



BEFORE GETTING A PET

Before getting a pet you should be able answer the following questions with „yes“:

Living situation:

Do I want a pet for its own sake and not just as a social partner?

Can I currently guarantee that I will be able to pay for my pet's care throughout its entire life (dogs and cats around 10–15 years; rabbits around 10 years; guinea pigs, around 7 years, etc.)

Have I learned enough about the demands a pet will place on me?

Do I have a clear picture of a pet's requirements, and a detailed understanding of what it will really mean to be the owner of a living creature?

Will I be able to give my pet enough time to keep it occupied and provide it with social contact and exercise?

Am I ready to deal with my pet in a positive way if it exhibits behavioural issues?

Do my children understand that a pet is a living creature and not a toy?

Am I aware that my pet can get ill and that this can lead to illness-related fouling (gastrointestinal diseases)?

Am I aware that my pet will get old and that this will lead to age-related fouling (urinary dribbling)?

Accommodation:

Does my landlord allow tenants to keep pets?

Can I deal with the fact that a young pet will often cause damage?

Allergies:

Have I ruled out the risk of allergies affecting me or members of my family (animal hair, bedding, etc)?

Costs:

Have I calculated the financial outlay required for

- Food
- Trips to the vet
- Accommodation
- Insurance
- Tax
- Equipment

Holidays, hospital stays and similar:

Is there anyone who can look after my pet if I am temporarily unable to (illness, hospital visits, etc)?



Above: Pets aren't toys.

Centre: Young pets can be destructive.

Below: Owning a pet involves trips to the vets, which can be costly.

More Humanity towards Animals

