

# CONSIDERATIONS FOR Choosing THE RIGHT Puppy

## FAMILY

Do you have small children? Teenagers? Do you have a house full of people, or do you live alone?

Keep the size and makeup of your family in mind when choosing a puppy. You'll want to make sure your puppy is comfortable around his or her new housemates, no matter who they are.



## HOME SIZE



Big dogs need a lot of space. If you have a smaller home, consider a smaller breed that will be comfortable with limited space.



## TIME @WORK



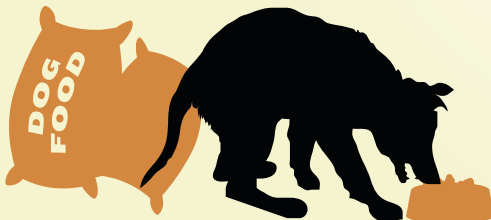
Puppies need near-constant supervision early in life, and some will grow up to be dogs that need attention during the day. Will your work schedule accommodate Fido's bathroom breaks?

## COMMITMENT TO EXERCISE



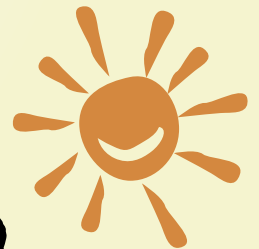
Puppies and dogs need exercise daily, but the amount varies by breed and size. Make sure you give your pup some time to stretch his legs outside every day.

## COST



Can you afford to properly care for your dog? The cost of food, veterinary visits, grooming and boarding can add up. The average monthly cost can be anywhere from \$90-\$290.

## SOURCE



Adopting a puppy from a shelter can be an excellent choice. You may also consider purchasing a puppy from a responsible breeder, which can be a good choice if you know a particular breed will be a good fit for your home.

Adopting from a puppy mill is never a good idea. These dogs are often mistreated and may have serious health problems.