

Boston Terrier Rescue of East TN Adoption and/or Foster Policy

November 14, 2022

Thank you for your interest in adopting from Boston Terrier Rescue of East Tennessee ("BTRET"). Please read the entire application carefully. Expect it to take a few minutes to complete the application. Failure to fill in questions completely may result in delay or decline of your application.

Read the following adoption policies before filling out the application:

1. I understand I must be at least 26 years old to adopt. Exceptions may be made by BTRET. Likewise, Bostons have unique personalities and may not be appropriate for younger children, specifically those under 6 yrs. I recognize that the rescue will be especially cautious under those circumstances and may recommend a Boston mix or other breed. Larger breed dogs such as Basset Hounds and many mixed breed larger dogs are often considered good for small children.
2. I understand I may be required to provide photo ID with my current address.
3. I understand everyone in my home must agree to wanting to adopt a dog.
4. I understand I must be able to provide my landlord's written consent, if applicable.
5. I understand BTRET may refuse the placement of any dog for any reason. Likewise, I understand if I choose a specific dog for whom to apply, BTRET cannot guarantee s/he will be available for adoption as s/he may have other application pending or may not be the right fit for my home. I understand that it's a dynamic process.
6. I give permission for BTRET and its affiliates to investigate and confirm all information I have provided.
7. I understand that, upon submission, this form becomes the property of BTRET and can be shared with other rescue organizations.
8. I respect BTRET's opinion of its dogs, including if a dog is not good with children and/or other pets or suitability in any given environment. Likewise, I understand if in the future a child would visit my home, I will keep the dog completely separate from the child during the visit for the safety of the child and the dog. We have these conditions in memory of Kipper, a dog who was euthanized by his family after he was abused by their child. Read our "Tough on Kids: Kipper's Story" [here](#).
9. I understand I will be responsible for transport or picking up my new dog if I am approved for adoption. Some transport distances may be impractical.
10. I understand if I smoke inside my home, I will not be allowed to adopt from BTRET. Dogs get lung and other types of cancer from second hand smoke or any kind.
11. I understand BTRET is limited in the information it receives about a dog's past, including its "bite history." If you are filling out this application as a foster, please be sure to have personal medical insurance in the unlikely event that you would receive a bite. Insurance is a requirement for fostering.
12. I understand the cost of adoption does not completely cover the total cost of the dog's veterinary care, food and other expenses provided by BTRET. I will not ask for a discount. I may make an additional donation toward other dogs who are old, sick or otherwise unadoptable.

13. I understand the dog will be spayed/neutered prior to adoption unless there are extraordinary circumstances. Veterinary or other costs incurred after adoption will be my sole responsibility unless previously agreed upon in writing with BTRET.

14. I understand BTRET cannot guarantee the breed of any dog and all dogs listed on its site are identified to the best of its knowledge based on the dog's physical attributes and any history provided. If an adopter wishes a DNA test be performed prior to adoption, the potential adopter shall be responsible for that cost.

15. I understand I must pay a \$20 **NON-REFUNDABLE** application fee at the end of this form for my application to be reviewed. We value our volunteers' time, and there are monetary costs associated with the processing of your application. Fosters do not need to pay the fee. I understand that, if approved, this fee will not be applied to my adoption fee. Further, should I apply as a foster and decide to adopt before fostering for at least 6 months, the application fee will be added to the adoption fee. A previously approved applicant is generally good for 5 yrs unless there's been a change of addresses or other significant event.

16. I understand that if approved, I will be required to sign a legally binding and enforced contract to protect the dog, BTRET, and myself.

17. I agree no person in my home suffers from allergies or asthma related to dogs.

18. I will not allow the dog to exceed more than six (6) hours without the ability to urinate as doing so can lead to bladder cancer. Exceptions may be made if I'm willing to hire a dog sitter or use piddle pads or some other means approved in writing by the rescue. I agree that Boston Terriers are "inside dogs" and it is unacceptable to left outside for extended periods for any reason.

19. I agree to provide any time and/or funding necessary for training, medical treatment, care, cost and companionship for the dog.

20. I promise I will keep this dog on heart worm preventative without interruption and that I will provide proof at any time subsequent to adoption immediately if requested by the rescue. Failure to do so allows the rescue to recover the dog by legal means as per the Contract if necessary. I agree to provide to the rescue proof that any other dogs in my household or living under my roof have been given heartworm preventive for at least the past six months. Since heartworm preventive requires a veterinarians script, that information should be readily assessable.

21. I promise to keep this dog up to date with annual vaccinations and veterinary treatments as recommended. I may avail myself to the generally accepted provisions recommended for older or senior dogs providing relief from annual vaccinations in many cases where the dog has a clear record of prior vaccinations or those cases (vet approved) where certain shots have shown adverse allergic reactions.

22. I understand I will not be considered for adoption if any dog in my home is not spayed/neutered. I understand there may be specific exceptions to this, such as if the dog is too old or ill to be safely altered, or a dog is too young to be altered, but has an active confirmed appointment to be neutered at my veterinarian. These will be examined on a case by case basis. Likewise, I understand all animals in my home must be free of contagious diseases.

23. I understand I am to maintain contact with BTRET post-adoption regarding the dog's health and well-being, especially for the first few weeks post-adoption.

24. I understand I may not sell, give away or in any way transfer ownership of the dog without rescue permission. If I can no longer keep the dog or provide for the dog's needs, it is my responsibility to promptly inform and return the dog to BTRET.

25. I will read the dog's expressions and emotional signs, and will refrain from kissing the dog on the head or waking the dog while s/he is sleeping. In both cases, I realize I could startle the dog and could be bitten. I can read more about this on the BTRET website under Resources.

26. I understand that aside from pairing a physical (wooden or otherwise) fence with an invisible/electric fence, invisible/electric fences are not acceptable. These can be useful for dogs who jump/climb over fences, or dig underneath them, but otherwise are insufficient. They do not stop other animals from coming into the "fenced" area, and dying batteries will allow a dog to get out. The minimum height of any fence is 48".

27. I understand that, if approved, I will not put my newly adopted dog in danger with another dog. Boston Terriers are small dogs with large dog personalities, and if they fight with big dogs, they'll surely lose. I will not ask or expect BTRET to place a Boston Terrier in a potentially dangerous situation.

28. I understand if I'm approved I must keep the new dog away from other pets in the home aside from supervised visits until the pets are comfortable with each other, which could take several weeks. Some dogs assimilate into the new homes more quickly than others. We have lots of reading material to make this successful.

29. Applicants are encouraged to include the name of a dog or dogs of particular interest if that is the case. The rescue will make every attempt to match up the application to the requested dog but there is no guarantee that can be accomplished due to a variety of reasons, including dog being approved for another adopter received before this applicant, a mismatch between the dog's requirements and applicant's situation, e.g., a fence required but not provided, dog's misbehaving around cats, other dogs, etc. The rescue will work with a suitable choice of other dogs, or keep the application on file and open for another possibility if that is the applicant's choice

30. Always remember the 3 Rules for Adopted Dogs:



**ADOPTED DOGS take 3 days
to decompress, 3 weeks to
start to know your routine
and 3 months to start to
feel at home.**



GIVE THEM THAT CHANCE