

If you are still considering getting a puppy from us, we request that you fill out an owner profile before making an appointment. Below, I hope is a helpful article which we will give you insight into our home and breeding program. Cindy

Tips in Finding a Good Breeder and Healthy Pet

February, 2011

You are on a journey in finding your next beloved forever pet, new family member. But where do you go and what do you look for? We know you want to find the perfect dog to brighten your life and entertain your family. And we take joy in making matches to those who are seeking to find just the right one.

When we began, we interviewed with several breeders, visited many kennels and their quality of dogs. We know what it's like to look at hundreds of websites looking for that perfect pet from a reputable breeder. Making money seems to be more important than raising quality pets and ensuring healthy, happy puppies go to safe and loving homes. For your benefit, here are some things to consider when adopting your next family member.

-Questionnaire: A reputable breeder will care about the home the puppy will be raised in. He/she will ask the buyer questions regarding how he/she will care for puppy, inquire about the environment pup will live.

-Can you relate with the breeder? Is she someone you can call on for any question while you are raising your Shih Tzu for the life of your pet? Or is her commitment complete after you pick up your pet? I care deeply about every pet that's delivered from one of my girls. They are like family to me/us. I would love to receive periodic updates and pictures. I am here to offer advice on raising, training and taking care of your puppy. I feel as a responsible breeder this is one of my commitments to new owners.

-Reasonable Guarantee: Does the breeder offer a health guarantee and for how long? Breeders will advertise they offer a health guarantee, but they are typically only a 48 hour vet guarantee. We give a triple health guarantee. We give the typical 48 hour vet guarantee, 7 day guarantee against the main viruses. However, what sets us apart is we give a ONE YEAR genetic health guarantee as stated in our contract.

-Puppy size: A responsible breeder will not guarantee you the size the puppy will be. Responsibly, I can only tell you an estimated-guesstimated adult weight according to growth charts. I can tell you the parent size so you can better know what yours may be.

-A reputable breeder will take back a dog he/she has bred or help to find it a home should the owner no longer be able to care for it.

-Parents on premise: All puppies-in-the-window are darling and cute. Don't let a puppy steal your heart just because it is cute. The cutest puppy can grow up rather ugly and with a lot of health issues. Seeing the parents should give you a good idea of what the puppy will look like and behave like.

-Pen conditions: Has the pet always been in a small cage or with loving, caring, hands-on family with freedom to run and play? Our pet pen grows as they grow and is in the den so the puppies get continual attention through the day.

-Appropriate vaccinations/ wormings: Is their health protected by not over-vaccinating, yet given the appropriate shots and deworming at the proper age? Our vaccination protocol is listed in the article section of our website.

-Is the environment heat-cold protected? Our pups even though raised inside, stayed under a heat lamp set at 85-90 degrees for the first 3 weeks to ensure they not become chilled. 3+ weeks old puppies are raised indoors, not on cold concrete or linoleum flooring outdoors.

-Kibble Quality: Are they mal-nutritioned or underfed (some breeders underfeed to keep a puppy small size)? Did the mother and puppies eat a high grade, quality kibble which does not contain corn?

-Physical Stimuli: Are they given ample exercise and given various stimuli for the best head-start in developing muscles and keen awareness? We use *Early Neurological Stimulation* of puppies which provides various specific stimuli at the appropriate age. We have special flooring which encourages strong leg development and stimulates blood circulation which overall produces a healthier pet. We also build tiers in their pens at 5 wks old so they can begin to use more muscles to learn to climb. This will make their front and back legs and chest muscles much stronger over a caged pup which only has wire or slick linoleum flooring. Puppies raised on wire and linoleum are more likely to have knee and hip problems later on because they didn't have adequate footing as a young pup. Concrete flooring is too cold for young puppies. Early Neurological Stimulation provides a smarter, stronger, more well adjusted puppy.

- Groomed: Will the puppy be groomed when picked up? Here, not only will our puppies have been groomed all along, but will be looking beautiful when you come to pick him/her up. This includes clipping nails, expressing anal glands, clipping hair from pads of feet and genitals, pulling hair from ears. A kennel is not in good sterile condition if you visit a puppy to find it had been lying in poop!

-Toys: Our puppies receive various toys to stimulate their senses and aid with their teething.

-Potty training: Here our puppies have begun with their pee pad training. If they are older, they will be acclimated to going potty outside with our adult dogs.

Above all, once you find and purchase your next pet, please be a **RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER**. This includes training your dog to be a good companion to all including children and other pets. See that your furry companion has regular veterinary care, spay or neutered for its own safety, and be considerate of neighbors and others who may come in contact with your dog.

Thank you for considering adopting one of our little Shih Tzu puppies. If you are not 100% sure which puppy to choose, I encourage you to interview with several breeders and see the living conditions. Just be confident that you are getting a healthy, happy pet. If you choose us, I look forward in meeting you.

Blessings in finding your next furry addition to your family,

Cindy

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