



Agreement of Adoption

The following is a legally binding contractual agreement between the Pennsylvania Ferret Club and Shelter (PFCS) and the following individual:

Adopter Name: _____

For the intended purpose of the adoption of the following ____ ferret(s):

Ferret Name: _____

Ferret Name: _____

Ferret Name: _____

The adoptive party agrees to abide by all terms set forth in this Agreement of Adoption, as follows:

1. The adoptive party will in no way abuse the ferret(s), either through physical abuse or neglect. This includes, but is not limited to, the failure to provide adequate housing and nourishment. If it becomes apparent to The PFCS that abuse is being inflicted in any form, PFCS reserves the right to nullify this contract and reclaim possession of the ferret(s).
2. The adoptive party agrees to, on a continuing basis, remain knowledgeable on matters pertaining to ferret issues. These matters include, but are not limited to, medical, nutritional, and general care issues. The recommended means of keeping up with this education is to join the PFCS or another local or national ferret club or organization, or by subscribing to a ferret newsletter or magazine. The PFCS can assist you in choosing a suitable organization or publication. The practice of keeping up to date on ferret issues will ensure that the adoptive party is aware of vital medical, nutritional, and general care issues, and other information which may affect the adopted ferret(s).
3. The adoptive party agrees to find a qualified veterinarian, of the adoptive party's choice, who is trained and experienced in treating domestic ferrets. Furthermore, **the adoptive party agrees to take the ferret(s) to this veterinarian no less than once a year for a check-up, and the ferret(s) will be vaccinated once a year** with an approved Canine Distemper vaccine (PUREVAX FERRET and FERVAC-D are currently the only approved distemper vaccines) and with an approved rabies vaccine (IMRAB-3 is currently the only approved rabies vaccine). If any symptom arises or any sign indicates illness in the ferret(s), the adoptive party agrees to immediately seek the advice of a veterinarian. Failure to do so constitutes neglect on the part of the adoptive party.
4. The adoptive party agrees that the adopted ferret(s) will be given the following preventive tests by a qualified veterinarian annually, beginning at the age of four for each ferret: **(1) a complete blood count (CBC) and (2) a blood-glucose test**, as these tests can detect the earliest signs of illness in a ferret, and can greatly improve a ferret's chance of survival by providing early detection. Furthermore, if the results of these tests indicate disease is or may be present, the adoptive party agrees to follow up with any recommended treatment as to prevent the disease or illness from spreading. If the adoptive party, for financial or any other reason, is unwilling to follow up with treatment, **he/she agrees to return the affected ferret(s) to the PFCS**, where they will be given proper care and medical treatment.
5. **If the ferret(s) are at any time diagnosed with any malady or disease, which the adoptive party feels they cannot handle, either emotionally or financially, the adoptive party agrees to return the ferret(s) to the custody of the PFCS before euthanasia is elected as an alternative to treatment.**
6. No ferret will be adopted into a home which lies in a "ferret-free zone" (where the ownership of ferrets is prohibited). If the area in which the adoptive party resides is "ferret friendly" at the time of adoption, and at any later date becomes "ferret-free," the adoptive party agrees to contact the PFCS. The PFCS agrees *not to reclaim ownership* in this situation unless desired by the adoptive party, but we ask that you alert us to the status change so that we may help to change the law in your area.
7. If the adoptive party has adopted, through this contract, a pair of ferrets, the adoptive party agrees that under no circumstance (except communicable disease or death) will the pair of ferrets be permanently separated. If for any reason one of the pair cannot remain in the residence of the adoptive party, the adoptive party agrees to return both ferrets into the custody of the PFCS. Similarly, if the adoptive party has adopted, through this contract, a group of three or more ferrets, the group will not be separated (except in the case of communicable disease or death) in any way that any single ferret will be excluded. Therefore, trios may not be separated, quadruples may only be split into pairs, etc.
8. **The adoptive party agrees that under no circumstance may the ownership of the ferret(s) under this contract be transferred to any other party.** If, for any reason, the adoptive party cannot continue to retain ownership of the ferret(s), this contract will become nullified and the ferrets must be returned to the care of the PFCS.
9. While the PFCS takes all precautions to ensure the health and temperament of the ferret(s) put up for adoption are satisfactory, the PFCS does not make any guarantee, either express or implied, as to the temperament, health, habits, or background of the ferret(s) covered by this contract.



Agreement of Adoption, continued

- 10. The PFCS agrees that if the ferret(s) for any reason may not be kept in the residence of the adoptive party, the ferret(s) may be returned at any time. Within a period of two weeks, a full refund will be granted upon safe return of the ferret(s). Within one month, a 50% refund will be granted. The PFCS does guarantee that there is no known health condition present in the ferret(s) covered by this agreement. However, if the ferret(s) should pass away within 90 days of the adoption date, the adoptive party is required to notify the PFCS, and the adoptive party agrees to have an autopsy performed in a timely manner. The PFCS will pay 50% of the autopsy cost. If the autopsy shows a pre-existing health condition as the cause of death, the PFCS will allow you to adopt another ferret from the PFCS at no charge, assuming that another ferret is available at the time for adoption, and that the death of the ferret(s) is determined to be at no fault of the adoptive party.
- 11. The PFCS is a not-for-profit endeavor which operates solely for the purpose of providing a safe haven for needy ferrets. All donations, adoption fees, and other costs are collected solely for the purpose of covering expenses for the ferrets and the shelter, at no personal profit to any person associated with the PFCS, and as such, the PFCS is a service and is not a business.

THEREFORE, as the adoptive party, I attest that I have read the above conditions thoroughly and understand the content, and by signing this contract I agree to the terms set forth in this adoption agreement and wish to proceed with the adoption of the aforementioned ferret(s).

Signature, Adoptive Party

date

Signature, PFCS Authorized Personnel

date

Personal Information of Adoptive Party	
Full Name	_____
Street Address	_____
City, State, Zip	_____
Telephone Number	_____
E-Mail Address	_____

PFCS Use Only	
PFCS Branch:	_____
Director Name:	_____
No. Ferrets:	_____
Adoption Fee:	_____
Comment:	_____