



A 501(c)3 Organization

ADOPTION AGREEMENT

Adoption fees do not cover total aggregate Vet expenses, let alone operational costs. We will be glad to accept any additional donations, now or in the future from you, friends, referrals etc.

For

_____ (Dog's Name) _____

I ____ (Adopter Name) _____, DO HEREBY AGREE TO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS RELATED TO THE ADOPTION of the above Boston terrier or Boston terrier mix, or other, estimated age of ____ (age) ____ years.

I further stand that I understand and affirm that the **Boston terrier Rescue of East Tennessee retains SUPERIOR TITLE to said dog**, and may exercise its claim and recourse to reclaim the dog if at any time the conditions of this agreement are not being met in the sole opinion and the sole discretion of the Boston terrier Rescue of East Tennessee.

It is also understood that although this Contract is generally executed at *the actual time of adoption*, circumstances may make it more convenient to either party to do so prior to actual adoption and pick up. If circumstances arise subsequently making the actual adoption inappropriate or unwise for any reason to either party, neither party is obligated and this Contract is then null and void.

General Conditions:

I agree and promise to keep and provide for this Boston terrier for its lifetime. **If, for any reason I find that circumstances arise that I cannot meet this obligation for any reason, I promise to promptly notify the BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE of East Tennessee to make arrangements to safely return the dog to them.**

I will keep this Boston terrier as a pet only and will not sell it nor allow it to be donated for medical or any other research.

I understand that **this Boston terrier is strictly an inside house dog** and is unprepared and unable to live otherwise by the nature of its breed. Should it develop any special needs, I am prepared to meet them and if this Boston terrier has any other special needs due to age, health or other considerations, I will recognize and understand these needs and I am prepared and promise to meet them immediately for the well being of the dog.

I will always provide this Boston terrier with adequate food, water, bedding, training and caring companionship.

I will provide both routine (at least at a minimum, annual) and emergency veterinary care as needed. It will receive an annual physical exam, and, unless otherwise directed by the vet, any usually generally prescribed **age appropriate annual vaccinations**, as well as a heartworm test.

I will give this pet heartworm preventative medication at the beginning of each month, along with flea & tick preventatives. *I will protect this pet by purchasing any licensing and identification tag (with current info) as required by local code and will obey all leash laws.*

I will **never** allow this dog to run free and will do and make any and all adjustments or arrangements to avoid the dog from escaping and becoming lost or injured, nor will I ever allow this Boston terrier to be chained or tethered.

If I do not have suitable fencing for this dog to run freely in a yard, I will insure that this dog is walked on a secure leash as many times a day as needed no matter the time of day or weather conditions.

If I cannot meet these requirements, I will immediately contact this rescue to make arrangements to return the dog.

I understand that the Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee makes neither guarantee nor any representation for this dog's behavior, health nor temperament and I accept full responsibility for any risks associated with owning this pet. I also understand that for any reason all these requirements in this contract cannot be met, I will immediately contact this rescue to make arrangements to return the dog.

I understand that rescue dogs have often been subjected to any number of unpleasant experiences including beatings and mistreatment. It is any dog's natural behaviour to react to physical injury in a way to protect itself. We will not knowingly release any dog that we believe to be a hazard to its new parents but new parents must understand that these dogs have in some cases been badly mistreated. In other words: Until you **KNOW** the dog and the dog **KNOWS** that you are not intending to mistreat it, be especially careful to avoid making any gestures that imply injury to the dog. Boston Terriers are incredibly intelligent dogs and a sharp verbal correction or an occasional swat with a newspaper is more than sufficient to tell the dog that you are unhappy with any

behavioral situation. Do NOT threaten the dog in any way that may cause it to believe that it is going to be hurt or mistreated.

I understand that the normal adjustment period for most new pets is approximately 30-45 days and I am prepared to make allowances accordingly as the pet gets to know its new surroundings. I understand that "housebroken" does not mean perfect and that this pet will take at least this amount of time to learn this particular households expectations and that some pets take longer. Male dogs generally feel an urge to "mark" territory when in a new environment and I recognize this behavior as normal and something that is expected, but not guaranteed to resolve in time. Sometimes "belly bands" are helpful in discouraging in-house marking.

I WILL NOT ALLOW THIS PET AT ANY TIME TO RIDE IN BED OF ANY OPEN VEHICLE or NEAR AN OPEN WINDOW OF ANY VEHICLE. FURTHER, I WILL NOT ALLOW THIS BOSTON TERRIER TO RIDE WITH ITS HEAD OUT OF ANY WINDOW OF ANY VEHICLE.

I am aware that it is strongly recommended that this pet be crated while left alone, or at least until the Boston Terrier is familiarized with its new surroundings, and that it is recommended that the dogs collar be replaced by a harness if it is to be crated to prevent strangulation. For dogs which "pull" during walking or exercise, it is also strongly recommended that the Boston terrier use a harness rather than collar both to avoid the dog slipping the collar and as a preventative measure from the Boston terrier injuring its neck or larynx.

I understand that Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee insists that dogs NOT be expected to be left alone for more than six (6) hours at a time without the ability to urinate. Longer periods of time (other than while sleeping) without the ability to relieve themselves are painful to the dog as they would be to human beings and can develop into serious medical conditions including bladder cancer. Alternatives such as piddle pads for dogs accustomed to them and/or friends or neighbors helping are acceptable. We also highly recommend that Boston Terriers be provided with good toys to occupy themselves. We will provide a few recommended toys and suggestions at the time of adoption.

Should it come to the attention of Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee from any source that the adopter is NOT abiding by the terms of this agreement, or is abusing or mistreating a dog then Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee has the right to take the dog into protective custody while the charge is investigated, and if the charge is deemed to be true and accurate, shall have the right to resume permanent ownership of the dog and adopter shall relinquish all rights and this agreement shall be terminated.

I understand the adoption fee for ___(Dog's Name) is \$____(fee)____. Generally, there is no provision for refunding of any portion of any adoption fee but exceptions may be made on a case by case

basis for special cases and these are at the sole discretion of the East Tennessee Boston Terrier Rescue.

I understand that Boston Terriers are NOT good swimmers and will not allow my pet near any body of water, unaccompanied.

I am aware that Boston Terriers are a brachycephalic (short snouted) breed, and they do not do well in weather either hot or cold and can be HIGHLY allergic to insect stings. I understand that I am expected to keep a supply of Benadryl (or generic) on hand to provide for this Boston terrier in the event of a bug bite. I further understand that this Boston terrier is to be given one Benadryl at the first sign of an insect bite and if any subsequent swelling or disorientation has not passed within 20 minutes, the dog is to be taken to a vet or emergency clinic.

I understand that no dog is ever to be left in a parked vehicle unsupervised and that temperatures inside automobiles can quickly rise to well over 140 degrees, sufficient to kill a dog within minutes, even if the outside temperature is in the low 80's.

I will never allow this dog to ride in the back of any open vehicle nor will I allow this dog to ride in a vehicle with its head out of the window. I realize that Boston Terriers are inherently at risk of serious eye injury and the risk of being hit by an insect or other object is unacceptable.

The East Tennessee Boston Terrier Rescue is very adamant that ANY interaction between our dogs and children be closely supervised. Unfortunately, **there are far too many children who have not been trained** as well as our dogs and a dog's only means of defense is to bite. We will generally not adopt a Boston terrier to a family with small children in order to protect the dog. Many Bostons have been crippled for life at the hands of small children. The adoptive family agrees to take measures to protect both the dog and any children from harm and notify the rescue of any apparent problems for solution.

I understand that rawhide or pig ears can be fatal for Bostons inasmuch as they can cause a choking hazard in brachycephalic breeds. I agree to never give these "treats" to this pet.

I hereby release and waive any right or claim against Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee and the contact person, involved in the adoption now and future for any damages to any person(s) or property or for any other claims resulting in the adoption of this dog.

I understand that my acceptance of this Boston terrier is on an "as is" basis. It is my understanding that every precaution has been taken to see that this Boston terrier is healthy and suitable as a household pet. Any condition of health or temperament that is not known by Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee is not the responsibility of Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee and I hold harmless Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee. All dogs must be returned to Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee in the event that things do not work out for any reason.

I also agree to inform Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee in writing if my home address or phone number changes within two weeks of that event.

In the event that it is discovered that the dog(s) that I am adopting are harmed through my negligence, or my failure to abide by the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement, I understand that I will be subjected to vigorous prosecution under the appropriate penal code in Tennessee or any other state and will be assessed ALL court costs as well as legal expenses on behalf of the Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee pertaining to the recovery of this Boston Terrier and any subsequent veterinary expenses incurred. I further understand that any and all additional expenses, including transportation, incurred by Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee to reclaim said Boston Terrier will be my responsibility.

Adoption fees do not cover total aggregate Vet expenses, let alone operational costs. We will be glad to accept any additional donations, now or in the future from you, friends, referrals etc.

Signed _____ (Adopter Signature) _____ Date _____

Address _____ (Adopter Information) _____

Phone _____

For the Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee:

By Representative

In Addition adopters agree to (indicate) **H**ave a secure fence, **E**rect a fence, if fence to maintain to keep dog safe & prevent loss. **F**ence not required

By my signature affixed I also agree to following:

Use of caution when walking & meeting other pets

Do not leave off leash, unless in well protected area

Will arrange wellness/get to know appt with my vet

Apply Flea control and Heartgard or Interceptor 1st of month schedule as a part of this agreement.