

2016 Top Dog Essay Contest
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My Dog

What makes my dog special is everything. Maybe it's our connections. Maybe it's our memories. I don't know, but we just love each other. Let's start from the beginning.

I BEGGED for a dog! I went to my school library and checked out a book about taking care of a dog. (This was a hint for my parents!) For months, I left notes for my parents asking for a dog. I even threw the notes down the staircase and they would land next to my parents! But getting a puppy was not that simple.

For a long time, I knew getting an animal was not an option. My dad has pet allergies. My dad also had cancer. It would be too much to take care of a furry friend while my dad was sick. Family is everything to me. I never gave up on asking for a dog, but I knew I had to wait.

In 2014, my dad felt better. He was now able to take allergy medicine for animals because the doctors cured him. Now was the time to finally fulfill my dreams!

We went to the pet store and walked around. There were no promises made. First, we looked at a puppy that was very jumpy. Then, we looked at a dog that was very shy. Finally, we saw a little beagle-dachshund. He was perfect. He was the one. My dad held him and the puppy was so little compared to him. My dad was happy. I was happy. My family decided to keep him on hold.

The next morning, my brother and I burst into my mom's room and I said, "What's your decision?" My mom pointed out that we never even said good morning! My mother looked at my dad and said, "We NEED a dog!" My brother and I were so excited! The wait was over. We picked him up that day and named him Dexter.

Dexter and I have so many memories. My dog's favorite food is eggs, but he also likes sausage and bacon. We have breakfast every Saturday morning and include him. I promised him he would even get turkey for Thanksgiving. Dogs can keep secrets. They also give you a look if you tell them to remind you of something. (At least my dog does.) My dog and I have an unbreakable bond. He taught me that if you wait, good things will come. Dexter is the most special dog in the whole world!