

## **Pets given up by owners**

As we begin drafting the 2012 Annual Report we notice some very worrying figures when it comes to the pets brought in to SPCA Penang by their owners during the year. Compared to 2011, we see a 20% increase in the number of dogs surrendered - bad enough - but a totally unacceptable 146% increase in the number of cats surrendered.

We cannot emphasize enough that taking on a pet is a major commitment - time, money, trust... and your love. Think it through before taking on an animal.

If you can't commit - DON'T ADOPT/BUY. A pet loves its owner unconditionally and should be seen as part of your family. Do not betray that trust and simply throw your pet away - would you throw away other family members in the same way?

If you really have to give up your pet, try to find a new RESPONSIBLE owner for it before bringing it to SPCA.

Here are some good articles about commitment:

For dogs: [http://www.akc.org/public\\_education/responsible\\_dog\\_owner.cfm](http://www.akc.org/public_education/responsible_dog_owner.cfm)

For cats: <http://cats.about.com/cs/catmanagement101/a/readyforcat.htm>