



## Adopting a Pet

Many people ask themselves, *Should I adopt a pet?* There is no simple answer. There are many things to consider before adopting a pet. If you rent, you may need landlord approval. You'll need the resources to be able to feed and shelter your pet. And perhaps most importantly, you'll need to put in the time it takes to bond with your pet. But once you've decided you're able to adopt, you can find great pets at your local shelter!

### Conversation-Based Adoptions

Here at the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, we focus on conversation-based adoptions. This means that we have open conversations with potential adopters to discuss the best options possible so that we can make the best match for both the adopter and the pet. This approach allows more pets to find loving homes, and some adopters even leave with animals they may not have originally thought to adopt!



Conversation-based adoptions always avoid asking potential adopters "Yes" and "No" questions. Below, **write three questions** that you would like to ask someone before they adopt a pet. But make sure they are not "Yes" or "No" questions!

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## Making the Best Match

Below is a description of Riley. Three people are interested in adopting her. Read about each potential adopter and decide who might be the best match for Riley.



*This is Riley. She is an energetic one-year-old Doberman Pinscher mix. She has very little training and is very impulsive. She needs daily exercise to keep her happy. Riley has never lived with other animals, but she does very well on trips to the park where she sees other dogs. Riley is a fast learner and will do anything for a yummy treat.*

- A.** Ben is a stay-at-home dad with four kids. He had dogs as a child, but never a large dog. Ben has a large back yard and regularly goes hiking. He wants to teach his kids responsibility and is hoping they will help take care of the new dog.
- B.** David and Becky live in a one-bedroom apartment that doesn't allow dogs, but they are hoping their landlord will make an exception once they adopt and bring a dog home. They already have a cat and two birds.
- C.** Xotil has one dog at home, and she has trained all of her dogs since she was a teenager. She works full time but comes home every day for lunch. Xotil is also allowed to bring a dog to work some days. She doesn't have a yard but she does hike, run, and jog.

**Which adopter might be the best match for Riley and why?**

---

---

---

---

---