

BREEDER CHECKLIST

The following checklist may be used to aid in determining if you are dealing with a responsible breeder. Visiting a nursing mother (breeding dog) with her puppies is the **ONLY** way to know for sure how they live and how well they are treated. We do not recommend buying a puppy without first visiting the breeding facility and seeing the mother nursing with her puppies.

Contact our team should you need assistance or guidance: pawsolutions1@gmail.com

STEP 1: Initial Telephone Interview with Breeder

Checklist/Question:	Yes	No	COMMENTS
1. Are both parent dogs on site and available for visiting whilst mom is nursing her puppies?			<p>Note: At least the mother should be available. Responsible breeders specialize in only 1 or 2 breeds.</p> <p>If purebred, they should have CKC pedigree and lineage documents <u>Purebred does not mean WELL bred!</u></p>
2. What other breeds do you have?			<p>Yes = specializes in 1 or 2 breeds If breeding more than two breeds - RED FLAG!</p>
3. Are you a member of a recognized national breed club? If Yes, which one?			<p>Call club and check! Note: The Canadian Kennel Club does not verify the quality of any breeder – they simply register puppies as purebred. They do not visit breeders!</p> <p><u>Purebred does not mean WELL bred!</u></p>
4. a. When is your next litter due? _____ b. When was the last litter born? _____			<p>YES = only 1 litter per year per mother</p> <p>Even although dogs go into heat twice yearly, many breeders will not breed twice in the same year. Others believe it is best for their dogs to only breed 2-3 times throughout their lifespan.</p>



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Checklist/Question:	Yes	No	COMMENTS
5. Do you have a waiting list for your puppies?			If there is a constant supply of puppies - RED FLAG! Good breeders' reputations follow them. They don't need to advertise their puppies, selling mostly word of mouth.
6. Are genetic health testing records available? Can I verify that directly with your vet?			Check them to ensure genetic integrity of the parent dogs.
7. Do puppies come with a veterinary checked health certificate/guarantee? Who is the vet?			Puppies SHOULD come with a health certificate and vet health clearance for the mother. Find out the vet's name and details. Check them!
8. Will the puppies be vaccinated?			Consult with a veterinarian to determine which vaccines are appropriate for your puppy.
9. Can I breed my puppy?			Response should be NO. Responsible breeders will insist on a spay/neuter contract, meaning you cannot breed their puppies)
10. What's your policy in the event that I can't keep the puppy?			YES = Breeder will take back their puppy Responsible breeders INSIST that their puppies are returned to them if you cannot keep the puppy
11. Will my deposit be returned should I not choose a puppy from the current litter?			Buyer beware! Ensure that you fully understand purchase/financial policy.
12. Will a formal contract/written bill of sale be provided for the puppy?			This verifies a formal monetary exchange and provides pertinent information about the puppy

NOTE:

Some breeders offer (male) puppies for a reduced price in exchange for a 'stud' service contract. This arrangement typically includes a five (5) year 'stud' contract. It greatly benefits the breeder but the purchaser often assumes all responsibility and costs for the puppy, including the cost of neutering when the contract ends. Ensure that you fully understand and agree to all terms of such contracts.



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STEP 2: On-Site Visit with Nursing Mother

Checklist/Question	Yes	No	COMMENTS
1. Are mom and puppies in a relaxed, clean and healthy environment?			Note mother's physical appearance – i.e.; clean coat, well groomed, healthy teeth, clean ears and eyes, nicely trimmed nails. Is she comfortable around humans?
2. Are mom and puppies being cared for in a home environment?			Puppies should be handled often and mom should not be afraid of human touch.
3. Is there any area of the facility that is off-limits?			If YES - RED FLAG!
4. Can any dogs be heard barking in an area off-limits to visitors?			If YES - RED FLAG!
5. Can breeder describe the genetic disposition, health concerns, and characteristics of the breed?			Breeder should be very knowledgeable about the breed and will point out both good and bad characteristics.
6. Is breeder willing to provide a veterinary check reference?			If YES, follow up with the vet. Check vet credentials.

Additional Notes:

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