Shiba Rescue of New England

Adoption Application

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you live in a:

Condo/townhouse: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Single family: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Apartment: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you:

Own: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Rent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Live with Parents: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If renting, please indicated landlord contact info: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Household setting:

Rural: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Suburban: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Urban: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Describe your homes activity level:

Busy/Noisy: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Moderate Comings/goings: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Quiet with Occasional Guest: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please list all the people living in the household, including gender, age, relationship:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is anyone in the household allergic to animals? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are all members in the household agreeable to fostering a dog? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who will be the primary caretaker? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please list all pets presently in household, including type, breed, age, temperament: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever owned a Shiba or another primitive breed? Please describe what it is about a Shiba that interests you. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please list former types of pets and/or animal experience: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a preference of gender?

Male: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Female: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No Pref. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to adopt a dog of any age?

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Age Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had experience with an emotionally or physically neglected or abused dog?

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_\_

If so, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a fenced yard?

Yes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please give details on height, material, # of gates and if gates are lockable: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Partial: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dog Park close by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How many hours will the dog be left alone? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What does a typical day look like for your dog and your schedule? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who will care for your dog when you need to be away?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where will the dog sleep and where will he/she be during the day while you are at work? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How much have you budgeted for the dog on an annual basis? Do you feel that you are financially fit to care for a dog?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you feel physically able to care for a dog for its lifetime?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Shibas often are not tolerant of small children. Do you foresee small children as a factor to consider for your future?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any circumstances that your new dog will need to adapt to?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is there any other information that you would like us to know?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please list one personal reference with contact information. We prefer someone who is not a relative, and is knowledgeable of your ability to care for animals.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Please read this Owner’s Manual if you are thinking of adding a Shiba Inu to your life.**

The following steps will help to minimize stress on you and your Shiba and help the Shiba to acclimate.

1. You are not dealing with “a dog”. First and foremost, you are dealing with a primitive animal with a survival instinct that has the closest DNA to the wolf. It is disguised in a cute little foxlike fluffy butt with a cinnamon bun tail. They are HIGHLY INTELLIGENT; this comes with their intense survival instinct. You cannot make a serious mistake such as hitting, beating, mistreating this beast, they never forget. If you lose the trust of a Shiba, you will NOT get it back. This is common knowledge with Shiba people.

Shibas assess humans extremely quickly as they have a keen intuition. Assessing does not translate into accepting quickly! It just means that they have figured you out and are pondering what to do with you (let you into their heart or banish you from their kingdom).

1. Young Shiba’s (under 3) are still figuring things out and are often act like teenagers. They are testing and trying new things--they could be too confident, or, extremely timid and need confidence. All these factors are also part of the selection of an appropriate home.

When in a new home, the Shiba is adjusting to the change from his prior home; “where is my owner who I know?” to “who are you and where am I?”. The Shiba is stoic and does not always show stress, but it is happening internally. The first 2 weeks is typically the “honeymoon period”, especially the young Shiba. He will be on his best behavior, observing you, and not letting you into his soul yet.

IT MUST BE ON THE SHIBA’S TERMS, NO EXCEPTIONS. If you can’t handle that, then please find another breed that is more compliant to that human trait. If you move too quickly into the Shiba’s “space” the dog may retreat, or may develop into a nip—this means, “give me my space, I don’t know you yet, and when I do, I will let you know”. In the first 2 weeks, let the Shiba come to you, ALWAYS. Do NOT go over to pat the Shiba. If he comes you and sits with you on his terms, a quick pat and verbal praise. He is still testing you!!! You are still not allowed “in his space” yet, so exchange must be brief. We strongly suggest that your new Shiba wear the harness day and night for a week or two, as less interaction of taking it off and on. We also strongly suggest that the leash stay attached in the house as well during this adjustment time.

Older Shibas may take much longer to adjust, it could take weeks, months and in some cases, a year. It depends on many factors for the older Shiba; was he abused? Was he devoted to one person who he spent 24 hours a day with? Was he a well-socialized Shiba? These extreme factors will add to the time needed to adjust.

1. Treats: Humans can fool other breeds with treats, but not a Shiba! Treats should be used sparingly, so that he is not expecting at treat. Choice of treats should not be certain “high value” treats that can be possessed such as elk bones, yak antler, anything that is of deceased prey. The Shiba is still very primitive, and hunters, so you are flooding his DNA traits with his basic primitive instincts by adding these treats. We have seen good Shibas become monsters when these prohibited treats are introduced. It can create biting, as the Shiba will possess this prize, and not share with you to any dog. AVOID THESE TREATS!

Treats that can be eaten and devoured are recommended. Whole carrots can be a satisfying treat!

1. Territory: Let your Shiba have his place, that is his and his alone. It could be a corner in the room, a dog bed (or two or three), a special chair, etc. But let it be his. Do not bother him there until he knows you well enough and has “let you into his heart”. That is his space. It is not wise to immediately let the young Shiba on your own bed immediately, as he will claim this as his, and you would be the intruder. In time, after he knows what is “his own” space you may consider him on your bed.
2. Do not leave your Shiba unsupervised outside as he will figure out how to get out if there is a squirrel, small prey. Do not leave him tied to a rope tether, he will chew the tether to free himself.
3. Please be honest with us in our interview of your experience with Shibas, e.g., people in the household, daily routines, activity within in the house, etc. We rely on this information as a critical method of selecting the right home for the right Shiba; if we are misinformed, we may have missed a better opportunity for that Shiba to be placed elsewhere.

As a Shiba Inu rescue facility covering all New England states, part of our obligation is to determine the very best new permanent home for a foster in our care. This is taken very seriously, and suitability is critical in order to minimize the unfortunate experience of having to take back the Shiba to the rescue if something doesn’t work out. We do our very best to find out all that we can about the Shiba that has been rehomed to us. Sometimes, we are told nothing about the dog and must assess him. Of course, this method is very trial -and -error as the dog may display a certain behavior within the rescue/foster household, then be an entirely different dog in another household.

We hope this will ease the transition and enlighten new owners to the unique bliss of being owned by a Shiba Inu!

Adrienne Rowles. Director, Shiba Rescue of New England, Scituate MA

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I agree to have Shiba Rescue of New England complete reference call checks and conduct a home visit or virtual visit inspection to further consider my application.

I certify that the above information is correct, and will also be verified.

The information I have provided in this document is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and I have not withheld any pertinent information. I understand that any misrepresentation of me or my family or any untruths of the information I have provided herein that are discovered at a later date will invalidate any adoption agreement and will give Shiba Rescue of New England the right to reclaim the dog without my permission and without refund of any adoption donation. Entering your initials in the box below and submission of this form provides agreement to this adoption application. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_