Responsible Breeder

Buyer Checklist • Ask, verify and keep the answers before committing to a puppy.

BUYER QUESTIONS / IDENTITY AND EVIDENCE

☐ 1. Who is raising this litter?

Confirm the breeder's name, contact details, where the dogs live and how you can meet the dam and see the raising environment.

☐ 2. What supports this pairing?

Ask how the sire and dam complement each other in temperament, breed suitability and documented health history—not simply appearance or titles.

☐ 3. Which health tests apply to both parents?

Request breed-relevant results linked to each dog's registered name or identification. Check the issuing registry or laboratory rather than relying on a badge or verbal assurance.

Evidence to request / documents still missing

Registration establishes identity and pedigree; it does not independently prove welfare, health or responsible breeding.

The dogs behind the litter

Look beyond the puppies: ask about the daily lives of all breeding and retired dogs.

BUYER QUESTIONS / EVERYDAY WELFARE

☐ 4. How do the breeding dogs live between litters?

Ask about exercise, enrichment, rest, companionship, housing and veterinary oversight for the sire as well as the dam.

☐ 5. How are the dam’s welfare and recovery protected?

Ask about her age, litter history, individual condition and veterinary input, plus retirement plans. Paw Privileges’ five-litter and age-seven limits are program requirements, not a statement of provincial law.

☐ 6. What happens if birth or puppy care needs extra support?

Discuss preparation, experienced supervision, veterinary contacts and how individual puppies’ progress and concerns are recorded. This is a conversation checklist, not a whelping or medical guide.

What I observed / questions to follow up

Ask what changes if a dog’s health or welfare calls for earlier retirement. A numerical program limit is not a breeding recommendation.

A good start, a good match

Individual puppies matter. Breed tendencies help guide a conversation; they are not guarantees.

BUYER QUESTIONS / PUPPY RAISING AND FIT

☐ 7. What does each puppy experience before leaving?

Ask about gentle handling, household sounds, surfaces, rest and age-appropriate positive experiences. Discuss safe early exposures and local disease-risk advice with your veterinarian.

☐ 8. How are temperament and suitability assessed?

Ask how observations over time inform placement. Discuss your ordinary weekday, experience, children, other animals, activity and long-term care needs—not only which puppy looks appealing.

☐ 9. Which records and familiar routines come home?

Request identification, veterinary and health records, relevant registration documents or written arrangements, familiar care routines and a clear contact for follow-up questions.

Our household / suitability considerations

An individual puppy's future behaviour cannot be guaranteed by a single test. Good placement is a thoughtful, ongoing discussion.

Support for life

Read the full agreement and resolve unclear answers before paying a deposit.

BUYER QUESTIONS / WRITTEN TERMS AND LIFELONG SUPPORT

☐ 10. Are all financial and contract terms clear?

Get deposit, refund, purchase, registration and any guarantee terms in writing. Keep receipts; do not accept pressure to decide before you can verify the evidence.

☐ 11. What lifelong breeder assist / return support is promised?

Ask for the unconditional return/assist clause required by Paw Privileges. Clarify whom to contact, practical steps, transport and how the breeder helps if circumstances change.

☐ 12. What happens to retired breeding dogs?

Discuss comfortable retirement, suitable homes, careful placement and ongoing support. Ask how the breeder stays accountable for every dog they produce.

Breeder contact / next step

Paw Privileges Code of Ethics

Buyer guide: choosing a responsible Canadian breeder

Verify health evidence: OFA CHIC

A CHIC number means the required testing and disclosure were completed; it does not mean every finding was normal. Program rules do not replace applicable laws or veterinary advice.