



German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc.
P.O. Box 4063
Westford, MA 01886

Adoption Application

Name _____ Application date _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home phone _____ Work phone _____
 Best time to call each/either number _____
 Email Address _____ May we contact you via email? _____

PLEASE NOTE: You must complete the entire application. Incomplete applications will be returned for completion, thus slowing the application process.

Please list and describe your current dog first and then any other dog where *you* were the primary caretaker.

Dog's Name	Breed	Age	Gender	Altered?	Owned now or deceased?

Has your current dog ever lived with another dog? _____ If so, how well did they get along?

How long has your current dog been an "only dog"? _____

Are your current dogs on heartworm preventative medication? ___Yes ___No

If yes, which one do they take, and how often?

Why do you especially want to own a German Shepherd Dog vs. other breeds?

Have you ever had to give up a dog/give it away/euthanize a dog for behavioral issues? ___Yes ___No

We know this can be emotionally difficult, but please explain the circumstances.

Do you have any other animals (cats, pet rodents, birds, etc)? **Please list what you have** and note whether they have ever lived with a large dog before.)

Is your dwelling a (circle one): house apartment townhouse other (describe) _____

Do you own or rent your dwelling? _____

If you rent, we require written landlord consent to bring animals onto the property. Please provide name, address and phone of landlord below and **include written consent from the landlord with the application.**

Do you have a fenced-in yard or fenced area attached to your house? ___Yes ___No

If yes, what type of fencing? _____

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Is the fencing dug into the ground? ___Yes ___No If so, how deep? _____

Is fenced area attached to the house with a door leading to the fenced area? ___Yes ___No

If not attached to the house, how far away is it from the house?

How would the fenced area be used?

Are you aware of any distractions (such as neighbor's dog or cat, loose dogs on street, mischievous children, neighbors who do not like GSDs) that could interest or bother the dog while he is out? Please list these things – we want you and GSRNE to be aware of them, as this may help us select the right dog for you:

If you do not have a fenced area attached to your house, would you be willing to install one _____ or adopt an appropriate Senior German Shepherd Dog? _____ (Seniors need loving homes too - ask us about one!)

Do you have a pool? ___Yes ___No If Yes, is it above-ground or in-ground? _____

NOTE: If the pool is in-ground and in your fenced yard/area, you must have a fence around the pool so that the dog cannot fall in. If the pool is above-ground and in your fenced yard/area, you must have a gate to prevent the dog from going up the steps and falling in. Refer to the Fences policy in your application packet.

Please tell us about all people an adoptive German Shepherd Dog would usually come in contact with, including your spouse, roommates, children, neighborhood children, grandchildren, friends, relatives, etc.

Name	Age	Relationship to you	Lives with you?	Visits how often?

Where will your Rescue German Shepherd sleep at night?

Where will your Rescue German Shepherd stay during the day when you are home?

Where will your Rescue German Shepherd stay during the day when you are NOT home?

What is your expectation regarding a rescue dog's obedience training level?

_____ completely trained _____ somewhat trained _____ untrained okay

When you refer to the dog as "obedience trained" – what do you mean?

Please describe in detail the dog behaviors and training that are important to you. On the back of this sheet, describe how you would train the dog to exhibit these behaviors. If you don't know how you would train for some behaviors, please just note that.

Who is your veterinarian (name/address)? _____
_____ Phone _____

If you do not yet have a veterinarian, who do you plan on using?

Please list the names of two references. References should have a strong feeling for what you are like as a dog owner and should NOT be related to you. (Note - please print this information.)

Reference 1 Name _____ Phone _____

Reference 2 Name _____ Phone _____

The cost of caring for a healthy German Shepherd Dog is typically at least \$1,500-\$2,000 a year. This is for things like regular vet checks, vaccinations, quality food, and heartworm preventative medication. It does NOT include additional costs due to illness, chronic health problems, emergency surgery, ongoing training or help with behavioral problems. Supplies like leashes, collars, toys, bones, treats, dog beds, crates, etc. are also additional expenses.

Does this financial responsibility present a problem? _____

Can you make the full adoption donation for the dog at the time of adoption? (\$300) _____

Under what circumstances would you find it necessary to give up or re-home your Rescue dog?

Moving _____ Marriage to somebody who doesn't like your dog _____ New baby _____
Divorce _____ Current pets do not like new rescue dog _____ Schedule change _____
Illness _____ Other (please specify): _____

Have you applied anywhere else within the past year to adopt an animal? ___Yes ___No

If yes, where and when did you apply? (This is ok!)

Why do you feel that you would be a good adopter for a Rescue German Shepherd Dog?

Please describe the perfect dog for you. What characteristics are you looking for? As you answer this, please think about your lifestyle - are you active, in and out a lot, are there lots of people/children around, etc., or are you more sedentary, quiet, with few visitors? What personality in a dog would best fit your family's needs and lifestyle? Would your dog go with you everywhere or stay at home with you a lot? Do you have other pets that need consideration?

Of all of the characteristics you listed above for your perfect dog, please note the two that are most important to you:

1)

2)

Would you like to be notified about German Shepherd Dogs in various shelters needing homes that may match your general criteria? (If you find a dog in a shelter to adopt, you would then work directly with the shelter, not through GSRNE. We have not temperament tested many of these dogs.) ___Yes ___No

How did you hear about GSRNE?

My signature below indicates that I am at least 21 years of age and intend to be the legal owner and the person responsible for the care and well-being of any dog I adopt from German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc. (GSRNE). In signing this application below, I give representatives of GSRNE permission to contact my veterinarian, landlord, and references for information to aid in the evaluation of whether a Rescue German Shepherd Dog is appropriate for me and my current living situation.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Please return your signed, completed Adoption Application and Signed Terms of Adoption Application form located on page 6 (and if applicable, the written landlord consent) to:

German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc. Adoption Coordinator

P.O. Box 4063

Westford, MA 01886

Please note that when adding a rescue German Shepherd to your home, it usually takes time for your current dog and the new dog to accept each other. We recommend gradual exposure, such as having one dog in a crate while the other is loose, feeding the new dog in the crate so there can't be squabbles over food, putting food and toys out of reach when both dogs get to the point where they can be loose in the room together, etc. We provide guidance on how to integrate a new dog into your family, but it may take time and effort to do so successfully.

See the following page for the Terms of Adoption Application and sign your understanding of those terms.

Please return your signed, completed Adoption Application and Terms of Adoption Application form (and if applicable, the written landlord consent) to: Please return your signed, completed Adoption Application and Terms of Adoption Application form (and if applicable, the written landlord consent) to:

Terms of Adoption Application

1. Cost The adoption donation for **most** German Shepherd Dogs is \$300 which helps to partially defray the veterinary and boarding expenses we incurred in rescuing and caring for the dog. The donation for Senior dogs and Special Needs dogs is \$150. Adult German Shepherd Dogs will have been neutered or spayed, given all necessary inoculations including a Rabies shot, heartworm tested, stool tested for parasites, and given other medical treatment needed for problems that GSRNE is aware of and can treat before adoption.
2. Return policy If, for any reason, the adoption is not satisfactory for the German Shepherd Dog or for adoptive owner, GSRNE requires that the dog is returned, at adoptive owner's expense, to GSRNE within 2 weeks of notification. The dog may *not* be sold or given to a new owner without GSRNE's written approval. GSRNE reserves the right to take back this dog if it is *ever* neglected or improperly cared for.
3. Releases The adoptive owner must sign a legal release before visiting any Rescue dogs, and sign a legal contract at the time of adoption to protect him/herself, German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc. and its representatives, and the Rescue German Shepherd Dog involved in the visits/adoption process.
4. Microchip Adopter agrees that if this German Shepherd Dog does not already have a microchip with a GSRNE number, the Adopter will have a microchip implanted with the GSRNE-designated number within 2 months of adoption, at Adopter's expense.
5. License If adopted, this German Shepherd Dog must be licensed in accordance with existing laws in the adoptive owner's town and the Rabies vaccination must be kept current, for the dog's life.
6. Care The adoptive owner agrees to provide proper shelter, high quality food as advised by GSRNE, and proper medical care including annual heartworm tests, and agrees that this dog will not run free without supervision, be chained out, be allowed around children under 16 years without adult supervision present, be allowed to ride loose in the back of a truck, or be used for guarding purposes. Failure to comply with these terms will require that the dog be surrendered immediately and returned immediately to German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc., without refund.

GSRNE recommends that you follow a regular inoculation program established by your veterinarian. Your dog will need yearly boosters for distemper and parvo, and a Rabies booster in accordance with state or local regulations. Your dog **must** have an annual heartworm test and your veterinarian will recommend a preventative heartworm program for the length of time appropriate in New England, typically year round.

GSRNE requires that adopter enroll in an obedience training program with your adopted Rescue dog to increase the bond between you, and to be sure you know how to teach your dog basic pet obedience exercises and rules.

- By signing this document, I state that I understand the obedience training program requirement and agree to comply, unless explicitly exempted from this requirement in my GSRNE adoption contract I sign when I adopt a dog.
- By signing this document, I give GSRNE the right to check with my vet for my pet care history, and to confer with other rescue groups or humane societies regarding my application(s) with them and with GSRNE.
- By signing this document, I understand and agree that GSRNE has the right to refuse my application if application or home situation is deemed by the GSRNE Board of Directors as not appropriate for a Rescue German Shepherd Dog. I also understand that any misrepresentation of the true facts in this application or in the adoption agreement will invalidate the adoption agreement and will give GSRNE, Inc. the right to reclaim the adopted German Shepherd Dog without refund of the adoption fee.
- My signature below indicates that I understand these Terms of Adoption Application and agree to abide by them if I adopt a dog from German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc. My signature also indicates that I am willing to have a person representing German Shepherd Rescue of New England, Inc. visit my home (for a Home Visit interview) by appointment prior to adoption proceedings.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____