

Rescue
me
please

**Adopt
not shop**



By choosing adoption, you are giving a dog or cat a second chance and making a friend for life.

As well as being wonderful new furry family members, adopting not shopping for a pet reduces the burden on pounds and animal shelters and helps lower euthanasia rates.

Registration is free for desexed cats and dogs adopted from an eligible pound, animal shelter or approved rehoming organisation, and your new pet will already be microchipped.

To adopt a pet, visit a council pound, animal shelter or one of the many approved rehoming organisations across NSW.

Find out more at:
petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.au



Adopt not shop

Find a
fur-ever
friend



Find your purr-fect match and adopt a dog or cat from your local council pound, animal shelter or approved rehoming organisation.

A fur-ever friend adopted from one of these eligible organisations will be microchipped and if it's desexed, lifetime registration is free.

There are council pounds and approved rehoming organisations across NSW with dogs, cats, puppies and kittens in their care that need forever homes.

Giving an animal a second chance is one of the most wonderful and rewarding things someone can do.

Find out more at:
petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.au



Increase your cat's lifespan

**Get it
desexed**



**Early desexing of your cat benefits
your feline friend, your community
and your wallet.**

Desexing significantly reduces the risk of serious feline health problems such as uterine infections, mammary cancer and testicular cancer.

Desexed cats roam less, which can:

- reduce their likelihood of getting lost or injured
- reduce their risk of contracting diseases and fighting with other cats
- help protect native wildlife.

Desexing saves you money

All cats must be registered by 12 weeks of age, requiring a one-off payment. If a cat isn't desexed by 4 months of age, the owner must pay an annual permit fee until it is desexed.

The Cat Protection Society of NSW, RSPCA NSW and Animal Welfare League NSW can provide expert advice on desexing, adoption and ways you can help cats in your community.

Find out more at:
petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.au



Prevent a cat-astrophe

**Desex
your cat**

Desexing is the single most effective way to prevent unwanted litters and reduce the number of homeless cats.

Desexing also improves your cat's health and reduces aggression. It's a win-win for your pet, you and your community.

Cats can start breeding from as young as 4 months. Unwanted litters can result in more strays and increased kittens and cats in pounds and shelters.

If you care for a stray:

- consider taking ownership and getting it desexed
- there are programs that offer discounted desexing for cats in your care.

The Cat Protection Society of NSW, Animal Welfare League NSW and RSPCA NSW have information available on desexing, adoption and other ways you can help cats in your community.

Find out more at:
petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.au



All dogs can bite



**Know the signs,
prevent dog attacks**

Any dog can bite when feeling threatened or under stress, regardless of its breed, age or size.

Some dog owners underestimate their pet's potential to bite.

Spot the signs

Frightened dogs can suddenly bite so it's important to recognise any early signs of anxiety in your dog.

Pay attention to your dog's body language and take note of slight changes in its:

- tail posture
- fur
- facial expressions.

These signals combine to give a picture of your dog's emotional state.

By understanding your dog's body language and avoiding situations that cause them stress, you'll create a safer environment for everyone.

More information:
[wearefamily.nsw.gov.au/
understanding.html#dogs](http://wearefamily.nsw.gov.au/understanding.html#dogs)



Safety starts at home

**Know the signs,
prevent dog attacks**

Any dog can bite, regardless of its size, age, or breed.

Young children are most at risk from dog attacks, especially those aged 0 to 4. Most dog attacks happen at home, or in familiar environments.

Supervise or separate

To reduce the risk of dog bites, actively supervise your children and dogs, or keep them separated.

Children and adults should:

- pat a dog's side, not its head
- never hug a dog around the neck as some dogs find it overwhelming
- be gentle when playing. Rough play can excite or scare a dog
- give dogs alone time. Never bother a dog when it's eating, sleeping or caring for puppies
- never stare intensely at a dog. They can interpret this as threatening behaviour.

More information:
[wearefamily.nsw.gov.au/
understanding.html#dogs](http://wearefamily.nsw.gov.au/understanding.html#dogs)

