

# 'Lucky Dog' Host Brandon McMillan Shares Dating Advice: "Plan Your Moments For and With Each Other"



By [Sarah Batcheller](#)

Coming from a family of circus animal entertainers, [Brandon McMillan](#) was introduced to the world of animal training at a young age. Beginning with wild animals like tigers and moving on to household canines, he has a long-running love for adrenaline and has mastered the art of command and diligence. On his CBS series *Lucky Dog*, the animal lover shows off his training skills: Beginning by adopting lonely dogs from shelters, he brings them back to Lucky Dog Ranch to be

trained. He then finds homes (often with owners for whom the dog can provide service) for the lucky dogs. In our exclusive celebrity interview, the television star opened up about season two of his hit show and his best [dating advice](#) to consider before bringing a furry friend home.

## Exclusive Celebrity Interview with 'Lucky Dog' Host

The canine transformer reveals that the current season of *Lucky Dog* involves having a lot more fun and says, "I like to outdo everything I've done before." He mentions that he will even be teaching an eight-year-old doberman mix to stand on a paddle board, joking about the adage, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." Plus, he shares that there will be a lot more service this year as well; for example, he trains a dog to assist an injured war veteran.

**Related Link:** ['Lucky Dog' Host Brandon McMillan Says, "If I Can't Laugh Constantly with Someone, It Won't Work Out"](#)

The Lucky Dog Ranch owner wants his viewers to remember "never to underestimate the power of a shelter dog." He explains, "There's an old myth that shelter dogs are damaged goods, when in reality they're just as trainable, if not more trainable, than breeder dogs." The circus veteran says that, as a teenager, he wanted to make all the money he could training animals, and now, at 37, he wants to make all the difference he can.

## Dating Advice for Couples Who Want to Adopt a Pet

McMillan advises couples who are looking to rescue a pet together to remember to compromise. For example, if one

partner likes smaller, fluffier dogs, and the other likes bigger dogs, they'll have to find a way to meet in the middle. He encourages them to "spend week after week at the shelter rather than going off of an immediate reaction or face value. It's important to remember that a dog's personality is more important than how aesthetically pleasing he is." Once the couple does have the dog, he suggests the more patient person train him, while the more energetic one exercises him.

If you already have a pet who's not quite sure about your new boyfriend, you may want to take your dog's reaction seriously. The *Lucky Dog* host humorously recalls that women he knows often utilize a golden rule of, "If my pet doesn't like you, then I don't either." He laughs about this dating advice, saying, "If a woman says her cat hates a man she's seeing, then that man is toast!"

As far as his own love life goes, the animal trainer is single, attributing his relationship status to the fact that 23 hours of his day are dedicated to *Lucky Dog*. "Unless a person can dedicate 51 percent of their time to another person, they're not ready to be in a committed relationship," he shares in our exclusive celebrity interview. Even though training dogs for service is his priority now, he can see himself settling down with someone special in the next couple of years. So be on the lookout, ladies!

**Related Link:** [Dating with Dogs: Picking Out a Pet Together](#)

The adrenaline junkie's first love was the thrill of training wild animals, and in his opinion, if two people's interests are too different, then the relationship is a no-go. He feels like his thirst for adventure and desire to do activities like skydiving or swimming with sharks has been incompatible with partners in the past and therefore a deal breaker.

The busy trainer's dating advice for those with careers that cause them to travel often, like his does, is to make

sure every minute is quality time. “No sitting on the couch watching trash television! Really plan your moments for and with each other. Saying ‘I’m too tired’ leads to trouble,” he believes.

*Fans can keep up with Brandon on Twitter @BrandonMcMillan. Be sure to catch Lucky Dog weekend mornings on CBS!*

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**‘Lucky Dog’ Host Brandon McMillan Says, “If I Can’t Laugh Constantly with Someone, It Won’t Work Out”**





Interview by [Whitney Johnson](#). Written by Petra Halbur.

[Brandon McMillan](#) has dedicated his life to working with animals – so much, in fact, that he hardly has time to date. Now, he’s bringing his work to the small screen with a new show for CBS called *Lucky Dog*, which premieres on Saturday, September 28th as part of “The CBS Dream Team” line-up. Each episode will follow the trainer as he adopts a dog from a shelter – one that’s hours away from euthanasia – and then brings him back to The Lucky Dog Ranch to be trained before finding the perfect family.

**Related Link:** [Must Love Dogs: More Singles Getting Pets](#)

This television opportunity is a logical next step in McMillan’s career. He grew up around animals as the son of two circus trainers, moving to Los Angeles at age 18 to pursue a new path. “When I left the circus, I knew I wanted another animal training job, so Hollywood was the ideal option,” he explains. “I started working with animals for the movies, but as we all know, movies come and go, so work would get slow a lot. I then began training dogs for shelters, a cause that’s

always held a spot in my heart.”

The trainer speaks passionately about the treatment of shelter dogs in the United States. “I read the facts, and they blow my mind. Every year in America over 1.5 million dogs are euthanized because they can’t find homes. I wanted to find out why this was happening.”

Despite his concern, McMillan doesn’t condemn kill shelters, insisting that he approaches the issue from a different perspective. “My job as a trainer is to spread the word on how to train dogs and help keep them out of the shelters,” he shares. It seems that many pet owners simply drop their dogs when their would-be canine companion doesn’t behave properly. “They say, ‘You know what? Why don’t I just drop him off at the shelter? It’s just down the street.’ It’s an easy option. So I attack it from a different angle. I say, ‘Why don’t you take three days to learn how to train your dog? And he’ll keep quiet; he’ll stay; and he’ll walk on a leash properly.’”

When he’s not working the shelter dogs, McMillan helps pet owners train their dogs. He often works with couples who are struggling with differing views on puppy parenting. “The woman usually wants a dog to be more cutesy and more of a lap dog, while the guy wants the dog to be more tough,” he explains. It then becomes McMillan’s job to help the couple find a middle ground.

Before getting a dog, couples tend to disagree on the dog’s preferable size or breed. To this problem, McMillan advises, “Let the dog choose you. I constantly tell people to go in with a wide frame of mind, saying, “Whatever dog I feel connected to, that’s the one that I want in my family.” He also suggests that couples wait until they are “pretty established” in their relationship before adopting a pet to prevent a custody battle later on. “Dogs are becoming the new kids in America,” he wryly observes.

**Related Link:** [Date Idea: Cuddle With a Furry Friend](#)

The handsome trainer is raising his own pets by himself. He's currently single because, by his own admission, "I'm so consumed by the show that I go to bed at around 9 p.m. because I have to get up at 4 a.m. We start every morning around 6 a.m. because I want to make sure we work the dogs before the heat kicks in every afternoon."

Still, he knows what he wants in a woman. In addition to a love for animals, McMillan says his perfect mate would have to have a great sense of humor. "I'm a joker and a goofball. If she seems too serious, get out!" he says. "If I can't laugh constantly with someone, it won't work out." An ideal date for him would somehow incorporate the great outdoors – something that's easy to take advantage of thanks to the California landscape and shoreline.

*For more information about McMillan, check out his personal site. Tune in for Lucky Dog on CBS on Saturday mornings!*

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**‘Big Brother’ Couple Jeff Schroeder and Jordan Lloyd Discuss Living Together, Dieting and Watching ‘The Bachelor’**





By Michelle Danzig and Rachael Moore

Jeff Schroeder and Jordan Lloyd instantly had chemistry when they met on the set of *Big Brother* in 2009. Building a strong friendship first, they formed an alliance on the show and became huge targets in the eyes of their competitors. "Being friends was our only option. We knew there were some romantic feelings, but we didn't express them because we wanted to win," said Schroeder.

But being just friends didn't last long. After Lloyd defeated the rest of her houseguests, walking away with the cash prize, and Schroeder was voted America's Favorite Houseguest, their relationship developed into something more intimate. This gradual shift from friends to lovers helped them with their communication skills. As she explained, "We are so open with each other and never hold anything back."



Two months later, CBS asked the pair to take part in *The Amazing Race*. Their diverse personalities were tested on the show and their relationship certainly felt the pressure. “We wanted to strangle each other,” Lloyd shared. “We still needed to get to know each other better since we were newly dating.”

**Related Link:** [Ryan Danz and Abbie Ginsberg Tell Us How They Bonded on ‘The Amazing Race’](#)

After they were eliminated from the race, Schroeder and Lloyd returned to their separate homes in Chicago, Illinois and Charlotte, North Carolina respectively, pursuing a long-distance relationship. They tried to see each other two or three times a month and felt that, by putting forth an equal amount of effort, they could make their relationship work.

However, long-distance relationships are never easy, no matter how hard you try. Schroeder advises other couples to “be patient because everything happens for a reason.” Having a goal that you want to pursue with your significant other is also important. “We knew we were always going to move in together; we just didn’t know where because we are from two totally different places.”

“Having complete trust in one another made us worry less about where we were going and who we were seeing,” he added.

After dating and living apart for two and a half years, the couple moved in together in a small apartment in Los Angeles. By taking this next step, they discovered that they were complete opposites, not only competitively but also with food and television. “The way we eat is totally different. I like fried food, and Jeff likes seafood,” Lloyd said of her man.

As for their varying tastes in television, the DVR is a huge help. The adorable pair enjoys watching TV together, even though they like different shows. However, they do share CupidsPulse.com’s love of [The Bachelor](#) and have been hooked since the first episode. “Nobody ends up getting married, but

we can't stop watching," she said.

**Related Link:** [The Bachelor 17, Episode 6: Chemistry in Canada](#)

"We think Tierra is so dramatic and we just can't wait to see what happens," Schroeder added.

With their relationship going strong, the *Big Brother* couple will be celebrating Valentine's Day in a really special way. They're both participating in DietBet, a nationwide dieting challenge where they promised to shed pounds as their gift to each other. Over 367 players are a part of the program, which will end just before the romantic holiday, and vying to win a portion of the \$18,350 pot of prize money; together, the participants have already lost a collective 1,170 pounds. Whoever reaches the goal of dropping four percent of his or her weight will split the pot.

Schroeder and Lloyd believe that DietBet is a great motivator because, with so many people watching and supporting you, you can't fail. To meet their goals, they often do yoga together. "I thought yoga was just stretching, but it's totally different. I didn't know it would help me so much," he revealed. While he also goes to the gym to lose weight, he inspired his girlfriend to run along the beach to get fit.

To stay healthy, the pair also goes food shopping together. They buy a lot of fruit and like to try new recipes to encourage each other's healthy eating habits. But if someone brings cheese in the house, all bets are off!

They've both found success with the program, losing around 10 pounds each. They are confident that they are going to win DietBet, and if they do, they will be giving their earnings to charity.

Next up for the active couple? Schroeder will be developing some projects for the summer, while Lloyd plans to return to school to get her cosmetology license. And, of course, they'll

be tuning in to see who wins Sean Lowe's heart on *The Bachelor*!

Also follow them on Twitter: @jeffschroeder23 and @BBJordanLloyd.