

Sharing a Special New Year with Your Pet

To infuse and integrate beauty, love, magic, truth, compassion and affection into your life, during this New Year or any other, year for that matter, you need look no farther than your animal companion. Along with the unconditional love she offers, she brings her special brand of nonjudgmentalism, a remarkable capacity to heal us physically and emotionally, and an eternal and seemingly infinite optimism and gratitude for your presence in her life. She is unlike any other one you know. No other brings such patience, perseverance, empathy, joy, courage, loyalty, hope and purity-of-heart and spirit to our prosaic daily lives.

At the dawning of this New Year if you do not already have a pet, consider saving a life and adopting one in need of a loving, caring home. Think carefully about making this lifetime commitment – for in so many ways, the requirements of adopting a pet are similar and comparable to adopting a child. The rewards of adopting a pet are similar and comparable as well. You will assume the responsibility and care for this creature for the rest of your life and hers. You will be required to love her, to protect her, to provide her with care, attention affection and direction. You will be asked to “educate” or “socialize” and discipline her, so that she will be a well-behaved, well-mannered canine/feline good citizen who will serve as a good will ambassador on behalf of you, your friends and family, and who will proudly represent you, your family and friends. You will need to provide her with proper and regular medical care. You will need to provide her with a healthy nutritional and exercise regimen. You will be required to play and interact with her as often as possible. You will need to provide her with a safe, comfortable and cozy place to sleep and to rest. You will need to prepare to learn life lessons that no other source can provide in the same way. She will depend upon you for her life and all aspects of her life.

At this beginning of the New Year, take the time to seriously consider the marvelous possibilities of sharing life with a beloved animal companion. Decide to make this New Year very special for both you and your pet. Make plans to spend more quality time together and to enjoy and celebrate one another. Sharing relaxing time together can be fun. A simple walk or playing with her in the backyard will suffice. Taking a ride in the car together can be an adventure and euphoric – providing both of you the opportunity to view the world in a new way and to experience new scents, sights, scenes, sounds, and events to stimulate and be interpreted in a whole new way. Make special plans to go to the park or woods or to the mountains, lake or ocean together, to celebrate vacation time and holidays together; to kick your heels up in fun, laughter and spontaneity; in short, to share and exchange a deep and genuine love and respect for one another. Perhaps the time has finally arrived to share a special New Year with your pet!