



# QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF WHEN CHOOSING AN ADOPTIVE FAMILY

The process of choosing a family in adoption has many layers. In addition to learning about prospective adoptive parents' jobs, interests and lifestyle, we encourage you to consider their values, communication style, and overall vision for the open adoption relationship, and how this aligns with you. We've discovered that what most people hope to find is adoptive parents with a 'welcoming heart'.

When thinking about the qualities you are seeking in an adoptive family, how would their actions and lifestyle reflect these qualities?



**What values are most important to you?**

**What makes you feel welcome and comfortable in a relationship?**

**Think about the relationship you share with a good friend. What qualities make that relationship special and lasting?**

**How will you know if an adoptive family has these qualities? How would their actions and lifestyle reflect these qualities?**

**What do you hope to tell your child about why you chose this family?**

# IDENTIFY WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU.

In addition to the previous questions, the following 10-point scale will help you identify the areas that are most important to you when choosing a family. Mark the number next to each item to indicate its level of importance.

For each of the items listed, consider noting what is important to you in that area. For example under "Hobbies and Interests", someone might note "loves to cook, plays video games" etc.

**1 = Not Important ... 10 = Extremely Important**

<b>Similar Vision for Open Adoption Relationship</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Compatible Personality</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Cultural Diversity (Race/Ethnicity, Bilingual)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Family Lifestyle</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Hobbies and Interests</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Extended Family Involvement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Religion/Spirituality</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Parenting Style</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Environmentally Conscious</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Political Views</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Other important qualities you are looking for?</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>



**OPEN ADOPTION & FAMILY SERVICES**

[OPENADOPT.ORG](http://OPENADOPT.ORG)

TALK TO A COUNSELOR

1-800-772-1115