

Are You Ready To Consider Adoption?

The goal of this questionnaire is to help you (and your partner) identify, clarify and discuss your feelings about adopting. If you have a partner, complete the assessment separately, then share and discuss your answers allowing each person to freely express their responses.

1. Who is the driving force for wanting to adopt?
 - Me (definitely)
 - Me (a little bit more than my spouse)
 - My spouse/partner (definitely)
 - My spouse/partner (a little bit more)
 - Both want to adopt about the same

2. Will this driving force dynamic cause conflict in your relationship?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Possibly

3. What age child would you prefer to adopt?
 - Newborn (under six months)
 - Infant (newborn to 2)
 - Preschooler (3 to 5)
 - Primary school (6 to 10)
 - Middle school (11 to 14)
 - High school (15 to 18)

4. How firm are you on the age selected above?
 - Absolutely firm
 - Willing to explore slightly older/younger
 - Not sure at all

5. Which of the following racial heritages would you be willing to consider in an adoptive child? (Select all that apply)
 - Any Child
 - Asian
 - Black
 - Caucasian
 - Caucasian/Black
 - Hispanic
 - Native American
 - Multi-Racial

6. Which gender would you prefer in your child?
 - Girl
 - Boy
 - Either

7. Would you consider twins?
- Yes
 - No
8. Would you consider siblings?
- Yes
 - No
9. Which of the following disabilities or risk factors would be you willing to consider in an adoptive child? (Check all that apply)
- Alcohol exposed (occasional)
 - Alcohol exposed (frequent)
 - Drug exposed (occasional)
 - Deafness
 - Developmental disabilities (mild)
 - Developmental disabilities (moderate)
 - Developmental disabilities (severe)
 - Mild or medically correctable condition
 - Smoking exposed
 - Emotional/mental disorders in family
 - Emotional/mental disorders in child
 - Premature birth
 - Club foot
 - Cleft palate or lip
 - Down Syndrome
 - Epilepsy in child
 - Epilepsy in family
 - Blindness
 - Diabetes in child
 - Diabetes in family
 - Conceived through rape
 - Conceived through incest
 - Nothing known about father
 - Nothing known about mother
10. Do you feel you are stable in your relationship as a couple without having children?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
11. Will friends and family members be supportive of your plans to adopt?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure

12. What level of openness are you willing to consider with birth parents?
- Identifying open adoption
 - Open adoption without sharing identifying information
 - Exchanging letters and photos only
 - Completely confidential (closed) adoption
13. Where would you be willing to go to adopt? (Select all that apply)
- Only in our state
 - Neighboring states
 - Anywhere in U.S.
 - International
14. Have you put an adoption budget together?
- Yes
 - No
 - Don't know where to begin
15. When and how do you feel children should be told they're adopted?
- As early as possible
 - Mid- to late-childhood
 - As adults
 - Only when they ask
 - Only when they find out
 - Never
 - Not sure
16. Would you support/assist your child if he/she wanted to search, contact, or have a relationship with his/her birthparents?
- Yes
 - No
 - Don't know
17. Will you or your partner change your workload or work schedule outside the home after the adoption?
- Yes, I will stay at home with the child
 - Yes, my partner will stay at home with the child
 - I will reduce my work load to part time
 - My partner will reduce his/her work load to part time
 - Will remain the same
 - Already stay-at-home
18. Are you ready to love an adopted child as much as one you gave birth to biologically?
- Yes
 - No
 - I think so
 - I don't know

19. Would you prefer to continue with infertility treatment before seriously pursuing adoption?

- Yes, I want to
- No, I don't want to
- My partner wants to, but I don't
- My partner does not want to, but I do
- Not sure

20. How long are you willing to wait to adopt?

- Up to six months
- Six months to 1 year
- 1 year to 2 years
- 2 to 3 years
- However long it takes

By allowing yourself to learn about new experiences and giving yourself the time it takes to understand the process, you will no doubt begin to better understand how you feel about adopting.

The adoption journey is truly all about self-assessment. If you choose the adoption route to reach parenthood, you will find that it is a journey filled with many educational opportunities.

Adoption STAR believes that Support, Training, Advocacy and Resources are your first and most important ingredients for a healthy adoption journey....