



- 38 Pet Health**
What to feed your aging pets
- 40 Pregnancy**
Lose weight before you conceive
- 41 Baby Talk**
How to make bath time stress-free

PET HEALTH

Rescue Mission

Actor Allison Janney has a soft spot for dogs. She's opened her home and heart to a lucky few

By Melanie D.G. Kaplan



EXPERT TIP

"Fresh fruits, vegetables, and proteins can help delay the symptoms of aging and keep your pet's weight under control."—*Ernie Ward, DVM*

Dog Daze

● **What's the story of your dogs, Dutch and Sippie?**

I was filming *The Help* in Greenwood, Miss., and had too many days off in a row. So I started looking at the Petfinder app, for cattle dogs, and I saw Dutch—this teeny puppy with the largest ears. He was at a kill shelter. They put him in my arms, and I fell in love. They said, “Well, he has a sister.” I said, “Let’s do it.” I had to move out of The Alluvian Hotel, so the pups and I stayed with [director] Tate Taylor, and they proceeded to poop all over everything.

● **What does your first dog, Addie, think about the new kids?**

Addie couldn’t have been more upset with me. It took about six months.

● **Who's in charge?**

I’m not a great alpha. The dogs rule the roost. I sometimes sit on the couch to watch the news while they are running all over. It’s like Jurassic Park. Dutch is a jumper, and I haven’t discouraged him because I think it’s great—I’m so tall and he can leap up to give me a kiss.

● **When you're stressed out, is one of them your go-to dog?**

Addie is this gracious, loving dog with a peaceful energy, like a Buddha dog. She calms me. Dutch won’t get in bed with me at night, but at some point I wake up to him flapping his ears by my head—my signal to lift up the covers and let him in. It’s sweet—like he doesn’t want the girls to know he’s a mama’s boy.

● **Do they travel with you?**

When I got Sippie and Dutch, I thought finally I’ll have my emotional-needs dog that I can travel with. At the pound they assured me these were Chihuahua mixes, and then they each grew to 40 pounds. So I just need to find a little guy for travel, but I’m kind of on dog lockdown now.

“I’d love to get a bigger piece of property and get a few more dogs.”

Janney stars in the CBS series *Mom* and is in the film *Bad Words*, opening in March.

Read the full Q&A with Allison Janney in our free iPad app!

Reviewed by **Will Draper, DVM**
WebMD Pet Health Expert