

BUYING A PET CHECKLIST

When you're ready to welcome a pet into your home, use this checklist to help guide your decision:

Assessment of facility/environment

- Have you been able to view the facility where the animals are housed?
- Are the essentials available in the animals' environment (food, water, enrichment, heat lamps, etc.)?
- Is the facility clean?
- Are references for the seller available on request?
- If it's a breeding facility, is the mother there and available for you to view?
- Have you been asked pertinent questions to establish compatibility?

Health issues and physical appearance

- Does the animal appear to be in good health? Symptoms of concern:
 - Bloating in the abdomen.
 - Lethargy.
 - Discharge from the eyes or nose.
 - Cuts, abrasions or bald patches.
 - Thin body.
 - Vomiting, diarrhea.
- If applicable, are copies of health and vaccination certificates, and a record of the animals last visit to the veterinarian available for you to view?

Documentation of sale

- Will you be provided a bill of sale listing:
 - Date of purchase.
 - Names of buyer and seller.
 - Description of the animal.
 - Purchase price.
- Will you be provided a written guarantee that includes:
 - Specific details of pet return or compensation details in the event of a health problem/illness and any time frames that apply?
 - What is expected of the buyer (i.e. exam by a veterinarian within a certain time frame).
 - Description of the animal.
 - Purchase price.

You should be able to check every box!

Checklist adapted from the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council

