

How to decide if you wish to be owned by a Newfoundland!

You can see the potential market value of drool.

You like hair, especially on your clothes and occasionally in your food.

Your favorite scent is "eau de wet Newf".

You like responsibility - 24 hour care and expense of a completely dependent creature

If you are seriously considering whether or not the Newfoundland dog is right for you and your entire family, it is important that you sit down as a family and answer the following questions:

1. Why do you want a Newfoundland Dog?
2. What experience have you had with Newfoundland Dogs and how knowledgeable are you with the breed?
3. What characteristics do you like about Newfoundlands? Is there anything you do not like about the breed?
4. Have you discussed all the pros and cons of owning a dog with your family? Do all members of the family want a Newfoundland?
5. Is anyone in your home allergic to animals?
6. Are there other pets in the family? How will they react to the introduction of a Newfoundland dog?
7. Have you ever given a pet up for adoption? If you have, then what did you learn from the experience and do you see this happening again?
8. Have you and your family discussed the financial costs involved with owning a dog? They are numerous and include not only the initial purchase of the dog and equipment, but the continued expense of general health maintenance, unexpected vet bills, feeding, grooming, boarding, training, etc.
9. Who will ultimately be responsible for the care of the dog? (Walking, feeding, entertaining, training, etc.) (This is too big of a responsibility for a child.)
10. How many hours in the day will you spend with your Newf?
11. How many hours of the day will the puppy/dog be left alone? **Puppies/young dogs cannot be left alone for long periods of time.** What arrangements will you make to ensure the puppy/young dog is looked after during the time you are away?
12. Puppies are energetic and can be destructive if left unattended. Puppies/dogs like to chew and to dig. **ALL accidents are the result of opportunities presented and are the fault of the owner and not the puppy.** How would you deal with potential damage caused by your puppy and are you prepared to puppy proof your home?
13. **How will you ensure the safety of the dog?**
 - i) Is your yard securely fenced? Please describe.
 - ii) Where will the dog spend the day?
 - iii) Where will he sleep at night?
 - iv) How will he travel in the vehicle?
 - v) How will you puppy proof your house and yard to prevent injuries to the dog and your property?
To prevent joint injuries, puppies and young adults should be kept off slippery floors, stairs and not allowed to jump heights (i.e. in and out of a pickup truck), or allowed to play vigorous games of fetch.

14. What arrangements will you make for the dog if you go on vacation without him or have to leave him for extended periods of time?
15. Early and continued socialization is critical to the development of an emotionally well-balanced adult dog. Socialization should begin from the moment you receive your puppy and include participating in puppy obedience classes, exposure to many different and new circumstances such as taking your dog to crowded areas outside of the home, meeting and greeting a variety of different people and other dogs. Are you willing and prepared to invest the time to well-socialize your dog?
16. What type of training methods do you use? Newfies do not react well to negative reinforcement. Do you have the patience to train a Newfie with positive reinforcement? Are there local training clubs available?
17. Newfies have long hair and an oily, undercoat which sheds seasonally. In order to maintain a healthy coat and to prevent matting and doggie odour, Newfies require thorough weekly brushing and the occasional bath. Additional grooming such as trimming nails and the hair on feet and ears as well as cleaning ears and teeth are required to maintain overall health. Who will be responsible for grooming the dog?
18. Diet is extremely important in creating and maintaining optimal health and proper growth. Newfies should be fed two meals per day and not allowed to exercise vigorously immediately after eating. Potential owners should invest time in researching a diet that they feel comfortable with by talking with their vet, breeders and fellow pet owners. What are you planning to feed your Newf?
19. Newfs can potentially live up to 13 years of age. What will happen to the dog if your current family situation changes and you can no longer care for him? (Divorce, birth of child, death, move, etc.)
20. The Newfoundland is a working dog and is capable of many activities. What activities are you planning to do with your Newf? (Conformation, obedience, draft work, water work, tracking, pet therapy, Canine Good Neighbour, hiking, etc.)
21. Newfies are sold on a non-breeding agreement. If you will not be working towards a Championship at what age will you spay or neuter your dog?
22. What gender of Newf do you want and why?
23. What other qualities are you looking for in your Newf?
24. My commitment for the well-being of every dog I breed and place is for the lifespan of the dog. How may I assist you in order to ensure that owning a Newfoundland is a positive and successful experience for both you and the dog?

Name(s) of applicant: _____

Occupation: _____

Family members and ages of children: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province/Country: _____

Postal Code: _____ Home phone: _____

Work phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____