

Dear Alex,

Hi! I heard you were looking for a pet to keep you company. I think you would love a potbellied pig. Before you veto getting a potbellied pig, hear me out. Potbellied pigs are the fifth most intelligent animals in the world! They can live to be 12 to 18 years old! Also, they have hair instead of fur so it is not very likely for you to be allergic to them.

Potbellied pigs will eat almost anything. They are friendly, affectionate, curious, loyal and clean! They are actually clean not dirty because they do not sweat... they roll in mud to cool off. I think that's very charming.

Potbellied pigs respond well to rules and boundaries, which makes them great pets to train. They actually need discipline or they might become grouchy. Also, just so you know, you can potty train them to use a litter box or go outside! They love praise!

Potbellied pigs love their personal space, too. Designate a box with rocks inside for rooting (you don't want overturned trash cans or a dug-up garden!). You will also want to pig-proof your house... it's just like baby-proofing a house.

A little about their eating... Potbellied pigs love to eat! Plan on feeding your pig two cups of pig-pellets per day for adults and fresh non-starchy vegetables should make up 20 percent of their diet. Add alfalfa hay or bran for fiber. You don't want to feed them table scraps, however, because they struggle with obesity.

Potbellied pigs are a big responsibility but such a fun pet and companion. I have no doubt you will love and enjoy having one. I hope you choose a potbellied pig to adopt.

Your friend,
K