

Say No To Pet Abandonment

The decision to keep a pet should never be taken lightly. Once you are a pet owner, you have to be committed to the pet for its entire life. At no time should abandoning your pet be an option.

Anyone found guilty of pet abandonment may be fined up to \$10,000, or jailed for up to 12 months, or both.



The Responsible Pet Ownership Icon

AVA's Responsible Pet Ownership Icon depicts a heart-shaped paw resting on a human hand. Just as a mother holding her child's hand symbolizes unconditional love, care and protection, the Responsible Pet Ownership Icon represents a pet owner's love for the pet.


The colours of red and orange signify the warmth and strong bond between a pet and its owner. The hand, raised in pledge, symbolizes a promise of life-long commitment to the pet.

Need more tips on being a responsible pet owner?

Log on to www.ava.gov.sg or call AVA's responsible pet ownership hotline at 6471 7197.

Our Partners in Responsible Pet Ownership Public Education:




A Responsible Pet Ownership Initiative by  AVA

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A Pet is for Life



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Getting A Pet? Make Sure You Are Really Ready.

Pets can make good companions. In fact, the bond between owners and their pets is perhaps the most satisfying reason for keeping a pet.

However, many people buy adorable pets on impulse only to realize later that they are no longer interested in their pets or are unable to care for them. As a result, many pets end up being abandoned. To avoid this, it is always wise to spend some time and effort to find out more about the pet you intend to keep before getting it. One of the most important things to do is to ensure that the whole family agrees to keeping a pet. Besides this, here are some other factors that need to be considered :

Do you have time for your pet?

Pets need you to feed, care, groom and exercise them. They also need your companionship. Pets such as dogs need to be trained. All these require time.

How much do you know about the pet you want?

Different pets have different characteristics and they may bring problems that you will have to deal with. They may fall sick and untrained pets may damage your furniture or cause other problems.

Can you afford a pet?

The costs of owning pets can be high. Expenses such as food, veterinary care, grooming and training classes can add up.

Will you be a responsible pet owner?

There are many aspects to being a responsible pet owner. Besides caring for your pet, you have to be considerate and ensure that your pet does not bother other people. This means obeying licensing laws, sterilizing your pet, cleaning up after your pets in public places etc.

Deciding on the type of pet

Once you are sure that you are ready to be a responsible pet owner, it is important to choose the right type of pet that best fits your lifestyle. A pet is a life-long commitment, so ensure that you find out more about their characteristics and lifespan before making a choice.

Common pets & their average lifespans

Dog & Cat	up to 20 years
Rabbit	8 to 12 years
Hamster	2 to 2.5 years
Guinea Pig	4 to 8 years
Terrapin	more than 20 years

