

Dog Breeding Reform Group

Aims

'To promote and support initiatives and reforms that will effectively improve dog welfare related to genetic health and breeding/rearing practices.'

Achievable Objectives

- 1 Advocate the continuation of the Advisory Council on the Welfare Issues of Dog Breeding until a satisfactory alternative independent committee is set up to represent the welfare of Companion Animals
- 2 Obtain funding for the DAC beyond 2013 which will allow it to continue to work on its own priorities
- 3 Promote the widespread use of a single accepted Puppy Contract
- 4 Promote a single accepted Breeding Standard
- 5 Lobby the Government and Opposition for a register of all dog breeders with the local authorities (alternatively, lobby for the reduction of a breeder's licensing requirements to three or more litters a year)
- 6 Lobby the Government and Opposition for the protection of the offspring of dogs used for breeding under the Animal Welfare Act (secondary legislation). To include this in a statutory Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs
- 7 Lobby the Government and Opposition for the repeal of the Breeding of Dogs Acts 1973, 1991 and 1999 and replace with new regulations under the Animal Welfare Act 2006
- 8 Lobby the Government and Opposition to require that any advertisement for the sale of dogs/puppies must include the breeder's LA registration number and address and advice that puppies should be seen with their mother.
- 9 Lobby the Government and Opposition to ban the importation of puppies under six months old

Members

Marisa Heath (APGAW) (representing Neil Parish and group officers)

Harvey Locke

James Yeates (RSPCA)

Lisa Richards (RSPCA)

Dan O'Neil (RVC VetCOMPASS)

Paula Boyden (Dogs Trust)

Carol Fowler (Cavalier Campaign)

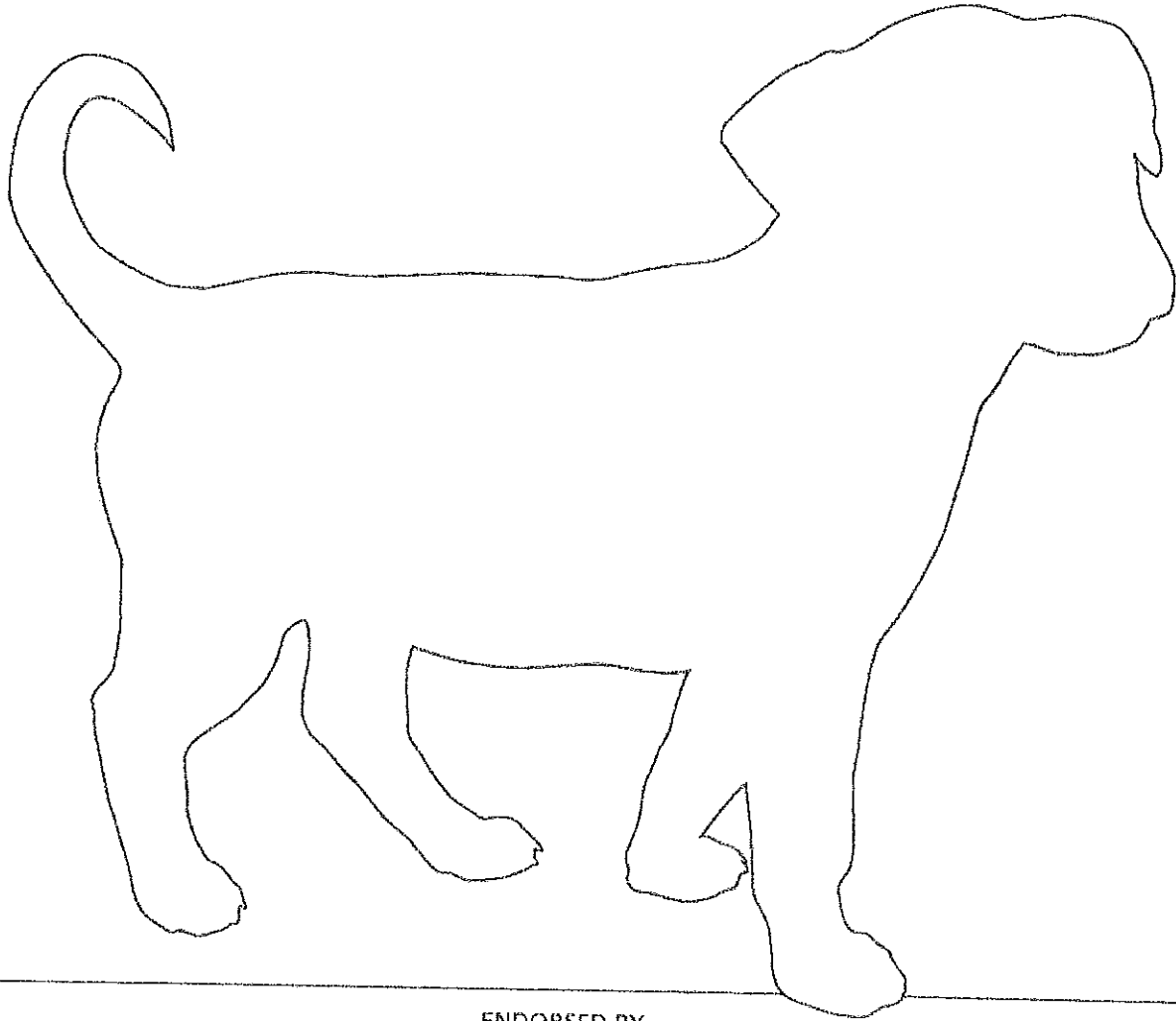
Professor Sheila Crispin (Dog Advisory Council) consulted on all matters

Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, MP (help in arranging meetings with relevant officials and politicians)

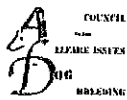
June 2013



Puppy information pack



ENDORSED BY



🌐 About the breeder

1. Contact details

Title
Forename
Surname
Address
Post code
Telephone
Mobile
Email

🌐 About the seller (if different)

2. Contact details

Title
Forename
Surname
Address
Post code
Telephone
Mobile
Email

🌐 About the puppy

3. Date of birth

DD/MM/YYYY

4. Sex: Male Female

5. Colour/distinguishing marks

Please describe

6. Is the puppy a specific breed? Yes No

State breed

7. Is the puppy a cross-breed? Yes No

State breed(s) for each parent if known:

Mother	Father
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8. Is the puppy registered? Yes No

Type of Registration e.g Kennel Club, The Greyhound Studbook	
Registration number	
Puppy's Registered Name	

9. Is the puppy subject to any Kennel Club endorsements? Yes No

If yes, state endorsements placed

10. Has the puppy been microchipped? Yes No

Chip number (15 digits)

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11. Is the puppy covered by a breeder's insurance policy? Yes No

If yes, state:

Insurance company	
Policy number	Policy expiry date

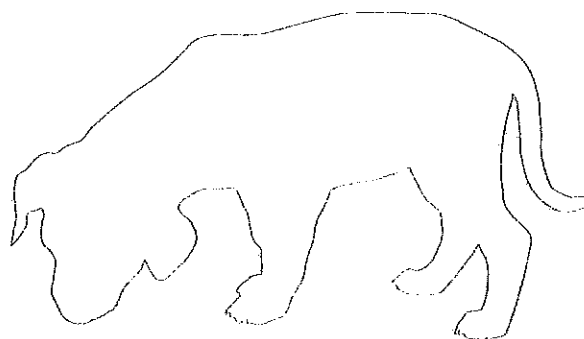
12. Was this puppy born by caesarean section? Yes No

13. Will the puppy be vaccinated before it is sold? Yes No

If yes, attach vaccination record to the PIP and insert next vaccine due date.

14. Give details of any worming treatments the puppy will have received

Product used	Date



15. Will the puppy's tail have been docked? Yes No
If yes, will a signed docking certificate be attached to the PIP? Yes No

16. If the puppy has had a health check or been treated by a vet for any reason prior to the sale please tick this box and provide further details

Treatment/check date

Treatment/check provided (if further space is needed use Question 44: Extra information)

17. Puppy's current weight?

Kilograms and grams	Date weight recorded
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18. What types of diet is the puppy currently being fed?

Dry

Pouch/tinned

Frozen

Amount fed per day (grams). If more than one type state how much of each

Approximate times of day when the puppy is fed

19. Will the buyer be given enough of the puppy's current food for at least five days? Yes No

20. Will toilet training be started before sale? Yes No

If yes, where will the puppy be trained to toilet e.g. outside on grass?

21. Where is the puppy kept for the majority of the time?

In a kennel

In a quiet part of a house

In a part of the house where there is a lot of activity (e.g. kitchen)

Other (please describe)

22. Before the sale will the puppy have interacted with:

Adult males

Adult females

Children under 4 years

Children between 4 and 10 years

Children over 10 years

23. Will the puppy have interacted with:

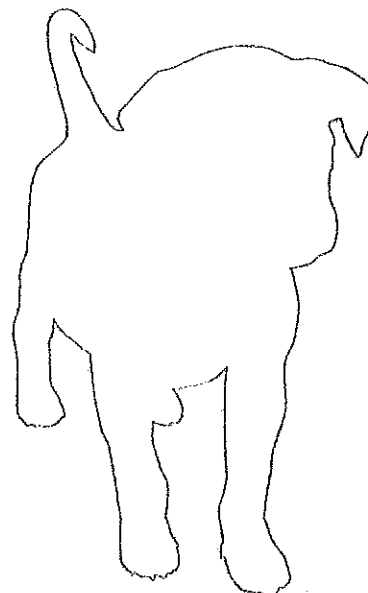
Other dogs of the same breed or type

Dogs of different breeds or types

Cats

Rabbits

Other animals, state which



24. Will the puppy have experienced:

- Wearing a collar or harness?
- Being briefly separated from his/her mother and littermates in the company of people?
- Being in a restricted environment? For example, an indoor kennel?
- Hearing household noises? For example, washing machine, vacuum cleaner?*
- Hearing real or recorded noise? For example, fireworks or traffic?*

*Describe these experiences, e.g. washing machine, traffic noise

25. Before the sale will the new owner have the chance to see and interact with:

- The puppy's mother?
- The puppy's father?
- Other puppies in the litter?

● About the puppy's mother

26. Date of birth

DD/MM/YYYY

27. Has the mother been microchipped? Yes No

Chip number (15 digits)

28. Is the mother registered?

Type of Registration e.g Kennel Club, The Greyhound Studbook

Registration number

29. How many caesarean sections has the mother had, including this litter?

30. How many litters has the mother had, including this one?

31. How old was the mother when she had her first litter?

Years and months

Was it on her first season? Yes No

32. Is the mother up to date with UK vaccinations? Yes No

33. When was the mother last treated for worms and which worming product was used?

Product used	Date

34. Has the mother had any surgical procedures to correct features that could be inherited by the puppy? Yes No

If yes, please give details

About the puppy's father

35. Owner's name and address

Title
Forename
Surname
Address
Post code
Telephone
Mobile
Email

36. Father's date of birth:

DD/MM/YYYY

37. Has the father been microchipped? Yes No

Chip number (15 digits)

38. Is the father registered?

Type of Registration e.g Kennel Club, The Greyhound Studbook

Registration number

39. Has the father had any surgical procedures to correct features that could be inherited by the puppy? Yes No

If yes, please give details

40. Tick if the puppy's pedigree is known and its pedigree certificate will be attached to the PIP?

41. What is the relationship between the puppy's parents?

- Third-degree relatives (first cousins)
- Distantly related (e.g. second or third cousins)
- Unrelated
- Unknown

42. How inbred is the puppy? See guidance notes for help.

Insert COI or leave blank if unknown

43. Inherited conditions and screening/DNA tests

This section should be completed to note common or serious inherited conditions in the breed(s) and to record any related screening or DNA tests conducted on the puppy and its parents.

Breeders and owners should refer to the guidance notes for where to find information on canine inherited disorders.

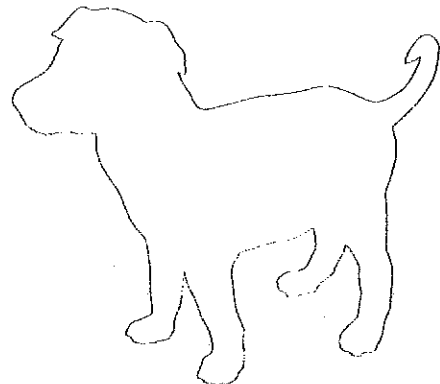
Information should be completed:

- For the mother if she is a specific breed or a cross between two specific breeds
- For the father if he is a specific breed or a cross between two specific breeds which are different to the mother
- If the puppy is a specific breed and tests have been carried out

Mother's breed(s)										
Common or serious inherited conditions in breed	Screening or DNA Test Available		Test carried out		Date of test	Results available		Results certificate given to buyer		If testing carried out and results not available or if testing not applicable please state why
	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No		<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	
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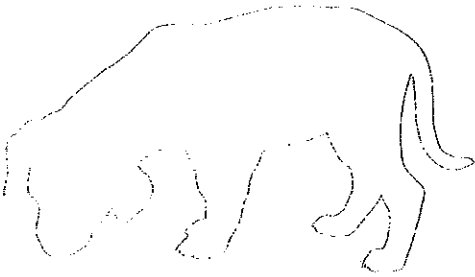
Father's breed(s)										
Common or serious inherited conditions in breed	Screening or DNA Test Available		Test carried out		Date of test	Results available		Results certificate given to buyer		If testing carried out and results not available or if testing not applicable please state why
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Puppy's breed(s)										
Common or serious inherited conditions in breed	Screening or DNA Test Available		Test carried out		Date of test	Results available		Results certificate given to buyer		If testing carried out and results not available or if testing not applicable please state why
	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No		<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	
	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No		<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No	
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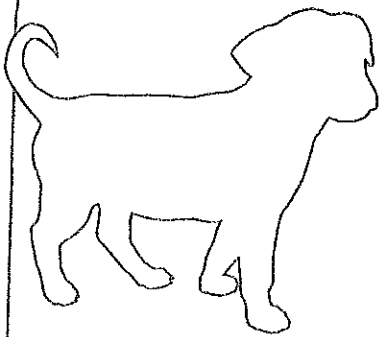
44. Extra information. Use this space to include any additional information about the puppy

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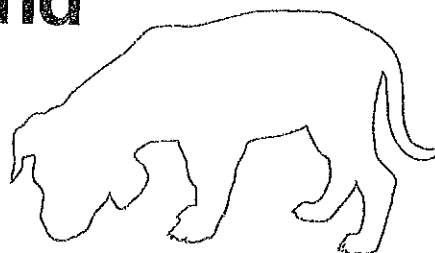




Ref:



Contract for the sale and purchase of a puppy

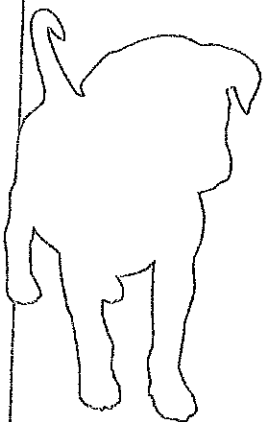


Definitions

- "Puppy" means the dog described in the Puppy Information Pack.
- "Puppy Information Pack" means any document or documents supplied by the Seller to the Buyer at any time that sets out the Dog Health Information and Future Health and Welfare Needs.
- "Dog Health Information" means the information about the puppy, its parents and grandparents, and these animals' health and temperament.
- "Good Health" means a condition of health free of parasites and congenital defects and of reasonably sound physical condition and temperament.
- "Future Health and Welfare Needs" means the measures that should be taken to ensure that the Puppy is and remains in Good Health and is properly housed, fed, watered, trained, socialised and exercised and that it receives appropriate veterinary attention.

1 The Seller warrants:

- 1.1 that if the Buyer has previously selected the Puppy from a litter or in any other circumstances, that the Puppy sold under this contract is the puppy that the Buyer has previously selected.
- 1.2 that the genetic health checks and health screening set out in the Puppy Information Pack have been carried out on the Puppy's parents and the results of these have been fully explained to the Buyer.
- 1.3 that the Puppy is not the result of a mating of two individuals related within two generations.
- 1.4 that the Puppy is in Good Health, other than as the Seller specifically informs the Buyer before the date of sale.
- 1.5 that he/she has supplied the Puppy Information Pack prior to the Buyer viewing the Puppy or a reasonable period in advance of the Buyer's decision to buy the Puppy and has communicated to the Buyer:
 - a) the ramifications of buying the Puppy given the Dog Health Information, the genetic health checks and health screening carried out under **clause 1.2** and the particular considerations that are likely to affect the Puppy given its breed;
 - b) the implications of any Kennel Club endorsement;
 - c) the measures that should be taken, whether by neutering, contraception or otherwise, to guard against unwanted pregnancy; and
 - d) the Future Health and Welfare Needs of the Puppy.



- 1.6 that the information contained in the Puppy Information Pack supplied to the Buyer under clause 1.5 above is accurate and materially complete (to the best of the Seller's knowledge and belief where the information is supplied by a third party) and all diagnostic tests for the puppy have been undertaken as recorded in the Dog Health Information and that reasonable care and skill is and/or will be used when explaining to the Buyer the Future Health and Welfare Needs of the Puppy and any advice or recommendations provided under clause 2.5 below.
- 1.7 that he/she, having made reasonable enquiries of the Buyer, in good faith believes that the Buyer is able to meet the Puppy's Future Health and Welfare Needs.
- 1.8 that the Puppy is more than 8 weeks old at the date of sale.
- 1.9 that the Puppy has received adequate care and that the Seller has provided it with the opportunity to socialise with dogs, humans and other animals it is likely to come into contact with and it has been habituated to the sounds and experiences of typical family life.
- 1.10 that, where appropriate, the Seller has provided the Buyer with all relevant registration papers and pedigree certificate and that any pedigree indicated for the Puppy is accurately stated.

2 The Buyer warrants:

- 2.1 that he/she understands the information provided to him/her under clauses 1.2–1.5 above.
- 2.2 that he/she in good faith believes that he/she will be able, and intends, to meet the Puppy's Future Health and Welfare Needs.
- 2.3 that neither he/she nor any member of his/her household has been cautioned for or convicted of an animal welfare law violation such as neglect, cruelty or abandonment.
- 2.4 that he/she shall not act in any way contrary to any Kennel Club endorsement.
- 2.5 that in the event that he/she is no longer able or willing to provide a home for the Puppy or otherwise to meet the Puppy's Future Health and Welfare Needs he/she will contact the Seller and have regard to any advice and recommendations that the Seller provides.

3 Both Buyer and Seller agree and understand:

- 3.1 that the Puppy is a living creature with interests independent of both Buyer and Seller.
- 3.2 that in the event of the Puppy suffering any pain or discomfort as a result of any breach of the obligations set out in this Agreement the party not in breach shall be entitled to recover from the party in breach damages for such distress and inconvenience as the Party not in breach can establish he/she has suffered.
- 3.3 nothing in this contract affects the Buyer's statutory rights including any warranty of satisfactory quality of the Puppy implied by sale of goods legislation or other law.

Amount paid for this puppy £

Buyer

I agree that by voluntarily signing this agreement I am entering into a legal and binding contract.

Signed: Date:

Seller

I agree that by voluntarily signing this agreement I am entering into a legal and binding contract.

Signed: Date:

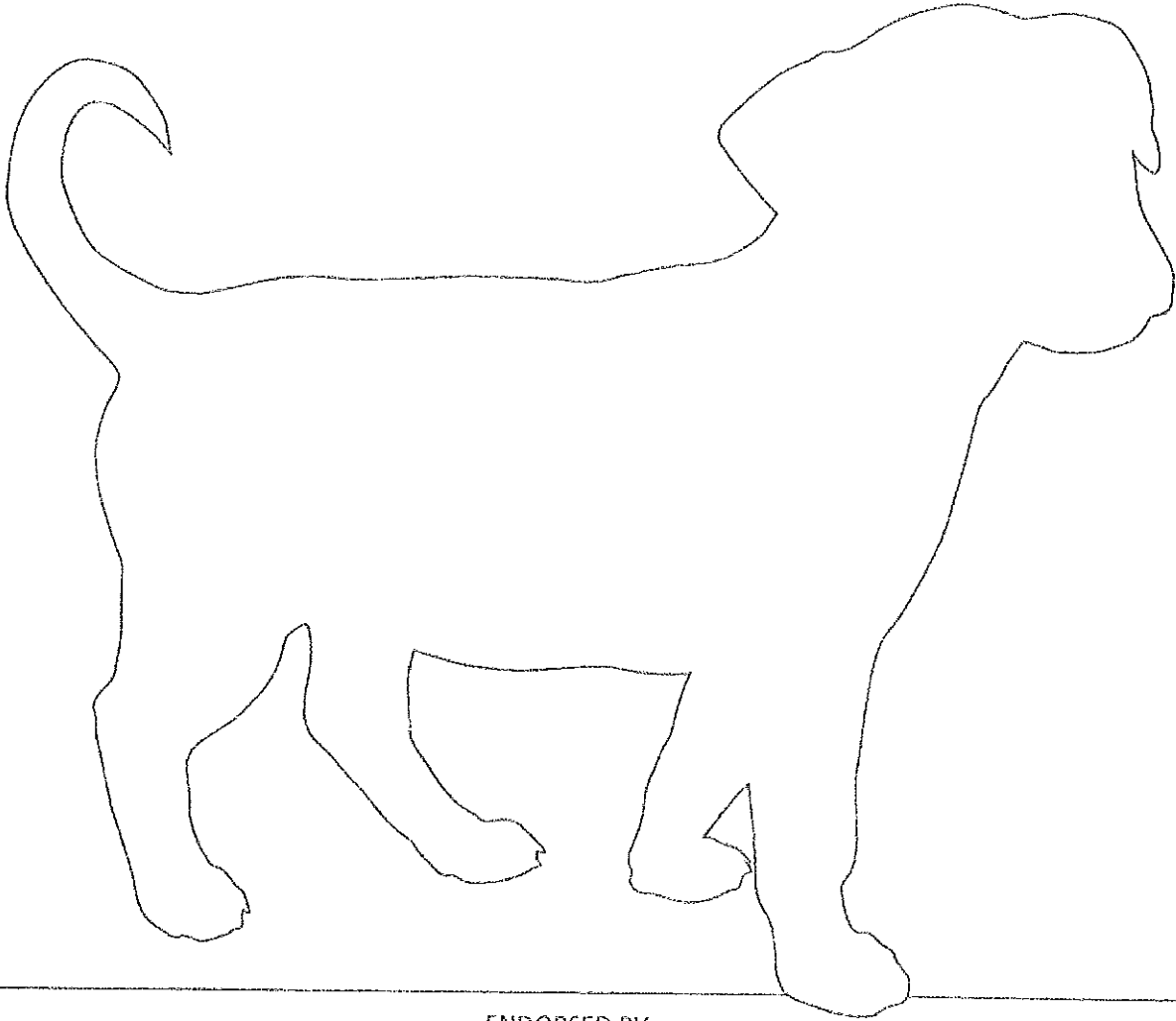
ENDORSED BY





Puppy information pack

Guidance notes



ENDORSED BY



Q1 & Q2: About the breeder/seller

BVA AWF and the RSPCA recommend that you do not buy a puppy from anyone other than the breeder so that you can see the puppy in the place where he was born.

Q9: Is the puppy subject to any Kennel Club endorsements?

Before a puppy is sold the breeder may apply to the Kennel Club to place endorsements on its records including the registration certificate. For example, R – PROGENY NOT ELIGIBLE FOR REGISTRATION or X – EXPORT PEDIGREE NOT ALLOWED.

The breeder must explain what the endorsements mean before you agree to buy the puppy.

Q10: Has the puppy been microchipped?

Microchipping helps puppies to be identified and returned if they get lost or stolen. If the puppy you are buying has already been microchipped you must contact the relevant registration scheme to update their records with your contact details. If not, you should get your puppy microchipped.

Q11: Is the puppy covered by a breeder's insurance policy?

Breeders often insure their litters. Some insurance policies provide free cover for new owners against a puppy's illness or injury for a limited period after purchase. Check the details.

Q12: Was this puppy born by caesarean section?

A caesarean section is an operation to take the puppies out of the mother when she hasn't been able to give birth naturally. It is a major operation which can cause problems for the mother and puppies.

Some breeds and some individual mothers struggle to give birth naturally and may end up needing a caesarean every time. Vets feel that these dogs should not be bred from. So you should avoid buying puppies from mothers who have had more than one caesarean. This is especially important if the puppy is a female you want to breed from, otherwise she may have trouble giving birth herself.

Q13: Will the puppy be vaccinated before being sold?

Vaccinations are very important to prevent certain deadly diseases such as parvo. If the mother was vaccinated properly the puppy should have resistance to these diseases for roughly the first ten weeks of its life. If your puppy has been vaccinated the breeder's vet will have given them a vaccination certificate which shows the vaccination date and products used. Speak to your vet about whether the puppy requires any more vaccinations and when its first booster is due.

Q14: Details of worming treatments the puppy will have received

Regular worming is important for all puppies, whether the mother was wormed or not, for the health of puppies and humans. Ask your vet about the products listed and avoid buying from breeders who have not treated their dogs for worms at all

Q15: Will the puppy's tail have been docked?

Tail docking involves removing a puppy's tail either by cutting it off or using a tight rubber band to make it die. The BVA AWF and the RSPCA are firmly opposed to the practice unless the tail is injured or diseased. It causes pain and even death in some puppies and can cause long-term health problems. It can also reduce how well dogs can communicate with each other.

The law bans tail docking in England, Wales and Northern Ireland except under certain conditions and only when performed by a vet. There is a total ban in Scotland.

BVA AWF has a leaflet which explains the rules on tail docking in the UK.

If the puppy has been docked legally you should be given a certificate signed by the vet who did the docking.

Q16: Has the puppy had a health check or been treated by a vet for any reason?

Many puppies don't need to see a vet before they leave their breeder. If your puppy has been checked or received any treatment the breeder should provide details of anything abnormal that the vet noted. Talk to your vet if you are unsure about any of this information.

It's best to get your puppy examined by your vet as soon as you can, to make sure there are no problems straight away and to get advice about things like food, vaccination, worming, fleas, insurance, microchipping, neutering and socialisation.

Q17: What is the puppy's current weight?

There is no single correct weight for a puppy. However, it's really useful to know how much the puppy weighed when you got him so that your vet can see if he gains or loses weight.

Q18: Details of the puppy's diet

It is important that you know the type of food that the puppy is used to and how often and when he is used to being fed, so that these can all be kept as similar as possible when you take the puppy home. Puppies should be fed a weighed or measured amount of food at regular times.

Q19: Will the buyer be given enough of the puppy's current food for at least five days?

When changing to a new food, this should be done over four to five days with increasing amounts of the new food replacing the previous food each day. If the food is changed too rapidly, this can cause stomach upset or diarrhoea.

Q20: Will toilet training be started before sale?

Puppies start to learn a preference for the surface that they toilet on at an early age. The more they toilet on a particular surface, the stronger this preference becomes. You can then continue training the puppy in a similar way, or expect to be really patient and consistent if you wish to change their preference.

Seek a professional trainer to help you with further training of your puppy (www.abtcouncil.org.uk).

Q21: Where is the puppy kept for the majority of the time?

It is well documented that the early social and physical environments of puppies strongly influences their behaviour as adults. A puppy that has lived in a domestic environment, particularly in a part of the home where people come and go, is more likely to be prepared for life in a home. Where puppies are kept in kennels, you need to check that they have experienced aspects of a normal home environment at least some of the time.

When you visit the puppy ask to see where he has been kept. Although you may be introduced to the puppy in a house, he may not usually be kept there. Are there food bowls, bedding, pens, etc?

Q22: The puppy's experience of contact with people

The first 12-14 weeks of a puppy's life are very important in determining how he will react to people. Lack of social contact during this period increases the risk of behaviours associated with fear and/or anxiety later in life.

Puppies need to have contact with men, women and children during this period. In general the more people that puppies have interacted with the better.

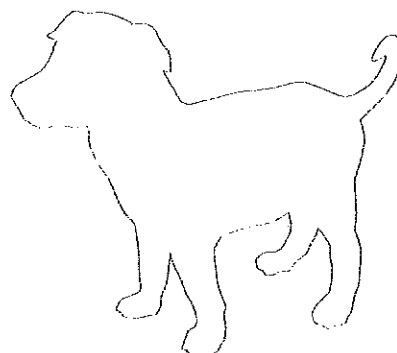
Puppies which have had positive experience of lots of different types of people are less likely to be wary when you handle and approach them. Ask the breeder if you can take as many members of your family as possible when visiting. Watch carefully how the puppy responds to adults and children acting normally/ reasonably. Look for signs of the puppy withdrawing, struggling to get away, cowering, putting their tail between their legs or hiding.

Q23: The puppy's contact with adult dogs and other animals

Puppies need to meet a variety of other dogs in order to learn social skills and how different types of dog communicate. If the puppy is vaccinated ask to see him interacting with adult dogs other than his mother so you can see if he is confident and happy to interact and play with another dog.

If puppies have experience of other animals, they will be more likely to adapt rapidly to any other animals they have to live with in your home. If the puppy is very excited or nervous with other animals, he will be more likely to show these behaviours with other animals when you take him home.

If possible see what other animals are in the environment where the puppy lives and watch how he reacts to them.



Q24: The puppy's other experiences

Early exposure to a range of experiences and noises prepares the puppy for encountering this later in life so he remains calm and is less likely to be afraid when you take him home.

Watch how the puppy responds to things that are happening during your visit. Ask the breeder to show you how the puppy reacts to household noises, wearing a collar, or being separated briefly from littermates. He should remain calm during each.

Do not expose him to sudden new noises that he has not experienced before or expect the breeder to do so.

Q25: Before the sale will the new owner have the chance to interact with the puppy's parents and other puppies in the litter if there are any?

It is very important that you see the puppy's mother and the other puppies in the litter. You should also try and see the father if possible, although this may be difficult in some circumstances. Make sure you interact with the parents, handle them if safe to do so, and assess their reaction to you. Check they appear healthy, check the environment that the mother and puppies are in and check the temperament of the mother, father and other littermates. The parents' characteristics can influence how the puppies develop and behave. In particular, look for signs of fear, such as withdrawal, cowering, urination, and tail between the legs. Also watch for signs of aggression such as growling, lunging and barking.

Unscrupulous breeders can try and show you another dog instead of the puppy's mother. To avoid this make sure you see the mother and puppies together, and check for signs that the dog you see has given birth recently, such as having enlarged nipples. Ask why other littermates or father cannot be seen if breeders answer 'no' in these sections.

Q30: How many litters has the mother had, including this one?

Pregnancy, birth and rearing puppies all take a lot of energy and work for any mother. She may have problems such as difficulty giving birth and poor body condition if her nutritional needs aren't met. Mothers should be allowed at least one season between litters. Avoid puppies from mothers that have had numerous litters, as this may be a sign that the breeder has expected too much from the mother and may also mean that the care and condition of the puppy might not be ideal either.

Q31: How old was the mother when she had her first litter and was it on her first season?

Responsible breeders should not breed from their bitch's first season and should not breed from bitches under about one year old. This makes sure the mother is fully grown, mature and is as capable as possible of coping with pregnancy and birth. Breeders who have ignored these laws or guidelines may not be very knowledgeable and caring about the mother, and therefore the puppy.

Q32: Is the mother up to date with UK vaccinations?

It is very important that the mother's routine vaccinations are up to date. She needs to be vaccinated to make sure her puppies are born with a good immunity to certain deadly diseases. This will keep them healthy until they can be vaccinated themselves. Homeopathic vaccines should NOT have been used. Ask your vet if you are unsure what vaccines she should have had.

Q33: When was the mother last treated for worms and which product was used?

Regular worming of the mother, including during pregnancy, is important to make sure the puppies are not born infested with worms. Ask your vet about how effective the products listed are, and whether they are up to date. Avoid buying from breeders who do not vaccinate or worm their animals adequately.

Q34 & Q39: Has either parent had any surgical procedures to correct features that could be inherited by the puppy?

Many breeds have been bred to emphasise certain features which over time have become more and more exaggerated. Although "normal" for a breed, flat faces, heavy wrinkles and very floppy ears are just a few examples of features that may cause problems.

For example dogs with short flat faces often have narrow nostrils and tiny windpipes. They can suffer severe breathing difficulties and may even have difficulty enjoying a walk or playing. Folded or wrinkled skin may be itchy and painful, and infolding eyelids can scratch the eye ball. Some of these problems will require lifelong medication or sometimes surgery.

You should also be told if either parent has had surgery to fix a problem such as eyelids which rubbed on the eye as this may no longer be obvious to see, but could still be inherited by the puppy.

It's important to know whether the parents are affected to give you an idea of how likely the puppy will be to get the same problems. Speak to your vet about any problems listed.

Before you buy a puppy find out which breeds are worst affected and try to avoid them. To find out more talk to your vet or visit the following websites:

- Canine Inherited Disorders Database: www.upei.ca/cidd
- Get Puppy Smart: getpuppysmart.com/exaggerated_features_factsheet
- Dog Breed Health: www.dogbreedhealth.com/

Breeders can also ask their vet and should use the websites above when listing the exaggerated features in their breed.

Q35: Contact details: owner of the puppy's father

This information can only be included if the owner has given permission for their contact details to be shared with a prospective owner.

Q40: If the puppy's pedigree is known and a pedigree certificate will be attached

The pedigree certificate shows the puppy's ancestry and may go back up to five generations, starting with the puppy's parents in the left column through to the great-great-great grandparents on the right column. The top half shows the puppy's ancestry through its father and the bottom half is the mother's pedigree. You can see an example of a certificate here.

Q41: What is the relationship between the puppy's parents?

If the puppy's parents are related to each other then the puppy is inbred. The degree of inbreeding depends on how closely related the parents are. If an ancestor's name is repeated in both the father's and the mother's halves of the pedigree certificate then there is inbreeding.

Inbreeding is not desirable as it increases the risk of inherited disease. Avoid a puppy from matings between first or second degree relatives e.g.

- First degree—mother/son, father/daughter, brother/sister
- Second degree—uncle/niece, aunt/nephew, grandparent/grandchild

Q42. How inbred is the puppy?

It's important to avoid buying puppies that are very inbred because they have a higher chance of having inherited diseases and being unwell later in life. A simple way to describe this is the Coefficient of inbreeding (COI). This is a number where the higher the number, the more inbred the puppy.

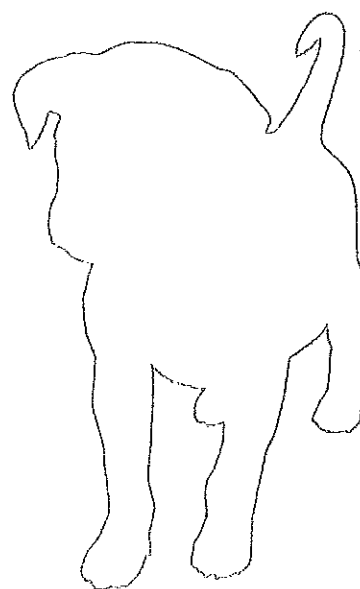
For example, a very inbred puppy would come from a mother to son mating or a brother to sister, both having a COI of 25. A less inbred puppy might come from a mating between a great-grandfather and great-granddaughter with a lower score of 6.25. Inbreeding can also build up through generations so if a pedigree goes back a long way very high scores (over 25) can occur.

Puppies with a COI over 12.5 should be avoided.

Puppies whose background is not known cannot have a score calculated and in these cases the box will be left blank.

The COI for Kennel Club registered puppies (and their parents) can be found using Kennel Club's Mate Select service:

www.the-kennel-club.org.uk/services/public/mateselect/Default.aspx. You can also use Mate Select to find out the average COI for particular breeds.



Q43: Inherited disorders and screening tests

Inherited disorders

Many breeds of dog are prone to a number of inherited disorders. Pedigree dog registration and showing rules mean that breeds not only look different but they also have higher likelihoods of developing particular disorders. Crossbred dogs can also inherit disorders from their parents' breeds.

Some inherited conditions are very rare or cause only minor suffering, whilst others are extremely painful or life threatening. Examples of inherited disorders are cancer, blindness, diabetes, heart disease, skin complaints, epilepsy, hip dysplasia and deafness.

It is important to be aware of these conditions as they could have been passed on to the puppy.

Talk to your vet before you buy and check for information on inherited disorders on the following websites:

- University of Cambridge Inherited Diseases in Dogs Database: www.vet.cam.ac.uk/idid
- The Kennel Club: www.thekennelclub.org.uk/item/570
- Universities Federation for Animal Welfare: www.ufaw.org.uk/dogs.php
- Dog Breed Health: www.dogbreedhealth.com/
- Canine Inherited Orders Database: www.upei.ca/cidd
- University of Sydney: www.vetsci.usyd.edu.au/lida
- Some Breed Club websites also report common and important inherited conditions in the breed.

DNA and health screening tests

Several health screening tests are available to measure the risk that a dog will be affected by the disease, be a carrier (and able to pass it on to their offspring) or be unaffected.

The breeder should have listed important disorders which can be screened for in the puppy and its parents and attached copies to the PIP of the results certificates for any tests carried out. If the puppy is

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a cross between two known breeds the list should include conditions found in each of those breeds. If the breeder has stated that they have not done the tests or that the results are not available you should ask why—and avoid buying a puppy from them.

Do not be satisfied with word of mouth; make sure you see the test results. If you buy from a breeder who has tested their dogs and is breeding from those that have passed the health tests you will be another step closer to a happy, healthy puppy.

Information on the British Veterinary Association/ Kennel Club (BVA/KC) Health Screening schemes and advice on how to interpret the results is available from: www.bva.co.uk/atoz/Canine_Health_Schemes.aspx

If the puppy's parents are Kennel Club registered and you know the KC registered name or number of the parents, then test results from a BVA/KC health scheme or a Kennel Club DNA testing scheme can be found at:

www.the-kennel-club.org.uk/services/public/mateselect/test/Default.aspx

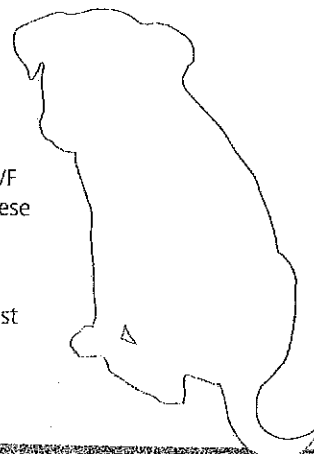
A list of all canine DNA tests available worldwide can be found at:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/cgi-bin/library.cgi?action=detail&id=8288,

Your vet can help you understand the results of DNA or health screening tests and give you advice on which tests are important for particular breeds.

Q44: Extra information.

Additional information about the puppy can be recorded in this space.



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