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THE IMPACT OF FUR COLOR ON A DOG'S TIME IN A SHELTER

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The aim of the study was to analyse how puppy characteristics such as colour, size, age and appearance affect the length of stay in the dog's shelter. We applied machine learning methods to identify which factors are most influential in determining whether puppies stay longer or shorter in the shelter. The study used classification and clustering methods to reveal these relationships. The establishment suggests that age has the biggest impact, but our study indicated that appearance (colour pattern) and size have the biggest impact. Clustering methods revealed different groups of puppies according to their gender, colour and age. The results show that the appearance of puppies can have a significant impact on their adoption rate, and these insights can help shelters to better plan resources and target strategies. In the future, it would be appropriate to extend the study to include additional behavioural characteristics of the puppy.

Key words: *puppy adoption, length of stay, classification, clustering, machine learning*