Date-A-Dog: User Manual (Dater)

Shelter dogs are often confined to kennels which leave very little room for physical activity, leading to a stressful life behind chain link walls. While animal shelters work hard to reduce stress for these dogs by bringing in volunteer dog walkers, the number of volunteers is often not sufficient. As a result, most dogs rarely leave their kennels.

Date-A-Dog is a mobile application for Android that allows users to schedule a date with dogs housed in animal shelters in their local area. A date can be a walk around the neighborhood or a day of hiking, i.e. short term outings with no pressure of a long term commitment. Users log into the application and see pictures of dogs along with a short description. If a user sees a dog that they like, they can request a date with that dog, and their information gets sent to the respective animal shelter. The animal shelter then follows up with the user to gather any missing information and finalize the date.

Date-A-Dog is a great tool for people who enjoy spending time with dogs, but do not have the financial means or the time to commit to a full time pet. It is also a great way for people looking to adopt a full-time pet, but would like to spend some time with the animal first. This may be particularly helpful for families who would like to see how a dog does with children before bringing the dog home.

Although there are other applications that allow users to look at local shelter dogs, such as Walkzee or even shelter websites, Date-A-Dog remains unique in that it streamlines the dog perusal and date request process. Users can both view dog profiles and request dates from one interface and follow up on previously-made requests. Date-A-Dog also combines information from multiple shelters into one database of dogs, thereby eradicating the inconvenience of jumping from one website to another, while navigating the telephone at the same time. The application also maintains a history of 'liked' dogs and date requests. Date-A-Dog is like having your own personal animal shelter representative in your pocket!

How to Install Date-a-Dog on Android device:

It is recommended that you install Date-a-Dog on Android devices running Android versions 4.0.0 and higher.

1. Open your preferred browser on your Android mobile device.
2. Go to https://date-a-dog.github.io/
3. Click "*Download for Android (.apk)".*
4. Once download is complete, open *Downloads*, tap on the .APK file.
5. Tap "*Yes"* to begin installation.
   > (**Note**: *You may need to do the following steps to allow third-party app installs on your device:*
   > - Navigate to "*Settings" > Security* (or "*Lock screen and security"*) > check "*Unknown Sources").*

How to Run Date-A-Dog:

1. On your android device, tap on the Date-a-Dog app icon from your applications list.
2. Tap on the "*Log in with Facebook*" button.
3. Enter your Facebook user credentials
   (**Note:** *Users must have a pre-existing Facebook account*)

Workflow:

Date-A-Dog is designed to conform to the Android UI

1. ***How to Like Dogs for Future Dates***: Upon successful login, users are presented with the first image of a dog from a set of available shelter dogs in the area. Interaction with dog photos is designed with a Tinder-like swiping style.
   a. Swipe left – dog is flagged as "not liked".
   b. Swipe right – dog is flagged as "liked".
   c. Also, from any screen, tap the "Dogs Near Me" Button on the top of the screen.

2. ***How to Set Up a Date***: Once a user has flagged at least one dog as "liked" from the home screen, the following actions must be performed from the app home screen:
   a. Tap on *Liked.*
   b. Tap on a dog profile.
   c. Tap *Request Date.*
   d. Enter desired date and time for date, and required personal information.
   e. Tap *Confirm.*

3. ***How to Check Status on Existing Date Requests***: From the app home screen, the user can access the list of submitted requests, and status of each by executing the following steps:
   a. Tap *Liked*
      - Displays all submitted date requests with the option to cancel

How to Access Help Page/FAQ:

b. Tap on the *Help* button which will direct you to our Application page.

How to Report Bugs:

Bug reports can be submitted through email at dateadogapp@gmail.com. Please submit bugs by following the format specified by Mozilla at:

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Mozilla/QA/Bug_writing_guidelines

Thank you for using Date-A-Dog! Have a woofin' time!