



Important Info for Adopters

What Adopters Should Know About Puppies

People adore puppies. They're cute, squishy, and, let's face it – it's hard to resist the charms of a tiny, four-legged bundle of fur. But, adopters should be aware that because a dog's temperament is not fully formed until after it reaches maturity (typically, any time after 14 months), and because genetics play a role in any dog's personality traits, puppies may present certain traits as an adult that may or may not be desirable.

Some of these unknowns may present larger challenges for the adopter, including a predisposition to animal aggression and/or fearful behaviors or stability problems with people. While animal aggression is common and normal in many breeds, it requires smart management from responsible owners.

Because of this, we urge adopters to give their puppy every opportunity to succeed by properly socializing her with humans and other animals, treating her with love and humane care, enrolling in basic obedience training, and maintaining proper management around children and other pets. If the adopters start to see behaviors that are difficult to manage or otherwise concerning, we would strongly encourage them to seek out professional trainers for guidance.

Adopters that are especially interested in getting a pit bull with a personality that matches their expectations are wise to shop for an evaluated young adult from their local shelter or rescue rather than a puppy. Because pit bulls are a 'What you see is what you get' kind of breed, it's much easier to see a dog's true temperament when it's closer to maturity. For this reason, most of BAD RAP's exceptional breed ambassadors come to us when they're six months old and older.

Choose wisely, train lovingly, and enjoy your wonderful new companion!

For more info on selecting wonderful pets, visit:
BADRAP.org & AnimalFarmFoundation.org