

GIVE YOUR DOG THE CARE HE/SHE DESERVES

Your dog gives you a lifetime of unconditional love, loyalty, and friendship. In return, he/she counts on you to provide food, water, safe shelter, regular veterinary care, exercise, companionship, and lots of love.

- **Outfit your dog with a collar and ID tag that includes your name, address, and telephone number.** No matter how careful you are, there's a chance your companion may become lost—an ID tag greatly increases the chance that your pet will be returned home safely.
- **Follow this simple rule—*off property, on leash*.** Even a dog with a valid license, rabies tag, and ID tag should not be allowed to roam outside of your home or fenced yard. It is best for you, your community, and your dog to keep your pet under control at all times.
- **Give your dog proper shelter.** A fenced yard with a doghouse is a bonus, especially for large and active dogs; however, dogs should never be left outside alone for extended periods of time. Dogs need and crave companionship and should spend most of their time inside with their family. Never chain or otherwise restrain a dog.
- **Take your dog to the veterinarian for regular check-ups and vaccinations.** If you do not have a veterinarian, ask your local animal shelter or Unconditional Love pet Rescue and Placement for a referral.
- **Spay or neuter your dog.** Dogs who have this routine surgery live longer, are healthier, and have fewer behavior problems (e.g., biting, running away). By spaying or neutering your dog, you are also doing your part to reduce the problem of pet overpopulation.
- **Give your pooch a nutritionally balanced diet, including constant access to fresh water.** Ask your veterinarian for advice on what and how often to feed your pet.
- **Enroll your dog in a training class.** Positive training will allow you to control your companion's behavior safely and humanely. Dogs should never be hit or kicked. They respond very well to many training methods, including positive reinforcement, additionally, crate training for proper potty training is crucial. For more information, please visit Unconditional Love at www.ul-rescue.org
- **Give your dog enough exercise to keep him/her physically fit (but not exhausted).** Most dog owners find that playing with their canine companion, along with walking him/her at least once a day, provides sufficient exercise. If you have questions about the level of exercise appropriate for your dog, consult your veterinarian.

GIVE YOUR KITTY THE CARE HE/SHE DESREVES

Although your cat may act independent and be litter-trained, he/she counts on you to provide food, water, safe shelter, regular veterinary care, companionship, and lots of love.

- **Outfit your cat with a collar and ID tag that includes your name, address, and telephone number.** No matter how careful you are, there's a chance your companion may slip out the door—an ID tag greatly increases the chance that your cat will be returned home safely. Seriously consider having your cat micro-chipped by your veterinarian for greater safety.
- **Keep your cat indoors.** Keeping your cat safely inside at all times is best for you, your pet, and your community. Play with you kitty to make sure he/she gets plenty of exercise.
- **Take your cat to the veterinarian for regular check-ups and vaccinations.** If you do not have a veterinarian, ask your local animal shelter or a pet-owning friend for a referral.
- **Spay or neuter your pet.** This will keep her healthier and will reduce the problem of cat overpopulation.
- **Give your cat a nutritionally balanced diet, including constant access to fresh water.** Ask your veterinarian for advice on what and how often to feed your pet.
- **Train your cat to refrain from undesirable behaviors such as scratching furniture and jumping on countertops.** Contrary to popular belief, cats can be trained with a bit of patience, effort, and understanding on your part. Cats respond well to squirt-bottle and positive reinforcement training, as well as other human training methods. For more information, please visit Unconditional Love at www.ul-rescue.org
- **Groom your cat often to keep his/her coat healthy, soft, and shiny.** Although it is especially important to brush long-haired cats to prevent their hair from matting, even short-haired felines need to be groomed to remove as much loose hair as possible. When cats groom themselves, they ingest a great deal of hair, which often leads to hairballs.