The Struggle Is Real

The 7 Dogs You Meet Online

By Juno DeMelo

Click through your local shelter's website and you'll find dozens of eligible canines. Much like online dating, however, the process can be full of dubiously accurate descriptors. Use our guide to decode the profiles and you just might find your soul mate!



LOVES TO HIKE He requires two-plus hours of exercise a day or he'll shred the tampons in the trash, then use the strings as laces for the tiny sneakers he'll need to jump the fence and take himself on a run. If you want a towrope on the switchbacks, this is your guy.



GREAT GUARD DOG

She'll protect you if someone tries to break in. She will also bark at every person except you, but sometimes also at you if you ever have the audacity to open the door before you've closed an umbrella.



QUITE THE SNUGGLER

He'll always be your little spoon. The other kitchen tool he may remind you of is a Microplane, grating on your nerves with his whining as soon as you leave his sight. Luckily, he can outgrow the separation anxiety with training, becoming your ideal cuddle buddy.



SOCIAL BUTTERFLY

He'll nuzzle up to every stranger and try to convince them you're a negligent dog owner who does not, in fact, give him grass-fed organic beef and let him take up half the bed.



KNOWS BASIC COMMANDS

This dog can definitely sit! She even does it on her own, in the absence of a command! She's got nothing else, however. Consider her a blank slate on which you can paint a nice picture of well-mannered dogs playing poker.



SUPER SMART You'll be amazed by how quickly she becomes bored with that \$40 puzzle toy guaranteed to keep dog geniuses occupied. On the plus side, you can train her to play dead every time your husband asks where his keys are again.



NOT A CITY GIRL

She'll cower at the sound of bus brakes and butterflies flapping their wings. But she's fully on board with bingeing *The Great British Baking Show*—and her love more than makes up for her idiosyncrasies.

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