



Adoption Contract

Please read the following carefully. This is a binding agreement that you are making with us.

In adopting an animal from Peace Ridge Sanctuary (PRS) I understand that I am being held to a commitment and standard of care outlined by the following and I agree to the following terms:

1. I acknowledge that caretaking for an animal is a daily, long-term effort which must be routine and taken as a priority each and every day. By adopting an animal from Peace Ridge Sanctuary I agree to maintain a strict regimen of care for the animal that absolutely provides for the animal's physical, psychological and emotional needs. I also agree that it is the job of the adult in my family (when applicable) to take primary responsibility for this animal- animal care will not be fully delegated to a child.
2. I agree to have the animal spayed and/or neutered (if applicable) during or before their sixth month of life, or at the earliest reasonable age according to my veterinarian.
3. I will not have the animal caged or crated for more than an average overnight period of 8 hours, and I will not cage or crate the animal for more than ten hours in a 24 hour period. I understand that Peace Ridge is adopting this animal to me with the expectation that the cage or crate is only used for overnight or safety, and not to be overused for confinement during both the daytime and night-time hours.
4. I will maintain an environment for exercise and out of cage experience for the animal on a daily basis and will hire or enlist help to aid in this exercise or out of cage experience for the animal daily if I am not able to do so myself. I agree by signing this contract that the animal, if canine, will be walked at least twice a day for at least 20 minutes per walk, and be given access to the outdoors in a secure, contained area (fencing) for other daily un-tethered enrichment activities. I will not chain or tether the dog to a doghouse or otherwise. The dog will sleep at night inside our family home as well. I also agree that the dog will not be allowed to run loose unsupervised. We will not use electronic shock collars, citronella collars, or punitive devices to contain or "train" the dog. This means that I agree to not use electronic fencing. If I am adopting a cat or kitten I also agree that he/she will be kept indoors.
5. I will keep up on a set of training techniques and/or behavioral program that will help maintain a positive long-term relationship with the animal and will avoid using punishment techniques that inflict pain or isolation. I also will not hire professionals that use pain or isolating techniques. I acknowledge that Peace Ridge Sanctuary has started working with the animal (if canine) using some of the New Skete Methods, and the leadership model and I agree to educate myself about these and other approaches prior to taking the animal (canine) home so I (and my family) can continue with these or other similar techniques.
6. I guarantee that I, my family, and those around me, will not be allowed to engage in negative interactions with this animal, or teach the animal behaviors that would potentially put in jeopardy the animal's place in my home and/or in society. If there is a child in the environment, the child will not be allowed to roughhouse, hurt or otherwise put the dog's best interest in jeopardy.

7. I will have the animal vetted by a licensed veterinarian annually and when health concerns are apparent. I will not withhold veterinary care for any reason. I will have the animal vaccinated and licensed as applicable and according to the laws of the state of my permanent residence.
8. I agree that I will not have the animal de-vocalized (canine or feline) or de-clawed (feline).
9. The animal will be fed a high-quality food that fits its needs throughout the span of its life (for example- growth, maintenance, senior). Its nutritional requirements will be taken seriously and adjusted to fit the needs of the animal if an issue should arise or I am advised to do so by my veterinarian. (For example- high quality means NOT Beneful, Pedigree, or generic brands, etc.)
10. I will not have the animal euthanized for any other reason than for terminal illness which inflicts pain and/or severe discomfort to the animal, in the case of an accident where the animal will not recover, or when age or sickness has levied extremely poor quality of life for which there is no treatment. I acknowledge and agree that an animal should not be euthanized for "behavioral" reasons or because of my own "lifestyle choices".
11. I will keep a legible identification tag (with name and contact information) on the dog that I am adopting at all times. If by some chance the animal becomes lost, I will notify Peace Ridge Sanctuary within 6 hours so that Peace Ridge Sanctuary can help look for the animal and put out alerts.
12. I agree that if I am no longer able to care for or home the animal I will return the animal promptly to Peace Ridge Sanctuary. I also agree by signing this contract that I am not able to pass the animal along, or relinquish the animal to anyone but Peace Ridge Sanctuary if there comes a time where I am no longer able to care for the animal.
13. We attest that I/we understand that Peace Ridge Sanctuary makes no guarantees or statements regarding any dog's age, breed, health, or temperament. While Peace Ridge has made every effort to provide accurate history and assessment of all of the dogs, Peace Ridge is not able to guarantee any dog's age, breed, medical status or history, behavior or disposition. I/We hereby release Peace Ridge Sanctuary and its employees, directors, members and representatives of any and all possible claims arising from injury or damage caused by any dog adopted by me/ us to any person or property or relating to the health or temperament of the dog, including any expenses related thereto.

By signing this contractual agreement I promise that all information given in the adoption application is true, and I have not withheld or falsified any information I have given. I understand and agree that if at any time Peace Ridge Sanctuary finds that I have falsified application information or broken the contractual agreement, that I may have to return the animal to the custody of Peace Ridge Sanctuary. (Please initial on both pages of the contract prior to returning to us).

Signed:

Date:
