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Be a Lifesaver: Adopt an Indian Animal

Thinking of adding an animal companion to your family? But before you fall head over heels in puppy (or kitty) love, take some time to prepare. This is a big decision – after all, your new companion could live for 15 years or more! Even after the kids have grown up and moved out, Rani will still depend on you to feed her, brush her, play with her and love her every day.

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Opt to Adopt!

If you are ready for all the responsibilities, challenges and joys of caring for an animal companion, load up the family and visit your local animal shelter or rescue group, where there is never a shortage of cats and dogs who would love to be your new best friend. Animal shelter adoption fees are usually nominal or free. When you adopt from a shelter, you'll not only save a life but also make a friend for life! Just remember to get your new companion spayed or neutered and up to date on vaccinations if the shelter does not provide this service already.

Boycott Breeders

People who breed foreign animals for profit – or individuals who let their dog or cat have “just one litter” – contribute to the severe dog and cat overpopulation crisis. It is simply irresponsible for anyone to breed animals when there are millions of homeless Indian dogs and cats languishing on the streets and in shelters across India. Every time someone buys a puppy or kitten from a breeder, it means one home fewer for an Indian animal in a shelter or roaming the streets.

What's more, so-called foreign pedigree animals, who are bred for certain unnatural physical traits, are susceptible to medical problems that arise from inbreeding and are costly to treat or even life-threatening. Many purebred dogs are prone to hip dysplasia, heart defects, respiratory problems, epilepsy, eye and ear infections, back problems and other ailments. Indian dogs, on the other hand, tend to be healthier than their purebred cousins.

Pass on Pet Shops

In puppy mills around the world, where animals are bred to be sold, puppies and mother dogs are kept in row upon row of tiny, dirty wire-floored cages with little protection from the scorching heat and freezing cold. Many suffer from pneumonia, parvovirus, kennel cough, mange, ringworm and other diseases. Female dogs are bred repeatedly and are sold, abandoned or killed when their worn-out bodies can no longer produce puppies. Cats suffer in similar conditions. Buying an animal from a pet shop financially supports cruel breeding facilities and keeps them in business.

Be Your Dog or Cat's Best Friend

Visit PETAIndia.com for tips on caring for your cat or dog and plenty of ways to make your new best friend's life long, healthy and happy!

For additional information, please contact
PETA India at GPO Box No 2, Pune 411 001;
Info@petaindia.org or 020-2605 8106 (fax).



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