

German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois, Inc. Adoption Questionnaire



ADMINISTRATIVE USE ONLY:

Date Received: _____ By: _____

Applicant notified: Y N Date: _____ How: _____

Approved Denied Reason: _____

Home check complete: Y N Date: _____ Pass Fail

Application put on hold (date): _____ Reprocess (date): _____

Dog(s) interested in: _____

Dog placed in home: _____

Thank you for expressing interest in adopting a rescued German Shepherd Dog! Please complete this entire application and answer the questions honestly - feel free to use the "Notes" section at the back of this questionnaire to provide us with extra information if needed. While it is long, the more information you provide us, the better we will be able to match your needs and desires with the right German Shepherd Dog for you and your family. **Refusing or neglecting to answer all questions may result in an automatic disqualification of your application. However, completion of an application in no way constitutes automatic approval to adopt a GSD. We do not adopt on a first come, first served basis and may deny your application for a specific dog.** After your application is turned in, we will examine your request and a GSDRNI representative will contact you in a timely manner to discuss the next step in adopting one of the wonderful German Shepherd Dogs in our program.

~PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY~

Your Information:

Name: _____

Spouse/Co-Applicant: _____

What is your age range? Under 18 18-25 25-40 40+ Marital Status: Married Single

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone: Home: _(_____) _____ Work: _(_____) _____

Best time to contact: Morning Afternoon Evening Number: _(_____) _____

Driver's License Number of Applicant: _____

Email Address: _____

Employer Information:

Occupation: _____ How long: _____

Employer Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _(_____) _____

Spouse's Occupation: _____ How long: _____

Employer Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _(_____) _____

German Shepherd Dog Preference Information:

Are you interested in any specific dog(s) that are in our program? YES NO

If so, which dog(s): _____

What attracted you to him/her? _____

If that dog is no longer available, can we suggest a dog? YES NO

Do you have a preference for the gender of your new German Shepherd Dog?

Male Female No Preference

Do you have a preference for the color of your new German Shepherd Dog?

Black/Tan Black/Red Sable Black/Silver Bi-Color Solid Black White No Preference

Do you have a preference for the age of your new German Shepherd Dog?

2 to 8 Months 8 Months to 1 Year 1 to 2 Years
 2 to 4 Years 4 to 6 Years Over 6 Years No Preference

Do you have any weight considerations? Under 50 lbs. 50 lbs. to 100 lbs. 100 lbs. or over No Preference

Dog type: Purebred German Shepherd German Shepherd Dog Mix No Preference

Coat considerations (please check all that apply): Regular-Coated Shepherd Plush-Coated Shepherd
 Long-Coated Shepherd No Preference

Date or timeframe you will be ready to take a new dog home: _____

Would you want to get a dog immediately or can you wait for the right dog to come along?

Immediately I can wait for the right dog.

Are you currently working with any other rescues or shelters to find a German Shepherd Dog? YES NO

If so, which ones? _____

Are there any other desired qualities or traits that you would prefer in your new German Shepherd Dog? _____

Are there any characteristics that you are not willing to work with? _____

What behavioral or medical problems do you feel you cannot deal with in a dog? _____

Would you consider adopting 2 German Shepherd Dogs if they are used to being together? YES NO

General Information:

Please pick and **rank the 5** (1= Best, 2=2nd Best, 3=3rd Best, etc.) characteristics in order that you find most appealing about a German Shepherd Dog.

___Active ___Calm ___Playful ___Intelligent ___Independent ___Loving ___Shy

___Protective ___Aggressive ___Dominant ___Submissive ___Good with kids ___Good with dogs

___Good with cats ___Outgoing/Friendly ___Other: _____

**Please Note: Aggressive and severely problematic behavior animals are not put up for adoption if they demonstrate any of these behaviors while in our care.*

What other breeds have you considered? _____

What is it about the German Shepherd Dog that has generated your interest in the breed? _____

Have you ever applied to adopt from a Humane Society or Breed Rescue Group? YES NO

Did you successfully adopt from the group? YES NO

If no, please describe why: _____

Have you ever surrendered an animal to a Humane Society or other party? YES NO

If yes, for what reason?: _____

Under what circumstances would you give up your pet(s)? _____

If you had to move for any reason, would you bring your pet(s) with you? YES NO

If not, why? _____

Have you ever had any complaints about your pet(s)? YES NO

If yes, please elaborate: _____

GSDRNI reserves the right to inspect all homes and yards prior to approving any adoption situation, or following any adoption placement. Is this okay? YES NO

What time would be preferable for your home inspection? AM PM Weekday Weekend

**Please Note: A home visit is required prior to anyone adopting a dog from GSDRNI.*

Your Home:

Which of the following best describes your current residence? Please check all that apply.

House Condo Town home Apartment Duplex Mobile Home

Live with parents Roommates Other: _____

What type of area do you live in? Rural/Country Suburban Urban/City

Do you: Own Rent Lease

If you rent or lease, please provide:

Landlord's name: _____ Phone: _(_____) _____

**Please Note: If you rent or lease your residence, a copy of the lease will be required before an adoption may be finalized.*

If you lease: Does your lease have restrictions regarding animals? YES NO Not Sure N/A

Does your lease require a deposit for having animals? YES NO Not Sure N/A

How long have you lived at your current address? _____

Is your home safe for a large-breed dog? YES NO

Do you have a fenced yard? YES NO

Is the fence secure and solid? YES NO

What type of fencing? Wood Chain-link Other: _____

What is the height of the fence at the lowest point (in feet)? _____

How many gates do you have? _____

Do you have locks on your gates? YES NO

Will the gates remain locked? YES NO

Can children easily open the gates to your yard? YES NO

Will you prevent this? YES NO

Does your fence completely enclose your yard and is your yard secure? YES NO N/A
If no, what types of improvements are needed to provide a secure yard? _____

Are you willing to make these improvements? YES NO
When and how long will it take? _____

Do you have a secured dog run or an outside kennel? YES NO
If yes, please describe (height, length, width, footing, etc.): _____

How do you plan to safely confine, exercise, socialize and allow your new German Shepherd Dog to eliminate? (Regardless if you have a fenced yard or not.) _____

Do you have a swimming pool? YES NO
If yes, is the pool secured? YES NO How? _____

Have you checked your yard for dangerous articles and objects, or if you have a fenced yard; did you check for anything your new dog could use to climb and/or jump the fence (i.e. dog house, picnic table, etc.), or dig under the fence? YES NO
If there are any, how do you plan on keeping your dog away from them? _____

Are you willing to make any necessary improvements to your home and/or yard in order to provide a safe and secure location for your dog? YES NO

Are you aware of any distractions outside your yard such as neighboring dog(s), loose dogs, a busy street or mischievous children that could upset your new German Shepherd Dog? YES NO
If yes, please describe: _____

Do strangers (meter readers, etc.) have access to your yard or the area the dog will occupy? YES NO

Is your lifestyle such that friends, relatives and children may gain admittance to your home, property and vehicle without your supervision? YES NO If yes, please elaborate: _____

Your New Dog's Living Arrangements:

Where will your new dog be primarily kept? House Garage Basement Kennel Outdoors
If you checked "outdoors" please describe the kind of shelter you will provide for your new German Shepherd:

Is anyone home during the day? YES NO

Approximately how many hours per day will your dog be unattended and completely alone?
 3 hours or less 3 to 6 hours 6 to 9 hours 9 to 12 hours 12 to 18 hours 18 to 24 hours

If the dog will be alone for 6 or more hours a day, what arrangements will you make to allow the dog to relieve itself?

Please describe any special arrangements or considerations that would be made (i.e. doggie daycare, etc.): _____

How will your dog spend its day when someone is home? Please check all that apply.
 Indoors Outdoors Crated Basement Garage Fenced Yard Loose in unfenced yard Tied Out
 Kennel Run Gated in a room Bedroom Roam of House Laundry Room
 With: Dog(s) Cat(s) People Other: _____

Where will your dog be kept while left alone and unattended? Please check all that apply.

- Indoors Outdoors Crated Roam of House Basement Garage Fenced Yard
 Bedroom Roam of House Laundry Room Loose in unfenced yard Tied Out Kennel Run
 Gated in a room Alone All Day without others Alone All Day With: Dog(s) Cat(s)
 Other, please describe: _____

How will your dog spend its nights? Please check all that apply. Indoors Outdoors Crated Sleep in own bed
 Sleep on bed with parents Basement Garage Fenced Yard Tied Out Kennel Run Gated in a room
 Bedroom Roam of House Laundry Room Other: _____

Are you familiar with the use of a crate/cage to train and/or confine the dog in your absence? YES NO

Would you be willing to use a crate for your new dog if necessary? YES NO

Please let us know your thoughts on crating - good or bad? _____

Do you own a crate? YES NO

If yes, please describe: Metal/Wire Plastic (Airline Kennel)

Brand: _____ Height: _____ Width: _____ Length: _____

If you don't own a crate, would you be willing to purchase one? YES NO

Care of your new German Shepherd Dog:

Who is this German Shepherd Dog for? Self Spouse Children Family Other: _____

Who will have primary responsibility for the care of your new German Shepherd, including feeding, general care, training, health and veterinary care? _____

Who will care for the dog:

On a daily basis? _____ When you go out of town? _____

If you were to become sick, injured or unable to care for the dog? _____

What are your plans for your new German Shepherd? Please check all that apply.

- Companion Protective Family Dog Guard Dog Obedience/Agility Work
 Search & Rescue Work Child's Companion Other (please specify): _____

Do you travel often? YES NO Would you consider taking your dog with you? YES NO

If you can't take your dog with you, how will you provide for the care of your dog while you are gone?

Have you asked yourself whether your lifestyle is so busy you might not have the time or energy needed to properly care for your German Shepherd Dog? YES NO

Have you considered the financial cost of dog ownership, and are you financially prepared to give your dog the routine medical care it requires? YES NO

Are you aware of the costs involved in taking care of a large dog each year, including vet care, licensing, food, toys, treats, obedience training, etc. (bare minimum \$600.00)? YES NO

What type of identification do you plan to place on your new dog? _____

Are you familiar with the pet ownership laws in your area? YES NO

Is there a legal limit to the number of dogs or pets that you may own in your community? YES NO

If yes, what is the limit? _____

Where and how will you exercise your dog? _____

Do you plan on using a leash to walk and exercise your dog? YES NO

If not, why? _____

What type of vehicle will you transport your dog in? Car Truck Van S.U.V.

Where and how, in your vehicle, will your new dog travel? _____

Behavior and Training for your new German Shepherd Dog:

Have you ever taken a dog through obedience training? YES NO

To facilitate the bonding process, it is mandatory that every German Shepherd Dog and their new companions attend some introductory obedience training.

Would a formal obedience program be something you, as a new dog owner, would be interested in participating?

YES NO If not, please provide a brief explanation why not: _____

What amount of time and effort do you plan to devote to training you new German Shepherd Dog? _____

What is your definition of disciplining a dog? _____

What is your initial reaction to the idea of disciplining your dog? _____

What would be your response if and when your new German Shepherd Dog made a mistake? _____

Have you had any experience and considered how to prevent any of the following behaviors? Please check all that apply:

- Dog Aggression People Aggression Basic Obedience Barking Chewing Coming when called
 Crate Training Digging Dominance Issues Fence Jumping Food Guarding Housetraining
 Jumping Up Separation Anxiety Submissive Issues Toy Guarding

It may take your new German Shepherd Dog a month or even longer to adjust to its new home, people and environment.

Are you prepared to allow as much time as necessary and to be patient with your newest addition?

YES NO If not, why? _____

Would you consult a trainer or behaviorist if problems were to develop? YES NO

Your Family's Information:

Which describes the activity level in your household?

- Minimal (mostly quiet) Moderate (some quiet time) Extreme (active & noisy, very little quiet time)

Have you and your family discussed the pros and cons of owning a German Shepherd Dog? YES NO

Have you carefully considered how the dog will fit into you and your family's lifestyle? YES NO

It is important that everyone in the family wants this dog and will spend time with it. Is everyone in the family enthusiastic and want a German Shepherd Dog? YES NO

Please elaborate if any complaints have been made: _____

Have you and your family considered that a dog lives for years, and are you willing to accept the commitment of keeping that dog as a member of your family for the dog's entire lifetime? YES NO

Are you and your family aware that a German Shepherd Dog, as with any large breed, may jump up or knock down children and/or the elderly? YES NO

Are you willing to teach your friends, other family members, your children and their friends the proper way to handle live animals, especially large breed dogs? YES NO

Do you plan to have children within the next 5 years? YES NO

Do you have any children in your home? YES NO If yes, please list their ages: _____

Have these children been around dogs? YES NO

If you have children, are you willing to accept the additional responsibility of a German Shepherd Dog?
 YES NO N/A **This may include "childproofing" your new dog, additional training sessions with the children and dog, etc.*

Are you willing to accept that the dog may not like all your or your children's friends? YES NO

If the dog doesn't like them, what will you do? _____

Does anyone in your household have any known allergies to animals? YES NO

If yes, please explain: _____

List all household members by name (include applicants), age, relation to you and if they have dog experience.

Name	Age	Relationship to you	Dog Experience?
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Please list any PART-TIME MEMBERS -i.e. stepchildren, grandchildren, routine visitors, and others- that visit on a regular basis (weekends or vacations). Include their name, age, relationship to you, time spent at your home and if they have dog experience.

Name	Age	Relationship to you	Time spent at your home	Dog Experience?
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
				<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Current Pet Information:

On what date did all your pet(s) have their last vaccination? _____ N/A
What vaccinations did your pets receive? Rabies Distemper/Parvo Other: _____

Are your pet(s) on Heartworm Preventative? YES NO If so, what brand? _____
If no, why not? _____

Please list all current pets, including name, breed of pet or type, age, sex, if they are spayed/neutered, how long you have owned them, and where they are kept.

Name	Breed or Type	Age	Sex	Spayed/Neutered	How Long Owned	Where Kept

Do you understand that some German Shepherd Dogs have a high prey drive and might chase small dogs, cats, small animals and birds? YES NO

Will each of your pet(s) get along with a new dog? YES NO N/A
If no, please elaborate: _____

Do you understand that your new German Shepherd Dog may not get along with your current pets the moment they first meet, and that it may take a few meetings for them to be comfortable with each other? YES NO N/A

Are you willing to work with and use suggested training methods to introduce your current pets to your new German Shepherd Dog so that everyone can live harmoniously? YES NO N/A

Pet History:

Do you or have you owned a German Shepherd Dog previously? YES NO
If yes, please provide a brief description of the dog and your relationship with them: _____

Please list any previous pets, including name, breed of pet or type, age, sex, if they were spayed or neutered, how long you owned them and the reason your pet is no longer with your family/household.

Name	Type or Breed	Sex	Age	Spayed/Neutered	Years w/You	Reason no longer w/you

References:

Do you currently have a veterinarian that you plan on using for your new German Shepherd Dog? YES NO

Please give the name of the vet and clinic information. If you currently do not have a vet, please list the vet you plan on using for your new German Shepherd Dog.

****You are required to obtain a vet before any adoption is finalized.****

Vet's Name	Clinic's Name	Address (City & State)	Phone Number

If you do not have a current veterinarian, would you like GSDRNI to help you find one in your area? YES NO

Please list 3 references -- 2 of which **CANNOT be RELATED** to you.

Include their name; relationship to you; address including city & state; phone numbers - work & home with area code; and the best time to contact them.

Please contact your references and tell them to be expecting our telephone reference request.

This section is mandatory. If you do not fill it out, you will not be eligible to adopt from us. Thank you.

Name(s)	Relationship	Address (City & State)	Phone Number	Best contact time

Adoption Responsibilities:

Do you agree to return the German Shepherd Dog to German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois, Inc. if you are no longer able to care for and keep the dog? YES NO

Are you willing to allow GSDRNI to visit your home prior to us approving an adoption? YES NO

If not, why? _____

Are you willing to allow GSDRNI to visit your home following the adoption of your new companion? YES NO

If not, why? _____

Do you agree to contact GSDRNI if your new dog is having difficulty (behavior problems, etc.) adjusting to your home?

YES NO If not, why? _____

How did you find out about German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois?

GSDRNI Website PetFinder.com

Other Website (name) _____

Veterinarian (name/location) _____

Newspaper (name) _____

Flyer (location) _____

Store (name/location) _____

Friend (name) _____

Shelter (name) _____

Previous Adopter of a GSDRNI Dog (name of adopter & dog):

Other (please describe) _____

Would you consider volunteering for GSDRNI? YES NO

If yes, in which of the following areas would you be interested in helping out?

Foster Care Transporting Dogs Telephone Calling Fundraising

Interviewing Possible Adopters Other (please describe) _____

Please request a Volunteer Questionnaire if you are seriously interested in volunteering for GSDRNI

If you have any comments or concerns about adopting a rescue German Shepherd Dog or how our program works, please use the following "Notes" section or extra paper to share them with us.

We are always interested in and open to your viewpoint and suggestions.

Thank you for filling out our Adoption Questionnaire. Your answers will permit us to more effectively match your family, home and lifestyle with one of the German Shepherd Dogs in our program.

PLEASE CAREFULLY READ AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENT...

ADOPTION QUESTIONNAIRE AGREEMENT

By submitting this application, I certify that the information I have given is true and I am serious about adopting a German Shepherd Dog from German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois, Inc. (GSDRNI). I realize that any misrepresentation of facts may result in losing the privilege to adopt a pet and/or the removal of the adopted pet by German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois, Inc. I understand that German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois, Inc. has the right to deny my request to adopt a German Shepherd Dog from their organization. I authorize my veterinarian and references to release any information requested by GSDRNI in the investigation of all statements made in this application. I understand that an Adoption Contract is part of the adoption process and will be enforced. Once a dog is adopted, if it is found to be neglected or abused, German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois, Inc. reserves the right to reclaim the dog at any given time as stated in our Adoption Contract.

Applicant Signature

Date

Co-Applicant Signature

Date

ATTENTION:

Due to the size of our application, sending it via USPS will require extra postage totaling approximately \$1.00. Please be aware that extra postage is required.

Upon completion of your questionnaire, please return it to the following address. Our Adoption Committee will examine your request to adopt a German Shepherd Dog and will contact you in a timely manner to discuss our adoption process.

German Shepherd Dog Rescue of Northern Illinois, Inc.

P.O. Box 596

Plainfield, Illinois 60544

(815) 405-3906

(815) 254-7699 (fax)

GermShep10@aol.com

www.GSDRNI.org

