



GET THE FACTS ON SHELTER DOGS

WHY DO DOGS END UP IN A SHELTER?

Dogs arrive at shelters for different reasons, including:

- 🐾 **Growth:** As puppies turn to pooches they can outgrow their homes making care difficult in smaller dwellings
- 🐾 **Neglect:** Abuse and abandonment
- 🐾 **Owner's health:** Illness, age and death means owners can no longer care for dogs
- 🐾 **Cost:** food, veterinary costs and toys can add up



HARD COSTS FOR SHELTERS

It costs approximately \$250 to care for a dog during its first month at a shelter. That includes:

- 🐾 \$120 – Average cost of sterilization
- 🐾 \$40 – Exams and basic vaccinations
- 🐾 \$30 – De-worming and flea prevention
- 🐾 \$10 – Toys and treats

REASONS WHY SHELTER DOGS RULE

- 🐾 **Health:** Shelter dogs receive a clean bill of health from shelter vets – They are already spayed or neutered and have all their shots up-to-date.
- 🐾 **Companionship:** Scientists have found that those who own a cat or dog are better able to deal with everyday life stresses.
- 🐾 **Finding your match:** Your local shelter will work with you to choose the right dog to fit your lifestyle, whether it be a high-energy puppy who could use the affection of a large family or a laid back mature dog perfect for empty nesters.



BRINGING HOME YOUR NEW PAL

Consider these tips before bringing a dog into your home:

- 🐾 **Food:** Choose a brand such as Pedigree® that offers complete nutrition for your dog. Use snacks and treats to bond with your dog.
- 🐾 **Space:** Dogs require a lot of space. Consider fencing off your backyard and ensure you have areas to exercise your dog. Ensure there is a special place for your pooch indoors as well, such as a bed or a crate.
- 🐾 **Grooming:** Prepare to keep your dog clean with brushes, combs and whatever is required based on the dog's coat.
- 🐾 **Health care:** Know who will be your dog's veterinarian and where the nearest hospital will be.

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For more information on adopting a new dog, where to adopt your dog from and for more tips, please visit www.mypedigree.ca, or contact:

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