

SO YOU REALLY WANT A DOG?

A Kid's Guide to Getting a Dog

**Learn What You Need to Know to
Show Your Parents You're Ready**

Lynn Mills



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Dedicated to Cosworth, Striker, Spot, and Woofer

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So, you want to get a dog?



Of course, you do.
Dogs are fun and full of love, and they're always ready to play.



Some dogs like to go on hikes.





Some dogs like to swim.



Some dogs like to play fetch.





Some like to play tug of war.



Dogs make great friends. You can tell them your secrets and always be sure that they won't tell anyone else.





And when you come home from a long day at school and your dog greets you with a wagging tail and a smile, you can't help but smile, too.



So, you really want a dog? What's the holdup?

Your parents? Or your grandparents or guardians or whoever takes care of you? Just like taking care of you, taking care of a dog is a big responsibility. They may not be quite sure you're ready for it. They may be afraid that they're going to have to take care of you *and* your dog, too. Right?

First of all, get one thing straight — you will not be a “dog owner.” You will be a “caretaker” to a dog. Are you ready to take care of a dog?

Answer the following questions to find out.





1. Just like you, a dog needs to eat every day. Sometimes twice a day. Do you:
- a. Let your dog learn to cook by watching *Top Chef*.
 - b. Give your dog a Cheesecake Factory coupon and the keys to the car.
 - c. Open a bag or can of dog food and put it in the dog bowl yourself. You said you wanted a dog.



2. Just like you, a dog always needs to have water to drink. Do you:
- a. Pop open a bottle of Perrier and hand it to him.
 - b. Turn on the sprinklers outside and tell him to open wide.
 - c. Keep fresh clean water in the dog's water dish every day, all day. You begged for this dog.





Certificate of Readiness

I, _____, (insert name), declare that I am ready to take care of a dog.

I promise to do everything I can to keep him/her healthy and happy, and a welcome part of our family, so help me dog.

Signed

Dated

