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Happy Valentines Day!
February 14th

Creative Pandemic Valentine's Date Ideas

- Backyard camping and bonfire.
- Sunrise or sunset picnic
- Dinner and dancing in your decorated home.
- Hike and a picnic.
- Themed dinner and movie night at home
- Create your own spa day or night at home.
- Bikeride and picnic

Are You Ready For A Pet



Getting a pet is no easy decision. Emotional perks are undeniable, yet pets require time, understanding, and training. Particularly if you have kids, it can be difficult to gauge when you are ready for a pet. We all want a cuddly, warm friend to come home too, but responsibilities and costs required to properly take care of your pets are real. Carefully considering the

consequences of welcoming a new pet into your home can make all the difference in keeping your pet safe and happy (and keeping you sane). While drawbacks to having a pet may be challenging, if you properly prepare, getting a pet can be a smooth experience. The following pro and cons can help you decide if you are up for a new pet.

Pros

Increased Personal Safety

A barking dog scares away most home invaders, and medium to large sized dogs provide security on late night walks. However, even smaller dogs, cats, and exotics have alerted their owners to approaching dangers like fire or gas leaks. When considering whether or not to get a pet, don't forget that your new family member could be a crucial element in keeping you safe.

Receiving Love

No matter what kind of pet you get, you are sure to experience increased joy and love. Pets have a way of calming us down, and playing our heartstrings in a way that nothing else can. Pets can do a lot for helping you out of slumps and turning around a bad day.

Learning Patience

Particularly when it comes to younger pet owners, having a pet can teach us valuable lessons. Training your pet can be a lesson in patience, while treating your pet well can help children learn how to be gentle and understanding.

Pets Empathize With You

Another positive to getting a pet is having a family member who will always empathize with you. Regardless of what pet you get, larger pets can sense when we are feeling under the weather or have had a bad day. Having something to cuddle with that genuinely cares that you feel better is a huge boost on those less than perfect days.

Improved Mental Health

Having a pet is also a powerful way to keep you mentally functional. Across the board, pets of all types have proven to improve the health of patients with mental health challenges. From treating those with post traumatic stress disorder, to helping those who struggle with depression, pets are a helpful addition to combat a range of disorders. Not only do these findings bring hope to those with health challenges, it also means that every day anxiety and stress can be greatly decreased by spending time with your pet.

Welcome to Ventura Management!

Brandon Duplessie
Jake Dang
Angela Vergel de Dios
Taylor Phillips
Hannah Deen
Sunny & Marisol Linares
Jim & Kelley Smith
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(Are You Ready For A Pet Cont.)

Saving A Shelter Animal

Finally, another major positive if you're looking at adopting a shelter pet is the knowledge that you saved a life. Dogs, cats, and other animals in animal shelters are usually tame, and sometimes even trained. By adopting an animal that's been abandoned, you are giving a good home to a living thing.

Cons

Responsibility

One drawback of getting a pet is an immediate increase in responsibility. Just like a young child, pets rely on you for absolutely everything. Not only that, if they have yet to be trained, they won't understand your anger if they do something wrong.

Allergies

Another drawback to pets in the home is allergies. Especially if you don't know what you're allergic to, bringing a cat or a dog into your life can bring unexpected hurdles. Keep in mind that allergies grow worse each time you are exposed to an allergen, so spending limited time with animals in the past is not conclusive proof you aren't allergic.

Possible Safety Hazard

Another important consideration when getting a pet is whether or not the animal in question brings more hazards to your life. A pet might be a fine addition for families with young kids, however a large breed of dog for example, will require extra attention and training to make sure it is safe around children.

Cost

Unfortunately, another drawback to having pets is a necessary evil. Just like humans, animals need to be healthy and happy. Before you get a pet, consider the average yearly veterinary cost of owning the type of animal you are looking at. Cats and dogs for example, require several different shots throughout their first year of life, as well as preventative shots and treatment throughout their lives.



Poop

There's no getting around it – no matter what kind of animal you get, you will be required to clean up after them. Make sure you have a solid stomach when it comes to removing poop if you want a positive pet experience.

Schedule Disorder

Finally, remember that bringing a pet home means you will sometimes be at the mercy of their schedule. Cats for example, are naturally nocturnal, and are likely to find their way on top of you while you try to sleep.

February Quote:

**Excellence is not a singular act, but a habit. You are
what you repeatedly do.**

.... Shaquille O'Neal

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