

ASPCA®'s Meet Your Match®: Meet the Canine-ality

A dog's score from the Canine-ality™ Assessment places the dog in one of three color-coded categories (purple, orange, or green) representing the dog's level of persistence in pursuing something that he or she wants.

Each color category includes three Canine-ality descriptions that tell adopters how individual dogs are motivated. The evaluator chooses the Canine-ality that best fits the dog based on the animal's score and on the evaluator's determination of the dog's source of motivation internal, external, or social (i.e. human attention) while conducting the assessment.

The Meet Your Match Canine-ality Manual and Training Guide provide templates that shelters use to create the purple, orange, and green cage cards with Canine-ality names and descriptions.



Couch Potato

Like the easy life? Then I'm the perfect match for you. I'm a relaxed, laid-back kind of dog who enjoys long naps, watching movies, curling up on laps, and walking very short distances from the couch to the food bowl and back. (Internally motivated)



Constant Companion

Looking for an emotionally secure, mutually satisfying, low maintenance relationship? I am all you need. Let me sit at your feet, walk by your side, and I'll be your devoted companion forever. (Socially motivated)



Teacher's Pet

I've got the whole package — smart, fuzzy, four legs, love to learn and live to please. Go ahead, teach me anything. Sit, stay, balance your checkbook, I can do it all. Keep me entertained and I'll be yours forever. (Externally motivated)



Wallflower

Shy yet charming canine searching for patient owner with relaxed lifestyle. Looking for gentle guidance to help me come out of my shell. Treat me sweet and kind and I'll blossom. (Internally motivated)



Busy Bee

I'm a naturally playful, curious, and trusting canine. Take me for a big walk every day; give me something to do. After my job's done, I'll curl up in front of the fire with you in the evenings. (Externally motivated)



Goofball

I'm a fun-loving, happy-all-the-time, glass-is-half-full kind of dog looking for someone who loves to laugh and play around. Must have a great sense of humor and some time to spend with me. I'm a dog on a mission to please you. (Socially motivated)



Life of the Party

I think everything is fun, interesting and meant for play, especially you. Anything you do, I'll want to do too. With my own brand of surprises, life with me will keep you constantly on your toes, and the fun is guaranteed. (Socially motivated)



Go-Getter

Want to get more exercise? Action is my middle name. My "Let's GO!" lifestyle will keep you motivated to get outside and move. I've got tons of energy; and just like the sun, I'm burning and working 24 hours a day, seven days a week. I'll run for miles, chase a ball for hours, and still want to play at the end of the day. (Externally motivated)



Free Spirit

Intelligent, independent, confident and clever, I prefer making my own decisions but will listen to you if you make a good case. We're partners in this adventure. Treat me like one and we'll both live happily ever after. (Internally motivated)