

# 10 Things a Shelter Dog Asks of Its New Family

- 1.** I may live 10 - 15 years. Any separation from you will be painful. *Remember that when you adopt me please.*
- 2.** Your patience and understanding will teach me the things you wish me to learn more effectively than breaking my spirit with harsh treatment. I am new to your family and home, and I don't know yet, what you expect of me. Give me a little time.. Please!
- 3.** I want to please you, but I need to know how. *Teach* me how you want me to behave.
- 4.** Please don't be angry with me for long if I misbehave, and don't lock me up as punishment. You have your work, your entertainment and your friends. I only have you!
- 5.** Talk to me. I may not understand your words, but I understand the tone of your voice.
- 6.** Be aware that I am normally a social animals; however, I need to make positive associations at a young age to feel confident and well adjusted.
- 7.** Remember that I need activity, both mental and physical. I love to play games and take walks.
- 8.** Before you scold me for things, ask yourself if something may be bothering me. Perhaps I am not feeling well, or not getting the right nutrition, or maybe I am just getting old and forgetful. Keep in mind that I respond well to praise and attention.
- 9.** Take good care of me when I am old. You too, will grow old.
- 10.** Remember that I only want to love and to please you, so treat me kindly. I may not have been in the past. *No heart is more grateful.*

