

PRE-ADOPTION PACKET



Thank you for considering adopting from Shaw PBR

After being approved as a qualified adopter, but before bringing a dog home, we suggest you prepare yourself, your family and your home for a new canine companion.

Adopting is a family affair, so please make sure that everyone in your household is ready, willing and able to provide a loving home for a new dog.

Be realistic about your time commitment to the dog.

Keep your dog on a leash at all times when outdoors unless in your secured fenced yard. It is very common for a rescue dog to try and escape, so always supervise your dog.

Do not place the dog around other strange dogs, expecting them to just 'get along'.

Items you may need - Food and bowls; Crate; Bedding; Toys; Collar; Leash; Treats

Before You Adopt

There are several things you should consider before making the decision to adopt. The average dog can live for 10 to 15 years and potentially cost its owner between \$10,000 and \$20,000 over their lifespan. Dogs require a substantial investment of time and money.

Before adopting a dog, you need to ensure you have:

- Written permission from your landlord, including any restrictions regarding breed or size of animal.
- Adequate yard space and fencing
- Enough time to care for the dog
- The ability to pay for required food and medical expenses

Dog kennels need to allow dogs to move around freely, to urinate and defecate away from sleeping and eating areas and be cleaned daily. If you work, consider where/how the dog will be confined. If you vacation regularly, consider the average cost to board your dog.

In addition to the minimum standards outlined above, there are legal requirements to owning a pet, which set out the offenses for failing to properly care and provide for a dog. Most legislation includes requirements for the provision of proper and sufficient food, water, shelter and veterinary treatment. Clean water should be available for your dog 24 hours a day.

Our Adoption Agreement

If approved, an applicant must sign an adoption agreement which outlines the responsibilities of Shaw PBR and the adopter. This agreement is legally binding. We will counsel you in further detail, but a few key points we would like to highlight include:

- Adoption fees are non-refundable
- Never allow a dog to run loose; dogs should always wear identifying tags
- Shaw PBR remains the primary contact for the micro chip.
- Follow-ups (by phone or in person) may be performed.
- If you find, at any time, that you can no longer care for the dog, please contact us.

WE DO OFFER COUNSELING. Please contact us immediately if you are having problems with your adopted dog. This includes medical, behavioral, not eating, digging out of kennels, etc. There are not many situations that we cannot help you fix - if you are willing to put in the work. **We are here to help you.**

Adopter Frequently Asked Questions

Our website offers a wealth of adopter information, including:

- Now That You've Adopted
- The First Few Weeks
- Crate Training
- Introductions
- Puppy Mouthing & Hand Biting
- Dogs in the Community
- The Adjustment Period
- Adopters with Children
- Housebreaking
- Obedience Training & Training Tips
- Behavior & Socialization
- Veterinary & Medical Care

These topics and more can be found at: shawpitbullrescue.com/adopter-faq-information

In Conclusion

This Pre-Adoption Packet is not designed to exclude anyone from owning a Shaw PBR dog, but rather to ensure that potential owners have the knowledge and skills necessary to keep a dog responsibly. Our role is to make sure our dogs are adopted into good, **forever** homes; and to match you with a dog that is compatible with your family, lifestyle and expectations. Choices for a long-term animal companion should not be made on a whim. The compatibility, willingness to do what it takes, and financial possibilities must be taken into consideration.

We hope that you appreciate our efforts to provide quality care to the unwanted dogs that find their way to Shaw PBR each year, and that we can count on your support. We look forward to matching your family with the best canine fit and hope you have many happy years together. We can do this - with your help.

- *We reserve the right to refuse to adopt to anyone at any time, for any reason* •

Shaw Pit Bull Rescue, Inc.
(dba Shaw Pit Bull Refuge)
Pre-Adoption Packet
Acknowledgement & Agreement



This is to acknowledge that I have received, read, and understood Shaw Pit Bull Refuge (Shaw PBR)'s Pre-Adoption Packet, and understand that it sets forth the terms and conditions of my application to adopt a dog from Shaw PBR. I understand and agree to abide by the policies and standards set forth in the Pre-Adoption Packet.

I acknowledge that everyone in my family is ready, willing and able to provide a forever home, and that the dog will be treated as a family member with loving care and affection. I will do my best to ensure the dog's safety and well-being, and will never allow any physical, mental, or emotional abuse of the dog. I also affirm that no member of my household has been convicted of an animal welfare law violation - such as neglect, cruelty, abandonment, etc.

I will feed the dog at least once a day and will provide a fresh supply of water at all times. The dog will live inside my home or in a securely enclosed area, and will not be isolated from the family. I will never let my dog run loose or roam.

I also realize the time commitment and financial commitment will fluctuate and am prepared to meet those needs as they arise. I will provide all required and/or necessary veterinary care, including: rabies vaccinations; annual boosters; monthly heart worm preventative; and prompt treatment by a licensed veterinarian for any illness or injury.

I will ensure compliance with all applicable local ordinances and state statutes; and that the appropriate licensing tags and/or rabies tags will be worn at all times

I acknowledge that the adoption fee is non-refundable and that home checks and follow-ups may be performed. If at any time I am unable to keep the dog or offer it proper care, I must offer the dog back to Shaw PBR before alternate arrangements are made. I also understand that should the dog get loose and Shaw PBR is not contacted within a reasonable time-frame, that I may lose my adoption rights.

Most importantly, I completely understand that if I have any issues with the adopted dog, that I am willing to put in the effort to correct it. I agree that I will contact Shaw PBR and explain any problems or issues and will do my best to work with the dog and keep it in my home. If, however, the dog is returned to Shaw PBR and no effort was made to contact them to help fix any problems, I understand that a \$25.00 surrender fee will be charged.

Printed Name

Signature

Date

Pre-Adoption Check-list

Are all household members on board? Yes No Able to return on adoption day? Yes No

Any plans to move in the next few years? Yes No

Elaborate on where will dog stay when you are home vs gone? **road dangers; gate security; meter men, etc.*

Tell us about your previous pets? _____

Plan for potty break? _____

Other dogs/dog park, etc? _____

Familiar with local ordinances, state statutes? Yes No

What is POA if you move where pit bulls are not allowed? _____

What circumstances might justify giving up a dog?

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baby | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Getting Along w/Other Pets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moving | <input type="checkbox"/> Allergies | <input type="checkbox"/> Shedding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Can't Housebreak | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Travel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog Becomes Ill | <input type="checkbox"/> Dog is Destructive | <input type="checkbox"/> Children Lost Interest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Too Time Consuming | <input type="checkbox"/> Changed Mind | <input type="checkbox"/> Too Expensive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Household Member Doesn't Like Dog | | |

Are you prepared for the financial commitment? Yes No

Explain basic veterinary care - vaccinations; worming; etc.

Explain Adoption fee - non refundable

Follow-ups - 2 weeks/month/6 months/year

Explain AKC Reunite notifications and importance of notifying Shaw PBR

Behavior/other issues - contact Shaw PBR (\$25 surrender fee if do not contact us)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____
