

What pet fits your lifestyle, and how to choose a healthy pet:

| Lifestyle | Puppy | Kitten | Adult Dog | Adult Cat |
|---|-------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Single person or couple in apartment or house and working much more than 8 hours each day | No | No | No | Yes |
| Single person or couple in apartment or house and at least one working a normal 8-hour day | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Single person or couple in apartment or house and at least one person home all day | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Young married couple in apartment or house and expecting a child | No | No | No | No |
| Young married couple in apartment or house with very small children | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Married couple in apartment or house with older children and at least one person home all day | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

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|--------------------|---|
| General Appearance | Bright, alert, in good flesh, skin elastic (springs back into place when moved), and normal temperature |
| Activity | Good appetite but not ravenous, active, and interested in surroundings |
| Hair and Skin | Hair is bright, glossy, well-groomed amount of shedding not important as long as coat looks healthy |
| Ears | Clean, no odor, in cats ear color should be pink, in dogs, ears have waxy, polished look |
| Eyes | Eyes and lids clean, eyes clear and bright |
| Nose | Free from discharge in cats, bright pink in some breeds in dogs, may have clear moisture |
| Breathing | Respiratory rhythm smooth and regular (may accelerate when animal is hot or excited) |
| Mouth | Clean, free of offensive odor |
| Gums and Teeth | Pink gums which turn pink again rapidly when pressed with finger clean teeth firm in gums |
| Feet | Clean and smooth pads in dogs, nails of average length |
| Stool | Firm stool, regular urination |