

10. Be creative. Draw a picture of your dog. Write a poem, story or song. Photograph your dog. Let your dog be your inspiration!

And.....

10 FUN THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR GREAT DANE

BE SURE TO GET YOUR PARENT'S
PERMISSION:

1. Go for a walk together. Use a harness or a halter to make sure you can control your Dane. Your local pet supply store can help you select one that fits.
2. Take your dog to visit someone who does not get many visitors. They may enjoy your company and your dog will LOVE the extra attention.
3. Hang out with your dog. When you read, watch TV or a video, or listen to your favorite CD or radio station, your dog wants to be with you -- her favorite person!
4. When was the last time your dog was brushed? Watching TV and brushing can be done all at once!
5. Teach your dog the rules. Your dog doesn't automatically know that jumping on people, stealing dinner off the table and pulling on the leash are negative. Show her what she should do and be sure to have lots of doggie treats to reward her for correct behavior!
6. Let your dog mingle! Take her out into the world so she will be comfortable in many situations -- the park, the middle of town, the pet supply store, and the bus stop. She'll be happier and won't get bored looking at just your house and yard!
7. Get some exercise. Toss a Frisbee or ball. Who knows, you and your dog might end up the grand champions of an agility competition!
8. Teach your Dane some neat tricks! People will love your dog even more if he can entertain them with silly tricks. Teach her how to give a high five, roll over, or crawl across the floor!
9. Start a neighborhood doggie play group. Invite friends and their dogs to meet at a fenced park or field at a specific time. Be sure to pick up after the dogs. Nobody wants to step in poop!



MID-ATLANTIC GREAT DANE RESCUE LEAGUE

A PRE-TEEN'S GUIDE TO ADOPTING A GREAT DANE



MAGDRL KIDS
www.magdrl.org

So You WANT A GREAT DANE?



Sharing your life with a Great Dane is a wonderful experience. It can bring lots of happiness to you as well as to the Dane.

But before you consider asking your parents to adopt, please remember that owning a pet is a *BIG* responsibility, not just today but for its lifetime.

What are the minimum requirements for a Great Dane?

- ♥ **EVERY DAY:** Walk the dog, feed two or more meals, water, and scoop poop, and dispose.
- ♥ **EVERY WEEK:** Groom, clip nails, train, and exercise.
- ♥ **EVERY MONTH:** Give the dog a bath, give heartworm and flea prevention medication
- ♥ **EVERY YEAR:** Take the Dane to the vet for a health check.

Think about whether you're ready for this big responsibility and if you're willing to devote time for care *BEFORE* you ask your parents for a Great Dane!

DID YOU KNOW:

- ♥ Danes eat about as much as Labrador Retrievers
- ♥ Great Danes normal lifespan is 7 to 9 years
- ♥ They shed their coats each season, otherwise they don't shed much
- ♥ Great Danes are not the tallest dog - Irish Wolfhounds are
- ♥ Danes with droopy cheeks drool more than those with small lips
- ♥ They need occasional low-impact exercise, not strenuous exercise
- ♥ They make wonderful city dogs

WHY DO GREAT DANES NEED RESCUING?

TOP 10 REASONS:

1. Owner moving, can't take the Dane
2. Landlord won't allow the Dane
3. Too many animals in the home
4. Dane costs too much to maintain
5. Owner has personal problems
6. Inadequate environment
7. Bred their dog, no homes for the puppies
8. No time for the Dane
9. Dane is sick, can't afford medical care
10. Dane growled at or bit someone

Now, TAKE THIS QUIZ:

1. How many of these reasons are things the owner could have thought about before bringing a Dane home?
2. How many may have been fixed with some training?
3. Which of these problems could be avoided?
4. Is it ever OK to tease or rough-house with a dog?
5. Can you think about ways to prevent a dog from biting someone?
6. How much time does it take to care for a dog each day?
7. Do you think a Dane can live in a family with a baby?
8. Would you know what to do if you saw someone being mean to a dog?
9. Do you think not allowing dogs to breed might help prevent some from needing to be rescued?
10. Why is it important to consider the reasons dogs lose their homes before you adopt?

(1) All; (2) 10; (3) All; (4) All; (5) training, leashing, fencing, etc.; (6) About 1 hour; (7) Yes with supervision; (8) Report it to local animal control or Humane Society; (9) Yes; (10)

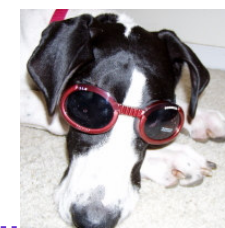
How CAN YOU PREPARE TO BE- COME A DOG OWNER?

Here are some ways you can learn about animal care. Be sure to ask your parents for permission to participate in these activities:

- ♥ Read a book about Great Danes to learn about their history, their temperament, and their care.
- ♥ Attend a dog show where Great Danes will compete.
- ♥ Join a 4-H group to learn about caring for animals.
- ♥ Visit an animal shelter or humane society and talk to the staff about animal care.
- ♥ Read a book about dog training.
- ♥ Get to know a friend's dog. Ask them questions about caring for their dog.
- ♥ Do a school report or project about dog care.
- ♥ Volunteer to walk the dog of a senior citizen in your neighborhood.
- ♥ Invite a dog owner friend to bring their dog to show and tell.



- ♥ Bake dog treats to take to the dogs in animal shelters.
- ♥ Earn a scout badge for animal care.
- ♥ Start by adopting a smaller pet to see if you are ready for a giant dog.
- ♥ Buy used stuffed toys without buttons or zippers. Clean them up and take to dogs in shelters.
- ♥ Ask local dog owners about pet sitting opportunities.
- ♥ Volunteer to wash a friend's dog.



Mid-Atlantic
Great Dane