

Important Questions/Statements To Ask During The Interview Process For People Wanting To Adopt A Beagle

1.	<p>Find out where the prospective adoptee obtained the phone number for Colorado Beagle Rescue and make a note of it on the application.</p>
2.	<p>If the prospective adoptee does not have a fenced yard or lives in an apartment or condominium with an insufficient yard for a rescue beagle, refer them to All Breed Rescue Network at 303-989-7808. ABRN will refer them to a smaller breed of dog that may not require a fenced yard that a beagle needs.</p> <p>A fenced in yard is one of our foremost requirements before we place a beagle and this should be the first thing you ask a person interested in a rescue beagle—what kind of fence and how high. The fence must be at least four feet high. A six foot privacy fence would be ideal. An electric fence is not suitable for a beagle, since they'll take the charge just to get through it.</p> <p>Also ask if anyone is home during the day or part time. How long will the dog be alone and where will it be kept day or night?</p>
3.	<p>If the prospective adoptee initially wants to adopt a puppy, it is important to get a feel for what the people are like and whether they are a good candidate for a puppy. For adopting out any beagle (not only a puppy), find out how many hours someone is home during the day.</p> <p>Find out if they have small children. If they have children under 6 years of age, we recommend they not get a young beagle. With a toddler or baby, a young puppy will jump on the child.</p> <p>Inform the prospective adoptee of the extreme amount of patience needed in training a puppy, i.e., potty training, getting up in the middle of the night to let it outside, destructive chewing, and general obedience training. Adopting a puppy will be like getting another child—they require so much attention.</p> <p>Give the prospective adoptee some positive aspects of adopting an older dog: they are past the chewing and nipping stage, a lot of our beagles are already housebroken and crate trained, plus some have had some obedience training, so a lot of the problems associated with getting a puppy will be already behind them!</p> <p>If they are still interested in adopting a puppy and we do not have a pup available for adoption from CBR, referring them to a reputable breeder is the best alternative. Ed Boehm at 303-833-2842 in Longmont is the breeder referral we use for puppies.</p> <p>Try to discourage them from going to a local pet shop or buying from a backyard breeder listed in the newspaper.</p>
4.	<p>Does the prospective adoptee know about the beagle breed and its characteristics? Have they had a beagle before? Why did they choose this particular breed? Have they read books and/or literature regarding the beagle's behavior to certain situations? Do they know what inquisitive and intelligent scent hounds they are? They can have a stubborn streak—just like some of the other breeds out there. They are highly intelligent, so obedience training is encouraged. We would rather not have dogs outdoors all the time due to their thin coats and the beagle, of course, would rather be inside with its owners. Are they able to put in a doggie door?</p>
5.	<p>If the prospective adoptee has another animal living with them, it is a very good idea to telephone their veterinarian and get a reference from him/her. Find out how conscientious the prospective adoptee is in taking their animals in for their annual shots and/or any other medical treatment. Is their other dog good with other dogs? What is the age, breed, sex, and neutered/spayed status of the dog?</p> <p>If they have a male, we suggest they adopt a female, and vice versa. If they insist on getting the same sex as their present dog, ask them if it is dominant or submissive. If it is submissive, then a match may be possible.</p>

6.	<p>If the prospective adoptee has another dog, be sure to explain to them the procedure of how to introduce the new rescue beagle to their dog.</p> <p>Have the dogs meet on neutral territory; that is, do not introduce the dogs to each other by bringing the rescue beagle right into their home. Have a member of the family or friend take their dog for a walk while another family member or friend takes the rescue beagle. They should plan to “meet” while on their walk, be able to check each other out, and continue to walk together for a short time and then finally to their home.</p> <p>This way, the dog that has lived in the home for some time will not be threatened by the new rescue beagle coming into his/her home without being properly introduced.</p>
7.	<p>One thing that has actually happened to one of our rescue beagle might be mentioned to prospective adoptees if they own birds.</p> <p>Please tell them to keep the birds caged and in a safe place. We had an instance where one of our rescue beagles actually killed a prized parrot of the adopting family. The owner realized that it was his fault entirely for leaving the cage door open so the bird could fly freely around the house. Beagles are hunters--it is their instinct to capture birds and possibly kill them. The same is true for rabbits.</p> <p>This was a sad situation that could have been prevented, so please be sure to inform a prospective adoptee of this possibility.</p>
8.	<p>After the two-page Application has been completed, we will need to call a CBR volunteer that lives near the applicant (use our Volunteers Who Do Home Checks report in zip code sequence) and have a home check completed.</p> <p>Explain to the prospective adoptee that this is one of our requirements before we can place a rescue beagle with them. This gives us the opportunity to meet them and their family, to check their yard to be sure it is secure, to see where the beagle will be kept during the day and where it will sleep at night, and perhaps answer any questions the applicant may have. A phone call will be made by the CBR volunteer to set up an appointment to do the home check.</p> <p>The volunteer doing the home check should get back to Carol as soon as possible with the results of the home check.</p>
9.	<p>Inform the prospective adoptee that once they have found the perfect beagle and wish to adopt him/her, a donation fee is requested in the amount of \$150 payable to Colorado Beagle Rescue, Inc. If the adoptee is 60 or older, the donation fee is \$60. If the adoptee is financially strapped, the fee can be paid in several installments.</p> <p>Explain that they are adopting a purebred beagle and the donation fee is very inexpensive for such a dog, especially with the research that has been done in finding them a beagle that is compatible with their family situation.</p> <p>By making this donation, they will enable CBR to continue in its efforts to place beagles in homes where they will be loved and cared for. The money also helps us with our expenses in placing rescue beagles – spay/neuter/vet bills, phone bills, license fees to the State of Colorado, liability insurance, I.D. tags, printing reference materials and contracts, postage, internet, books etc.</p>
10.	<p>Inform the prospective adoptee that a “rescue packet” will be given to them after the adoption has been completed. Encourage them to go through this packet and read the various articles it contains. There is a wealth of information inside and it will be a great help to them in knowing their dog and understanding its behavior traits.</p> <p>If any problems come up after they get their beagle home, tell them to call us at any time for help.</p> <p>Tell them that a “rescue tag” will be prepared for their beagle showing the beagle’s name and rescue number, their home phone number, and CBR’s phone numbers. If the adoptee plans to change the name of the dog, they must give CBR the new name so the dog’s correct name will appear on the rescue tag. If they move, change their home phone number, the tag is worn and difficult to read, or the tag is lost, they must notify CBR and CBR will replace the tag free of charge.</p>

11.	<p>Advise the prospective adoptee that upon adoption of a rescue beagle, CBR will require them to sign an Adoption Agreement (CBR FC-11-lt lavender) which essentially says that the adoptee will keep the beagle for its entire lifetime.</p> <p>If for any reason they can no longer keep the dog (e.g. no time for the dog, getting a divorce, moving to an apartment or somewhere without a fence, leaving the country, going to a nursing home, etc.), the beagle comes back to CBR to be placed in another home of our choosing. If the owner dies and there is no one to care for the dog, the dog must be returned to CBR unless a provision is made in the owner's will for the dog's care.</p> <p>CBR will have them sign two Adoption Agreements. They will keep one for their personal file and the other will be returned to CBR along with a check for the adoption fee made payable to Colorado Beagle Rescue, Inc.</p> <p>CBR will keep in touch with them and check periodically to be sure that all is well and the rescue beagle is adjusting to its new life with no problems.</p> <p>They will also be asked to fill out the Volunteer Information form, which is included in the packet, and return it along with the adoption agreement and the donation.</p> <p>Volunteers are always needed by CBR so we can continue placing all those neglected, unfortunate little beagles.</p>
12.	<p>Tell the adoptee that CBR will grant a 30-day period to see if they and their new beagle will be compatible. If problems do arise that cannot be corrected, CBR will refund them their adoption donation and will take the rescue beagle and place him/her in a more suitable home.</p> <p>They will be asked to keep the dog until another home becomes available.</p>
13.	<p>Do a follow-up telephone call after the adoption is completed. You might even call them that night to see how everything is going and then, again, in two or three days. This is just to let them know that you are available and move importantly, that we care very much that this adoption works out!</p>
14.	<p>Ask them to give the beagle a chance to adapt to the family, not just one or two days.</p> <p>They need to understand what the beagle is going through. He's in a new place, new surroundings, and has strangers who are now telling him what to do. He doesn't know the routine yet or where he's to go potty. It's a good idea to not overwhelm the dog by having many friends and relatives come to meet the dog. Give the dog several days to adjust.</p> <p>They must be patient and give him lots of TLC.</p>