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Reality Check On Your Capabilities As A Pet Owner

By Tom Takihi

People often fall for the trap of impulse buying. Impulse buying or buying something based on a whim at a certain moment is devoid of careful thought and weighing of consequences. It really wouldn't matter much if this sort of caprice is used for buying items like clothes every once in a while. After all, why deprive yourself of buying something just for the sheer joy of having it particularly if you are spending within your means. However, buying a pet which is a living thing requires a more responsible decision from the buyer.

When you get a pet and bring it into your home, your primary concerns should center on the aspect of its care. A pet is not something you buy and then leave to let it attend to itself. It requires time and attention which you as an owner are responsible for. You will be a better owner if you choose a pet based on your lifestyle and level of commitment.

Dogs have so many breeds that your choice for pet should be more specific. Different breeds have different sizes, temperament, needs and skills. A big, large dog who has exceptional hunting skills may not find a small apartment suitable as a living environment. You will soon find out that a dog that is not happy with his conditions may not be a good companion but a destructive nuisance.

A pet's negative behavior is not the animal's sole fault, since it is unable to talk or communicate as humans do. Their only way of communicating is through its behavior. Another thing is that humans do the choosing and not vice versa. An educated human choice based on proper information will go a long way in ensuring a better relationship between humans and pets.

You are off to a good start in choosing once you determine for yourself the reason why you want a pet. If you are able to answer this question, chances are, you know what sort of pet you are looking for. A dog may be the best choice for a person who wants a companion and spends a lot of time at home. A cat may be good for someone likewise in need of a companion but doesn't have much time for high-maintenance pets. Caring for a bird or fish can provide much fulfillment for those who don't care much for outdoor physical exercises such as walking. Research will help you determine what breed of dog, cat, bird, fish or even a reptile will work best for you.

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Involving the other members of the family in choosing a pet will make it a lot easier for everybody to be involved in the pet's care. A pet is bound to be an additional member of the family. Finding a perfect one will contribute greatly to shared experiences of each member of the whole family.

So again before you make the final choice, determine whether you have the time, the money, the physical space and the willingness to provide for a pet's care and development. Look at yourself and determine whether your physical condition will be equal to the obligations of a primary caretaker. Lastly, determine whether your personality and the animal's temperament will make a good match.

There is no question that having a pet is a big responsibility. Yes, it is a big responsibility but it has its own rewards. Remember, pets can only be good as their owners.

Tom Takihi is the proud owner of the Discovery Network. For more information on this topic, please visit the dedicated portal:

<http://www.Discover-Pets.info>

Get To Know A Veterinarian

By Analeese Burnabaker

If you are a pet owner, it is time that you got to know a veterinarian. Why? Because, quite simply, a veterinarian is like a doctor for your pets. If you enjoy pets enough to own one or many, then you should take the time, energy and money to properly take care of those beloved pets.

Some pet owners believe that a visit to a veterinarian is only necessary when a pet is suffering or ill. And while you definitely want to visit a veterinarian when your pets become ill or start to show abnormal symptoms, you should also schedule routine appointments for your pets just like you schedule regular appointments for you and your family to visit a physician. There is no good reason not to give your pets the best care that you possibly can. Many simple problems and sicknesses can be prevented or solved easily by early detection, even in pets, so make it a priority to see your veterinarian regularly.

New pet owners should make appointments immediately to see a veterinarian and get a full health check for your new friend. Let your veterinarian teach you all about your new pet. Learn about the best ways to care for your pet, the best food to feed it, the best ways to bathe it, and the levels of activity that are necessary for keeping your pet healthy. You may be surprised how much there is to learn about each variety of different pets. Whether you have a dog, a cat, a bird or a horse, I guarantee you that a veterinarian will teach you helpful tips that you didn't already know.

If you are currently a pet owner and have never taken the time to schedule an appointment for your pets, do so now. Talk to your other pet-owning friends to see what veterinarians are respected in your area. Flipping through your phonebook or doing a simple internet search can also help you explore options for finding the right veterinarian in your area. Some vets specialize in certain animals, so be sure that you schedule a visit with a veterinarian that has vast experience with your particular pets.

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If you think that making appointments for your pets to see a veterinarian is silly, then I wonder whether or not you are suited to be a pet owner. You must consider your lifestyle and your ability to provide the right level of care for pets. Be honest with yourself and know that it is much better to give up a pet you already own than to keep that pet and not care for it properly.

Pet lover Analeese Burnabaker is committed to ensuring that pet owners are doing their job. She thinks that seeing a veterinarian regularly is essential for all pets. Check out

<http://www.myveterinarian.info>

for more.



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