



May Newsletter

Do Senior Animals Really Make Good Pets?

Doing your homework before you get the new pet is a very critical factor in having good cusses at placing an animal in your home and having a happy relationship. Often, people obtain a new animal and remember all the difficulties and work that a younger animal is after it is too late!

Puppies, although cute and moldable, are a handful! Soiled carpeting, late nights and early mornings, teething and other things such as chewing, digging, barking, nipping, scratching and jumping are just some of the behavior challenges owners will have to confront again.

With adopted older dogs (seniors) you will usually know about any behavior challenges or health considerations before you get the animal. Any problems that are there will be pretty well-established, in some cases they can be addressed behaviorally but you will be able to avoid those animals that will be unsuitable for your lifestyle and family composition.

It is also important to take your time in making this decision. Research the breed and their traits thoroughly. Make sure to spend time with the animal over a few days or even a longer period if you can. Expose them to other animals or family members on neutral ground. If you have any "gut feelings" pay attention to them and if you have any doubts, don't adopt that animal.

Consider getting an animal from an animal shelter or a breed rescue group. These animals will take longer to adjust and adapt but usually end up being the very best of pets. Remember that these animals have been through a very traumatic experience of losing their or being abandoned by them so you must allow them time to adjust. Some take a few weeks while others will take a few months.

The rewards are great if you adopt an older dog. You should feel good about your decision to provide love and attention to an animal that would otherwise not have a chance. They often tend to be some of the best companions you could ever find. It is unfortunate that they are often overlooked since they will provide you with loyalty, love, and companionship in their own quiet and individual way. And a thumping tail and a cold nose is a wonderful thing to experience whatever the age.

On The Lighter Side



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