I grew up in California with cats and dogs as part of the household and spent years caring for the animals of friends and neighbors when they went on vacation. I became a pet mother in my own right after settling down in DC about 17 years ago. My current brood includes Clovis, a pit bull rescue, and adopted cats Finn, Jax, and Mouse. Between the four of them, there's never a dull moment at home. When I'm not busy satisfying their every whim, I work with homeless individuals helping them find permanent housing in the city. Eventually I'll find a large swath of land to live out my days with a dozen or so cats and dogs to keep me company, but until that time, I welcome every opportunity to shower yours with love and affection—and exercise!