



Lucky Glider Rescue & Sanctuary *Community Outreach for Sugar Gliders*

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Should You Be Adopted by a Sugar Glider?

Are you a prospective sugar glider owner? Do you want to know if you are a candidate for "adoption" into a sugar glider's life? Yes, sugar gliders adopt you into their hearts and colonies.

There is a huge responsibility in being adopted by a sugar glider. Becoming a sugar glider "family member" should not be a spur of the moment "emotional" decision. Deciding to become a suggie's family member should be well thought out and not taken lightly or without considering the many facets that will effect you and your surrounding human family.

THOUGHTS TO PONDER

Here are a just a sampling of questions to ask yourself and discuss with all members of your household or people you are in relationships with. Being adopted by a sugar glider effects everyone around your in your everyday life.

1. Life Span

Will you devote the next 10 - 14 years of your life as it changes to fit and work around the sugar glider's best interest? Will you make the necessary concessions around the sugar glider's life and well being and not the other way around?

2. Education

Have you conducted sugar glider research? What is involved in owning a sugar glider? What is a sugar glider's native environment and habits? What is their anatomy? Do they have unique and special needs? Can they be trained or housebroken?

3. Time

Do I daily have 2 hours or more to devote to a sugar glider and ensure their well being? Do I have even more hours to devote weekly to the necessary responsibilities in caring for and owning a sugar glider? Will family members be jealous of the time I spend with the sugar glider? Are family members supportive of my owning and caring for a sugar glider? Do they share your joy and enthusiasm?

4. Health

Are you financially prepared for veterinary costs associated with a sugar glider? Are you prepared for medical and healthcare costs associated with a glider self mutilating, having diarrhea, being constipated, bacterial problems or worse? Are you prepared for taking them to the vet for yearly checkups and a fecal screening for parasites? Can you afford a proper cage size? Will you provide a safe environment? Are there small children or additional animals in the house? Will you provide a variety of appropriate toys?



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5. Nutrition

Owners must daily provide a proper and varied nutritious diet. This includes shopping for, preparing, serving and cleanup for food. This will involve cutting up fresh food, and handling insects. Yes cooking is involved too.

6. Cage Cleaning

How do you feel about having a large cage in your house? Owners must daily supply lots of fresh water, remove debris from cages and continually be inspecting their cage for safety. Are you prepared to do sugar glider laundry? Washing their pouches, blankets, cage coverings, toys, etc. You will be picking up their "droppings" from your clothing the floor/carpet and well, everywhere.

7. Emotional Well Being

This includes but is not limited to daily personal interaction of petting, giving quality companionship, nurturing them and supplying stimulating and safe toys. Yes they require daily handling, love, affection and talking to them.

8. Diaper Dooty

Can you accept animals urinating and defecating on you? What are your thoughts about being scratched? Do you mind having multiple scratch marks on you? Sugar glider owners often times have scratch marks and scabs on their arms, legs and yes your face sometimes.

9. Chew Stick

Can you accept animals sometimes biting you, sometimes quite hard?

10. Bath & Shower

Can you accept animals licking, scratching and hopping on you All at the same time?

11. Substitute Tree

Can you accept animals chewing on furniture, clothing or other personal valuables? Is that ruined expensive item more valuable and important to you than owning a happy, frolicking sugar glider