



Thank you for considering taking a dog or cat from the Kloof & Highway SPCA. We take pet adoption very seriously, so please take some time to read and understand our procedures and make the whole process as smooth and trouble free as possible.

The first step is to discuss the type of dog you would like to adopt.

Then make sure your property and your lifestyle is suitable for that type of dog.

To assess this we insist on doing a pre home inspection to see that everything is in order. We cannot reserve dogs so please do not ask us to!! We suggest getting the pre home inspection done and THEN choosing a dog.

Once the pre home inspection has been done, the inspector will discuss with you any concerns that he noted, and you can work out a suitable period to rectify them.

The costs involved in adopting a dog include the pre-home inspection fee. This fee covers our costs of inspection should the application be failed for valid reasons. Successful applications will be valid for 12 months from the date of application and the inspection fee deducted from the total cost.

Before filling in the application, please be sure of the following:-

- You need to ensure that you have a fully fenced property with a gate that closes.
- Shelter must be provided, suitable to the size animal being requested.
- For a large dog, fencing needs to be minimum 1.5 metres (jumping).
- Beware of bonnex for smaller breeds and puppies (escaping).
- There should be no holes in the fence or under gates.
- Are fences close to banks, making it easy for the dog to jump over?

Pre home assessments are done by appointment, in rotation. Ideally, someone should be home to facilitate access to the property. Should our inspector not be able to gain access to your property, the onus is on you to reschedule another appointment. Failure on a second occasion will cause your deposit to be forfeited and your application cancelled.

Can you afford a vet?

This dog will be your responsibility, and the SPCA cannot provide veterinary treatment for adopted dogs.

Annual vaccinations	+ - R100 – R150
Broken leg	+ - R1500 – R4000
Consultation	+ - R80 – R150

Adoption dogs found tethered (chained, tied up) or caged, when our Inspector does a follow up visit, will be confiscated immediately in terms of the adoption agreement and the Animal Protection Act.

Shelter must be available, such as waterproof kennel or enclosed verandah. Metal drums and verandah's exposed to the weather are not acceptable.

All adult animals must be surgically sterilized before leaving the SPCA.

ADOPTION OF PUPPIES & KITTENS outside of the Highway jurisdiction ranging from Westville to Cato Ridge is not permitted unless old enough to be surgically sterilized first.

Ref : Government Gazette, 17 June 2004 No. 26439, 5.25 - "*Any Society that homes puppies or kittens to areas outside their area of jurisdiction must sterilise such animals before releasing them to their new owners.*"

Always provide large spill proof water bowls with fresh water.

In the case of puppies or kittens too young for sterilization at the time of adoption, an appointment will be made for surgery at the appropriate date. It is most important that you produce your green adoption agreement on the day you bring your pet back for the surgery.

NOTE:

Dogs found at the SPCA are accommodated for a number of reasons. Some are donated and others are strays. They might have problems, such as a fear of storms, jumpers and diggers, barking or socializing issues. Where we can, we will point these out to you, otherwise some of these issues could only manifest themselves after you have taken the animal home. With any problems, we will advise you the best we can.

We recommend that you attend basic obedience classes, with any new dog, to allow the dog and you a chance to get to know each other in a neutral stimulating and social environment.

ADOPTING A DOG

Visit the kennels and view the dogs available. Discuss your choice with the Pound Supervisor, regarding the breed and behavioral background.

Some folk prefer to bring the family along, which is a good idea, to obtain some idea of the animal response, especially where children are concerned.

If you already own a dog, you are urged to bring it in to introduce it to your choice, in a safe environment in order to avoid a confrontation once you are home. Please ensure that your pets vaccinations are up to date before bringing it in.

All strays become available for adoption if they are not claimed within seven (7) days. Once adopted, there is a seven day period of grace, where, should the animal develop any symptoms of any infection it may have been incubating, the SPCA will provide veterinary treatment.

In the event that the dog appears unwell within a 7 day period i.e. not eating or drinking, vomiting, runny tummy or depressed, it is important that you contact the SPCA as soon as possible. We will refer you to a vet with whom we have an arrangement. Under no

circumstances can we accept accounts for treatment outside of the practices where we have special arrangements. To obtain SPCA assistance, you need to contact the SPCA on 031-7641212.

Once a pet has been adopted we do not exchange it for another, nor can we refund the adoption contribution. The SPCA will however accept the animal as a “return to shelter” if requested.

The SPCA takes adoption very seriously, hence all the instructions and policies, which have been drawn up over the years.

Remember, you are selecting a companion animal that will not only be dependent on you as a provider, but will return to you unconditional loyalty for the next 8 – 14 years.