plenty of dog breeds love having jobs, but not the kind that brings home the bacon. That is your job, human. Seriously, though, take a look at your finances and really consider whether you have enough disposable income to pay for a dog's needs.*

Each club has a section that lets us search for dog breeders that are registered with them. These breeders have to follow rules of conduct set by the club, and are frequently active participants in showing their dogs in club events. Accredited dog breeders tend to breed healthy puppies, whose parents have been screened for hereditary issues. They will usually socialize their puppies early-on because that will help with subsequent conformation competitions. Many will also breed for good puppy temperament. As a result, dogs from such breeders end up having fewer vet and puppy training bills. Even though puppies from accredited breeders may not be cheap at first glance, they actually end up being cheaper dogs in the long-run because of their good health and temperament. Some things to look for from a good dog breeder. Siberian Shania was a well-balanced, well-socialized puppy. Some things to look for from a good dog breeder: A good dog breeder will want to meet with you, or interview you over the phone, before selling one of her precious puppies. The more questions the breeder asks the better, because that shows she cares what kind of home the puppy is moving to. Will show you the mother and father if available of the puppies, and let you interact with them. The temperament of the parents will affect the temperament of the puppies. This will vary by breed, as different breeds may have different hereditary or genetic issues. This will make the transition of homes easier for the puppy. The kibble and smelly blanket are especially important. Will not over-breed their dogs. It is expensive and time consuming to properly care for a litter of puppies, so accredited breeders do not breed very often. Places that have litters every month or every other month, are likely puppy mills that are trying to generate as many puppies as possible to maximize profits. If possible, it is a good idea to get our puppy from a local breeder. Someone local can hook us up with nearby club activities, and will also be available to give us puppy training advice. My breeder also visits me from time to time, and we get to set up some fun play sessions with her dogs. Siberian Husky puppy Shania at 10 weeks old. Puppies from backyard breeders may be cheaper but frequently have health and temperament issues. Backyard Dog Breeder Unlike accredited dog breeders, backyard breeders do not need to follow any rules of conduct and are usually less experienced. Backyard dog breeders tend to be " Hobbyists who are experimenting with dog breeding, Dog owners who get accidental litters, or People who are looking for some supplemental income. As a result, they are less careful about health, temperament, and socialization of their puppies. Backyard puppies may have genetic defects, unsound temperament, and may be skittish around other dogs or people. This may ultimately lead to dog aggression. Most of the puppies advertised in online buy-a-puppy sites e. Accredited dog breeders spend the time to seek out good dog owners from their club connections, and rarely, if ever, advertise on these sites. Getting an online puppy may be quicker and more convenient, but they are more likely to have health and temperament issues. In the long-run, backyard breeder puppies will end up costing us more in terms of time, money, and heartache. How to Get a Dog 3 Pet Store Good dog breeders who breed healthy and balanced puppies will never place their dogs in a pet store to be sold. This is because they care about their puppies very much, and take a very active and hands-on role in placing their dogs into good homes. Pet stores have very little quality control on how their puppies are treated while at the store. Pet stores also do not screen who they sell their puppies to. Most, if not all of the puppies in pet stores, come from backyard breeders or puppy mills. Puppy mills are only interested in making as much money as possible. Their dogs are often treated cruelly, and are kept in small and dirty cages for their entire lives. They are not handled, groomed, or exercised. As a result, pet store puppies commonly have a lot of health issues, inherited genetic issues, as well as serious temperament issues. If you love dogs, DO NOT get a puppy from the pet store as that will only support the cruel puppy mills behind them. Say NO to pet stores and puppy mills. To adopt a dog in need, we may go to a nearby SPCA, city-run animal shelter, or a dog rescue group. City Shelter City shelters are usually underfunded and undermanned. To keep their dog population to a manageable size, dogs that are unclaimed

and not adopted after a short period of time, are usually euthanized. City shelter dogs are examined for health and temperament by staff, before they are put up for adoption. In addition, shelter dogs are spayed or neutered, and are up to date on their shots. If we are looking for a cheap dog, consider that these health procedures more than pay back for the initial adoption fees. Siberian Husky puppy Shania at 8 weeks old. They are better financed than city shelters, and usually have a no-kill policy. Most SPCAs get their dogs from surrounding city shelters. They temperament test all available dogs, and choose the ones that are healthy and most adoptable. They may also accept owner surrendered dogs, but only after the dog passes a temperament test. As a result, dogs at the SPCA are usually healthy and have good temperaments. I used to visit my local SPCA for dog-to-dog socialization sessions. Almost all the dogs I met there were very playful, well socialized, and friendly to people, as well as other dogs. If we are looking for a cheap, well-temperamented dog or puppy, our local SPCA may be one of the best places to find a furry friend. Most SPCAs will also throw in a free dog obedience training class, and many give adopted dogs a big discount in subsequent training courses. Rescue Group Rescue groups are privately funded, non-profit organizations, with a particular mission. For example, there are a variety of rescue groups that are devoted to saving dogs of a chosen breed. Other rescue groups may be devoted to special needs dogs, old dogs, retired racing dogs, dogs in dire need, etc. Rescue groups will often take-in dogs that are about to be euthanized at the shelter. Most rescue groups have less stringent temperament tests than SPCAs or city shelters. As a result, dogs from rescue groups may vary more widely in terms of temperament. However, many rescue group volunteers will spend time to foster, train, and rehabilitate problem dogs, before adopting them out. Siberian Husky puppy Shania having a fun play session outdoors. How to Get a Cheap Dog or Puppy? How to Find Cheap Puppies? While considering where to get a cheap dog or puppy, it is important to factor in the costs for the entire life of the dog, rather than just the initial cost of getting the puppy. What we pay for in terms of food, toys, vet bills, and training classes will far outweigh the initial purchase or adoption fee. A healthy and well-adjusted puppy from an accredited breeder or dog adoption facility, will have cheaper and fewer vet visits, as well as require fewer training classes. This does not even take into account the cost of emotional distress to us and our family, from an unhealthy, and unbalanced puppy. In the long-term, cheap puppies come from accredited dog breeders, or our local SPCA, because they are healthy and have good temperaments. Cheap Puppies - In the long-term, cheap puppies come from accredited dog breeders or our local SPCA because they are healthy and have good temperaments. Getting a puppy or a dog is a lifelong commitment. Consider carefully before taking on the responsibility of caring for another precious life. If we want a dog but do not have the time or financial resources at the present moment, there are other ways to spend quality time with a canine friend. Volunteer at our local SPCA or a nearby rescue group. Get to know our neighbors who have dogs, and volunteer to help them walk their dogs. We may even start charging them a nominal fee for our services. Get a part-time job as a pet sitter, or at a dog training facility once we are more comfortable with dogs.

Chapter 2 : United States presidential pets - Wikipedia

Paying attention to the right behaviors: Your puppy is ever mindful of what gets your attention, and nothing excites him more than a big reaction. Use your excitement to highlight good behaviors like chewing on a bone or playing with toys or sitting for a treat.

Dog anatomy Domestic dogs have been selectively bred for millennia for various behaviors, sensory capabilities, and physical attributes. Size and weight Dogs are highly variable in height and weight. The smallest known adult dog was a Yorkshire Terrier , that stood only 6. The largest known dog was an English Mastiff which weighed Coat dog Dogs display a wide variation on coat type, density, length, color, and composition The coats of domestic dogs are of two varieties: Domestic dogs often display the remnants of countershading , a common natural camouflage pattern. A countershaded animal will have dark coloring on its upper surfaces and light coloring below, [35] which reduces its general visibility. Thus, many breeds will have an occasional "blaze", stripe, or "star" of white fur on their chest or underside. Docking There are many different shapes for dog tails: In some hunting dogs, however, the tail is traditionally docked to avoid injuries. Domesticated dogs are clearly distinguishable from wolves by starch gel electrophoresis of red blood cell acid phosphatase. Dog health There are many household plants that are poisonous to dogs and other mammals including begonia , Poinsettia and aloe vera. Two serious medical conditions particularly affecting dogs are pyometra , affecting unspayed females of all types and ages, and gastric dilatation volvulus bloat , which affects the larger breeds or deep-chested dogs. Both of these are acute conditions, and can kill rapidly. Dogs are also susceptible to parasites such as fleas , ticks , and mites , as well as hookworms , tapeworms , roundworms , and heartworms. A number of common human foods and household ingestibles are toxic to dogs, including chocolate solids theobromine poisoning , onion and garlic thiosulphate , sulfoxide or disulfide poisoning , [54] grapes and raisins , macadamia nuts , xylitol , [55] as well as various plants and other potentially ingested materials. Dogs can be exposed to the substance by scavenging garbage or ashtrays; eating cigars and cigarettes. Signs can be vomiting of large amounts e. Some other signs are abdominal pain, loss of coordination, collapse, or death. Dogs are also vulnerable to some of the same health conditions as humans, including diabetes , dental and heart disease, epilepsy, cancer, hypothyroidism, and arthritis. Aging in dogs Mixed-breed dogs such as this terrier have been found to run faster and live longer than their pure-bred parents See heterosis In , a study found that mixed breeds live on average 1. The breed with the shortest lifespan among breeds for which there is a questionnaire survey with a reasonable sample size is the Dogue de Bordeaux , with a median longevity of about 5. Canine reproduction Dog nursing newborn puppies In domestic dogs, sexual maturity begins to happen around age six to twelve months for both males and females, [16] [68] although this can be delayed until up to two years old for some large breeds. This is the time at which female dogs will have their first estrous cycle. They will experience subsequent estrous cycles semiannually, during which the body prepares for pregnancy. At the peak of the cycle, females will come into estrus, being mentally and physically receptive to copulation. An average litter consists of about six puppies , [72] though this number may vary widely based on the breed of dog. In general, toy dogs produce from one to four puppies in each litter, while much larger breeds may average as many as twelve. Some dog breeds have acquired traits through selective breeding that interfere with reproduction. Male French Bulldogs , for instance, are incapable of mounting the female. For many dogs of this breed, the female must be artificially inseminated in order to reproduce. Because of the overpopulation of dogs in some countries, many animal control agencies, such as the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals ASPCA , advise that dogs not intended for further breeding should be neutered, so that they do not have undesired puppies that may have to later be euthanized. Spaying or castrating dogs helps keep overpopulation down. Neutering reduces problems caused by hypersexuality , especially in male dogs. Mortality due to infection increased significantly with increases in inbreeding. Dog intelligence Dog intelligence is the ability of the dog to perceive information and retain it as knowledge for applying to solve problems. Dogs have been shown to learn by inference. A study with Rico showed that he knew the labels of over different items. He inferred the names of

novel items by exclusion learning and correctly retrieved those novel items immediately and also 4 weeks after the initial exposure. Dogs have advanced memory skills. A study documented the learning and memory capabilities of a border collie, "Chaser", who had learned the names and could associate by verbal command over 1,000 words. An experimental study showed compelling evidence that Australian dingos can outperform domestic dogs in non-social problem-solving, indicating that domestic dogs may have lost much of their original problem-solving abilities once they joined humans. As a result of this physical and social evolution, dogs, more than any other species, have acquired the ability to understand and communicate with humans, and they are uniquely attuned to human behaviors. These gene variations were unlikely to have been the result of natural evolution, and indicate selection on both morphology and behavior during dog domestication. These genes have been shown to affect the catecholamine synthesis pathway, with the majority of the genes affecting the fight-or-flight response [95] [96].

Dog communication Dog communication is about how dogs convey information to other dogs, how they understand messages from humans, and how humans translate the information that dogs are transmitting. Humans communicate to dogs by using vocalization, hand signals and body posture.

Ecology Population The global dog population is estimated at billion and rising. In the developing world dogs are more commonly feral, or village or community dogs, with pet dogs uncommon. Leopards in particular are known to have a predilection for dogs, and have been recorded to kill and consume them regardless of their size. Dogs can healthily digest a variety of foods, including vegetables, fruits and grains, and can consume a large proportion of these in their diet, and some sources do not recommend all-meat diets for dogs, due to their lack of calcium and iron. Notable exceptions once included: Aboriginal Tasmanians, who were separated from Australia before the arrival of dingos on that continent The Andamanese, who were isolated when rising sea levels covered the land bridge to Myanmar Certain Pacific islands whose maritime settlers did not bring dogs, or where dogs died out after original settlement, notably: Dog breed

Different dog breeds show a range of phenotypic variation The domestic dog is the first species, and the only large carnivore, known to have been domesticated. These breeds can vary in size and weight from a 0. Phenotypic variation can include height measured to the withers ranging from Some breeds demonstrate outstanding skills in herding, retrieving, scent detection, and guarding, which demonstrates the functional and behavioral diversity of dogs. The first dogs were domesticated from shared ancestors of modern wolves, however the phenotypic changes that coincided with the dog-wolf genetic divergence are not known.

Dog type Roles with humans Gunnar Kaasen and Balto, the lead dog on the last relay team of the serum run to Nome Domestic dogs inherited complex behaviors, such as bite inhibition, from their wolf ancestors, which would have been pack hunters with complex body language. These sophisticated forms of social cognition and communication may account for their trainability, playfulness, and ability to fit into human households and social situations, and these attributes have given dogs a relationship with humans that has enabled them to become one of the most successful species on the planet today. Dogs perform many roles for people, such as hunting, herding, pulling loads, protection, assisting police and military, companionship, and, more recently, aiding handicapped individuals. In some cultures, however, dogs are also a source of meat. Although one writer [] even suggests that the use of sled dogs may have been critical to the success of the waves that entered North America roughly 12,000 years ago, [] the earliest archaeological evidence of dog-like canids in North America dates from about 9,000 years ago. Dogs as pack animals may have contributed migration of the Apache and Navajo tribes 1,000 years ago. This use of dogs in these cultures often persisted after the introduction of the horse to North America. From the 19th century, there have been changes in the role of the pet dog, such as the increased role of dogs in the emotional support of their human guardians. However it has been disputed that "trying to achieve status" is characteristic of dog-human interactions. There does not seem to be any gender preference among dogs as pets, as the statistical data reveal an equal number of female and male dog pets. Yet, although several programs are ongoing to promote pet adoption, less than a fifth of the owned dogs come from a shelter. The latest study using magnetic resonance imaging MRI comparing humans and dogs showed that dogs have same response to voices and use the same parts of the brain as humans do. This gives dogs the ability to recognize emotional human sounds, making them friendly social pets to humans.

Chapter 3 : How to Buy a Puppy (with Pictures) - wikiHow

Check out We're Having a Puppy! by animal lover Eric Swanson. This informative, easy-to-read guide encompasses a multitude of topics, beginning with the particulars of how a dog will affect your life and matching your personality with the right breed of dog.

Here are the stories of eight more. Cairo was strapped to his handler as they were lowered from a helicopter, and wore special body armor while bursting into the compound. Dozer the Marathon Dog Dozer, a three-year-old "goldendoodle," saw a bunch of people run by his home in Fulton, Maryland. He became so excited that he crossed his invisible fence and started running with them. The runners did not know Dozer was alone. He returned home the next day, looking so tired that his owners took him to the vet. Marathon organizers gave Dozer a special award. Lada the Loyal Babysitter Olga, a year-old woman in Saratov, Russia took her dog and her baby son Vadim to a park and met up with friends. After a few drinks, Olga went home and left her baby behind! Luckily, her dog Lada was with the baby. Olga woke the next morning and realized the child was missing. She thought Vadim had been abducted, but her father went to the park and found the baby in his pram, with Lada still beside him. The rottweiler had stood guard over him all night long. Vadim was wet and hungry, but unharmed, and was placed in the care of his grandmother. Belle Calls Kevin Weaver has diabetes. He also has a specially-trained beagle named Belle who can sense when his blood sugar levels are off. She licks his nose, and then paws at him to signal that he should take a reading. In the summer of , Belle put another skill to work. Weaver suffered a seizure and collapsed. The number was programmed to dial , and emergency workers soon arrived. Belle was the first dog to ever win the award. On September 11, , Rivera was working on the 71st floor of the World Trade Center when a plane hit the building above him. As the building evacuation began, Rivera smelled the smoke and heard the chaos in the stairwell. They were separated by the rush of the crowd for a few minutes, but Dorado found his way back to Rivera and continued down the stairs. They reached the ground about an hour after they began the descent, only a few minutes before the building collapsed. Chaser the Dog of Many Words Border collies are known for their intelligence. Chaser is a border collie that belongs to a retired psychology professor. Pilley read about a dog who learned to recognize German nouns, and decided to see if Chaser could learn words as well. Working with the dog for around five hours a day, Chaser learned to recognize the names of a couple of new objects every day, to a current total of 1, nouns! Along the way, Chaser got the idea that learning words is her job, so now the year-old Pilley has a hard time taking it easy, as Chaser demands her lessons! Pilley is now teaching Chaser verbs and basic grammar. Rowan the Echolocator A German spitz named Rowan was born without eyes, but gets around almost as well as a sighted dog. Rowan learned to use the reverberations of his bark to determine where objects are in the great outdoors. This is a version of echolocation , in which a blind person or dog, in this case creates a mental map by comparing the way sound bounces back in an echo. Rowan was not taught to "see" this way, but his owners noticed how his behavior outside changed when the trees filled out with leaves. Dexter served for six years, during which time he detected a garbage truck filled with explosives and saved at least a thousand military personnel and civilians. After his tour, he was scheduled to be euthanized because of hip problems and the fact that military dogs are hard to place for adoption because of their aggressiveness. Veteran Danny Scheurer, who worked with dogs during his military service, agreed to adopt Dexter and bring him home to Spring Grove, Illinois. Dexter also became the first canine member of the American Legion when he was accepted as a full member by Fox Lake American Legion Post

Chapter 4 : 10 Scientific Benefits of Being a Dog Owner | Mental Floss

Baby animals crying, apparently in distress, coming from the tall grass on side of a country road were heard by a local who alerted Howl Of A Dog. At first, we thought that maybe some wild animal.

TheMamaNurse 21 Comments I never wanted a dog. I felt smug towards those who felt tied down by their pets. I had secretly scoffed at people who treated their dogs like children. Especially and baby and puppy, together. And then we got a dog. When I was seven months pregnant. In the middle of winter. My co-workers can attest to the fact that I quickly became that proud annoying parent I never thought I would be: Look how cute he is! And all of their responses were: What are you thinking?! The first few weeks were the hardest: Listening to puppy howl in his crate at night. Taking him out in a blizzard every hour. Spraying every surface possible including hands with anti-chew spray. Taking him for walks when all you want to do is sleep. And most importantly, teaching both puppy and child to treat each other with respect and caution. It was all such a whirlwind. I had no clue what I was doing. It was like having two newborns. Our house is full of energy and love and laughter because of him. I sweep the floors a lot less. We spend a lot more time outdoors as a family and get more exercise. My children have such a close bond with him that will only continue to grow as years go by. This experience has made our family stronger and I am proud of what we have accomplished. We have invested a ridiculous amount of time on him to ensure life would progressively become easier and thankfully it is finally paying off. The purpose of writing this article is so A. Here are my suggestions. As anyone can see from looking on the Kijiji and Facebook classifieds it is a lot easier to get rid of a cumbersome pet than a raging toddler. A dog owner needs to be completely committed to having a dog or else both of your lives will suffer. And be honest with yourself. We originally wanted an Australian shepherd but decided to get a smaller dog with a lower activity level. Invest I never realized how expensive dogs are before I owned one, and ours is only 10lbs! Dogs, just like babies do not automatically know not to chew on everything and defecate all over your house! The more you catch bad behaviour consistently and reward positive behaviour the less time it will take to train your puppy. Think of it as doggy boot camp. If you are thinking of getting a puppy right before having a child I would recommend having the puppy housetrained before baby comes. Cleaning up messes will be the last thing you want to worry about when you have a newborn. Protect It is very important that your puppy has positive associations with your children from early on. We made the mistake of trusting our dog out recently and he chewed a hole in our couch. After awhile I found that being so strict was taking away from our enjoyment of having a puppy and it just seemed like a whole lot of work. Being a hard-ass all the time is tiring! A little bit of loving goes a long way. You are very brave. Your family will have a loyal best friend to traverse the world with for years to come. Now what could be better than that? Share With the World!

Chapter 5 : How To Survive Having a Baby and Puppy (At the Same Time!) - The Mama Nurse

We're Having a Puppy Monday, August 25th, at am This is a tongue-in-cheek writing aimed at those who think a new baby and a puppy are not compatible in a home an interesting twist on the theme.

He might be, as legendary literary critic and humorous journalist H. Mencken said, "half a dog high and a dog and a half long," but this small, drop-eared dog is tough enough to take on a badger. In the United States, Dachshunds are either miniature 11 pounds and under as an adult or standard usually between 16 and 32 pounds as an adult. Other countries have a wider variance in the sizes. For example, in Germany, the official birthplace of the Dachshund breed, Dachshunds are identified as Standard, Miniature, or Kaninchensteckel, based on a chest measurement taken at the age of fifteen months. No matter what their size, Dachshunds are a delightful addition to any family, which is why they have ranked near the top of most popular dogs lists since the s. Because of their almost comical appearance, Dachshunds have long been a favorite subject of cartoonists and toy makers. But their cute appearance was developed for far more serious and practical reasons. Their short legs enable them to dig and maneuver through tunnels to corner and even fight badgers and other animals, while their large chests give them plenty of "heart" for the fight. Dachshunds are brave, but they can be somewhat stubborn, and have an independent spirit, especially when hunting. He loves to be close to you and "help" you do things like tie your shoes. Because of his intelligence, he often has his own ideas about what the rules are when it comes to playtime-and those rules may not be the same as yours or even other breeds of dogs. Dachshunds are known for being lively and enjoy chasing other small animals, birds, and toys. The breed standard "a written description of how the Dachshund should look and act" probably describes their personality best, saying "the Dachshund is clever, lively, and courageous to the point of rashness, persevering in above and below ground work, with all the senses well-developed. Any display of shyness is a serious fault. Their lungs are large for a dog this size and they have a barrel-like chest. Because of these things, Dachshunds have a loud, deep bark that sounds as though it comes from a much larger dog. And they do like to bark, which is something you might consider if you have neighbors who could be annoyed rather than amused by the antics of your brave little Dachshund. Dachshunds often bond closely with a single person. Smooth Dachshunds are the most popular variety in the United States. Their coats are short and shiny and need little grooming. They do, however, need a sweater in the winter if you live in an area with cold weather. Common colors are red, cream, black and tan, black and cream, chocolate and tan, blue and tan, and Isabella fawn and tan. Dachshunds also can have patterns in their coats, such as dapple a mottled coat pattern, brindle, sable, and piebald. Longhaired Dachshunds have sleek, slightly wavy hair and can be the same colors as the Smooth Dachshund. They should be brushed every day to prevent mats from forming, especially around their elbows and ears. Many believe that the Longhaired Dachshund has a more docile temperament than the Smooth or Wirehair. Wirehaired Dachshunds have wiry, short, thick, rough coats with bushy eyebrows and a beard. Like Smooth Dachshunds, they often are mischievous. Their coat colors can be the same as the Smooth Dachshund, but the most popular colors in the United States are wild boar a mixture of black, brown, and gray, black and tan, and various shades of red. Dachshunds often have been seen as a symbol of Germany. Their appeal was too great for this to resist, however, and they quickly made a comeback in popularity. Because of the association with Germany, a Dachshund named Waldi was chosen to be the first official mascot for the Summer Olympics. They are popular with urban dwellers because of their small size and ease of care. They generally are active indoors and also enjoy going on walks. Just be careful not to let them get too fat or allow them to injure their backs by jumping off furniture. Also, be sure to support their backs when you are holding them. Because of their long backs, they are susceptible to slipped or ruptured herniated disks in their backs, which can result in partial or full paralysis. Additionally, many people show them in conformation, obedience, agility, field trials, and earthdog trials. They are also hard-working and well-appreciated therapy dogs. Some people enter their Dachshunds in Dachshund races, such as the Wiener Nationals. Because they are such a popular breed, many people breed Dachshunds to make money rather than out of a love for the breed and a desire to breed healthy, even-tempered dogs. Be careful to obtain your Dachshund from a reputable breeder

who screens his or her breeding animals for both temperament and health problems. The Dachshund is a versatile companion. Highlights Dachshunds can be stubborn and difficult to housebreak. Dachshunds are intelligent dogs with an independent nature and playful spirit. Because of this, they can be mischievous. Be patient, firm, and consistent when training them. Because they were bred for hunting, they can exhibit some behaviors that are related to that. They were designed to dig into badger burrows, and that instinct may lead them to dig up your dahlias instead. They were bred to be tenacious in the hunt, and this instinct may lead them to be relentless in pestering you for a treat. Dachshunds have loud, deep barks for a dog their size - and they do like to bark! Dachshunds are prone to having slipped disks in their backs, which can lead to partial or full paralysis. Your Dachshund will probably be a one-person dog. To get a healthy dog, never buy a puppy from an irresponsible breeder, puppy mill, or pet store.

History The Dachshund was created in Germany where he was known as the badger dog, dachs meaning badger and hund meaning dog. Illustrations of dogs resembling Dachshunds date to the 15th century, and documents from the 16th century mention the "earth dog," "badger creeper," and "dachsel. He was also used on den animals such as foxes, and packs of Dachshunds trailed wild boar. Those early Dachshunds varied greatly in size. The dogs used on badgers and boar weighed 30 to 35 pounds. Dachshunds used to hunt foxes and deer weighed 16 to 22 pounds, and smaller pound Dachshunds hunted hares and weasels. For a brief time in the early 20th century, 5-pound Dachshunds were used to bolt cottontail rabbits. Known as the Teckel in Germany, the breed was refined over the course of many years by German foresters in the 18th and 19th centuries. They wanted to develop a fearless, elongated dog that could dig into badger burrows, and then go into the burrows to fight the badger to the death if necessary. The Smooths were the original type, created through crosses with the Braque, a small French pointing breed, and the Pinscher, a small terrier-type ratter. The long-coated Dachshunds were probably created through crosses with various spaniels and the wirehairs through crosses with terriers. Carefully sculpted through years of breeding, today the Dachshund is the only AKC-recognized breed that hunts both above and below ground. Their short, powerful legs enabled Dachshunds to go deep into narrow tunnels to pursue their prey. Their long, sturdy tails, extending straight from the spine, provided hunters with a "handle" to pull the Dachshund out of the burrow. Their deep chest with ample lung capacity gave them the stamina to hunt, and their long noses enabled them to be good scent hounds. Even their deep, loud bark had a reason - so the hunter to locate his dog after it had gone into a burrow. And of course, they had to be bold and tenacious. Although the original German Dachshunds were larger than the Dachshunds we know today, you can still see the fearlessness for which the breed was developed in even the smallest varieties. Remember, these dogs were bred not only to hunt prey, but kill it as well. In the s, Dachshunds started being bred more as pets than as hunters, especially in Great Britain. They were favorites in royal courts all over Europe, including that of Queen Victoria, who was especially fond of the breed. Due to this trend, their size was gradually reduced by about 10 pounds. Eventually, an even smaller version - the miniature dachshund - was bred. A breed standard was written in , and the German Dachshund Club was founded nine years later, in By , Dachshunds had made it to America, and 11 were registered with the American Kennel Club that year. The first one was named Dash. The Dachshund Club of America was founded 10 years later, in The breed became very popular in the early s, and in and , they were among the 10 most popular entries in the Westminster Kennel Club Show. During World War I, however, the breed fell on hard times in the U. Dachshund owners sometimes were called traitors and their dogs stoned. After World War I, some U. In the s, Dachshunds became one of the most popular family dogs in the U. While Dachshunds rarely are used as hunting dogs in the U. Today the Dachshund ranks sixth among the breeds and varieties recognized by the AKC. Size Dachshunds are bred and shown in two sizes: Standard Dachshunds of all varieties Smooth, Wirehair, and Longhair usually weigh between 16 and 32 pounds. Miniature Dachshunds of all varieties weigh 11 pounds and under at maturity. Dachshunds that weigh between 11 and 16 pounds are called Tweenies. Some people who breed exceptionally small Dachshunds advertise them as Toy Dachshunds, but this is purely a marketing term, not a recognized designation. **Personality** The Dachshund is described as clever, lively, and courageous to the point of rashness. Dachshunds have a reputation for being entertaining and fearless, but what they want most is to cuddle with their people. The Dachshund personality can also vary with coat type. Because the wirehaired Dachshunds

have terrier in their background, they can be mischievous troublemakers. Longhairs are calm and quiet, and Smooths have a personality that lies somewhere in between.

Chapter 6 : Dachshund Dog Breed Information, Pictures, Characteristics & Facts - Dogtime

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Is he here yet? The day has come! The new puppy will be at home when you get back from school! The excitement of a new puppy can go on for a dozen years or more if you and your family take some precautions to keep your pet safe and healthy. Although all accidents and illnesses cannot be prevented, there are plenty of things you can do to reduce chances that your pet will suffer. First, a vet exam First thing is to get Fluffy to a veterinarian for an examination and vaccination. Fluffy needs a personal doctor just as you do. For example, some breeds are sensitive to skin or allergy problems, others to joint problems or bloat. The best place to get medical answers is from a qualified veterinarian. There are some things you can and should do yourself to help insure his health and safety. Clean, quality food and fresh water are a must. Food dishes must be kept clean, especially in hot weather when bacteria grow very rapidly. I recommend stainless steel dishes, elevated at least knee high for Fluffy. Stainless steel is nearly indestructible and can be sanitized very easily. Proper levels of exercise keep people and pets physically fit and help fight off disease. Exercise along with a proper feeding program should keep Fluffy from becoming overweight. Chew toys help Fluffy relieve his natural chewing instinct in a positive manner and help keep his teeth clean. Did you move away from them rather quickly? When were you last hot, tired, and really sweaty and dirty? You can handle some of the grooming at home; however, I recommend that all dogs be professionally groomed at least every 12 weeks. Cleaning up the yard after Fluffy urinates and defecates can be a dirty job, but someone has to do it! The easiest way to deal with this job is to teach Fluffy to use one spot as a toilet so you always know where to look for the piles. You can do the clean-up chore right before an evening shower. If you have a hard time remembering to do the job, reward yourself afterwards with a fun romp with Fluffy or other special treat. Early detection can often save lives. Basic obedience is important for every dog. Do a safety check of your house. Jot down problem areas as you check each room to see what dangers lie in wait for a puppy or dog. Make sure you can confine Fluffy when you cannot watch him. Use a crate or baby gates to keep him safe when you are busy. When he performs, praise him and give him a special treat. If you are using a clicker or squeaker for training, click or squeak before you give the treat. Very shortly, Fluffy will get the idea. When you clean up, use a disposable mitt, a plastic bag, a shovel, or a pooper scooper. Dump the feces in the garbage can for disposal on trash day in your neighborhood. Puppies must chew in order to ease the discomfort of teething, to explore their world, and to satisfy an instinct to gnaw on things. Put your dirty clothes in the hamper. If you eat snacks in your room, be sure to clean up the crumbs. Puppies quickly become scavengers once they find a regular source of food, which can lead to unacceptable begging, obesity, and intestinal upset. NBW In sickness as in health Even if you use good health and safety practices with your pet, you will likely outlive him. When a pet dies, it is a very sad time in your life. When a pet comes into your life as a puppy and lives as part of your family and then has a critical accident, becomes very ill, or dies of old age, it is hard to understand and deal with the sadness you feel. When death occurs to a beloved pet, you have a right to mourn. If you have questions about what happened to your pet, talk to your veterinarian. How you handle the death of a pet is a very personal thing. When your pet shows signs of age, consider getting another puppy. New puppies help revitalize older dogs and give them a bit more time with you. They also help the family to accept the aging or illness of the older dog. MAL Dog health report card The Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association has a report card for pet health to help you determine if your pet needs veterinary attention. Here are the categories and grades. If coat is clean and shiny. Teeth A If the teeth are bright and clean. C If most teeth are dirty D If the teeth are dirty and smelly. F If the teeth are dirty, the breath smells, and the gums are red. Eyes A If the eyes are bright. B If they are clean. C If they are watery D If they are red and watery. F If they are red and watery, have a discharge, are cloudy, or if the pet blinks a lot. Ears A If the ears are clean. C If they are dirty with lots of wax. D If they are dirty, smelly, and have a lot of wax. F If they are dirty, smelly, very waxy, and hurt to clean Nose A If the nose is clean and moist. C If its watery and your pet sneezes. Vaccinations A If vaccinations have

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been given every year. B If only rabies vaccination has been given. C If vaccinations more than two years old. D If puppy shots only. F If never vaccinated. Has your pet been spayed or neutered? Pets with Cs, Ds, and Fs should head to the veterinarian for a checkup. You may print or download this material for non-commercial personal or school educational use. All other rights reserved. If you, your organization or business would like to reprint our articles in a newsletter or distribute them free of charge as an educational handout please see our reprint policy.

Chapter 7 : 8 Wonderful Dog Stories | Mental Floss

*Choose a puppy as you would choose a partner—carefully! With the help of a personal questionnaire, profiles of various breeds and their personalities, and charts listing the main characteristics of more than dogs, with Eric Swanson's *We're Having a Puppy!* you'll be on your way to proud puppy parenthood.*

Now, more than ever, he needs you to make the right choices for his future. Your dog is your responsibility. He has no one else but you to look out for his interests. He deserves your best efforts. Finding a new home involves several steps. Before you start, there are some important things you should know. Shelters and humane societies were created to care for stray and abused animals. Shelters, on average, take in new animals or more each day. Only the youngest, friendliest, cutest and best behaved dogs are going to be adopted. By law, stray pets must be kept several days for their owners to reclaim them. They may not be destroyed until that period is up. They may be destroyed at any time. Shelters today are so overcrowded that your dog could be killed the same day it arrives. Your dog may be as good as dead when it walks in the door. If your Beagle is old, has health problems or a poor attitude toward strangers, its chances of adoption are slim to none. A shelter is your last resort only after all your best efforts have failed. If you do drop off your dog at a shelter, notify Arizona Beagle Rescue at Intake azbeaglerescue.com. The rescue group may be able to rescue your dog before it is killed. True "no-kill" shelters are few and far between. Obviously, no one wants to see their pet killed so the demand for no-kill shelter services is high. Sometimes they have to choose only the most adoptable dogs to work with. Breed Rescue services are small, private, shelter-like groups run by volunteers dedicated to a particular breed. Like no-kill shelters, demand for their services is high, so high that your dog may be turned away for lack of room. A breed rescue can still help you place your dog by providing referrals to persons interested in adopting your dog.

Soul Searching Do you really have to give up your Beagle? Be honest with yourself. Your answer will probably fall into one of two categories: People Problems or Dog Problems.

The Most Common People Problems: Affordable rental homes that allow pets are out there if you work to find them. Most people give up too easily. See the end of this article for suggestions that might help you find an apartment and still keep your dog. Can other members of your family help care for the dog? Will getting rid of your Beagle really make your life less stressful?

The Most Common Dog Problem: You have 4 options: You can continue to live with your dog the way he is. You can get help to correct the problem. You can try to give your problem to someone else. You can have the dog destroyed. If you were looking for a dog and could select from all kinds of dogs and puppies, would you deliberately choose one with a behavior problem? No, certainly not - and neither would anyone else. Having the dog destroyed. Could you live with yourself if that dog hurt another person, especially a child? Can you deal with the lawsuit that could result from it? You stand to lose your home and everything else you own. Lawsuits from dog bites are settling for millions of dollars in damages. Our society today has zero tolerance for a dog with a bite history, no matter how minor. A dog that has bitten - whether or not it was his fault - is considered by law to be a dangerous dog. No insurance company will cover a family with a biting dog. And to be perfectly honest, very few people are willing to even consider adopting a dog who has bitten someone. If your dog has a bite history, you owe it to him and the new home you hope to find for him, to work on the behaviors and curb the aggression, consulting a professional trainer to help, if needed, before placing him for adoption. And as hard as it is to face, putting a dangerous, biting dog to sleep is sometimes the only safe and responsible thing to do. Before you do anything else, call the person you got your dog from and ask for help. Even if several years have passed, responsible breeders care about the puppies they sold and will want to help you find a new home. They may even take the dog back. At the very least, they deserve to know what you intend to do with the Beagle and what will happen to it. If you got your dog from an animal shelter or rescue service, read the adoption contract you signed when you adopted him. You may be required by the contract to return the dog to that shelter. Look at your dog as if you were meeting him for the first time. What kind of impression would he make? Would you want to adopt him? You already know that Beagles are special dogs for special people. Those special people can be hard to find. Most people interested in Beagles today have never had one before. They want a dog that will greet them with a wagging

tail or will at least allow them to pet him. If your dog is aggressive to strangers, is "temperamental" or has ever bitten anyone, finding him another home may not be your best option. What kind of home do you want for your Beagle? A large fenced yard? Another dog to play with? Make a list of what you feel is most important for your dog. What kind of people are you looking for? What will you be willing to compromise on? First, take him to the vet for a check up. Be sure to tell the vet about any behavior problems so he can rule out physical causes. Frankly, no reputable Beagle breeder will want him unless he came from a well known show dog fancier in the first place. Brokers seek out unaltered purebreds for resale to puppy mills or research laboratories. Having your dog neutered or spayed is the best going away present you can give him. It may save his life! Give your dog a brighter future - make the appointment today!! If your dog has never been tattooed or microchipped, this is a great time to do it. A permanent ID will help your dog get back to you or his new owners. You want your dog to look beautiful and make a good impression. He needs to be clean and well-dressed! Give him a bath. Get rid of his old rusty choke chain and buy a nice, new, strong collar and lead. Set a reasonable adoption fee. The key word is "reasonable". Your ad should give a short description of your dog, his needs, your requirements for a home and of course, your phone number. Does he do tricks? Has he had any training? State any definite requirements you might have for his new home: Try to say these in a positive way - for example, saying "Kids over 10" sounds better than "No kids under 10". Always state that references are required. This statement will do a lot to keep people with bad intentions from dialing your number. Your ad should look something like this: Best with children over Fenced yard, references required. If your budget is very limited, choose to run your ad only on Sundays rather than throughout the week.

Chapter 8 : Pet Statistics | Shelter Intake and Surrender | ASPCA

If you are thinking of getting a puppy right before having a child I would recommend having the puppy housetrained before baby comes. Cleaning up messes will be the last thing you want to worry about when you have a newborn.

It would be nice if they could be with us for decades, but sadly this is not the case. In order to make it through the process of having your dog put to sleep, you need to begin preparing ahead of time. Here are the steps in the process. Those letters stand for hurt, hunger, hydration, hygiene, happiness, mobility, and more good days than bad. Each factor is scored on a scale of 0 to 10. This should be done separately by you and the veterinarian because it can be very easy to rate your pet higher on some points than a medical professional would. According to some experts, focusing on the good days versus bad is probably the most objective way a pet owner can make the decision. Prepare yourself. Discuss the decision with your vet to euthanize and be sure to ask any questions you have, even if they seem trivial. Remember, you may have never gone through this before, but your vet has to frequently. The options are mostly the same as with humans – burial or cremation. Organ donation for research or transplantation is also becoming a much more common option, as are less traditional methods. Once the arrangements have been made, the final decision is the time and location of the procedure. Finally, when you do schedule the procedure, ask your vet if you can make it the last appointment of the day – he or she will appreciate the gesture because neither one of you will feel like going back to work afterwards. The procedure. A good vet will let you spend as long as you want alone with your dog both before and after the procedure. One big question people have is whether they want to be there during the euthanasia. There are valid arguments for and against being present, although the most commonly reported negative of not being there is a sense of regret for having abandoned the dog in her final moments. There are various steps in the process of euthanasia, although nowadays almost all dogs are euthanized by injection. The short version, though, is that it is almost always a very peaceful process. What to do afterwards. The most important thing is to not immediately run out and rescue another dog, especially if you only had one. Give yourself the time and tools to go through the grieving process. These will help with the grieving process by not being constant reminders, as well as allow you to start fresh if and when you adopt another dog. Everyone deals with grief in different ways, which you should keep in mind especially if there is more than one human in the household. Some people may seem to get over it quickly, while others may become depressed for weeks or months. And remember that there are many pet loss support helplines available to call. Although saying good-bye is the hardest part of our relationships with our dogs, we can console ourselves by remembering that by rescuing that dog we gave it a chance at a happy life in the first place – and left us with many pleasant memories. Have you experienced having to euthanize a pet? What helped you to cope with the process? Let us know in the comments. More in End of life.

Have you been dreaming of getting a dog ever since you saw the reruns of the television classic Lassie as a kid? Or maybe you were fortunate enough to watch the original series. Or maybe you were fortunate enough to watch the original series.

In reality, the amount of disinfecting we do is making us sicker; since our bodies are exposed to a less diverse mix of germs, our entire microbiome is messed up. Fortunately, dogs are covered in germs! Having a dog in the house means more diverse bacteria enters the home and gets inside the occupants one study found "dog-related biodiversity" is especially high on pillowcases. In turn, people with dogs seem to get ill less frequently and less severely than people—especially children—with cats or no pets. And the benefits can start during gestation; a study published in the journal *Microbiome* found that a bacterial exchange happened between women who lived with pets largely dogs during pregnancy and their children, regardless of type of birth or whether the child was breastfed, and even if the pet was not in the home after the birth of the child. Those children tested had two bacteria, *Ruminococcus* and *Oscillospira*, that reduce the risk of common allergies, asthma, and obesity, and they were less likely to develop eczema. Just the act of petting a dog lowers heart rate and blood pressure. A Chinese study found a link between dog ownership and reduced risk of coronary artery disease, while other studies show pet owners have slightly lower cholesterol and are more likely to survive a heart attack. This means that many dog owners are getting 30 minutes of exercise a day, lowering their risk of cardiovascular disease. Even for those people who are clinically depressed, having a pet to take care of can help them out of a depressive episode. Since taking care of a dog requires a routine and forces you to stay at least a little active, dog owners are more likely to interact with others and have an increased sense of well-being while tending to their pet. The interaction with and love received from a dog can also help people stay positive. Even the mere act of looking at your pet increases the amount of oxytocin, the "feel good" chemical, in the brain. A study published in *PLOS One* found that dogs can be both the catalyst for sparking new relationships and also the means for keeping social networks thriving. One study even showed that those with dogs also had closer and more supportive relationships with the people in their lives. It seems that our canine friends have the ability to smell cancer in the human body. Stories abound of owners whose dogs kept sniffing or licking a mole or lump on their body so they got it checked out, discovering it was cancerous. The anecdotal evidence has been backed up by scientific studies, and some dogs are now trained to detect cancer. Studies show that people who interact with a pet while working have lower stress levels throughout the day, while people who do not bring a pet see their stress levels increase over time. Dogs in the office also lead to people taking more breaks, to play with or walk the dog, which makes them more energized when they return to work. This, in turn, has been shown to lead to much greater productivity and job satisfaction. Other studies have found that dog owners in general are more outgoing and friendly than cat owners. A version of this story originally ran in