



German Shepherd Rescue of Northern California

German Shepherd Rescue of Northern California, Inc. • P. O. Box 1930, Cupertino, CA 95015-1930 toll free: 1-800-SAVEGSD or 866-728-3473 • [www.gsrnc.org](http://www.gsrnc.org)

## ADOPTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Version 9\_May\_2020

Thank you for filling out this questionnaire. Your answers will help us match your needs with the dogs in our program. Please complete this form and bring a copy of it with you to Adoption Day. (or mail to us at the above address)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Phone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Night \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* Phone number and email address are required!**

### 1. Who will be responsible for the dog's care?

Check which person will have primary responsibility

Primary Adult Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Adult Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Child Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Child Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: (max 500 characters) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Name and city of your veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

May we contact your veterinarian regarding your current or previous pets? \_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_No

**3. Are there children who live in or regularly visit your home? (such as grandchildren and neighbor children)**

Please indicate how many in each age group

Live In:

\_\_\_\_\_ Under 1 year

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 to 3 years

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 to 7 years

\_\_\_\_\_ 8 to 12 years

\_\_\_\_\_ Older than 12 years

Visit Regularly:

\_\_\_\_\_ Under 1 year

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 to 3 years

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 to 7 years

\_\_\_\_\_ 8 to 12 years

\_\_\_\_\_ Older than 12 years

**4. Please tell us about your current pets and animals, including livestock.**

a) Species (dog, cat, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Primary living area? Inside or Outside    Spayed/Neutered? Yes No    Where does this animal sleep? Inside or Outside

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b) Species (dog, cat, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Primary living area? Inside or Outside    Spayed/Neutered? Yes No    Where does this animal sleep? Inside or Outside

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c) Species (dog, cat, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Primary living area? Inside or Outside    Spayed/Neutered? Yes No    Where does this animal sleep? Inside or Outside

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

d) Species (dog, cat, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Primary living area? Inside or Outside    Spayed/Neutered? Yes No    Where does this animal sleep? Inside or Outside

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. What happened to previous dogs you no longer have?**

a) Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**Disposition?** (Circle One) Died of natural causes; Killed in accident; Put to sleep due to illness or old age;  
Put to sleep for other reasons; Given to friend or neighbor; Sold or given to new owner;  
Turned in to an animal shelter; Lost or stolen

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b) Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

**Disposition?** (Circle One) Died of natural causes; Killed in accident; Put to sleep due to illness or old age;  
Put to sleep for other reasons; Given to friend or neighbor; Sold or given to new owner;  
Turned in to an animal shelter; Lost or stolen

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Do you own or rent your home?**

\_\_\_\_ Own \_\_\_\_ Rent Please Note: If you rent a written Landlord agreement will be required

**Which best describes your residence?**

\_\_\_\_ house \_\_\_\_ condo/townhouse \_\_\_\_ apartment \_\_\_\_ farm/ranch

**7. Please describe fencing in the yard or exercise area where your dog will be outside:**

\_\_\_\_ Fenced yard \_\_\_\_ Partially fenced yard \_\_\_\_ Fenced yard area for dog  
\_\_\_\_ No fence \_\_\_\_ "Invisible" fence \_\_\_\_ Enclosed dog kennel/run \_\_\_\_ No yard

**8. How high is your fence at its lowest point? \_\_\_\_ 4' or less \_\_\_\_ 5' \_\_\_\_ 6' or higher \_\_\_\_ No fence**

**9. Do you have a swimming pool?**

\_\_\_\_ No  
\_\_\_\_ Yes – it's not fenced  
\_\_\_\_ Yes – it's fenced off from the rest of the yard

**10. Please tell us about your personal experience with dogs:**

- Never had a dog
- Never had a dog as an adult, but grew up with them
- Have spent a lot of time with dogs owned by others
- Have spent a lot of time with German Shepherds owned by others
- Have (had) family dog(s) that were not German Shepherds
- Have (had) a German Shepherd
- Have (had) several German Shepherds

**11. Why have you decided to adopt a German Shepherd Dog? (max 200 characters)**

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**12. Please tell us about your experience training dogs. Check all that apply:**

- None
- Read books and magazines
- Attended seminars or took online courses
- Pet store classes
- Group recreational classes
- Private recreational classes
- Agility, flyball, other recreational sports classes
- Intermediate or advanced classes
- Formal advanced training for competitive obedience or dog sports
- Earned working titles
- Professional level military, service, or law enforcement work

**13. What roles do you want the dog to play in your and your family's life? Check all that apply:**

- Household pet
- Companion for adult(s)
- Companion for children
- Companion for other dogs
- Companion for pets other than dogs
- Hiking/Jogging Partner
- Personal service dog or therapy dog
- Protection
- Guard dog
- Professional working dog (i.e., search & rescue, narcotics or bomb detection)
- Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**14. What kinds of activities do you want to participate in with your dog? Check all that apply:**

- Neighborhood walks, backyard games
- Visits to dog parks (off leash with other dogs)
- Hiking, jogging, or running
- Day trips (e.g., to the beach)
- Horseback riding
- Structured obedience
- Recreational dog sports (agility, flyball, etc.)
- Competitive dog sports (obedience, rally agility, herding, tracking, Schutzhund)
- Volunteer working activities (search and rescue, therapy)
- Professional working activities (security, protection, narcotics or bomb detection, human remains detection, personal service dog, law enforcement)
- Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**15. How long will your dog be alone during the typical weekday?**

- Rarely     2-4 hours     4-7 hours     7-10 hours     More than 10 hours

**16. Where do you want your dog to spend its time?**

- Inside fulltime, outside rarely
- Inside most of the time with access to outside, sleeps inside
- Inside when you're home, outside when you're gone
- Mostly outside in yard, rarely in house, sleeps in garage or dog house
- Outside only

**17. What type of dog would you prefer?**

**Gender:**  male  Female  no preference

**Age:** (check all that apply)

- puppy (Under 6 months)
- puppy (6 months – 1 year)
- young adult (1 - 3 years)
- adult (3 - 5 years)
- adult (5 – 7 years)
- senior (older than 7 years)

**18. Do you have any additional comments to help us find the right dog for you?**

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**19. Would you be interested in joining our team of foster parents and helping a German Shepherd Dog?**

Yes, I'd like to learn more.

No thanks

**20. How did you hear about GSRNC?**

Friend

Adoption day or other event

Newspaper

Web Search

Veterinarian

Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

The Adoption Fee can be found on our homepage in the "Available Dogs" drop down menu or by clicking [here](#)  
The adoption fee is based on the age of the dog.

**Any additional contribution you are able to make will be much appreciated.**

**German Shepherd Rescue of Northern California is a non-profit all-volunteer organization.**

**We thank you for your interest in German Shepherds!**



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## Explanation of the Dog Levels

### 1 – “Fireplace dog”

Couch potato, super easy, low energy and no issues. This level of dog would do well in any home regardless of owner experience. (We rarely come across this level of dog.)

### 2 – “Easy Large Breed Companion Dog”

Low to moderate energy, needs some exercise but it is not a daily requirement. This dog will do well in most homes. The dog gets along with most other dogs, gets along with most other people and have been successfully been around children. The dog has no real behavioral issues that need to be managed or dealt with on a daily basis. This dog is an easy family dog.

### 3 – “Standard Large Breed Dog”

Moderate energy, needs daily exercise of some sort to thrive and stay happy. This dog will do well in many types of homes, but some situations will not work for this dog. This dog may not get along with some types of dogs. This dog may be reactive to some other dogs while on leash. It may have too much energy to be around small children while unattended, and may have some behavioral issues that will require formal training or daily monitoring for the dog to successfully live happily in a family. These issues are normally minor such as fence climbing, prey drive, minor separation anxiety, nervousness in crowds, or other minor behavioral traits. A Potential Adopter for a level 3 dog must have prior, recent large breed dog experience and be able to demonstrate the ability to successfully deal with the level 3 dog that they wish to adopt.

### 4 – “Experienced Ownership Required”

Moderate, high or very high energy/drive. Needs an experienced owner familiar with working breed behavior to provide direct leadership and proper management. Level 4 dogs typically have a challenging behavior, but are good dogs. These dogs might be dog-reactive with most other dogs or dog-aggressive, may have to be an only animal in the home, maybe have moderate separation anxiety. The dog normally needs daily physical and mental stimulation, etc. This level of dog is not an average pet. (We try to limit the number of level 4 dogs in our program.) A Potential Adopter for a level 4 dog must be able to demonstrate the experience and ability to safely manage and care for a level 4 dog.

### 5 – “Competitive or Working Dog”

This is a dog that has an intense focus to ‘work’. It could be a dog that provides Search and Rescue services, could be a competitive Flyball or Agility dog, or has other working abilities. These dogs can be strong, pushy, dominant, and/or have extreme energy/drive. They need a professional handler or an owner who has the experience to provide a demonstrated commitment to the dog’s ‘working ability’. A Potential Adopter for a level 5 dog must be able to demonstrate the experience and ability to safely manage and care for a level 5 dog.