

## ***Permanent Pet Adoption Checklist***

Below are the Top 10 most important things potential pet adopters should consider to ensure they have the best possible adoption experience. This downloadable checklist is based on a Purina Pets For People survey of more than 180 Adopt-a-Pet.com animal shelters and rescue groups across the United States. Education is a crucial factor in keeping pets in forever homes, and that's why the Permanent Pet Adoption checklist can be a valuable resource for potential pet adopters.

### **Before You Adopt – Give This List Some Thought:**

1. When you adopt, you need to make a real commitment to care for your pet for its entire life, no matter what that entails, just as you would with a child.
2. Be prepared for a pet to affect other parts of your life for as long as you have the pet, which can be up to 15 years for a dog and 20 years for cat. Your pet's well-being will have to be considered in all kinds of decisions, including travel, social life, relocating to a new home, adopting other pets, having children, etc.
3. Verify in advance that you're allowed to keep a pet where you live, especially if you rent or belong to a homeowners' association.
4. Make any necessary modifications to your yard and fence, if you have one, to provide for your pet's safety and to prevent your pet from escaping.
5. Never give a pet as a gift.
6. Choose a pet appropriate to your living situation and lifestyle. Figure out what size, age, and energy-level pet is most appropriate for you.
7. Never adopt a pet on a whim or because you feel it's love-at-first-sight. Do your research and carefully consider all the aspects and implications of adopting before you make a decision.
8. If you're adopting a pet for your kids, understand that the responsibility is yours. Kids, by their nature, often tire of things that were once new and exciting, and this includes their pets. You will most likely end up being the one who provides most of the pet's care.
9. Plan for a several-week adjustment period during which there will be challenges.
10. Provide sufficient exercise and stimulation. For example, walk dogs according to individual need, provide playtime and appropriate toys for both dogs and cats, spend time just petting and talking to your pet, and include your pet in family activities.

## **IS A RESCUE PUG RIGHT FOR YOU?**

**by Roxane R. Fritz**

If pug rescue groups had a dollar for every time they heard the request for a “young, healthy, fawn, female pug”, there would probably no longer be a need for fundraising. Unfortunately, some people think of rescue as a place to get an “inexpensive” pug that is already housebroken and up to date on all of their shots and medical checks. Unrealistic expectations waste the already taxed time of rescue volunteers and frustrates the person who has contacted the rescue group. Here are some common things that people ask about rescue pugs, and the reality for most rescue groups. Hopefully this can help you decide if a rescue pug is right for you.

**Request: I want a young pug so I can have it for many years.**

**Reality:** Pugs and pug mixes end up in rescue for many “reasons”. It is very rare for a person to turn a cute, cuddly, purebred pug puppy into rescue unless it has significant medical issues, such as a loss of eyesight or hearing, mange, or a need for surgery. If it was a “spur of the moment” purchase that is now regretted, even a backyard breeder will usually take back a healthy puppy and resell it. And of course a reputable breeder will always welcome back their dog, no matter what the age or problem. There are no guarantees of longevity of life of any creature on this earth. PDE is a fatal disease that generally strikes pugs before the age of five. If a young, healthy pug is of prime importance to you, please contact a reputable breeder (you can contact your local Pug Dog Club for information on finding someone near you). A breeder that has studied the pedigree of the dog, done adequate physical testing, and knows the health histories of the mother and father (sire and dam) and offers a health guarantee is what would probably suit you best. If you are adamant about wanting a young (and by young, I mean under the age of 2) healthy female pug from rescue, be prepared for a long wait. Many rescues have a waiting list of 2 years or more for a young female pug.

**Request: Having a healthy dog is important to me since I don't want to be running up a lot of vet bills.**

**Reality:** Many of the pugs that end up in rescue were found as strays or turned in to pounds or shelters. They do not come with medical records indicating problems that the dog had in the past or may have in the future. Many rescues did not receive the best of vet care or nutrition at their former homes. While the rescue group will have a vet check the dog, and many groups will have known medical conditions taken care of before adoption, if they have the finances, there is no way to predict the future health of the dog. If a healthy dog is your primary concern, again, contacting a breeder who offers a health guarantee is probably a wise choice.

**Request: I think a pug is the breed of dog that I want, but I'm not sure.**

**Reality:** Dogs who are adopted through rescue have already been displaced at least once in their lives. Some pugs come into rescue after having been in many homes. It is important to the rescue organization that the home the pug goes into is its “forever home” if at all possible. You might want to volunteer to be a foster home for a rescue group. This way you get to see the true personality of a rescue pug and if it is the right breed for you. If you find out that you do love pugs, from there adopting a pug is probably easier since the rescue group already knows all about you.

**Request: I will adopt an adult pug, but I expect it to be totally housebroken.**

**Reality:** Many pugs that are turned into rescue have been kept outside most of their lives, or in the case of many males, were not neutered before coming into rescue. Even if the pug was kept indoors, any time a dog is getting used to a new environment and a new schedule, there will likely be accidents. If it is a male dog who has just recently been neutered, there may be a period of marking for a few more weeks. Be prepared to work with a rescue dog and be gentle and patient. The dog may also have been abused and have submission issues that the new home needs to work with. If you want a dog who never has an accident, a rescue pug is probably not for you. In fact, pugs as a breed may not be right for you.

**Request: I want a pug that doesn't shed/bark/snore/spray me with snot.**

**Reality:** Uh, FAO Schwarz toy store has a lovely stuffed pug. TY also makes a pug Beanie Baby. I think this is the best type of pug for you, as this is the only pug I know of who doesn't shed, bark, snore and spray snot!

**Request: I love older dogs who are more mellow than young dogs.**

**Reality:** Rescue is a wonderful place to find an older dog from age 4 to 14. Many of these dogs have had a difficult time of life and are very grateful to have a good, loving home. They will show you their gratitude daily. An older dog is usually not as hyper as a puppy or young pug, and will do better in a small house or apartment. No matter what their age, they still have plenty of love to give!

**Request: I have a special place in my heart for a dog who may have been neglected or abused or who has special medical needs.**

**Reality:** Bless you! These are the majority of rescue dogs. Understanding that these dogs have some history behind them is critical in welcoming a rescued dog into your home. There are literally thousands of pugs and pug mixes who end up in rescue each year. Many have suffered physical abuse or have been severely neglected. These dogs need a patient person or family, willing to work with them in healing their bodies and spirits. Those who have adopted a rescue pug will attest that it can be one of life's most rewarding experiences.

**Request: I support the concept of rescue, but I have all the pugs I can handle right now. What else can I do?**

**Reality:** There are other ways you can help your rescue organization. You can do home checks or transport dogs. Volunteer your time with doing mailings or a newsletter or maintaining a web page. Help with special events or throw a special party to raise money for the group. And the most important thing that rescue organizations need is financial support. If you can't make a large donation, consider a small monthly donation, like \$10 or \$25. This can help pay for medicine to prevent a rescue pug from heartworm, or keep a dog flea and tick free for another month. All of these things greatly help rescue. As an added bonus, you will get a great feeling when you see the happy pug faces that your contributions helped on their way to their forever home.

Michigan Pug Rescue (MPR)  
Adoption Application

"PUG



LUV"

**Note: The purpose of this application is not to make adopting a pug difficult, but to ensure that the right person is chosen for the right Pug. Since these animals have already experienced a traumatic situation when they lost their previous home, we feel strongly about being completely thorough with our applicants. Thank you for your understanding.**

**Personal Information**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse or Significant other: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to call \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been at this address? \_\_\_\_\_

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you over 18? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list three (3) Personal References that are not relatives and not living with you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

1.
2.
3.

How did you hear of Michigan Pug Rescue? \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults in the household: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children in the household: \_\_\_\_\_

Men: _____	Ages: _____	Boys: _____	Ages: _____
Women: _____	Ages: _____	Girls: _____	Ages: _____

Are you expecting a child or planning a family in the near future? \_\_\_\_\_

**Environmental Information**

Type of Dwelling:  House  Apartment  Mobile Home

Condo / Townhouse

Do you Own or Rent?  Own  Rent

If you do not own your home, please provide a copy of your lease which states you are allowed to have pets. If prior approval from your landlord is required, please provide such approval on the landlord's letterhead.

Name of Landlord: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Is your Yard Fenced? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If your yard is not fenced, how do you plan to insure that the dog receives safe and adequate exercise?
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How will the dog be contained when outside for bathroom purposes?

If your yard is not fenced will your Pug be outside with or without supervision?

Do you have a Pool or Spa? \_\_\_\_\_ If Yes, what style? \_\_\_\_\_ Is it Fenced? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a Balcony? \_\_\_\_\_ If Yes, what is the distance between rails? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have Stairs? \_\_\_\_\_ If Yes, are any of the stairs open backed? \_\_\_\_\_

Where are they located? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you reinforce or enclose areas if we request? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your home safe from poisons or other dangers? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your home air-conditioned? \_\_\_\_\_

### Pet History

Please list all pets you currently own:

#### Dogs

Breed	Age	Spayed / Neutered	Stay Indoors or Outdoors?

#### Cats

Breed	Age	Spayed / Neutered	Stay Indoors or Outdoors?

#### Other

Breed	Age	Spayed / Neutered	Stay Indoors or Outdoors?

Have any of your current pets ever lived with or had interaction with another dog? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes please describe how your dog reacted \_\_\_\_\_

List any pets owned over the past five (5) years not listed above:

Species / Breed	How Long Owned?	Kept Indoors or Outdoors?	Spayed or Neutered?	Where is the pet now? If deceased, cause of death?

Have you ever had to give up a pet? Have you ever had a pet run away?

If yes, please tell us why?

A Vet release form is a part of the application packet. Vet records for current and past pets of the past five (5) years must be received to make a final determination on a complete application.

If you currently own a dog, or have ever owned one in the past, please complete this portion. If not, please skip this box.

Where did you get this dog(s)?

What activities do you participate in with your dog?

Have you attended obedience classes with your dog?

What type of Heartworm Preventative do you give your dog?

What type of flea control do you use on your dog?

What do you feed your dog? (brand / type)

When nobody is home, where does your dog stay? (check all that apply)

In the yard                       In a crate                       In the garage

In the house confined to an area                       In an outdoor dog run / pen

In the house not confined to an area                       In the house with a doggie door

Do you consider your current dog(s) aggressive or submissive to other people or animals?

## Behavior

What type of behavior(s) do you expect from the Pug you want to adopt?

Will you train your Pug to walk on a leash?

## Veterinarian Information

What is your yearly health-care budget for your Pug?

(This should include immunizations, heartworm testing, emergency care, and routine checkups.)

What will you do if your Pug has a major illness or injury and the cost exceeds your budget?

Is the vet you intend to use familiar with Pugs?

How have you determined this?

What is the name and telephone number of the veterinarian you are or intend to use?

Do you have an emergency vet in your area if needed?

Are they open 24/7?

What is their name and telephone number?

**A Veterinary record release must be completed and sent to each of the Veterinarians you have seen with each of your pets. (The release is at the end of the adoption packet)**

## Pug Knowledge and Care

What amount of time and effort, per week, do you want to devote to training your Pug?

3 – 5 hours

7 – 10 hours

Are you aware of health problems that Pug may have?

If yes, what problems do you foresee? (please explain)

Pugs have wrinkles in their face and are subject to ear infections. Are you prepared for the attention that will be required for cleaning the wrinkles and ears?  
Did you know pugs overheat easily?

How will you prevent over-heating?

What food do you plan on feeding your Pug?

Pug dogs can have many medical expenses, especially when they get older. Many of the dogs that come into the rescue have medical needs that have to be taken care of for the rest of their lives. Do you feel that you and your family are prepared for that emotional and financial obligation?

Are you aware that pugs shed 365 days a year?

Did you know pugs snore?

Pugs are companion animals, they will want to be with you constantly. Pugs were bred solely for companionship. Are you prepared for this?

Do you realize that pugs can live upwards of 14 years and are you committed to care for it for that long?

Will you keep your Pugs medical requirements current? (this includes immunizations, heartworm and fecal testing, and 12 month heartworm preventative)

Do you plan to keep the pug primarily indoors or out? Please elaborate.

Do you plan to use a crate?  
Why or why not?

Where will the pug sleep?

## General Information

What is your definition of disciplining your dog?

If your Pug chewed a personal item, how would you react?

What makes you a good pet owner?

If your Pug is lost, what will you do to find it?

What made you decide on a pug? (please be as descriptive as possible)

According to city or county ordinance, how many animals are you allowed?

How much time will you give your Pug to adjust to the new household / family?

Are you agreeable to returning your Pug, should unforeseen circumstances arise where in you would no longer be able to keep the dog?

How many hours do you anticipate your Pug will be home alone per day?

Have you applied with another Rescue Group?

If Yes, which organization?

Why aren't you adopting from that organization?

If you do not reside in the State of Michigan, will you make provisions to pick up the Pug? **WE DO NOT SHIP DOGS.** (all members of your family, including fur babies, must come to meet the pug at the time of the adoption)

Have all members of your household agreed to adopting a Pug?

Are any members of the household allergic to dog hair or dander?

## Your Pug

This section pertains to the pug you wish to adopt. Please select as many options as you are interested in. Please keep in mind that a Pug that currently appears on the web site may not be available at the time your application is approved. Your selection should reflect this.

Age preference:

Puppy (0 – 1 yr)     1 – 6 yrs.     6+ yrs.     No Preference

Color:

Fawn     Black     Silver     Apricot     No Preference

Sex:

Male     Female     No Preference

Would you be interested in adopting a pug over 6?

A senior pug?

A special needs Pug?

Are you willing to adopt a bonded pair?

If you have any comments that would assist us in evaluating this application, please provide the below:



Please mail the completed application with the \$5.00 processing fee (in US funds) to the address listed below. Applications must be completed in their entirety. Applications received without the \$5 (US funds) application fee will not be considered. The \$5 application fee covers the cost of postage, envelopes and stationary for correspondence with regard to your application. We respond to each application in writing as quickly as possible. Please keep in mind that all members of Michigan Pug Rescue are unpaid volunteers and have other responsibilities such as jobs and family. A final decision with regards to your eligibility to adopt one of our Pugs will be made once your complete veterinarian records from all Veterinarians your pets have seen are received and a home visit is conducted.

**MICHIGAN PUG RESCUE "PUG LUV"  
ADOPTION APPLICATION  
23927 WESLEY  
FARMINGTON MI 48335**

I understand that if I am approved, and a Pug is placed with me, Michigan Pug Rescue may contact me periodically to assess how I and my Pug are adjusting to each other and to assist me with any problems I may be experiencing. I also agree that I will be required to sign a legal adoption contract before I receive my Pug.

I understand there is a fee of \$25.00 for checks returned unpaid.

Further, I also understand and authorize an inspection of my home by an authorized Michigan Pug Rescue representative for the purpose of evaluating this application.

All information I have provided on this application is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated:  
Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE COMPLETELY ANSWERED AND A **COMPLETE** COPY OF CURRENT AND PAST VET RECORDS RECEIVED FROM YOUR VET BEFORE A FINAL DETERMINATION ON YOUR APPLICATION IS MADE. AFTER REVIEW OF YOUR APPLICATION BY OUR ADOPTION COMMITTEE YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED IN WRITING OF ANY QUESTIONS, CONCERNS, AND / OR THEIR DECISION TO APPROVE OR DENY YOUR APPLICATION.

ONCE YOUR APPLICATION IS APPROVED AND A PUG MATCHING THE CRITERIA IN THE SECTION TITLED "YOUR PUG" IS IN THE RESCUE, YOU WILL BE CONTACTED IN THE ORDER IN WHICH YOUR APPLICATION WAS APPROVED FOR A HOME VISIT. AFTER THE HOME VISIT, IF APPROVED, A PREADOPTON MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE TO DETERMINE THE COMPATABILITY OF YOU, YOUR FAMILY, CURRENT DOGS AND THE PUG. UPON COMPLETION OF ALL THE STEPS CAN AN ADOPTION TAKE PLACE.

**Pugs shown on our web site may already have applicants who are being contacted about their adoption.**

Michigan Pug Rescue is a 501 (c)3 Non-Profit Corporation.

Michigan Pug Rescue (MPR)  
Release of Information



AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE VETERINARY INFORMATION TO THE MICHIGAN PUG RESCUE, "PUG LUV"

I understand that it is the policy of the Michigan Pug Rescue "Pug Luv", to perform an inquiry into the veterinary care that I have given my current / previous pets. I understand that this inquiry is done to help assure MPR, that the animal(s) they are placing will be placed in a home where it will be well cared for. I have no objection to this inquiry and I,

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(please print name, address and phone #)

hereby give permission to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(name of Veterinary clinic, address and phone #)

to release any and all written information regarding my pets to Michigan Pug Rescue "Pug Love", to the person named below.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM IS NOT NECESSARY IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD A PET IN THE PAST 5 YEARS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please mail this copy along with your completed application.**

Michigan Pug Rescue (MPR)  
Release of Information



AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE VETERINARY INFORMATION TO THE MICHIGAN PUG RESCUE, "PUG LUV"

I understand that it is the policy of the Michigan Pug Rescue "Pug Luv", to perform an inquiry into the veterinary care that I have given my current / previous pets. I understand that this inquiry is done to help assure MPR, that the animal(s) they are placing will be placed in a home where it will be well cared for. I have no objection to this inquiry and I,

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(please print name, address and phone #)

hereby give permission to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(name of Veterinary clinic, address and phone #)

to release any and **all** written information regarding my pets to Michigan Pug Rescue "Pug Love", to the person named below. Please provide **complete** records not just immunization records as this will only delay my adoption process.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM IS NOT NECESSARY IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD A PET IN THE PAST 5 YEARS.**

Signature

Date

**Please forward this copy to your Veterinarian and ask that the records be forwarded to:**

**MICHIGAN PUG RESCUE "PUG LUV"  
Larry NATHAN  
23927 WESLEY  
FARMINGTON MI 48335**

Michigan Pug Rescue (MPR)  
Checklist

“PUG



LUV”

### FORMS CHECKLIST

- \_\_\_\_\_ The Adoption Application is filled out completely
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Veterinary Information Release form for each vet your pets have seen
- \_\_\_\_\_ A Second copy of the Veterinary Information Release Form is filled out completely and Submitted to each of the vets you pets have seen

**When Sending Us Your Forms please be sure you have placed sufficient postage on your envelope. This is at least 2 stamps:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Include the completed Adoption Application, all questions must be answered. Incomplete applications only delay the application process
- \_\_\_\_\_ Include the completed Veterinary Information Release form(s)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Non - Refundable Application fee of \$5.00 or more, payable in US funds to Michigan Pug Rescue

Please mail completed forms and application fee to:

**MICHIGAN PUG RESCUE “PUG  
LUV” ADOPTION APPLICATION  
23927 WESLEY  
FARMINGTON, MI 48335**

**Note: If you do not include your application fee, your application will NOT be processed and will be discarded!**

### Frequently Asked Questions

- Q:** Can I come see the Pugs before I complete my application?
- A:** We do not have a brick and mortar building where the Pugs are housed. Each of our PUGS are in a foster home, generally with other Pugs where they are evaluated to determine the best type of home that they should be placed in. We respect their privacy and do not allow prospective adopters to visit their Homes.

**Q:** How long does the application process take?

**A:** The process is shortened by the effort you place in making your application. Answering all questions and answering them completely results in MPR being able to make a decision on your application without the need to request clarification of your answers. Consistent communication with your Veterinarian (by telephone) to be sure the **complete** records are sent as promptly as possible.

**Q:** When will I know the status of my application?

**A:** You will be notified in writing by mail if we have further questions about your application. We will also let you know by mail whether your application has been approved or denied.

**Q:** What happens if the pug I was applying for has already been adopted?

**A:** If approved, you will have the option to be put on our waiting list. When a pug comes in matching your criteria, you will be notified.

**Q:** How much are the adoption fees?

**A:** The adoption fees range from \$150-\$400 based on the age and health of each Pug.

**Q:** Why is the cost to adopt so much?

**A:** Every Pug that comes into the rescue is examined by our Veterinarian. Rabies, Distemper, Corona and Bordetella vaccines are brought up to date where necessary. Pugs that have not been spayed or neutered are. If it is determined by the vet that dental services are required they are performed. Each Pug that must go under anesthetic is prescreened with a blood test. Fecal test for worms and heartworm testing is done. Every Pug that has not been micro-chipped previously, is. Any other medical issues are also treated. Although some of the Pugs that come into the rescue do not need all of the treatments described above, there are others that require extensive treatment. If you have ever owned an animal you are certainly aware of the costs associated with these services. In order for the rescue to continue the work we do, our adoption donations and fund raising efforts must cover these costs. Ongoing and careful analysis of these costs are done to keep the adoption donations as low as possible while providing the care each Pug needs.

**Q:** Do you adopt outside of the State of Michigan or Canada?

**A:** As part of our adoption process a home visit is conducted. As long as we are able to arrange to have the visit done and all other requirements are met, including the family and current dogs coming to Michigan for the pre-adoption meeting we will adopt out of state or Canada.

**Q:** Are all of the Pugs that are available for adoption at each Meet and Greet?

**A:** Michigan Pug Rescue members are all volunteers. We attempt to have as many of the available Pugs at each event as possible. Volunteers first responsibility is to their job and family and do not allow them to be at each event.