

We hear over and over again of the joy they have brought to their adoptive families, and what delightful and appreciative companions they have become.



Often, too, people are delighted to tell us how well the new arrival has settled in with their existing animals. A lone dog may quickly learn to enjoy having a friend and playmate, and an older dog may take on a completely new lease on life with a young companion urging him to play.



Please give the foregoing careful thought before proceeding further. If you think you can offer a safe and loving home to one of our companion animals then we sincerely hope you will find just the right animal among those waiting, with such longing, for someone like you.



Yes, I really want to adopt a new family friend and companion. How do I go about it?

You will need to complete our Application Form which asks for many of your personal details as well as information regarding other pets you may have had or have now. We also require details of your property as we will undertake a property inspection. Please also note that we will do post-homing checks to find out if all is going well with you and your new companion.



We try and match animals to people and to their new home environment. We want to see our animals happily integrated into loving new homes. If you have any problems we will be more than happy to help in any way we can.



For more information please contact us,

The uMngeni SPCA

15 Campbell Road,
HOWICK, KZN

 PO Box 974,
HOWICK, 3290

 033 3304557

 033 3304774

E-mail: info@howickspca.org.za



2. Thinking of Adopting?



Adopting an animal should never be undertaken on the 'spur of the moment'. It should be a well considered decision.

The animal you adopt will need to be carefully integrated into your life. You will be taking on a new family member whose lifelong welfare will be your responsibility.

Please consider the following points very carefully.

We home our animals as family pets and companions.

In the case of a dog the new home must be adequately fenced and gated in order that the adopted animal may run freely and safely in the garden.

The gates of the property must be kept closed and must be able to prevent the dog from escaping onto the road.

No animal from any SPCA may be chained and we reserve the right to confiscate the animal if we do ever find it chained.

All animals from an SPCA will be sterilised as a matter of course.

We charge a non-refundable Application Fee and then an Adoption Fee if and when the application is approved. These fees help towards our costs for property inspections, sterilisations, vaccinations, collars and tags.

Adopting an animal from an SPCA is not just a cheap way to obtain a pet. You must really want to give an animal a kind and loving home where he/she will be a member of the family and a valued companion.

We are reluctant to home animals outside our own area as we are not able to keep track of them. We have to ask the nearest SPCA to undertake the pre- and post-homing inspections which places a burden on their resources.



Taking on a new animal is a responsibility not to be entered into lightly. It is a lifelong commitment - "until death do you part".

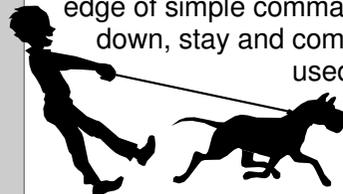
Any change is stressful, even a change for the better. A great deal of patience and understanding is required to help your new animal through the transition into his changed circumstances.

Until your new pet settles in you could experience some behaviour problems including some of the following:-

He may not be house-trained or may have been forced into bad habits through being confined in a concrete run in our kennels.



He may not have even a rudimentary knowledge of simple commands such as sit, down, stay and come and may not be used to walking on a leash.



He may have some annoying quirks or foibles. Remember, he has not been in your household from a young age, absorbing your routine and your house rules during his formative weeks and months.

Your life will have to revolve around the new arrival until you can see that he has adapted to your routine.

Your existing animals may not at first welcome the 'intruder' into their established 'pack' and could be jealous of the attention you lavish on the newcomer.



Will it be worth it?

Having done our best to make you really think about your level of commitment we wish to emphasise that nothing gives us greater pleasure than to see our animals happily settled into kind and loving new homes. In fact the vast majority settle in quickly and easily.

Animals adopted from rescue centres seem to know that they are lucky to have been given a second chance at happiness and become particularly devoted to their new owners.

