

Nick Lachey and Vanessa Minnillo Adopt a Dog

The couple found the 1-year-old Siberian Husky at a roadside adoption event.

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Nick Lachey and longtime girlfriend Vanessa Minnillo adopted a dog Sunday, Lachey told People. “Now that I say it on record I’m going to have to keep him,” he joked.

Lachey, the ex-husband of Jessica Simpson, and Minnillo came across the 1-year-old Siberian Husky, named Kona, at a roadside adoption event in Los Angeles.

“I was driving down Ventura and we saw rescue dogs on the side of the road,” he said. “Vanessa was with me — I don’t make those kinds of decisions alone anymore — but since I grew up with a Husky, I couldn’t resist.”

Calling the breed “independent” and “stubborn by nature,” Lachey said they’re harder dogs to train “because they can be aloof. They need a lot of exercise, but once you let them know that you’re the alpha male, they’re very loyal, great dogs.” For the record, the AKC breed standard calls the breed friendly, alert and intelligent.

So who will be the stricter parent? “It’s too early to tell,” laughed Lachey.