

## **Pet Adoption Checklist**

When considering **pet adoption**, here are some things you should consider before making a commitment that can last **10 to 15 years**.

- Adoption is always a great option!
- Are there any pet restrictions where you live such as an apartment or condominium?
- What size pet are you considering?
- Do you travel a lot or are you gone most of the day?
- Consider monthly expenses such as dog food, grooming, and heartworm prevention
- or yearly expenses such as shots, veterinary exams, and illnesses or medical emergencies.
- Do you have the time or energy for daily walks?
- Adopting a pet is a long-term commitment as some live as long as 10-15 years.
- What works best for you: a puppy or kitten, middle-aged or senior animal?
- Do you like high-energy pets, or medium to laidback cuddlers?
- Are you willing or able to house train and provide basic obedience?
- If you have young children, be sure to supervise them around your new pet.
- House-proof your home. Put away delicate items you do not want to be chewed on or possibly broken.
- Is there a safe place such as a crate or small room you pet can stay in while you are not home?
- Do you have allergies?
- Are you willing to keep your pet inside at least part of the time?
- Do you have space for a high-energy dog to run?
- If you have other animals in your home, introduce them together in neutral territory and never leave them alone until you are certain they get along well together.