

Free: Advise

On: How to Adopt a good puppy?,

- Start with the Breed homework,
- then move to breeder homework, (or rescue shelter)
- THEN move to puppy homework

1. First, do some homework on the type of dog that suits your family, All breeds differ;

Learn about Different Breeds and Mixes

Find out which dogs have the qualities you're looking for?

Choosing the right dog means identifying the type of animal who matches your lifestyle and wants. If you live alone in a small, third-floor apartment, for instance, adopting a large, active retriever-mix might not be the best choice, if you have a family of four and are looking for a companion to match your active lifestyle, such an animal may be perfect. A dog's size, exercise requirements, friendliness, assertiveness, and **compatibility with children** should all figure into your decision.

2. THEN Learn HOW to find a good breeder

Finding a good breeder, means doing your homework. (most breeders have learned to tell you what you want to hear)

a) First: Call the breeder, Get the name and number of her vet. Call the vet and get information on the breeder, her puppies, AND the parents of the puppies.
A good breeder will have the same vet for years and Have a strong relationship with a local veterinarian, and his receptionists should be able to give a good referral on them. Plus, he has (or should have) hands on the parents annually for health testing, and routine care, plus he should have hands on the puppies, for check ups and vaccines. A breeders Vet knows the most. Also contacting local breed clubs, or visiting dog shows will put information in your hand.

B) Then: Visit the breeders home, and SEE that the puppies are actually raised in the home. Visit and have hands on the parents.

Have the breeder do some temperament testing on the puppies, to show you their individual personalities, as a good breeder, will select the best temperament fit for your family. For example: If you are new to owning a dog, a good breeder will never place an Alfa pup with you.

A good breeder Has dogs who appear clean, happy and healthy, are excited to meet new people, and don't shy away from visitors.

Adopting a Great companion, without issues { does not include } :

- Gazing into the sad eyes of the puppy in the pet store window, and you want to "rescue" the lonely pooch... (you know NOTHING of his parents or breeders)
- or reading an ad in the newspaper, and the couple seems so trustworthy, with their decades of experience breeding dogs...
 - --or You find a website with photos of beautiful puppies that insists the "little darlings" and "bundles of joy" will only be sold to "loving families" ... and are kitchen raised
 - -- or it says all our puppies are health tested. (many breeders do health testing, and when the dog fails, they still breed to recover funds). They are telling the truth, to say the dogs are tested, but. You want to SEE copies of the CERTIFIED health testing. (pass or fail)

Beware! A mass dog-breeding facility could hide behind each of these scenarios. Most likely, you've heard about them. The Humane Society calls them puppy mills, and for good reason. OR, you could have found a new small breeder, that is breeding unhealthy dogs. (often unknowingly, as they are also uneducated) People buy puppies from breeders (or neighbors) who breed their dog to make a little money or simply because they have an unaltered cute dog. Too often, the result is puppies in poor health or with temperament problems that may not be discovered until years later. Unfortunately, these new-pet families often end up heartbroken, with a dog who has genetic health problems or develops significant behavior problems due to a lack of early socialization. In some cases, these problems can cost thousands of dollars to treat.

Puppy mills frequently house dogs in poor conditions, particularly for the "breeding stock" animals who are caged and continually bred for years, without human companionship, and then sold to another after their fertility ends. Beware of breeders, that continually sell retired breeding dogs. These adult dogs are bred repeatedly to produce litter after litter—without becoming part of a family. The result is hundreds of thousands of puppies churned out each year for sale at pet stores, over the Internet, and through newspaper ads. This practice will end only when people stop buying these puppy mill puppies.

- **A CKC registered breeder does not mean a "good" breeder.** To be a member of the CKC in good standing, all you have to do, is apply, and pay your dues. If you have unethical breeding practices, you are protected from disclosure, from human rights. So homework has to go beyond checking a breeder to be a ckc member.
- **Many disreputable "breeders" sell their dogs directly to the public over the Internet and through newspaper ads.** They often sell several breeds of dogs, but may advertise each breed in a separate place or website. A good way to check up on a breeder, is to google their name, and phone number.
- **Reputable breeders care where their pups go and interview hopeful adopters.** They don't ever sell through pet stores or to families they haven't checked out. They will also have a contract for you to sign, and a guarantee. You will need to spay or neuter your dog by a certain age, and if you can no longer care for your dog, a good breeder will want it returned. Look for these things in a contract.

- **Purebred "papers" do not guarantee the quality of the breeder or the dog.** Even the (CKC) readily admits that it "cannot guarantee the quality or health of dogs in its registry."
- **Puppy mill puppies often have medical problems.** These problems can lead to veterinary bills in the thousands of dollars. Some breeders count on the bond between families and their new puppies being so strong that the puppies won't be returned. And guarantees are often so difficult to comply with that they are virtually useless. In addition, poor breeding and socialization practices at many puppy mills can lead to behavioral problems throughout the puppies' lives.

Please don't buy from a pet store, and be very wary of websites and newspaper ads. A good reputable, vet referred breeder, will not have to run weekly newspaper ads, in a variety of places. She should have a nice website and She will have built up a clientele, plus, she should have a wait list, before she breeds. Above all, don't ever buy a dog if you can't physically visit. Puppy mills will continue to operate until people stop buying their dogs. We urge you to visit your local shelter, where you are likely to find dozens of healthy, well-socialized puppies and adult dogs—just waiting for that special home—yours.

Breeders that show their dogs, is a good indication that they are breeding at a higher level. They do more health testing, and what showing does do:, is proves the dog is structurally put together properly, plus it shows the dogs have a good temperament. If you read, that the puppy is from Champion LINES, this means nothing, To mean anything, You want the parents and grandparents to be champions, health tested, and known. A breeder that shows, is NOT breeding to make money, but is usually breeding dogs she is proud of.