

The Year's Pet Names in Review

Petfinder.com ranks 2010's most popular dog names and celebrity pet names.

Posted: January 3, 2011, 2 a.m. EST

And the winner is...Elvis. The late, great rocker is Petfinder.com's most popular celebrity pet name. The site's top dog name overall? Buddy.

"Every year I look forward to this ranking," says Betsy Banks Saul, cofounder of the online adoption database. "Buddy and Max will probably always be popular, it's always a blast to see just how creative people get when naming their pets," she says.

A name that continues to rise up the site's ranks for both dogs and cats is Bella, the name of a character from the "Twilight" series of books and films. Bella jumped from No. 6 to the No. 4 spot for dogs, and from No. 4 to No. 3 for cats.

Saul says unusual and pop culture names for adoptable pets aren't just fun, they're practical. "We often hear that adoptable pets get more attention on both Petfinder.com and in the shelter when they have interesting names," she says. "Therefore, for many reasons, we encourage as much creativity as possible."

2010 Top 10 Most Popular Dog Names1. Buddy (1019)2. Max (822)3. Daisy (755)4. Bella (716)5. Lucy (705)6. Jack (673)7. Molly (639)8. Charlie (616)9. Sadie (594)10. Rocky (564)

2010 Top 10 Celebrity Pet Names1. Elvis (256)2. Houdini (117)3. Cher (92)4. Madonna (62)5. Twiggy (61)6. Oprah (43)7. Lady Gaga (34)8. Beyonce (28)9. Coco Chanel (24)10. Shakira (17)