Puppies are adorable. But they are lifetime responsibilities that live from eight to 14 years, depending on the breed.

If you have your heart set on giving someone a dog this holiday season, consider gift wrapping dog toys or supplies such as a leash, or food bowl to symbolize the gift of a dog to come.

Once the hectic holidays are over, the owners-to-be will have a chance to research the breed of dog that best suits their preferences and lifestyle. They’ll also be more likely to devote the necessary attention and time to choosing and welcoming their new canine companion into their household.

For more information about purebred dogs visit www.akc.org or call 919-233-9767.