

FINDING A PUPPY



There are many important factors to consider before getting a dog. Are you ready for the commitment? Which breed best suits your lifestyle? How do you go about finding your new best friend? Once you've made the decision to buy a puppy, it's important to buy from a responsible breeder, so you can be sure that your dog is happy and healthy.

Don't expect things to happen quickly, you might find puppies in pet shops, newspapers or online, ...sometimes all you need to get a fluffy bundle of joy is to pay over the money, no questions asked. Don't fall for it! Buying cheap is actually expensive! It might end up costing more than you ever imagined to keep your new puppy in your life.

While buying a KUSA registered puppy is no guarantee for success, you can tip the scale in your favour by doing your research, finding the right breeder and buying smart!

AVOID PUPPY SCAMS!

Scamsters are rife and people are ripped off on a daily basis! Don't get caught, these are some of the signs to look out for;

- Websites offering multiple breeds with photos of many available individual puppies. They're almost always scams.
- Scamsters always offer to have the puppy couriered to your door. Don't fall for it, the puppy never arrives!
- Scamsters usually claim to live in obscure places, tell them you know a person who lives nearby and can collect the puppy. They will soon start ducking & diving.

Getting a new puppy is a lifelong commitment, so make sure that you are ready to provide a loving home for the puppy for the rest of its life.

To confirm if a breeder is a KUSA member, or to establish whether you might be dealing with a scamster, email us at info@kusa.co.za

FINDING A PUPPY

Don't be afraid to ASK!

Reputable breeders will be happy to answer all of your questions and are likely to have a few questions for you too!

Here's a quick list of questions that you should ask your breeder:

- Are both parents registered with KUSA?
- Can I meet the parents?
- Are both parents friendly to other dogs and people?
- Are both parents calm, outgoing and confident at home and in public?
- What health issues affect the breed and have both parents been tested free of those issues?
- Can the breeder provide proof of parents health tests such as DNA results, eye tests, hip & elbow results etcetera?
- Are both parents free of behavioural issues?
- At what age will the pups leave mom and the litter?
- Does the breeder provide a contract?
- Will the pups be handled daily and exposed to various stimuli?
- Will the pups be micro-chipped, inoculated & dewormed before they leave?
- Have any of the puppies in the litter been sick?
- Will there be any restrictions on the puppy's registration?
- Does the breeder have a list of questions to ask you?

One registry

Ask for the breeder's KUSA membership number, and check them out. Parents need to have KUSA registration certificates. **Never accept registration with alternate or multiple registries!** The Kennel Union is the only registry in South Africa that is recognised worldwide.

BUY RESPONSIBLY!



Don't be swayed by cute pups that are available immediately

See the puppies

If you cannot visit the puppies, ask for a video call where you can chat to the breeder, and look at the mom and babies as well as the facility.

