

# 8 Important Topics To Discuss With The Breeder

✦ BEFORE ✦



## You Fall In Love With A Designer Puppy (and how they should respond - part 1)



### 1 Health and Genetic Background:

Can you provide documentation of the puppy's health checks and vaccinations?

Have the parents been tested for genetic disorders relevant to the breed?

Can I see records of any health issues in the puppy's lineage?

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The breeder should be able to provide documentation of health checks, vaccinations, and genetic testing for common breed-specific disorders. They may show records of veterinary exams, vaccinations, and genetic testing results. A responsible breeder will be transparent about any health issues in the puppy's lineage and discuss steps taken to address them.

### 2 Puppy Socialization and Early Training:

What socialization experiences has the puppy had so far?

Have they been purposefully exposed to different people, environments, sounds, and experiences?

What kind of early training methods have been used with the litter?

How do you handle puppy socialization and enrichment?

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The breeder should describe the socialization experiences the puppy has had, including exposure to many different environments, people, and stimuli. They may talk about early training methods used, such as positive reinforcement techniques, crate training, and basic manners. The breeder may provide details about how they implement Puppy Culture or similar protocols to promote healthy development and socialization.



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## You Fall In Love With A Designer Puppy (and how they should respond - part 2)



### 3 Puppy Culture and Enrichment:

Are you familiar with Puppy Culture or similar early development protocols?

Have you implemented any aspects of Puppy Culture in raising this litter?

How do you address fear periods and developmental milestones in your puppies?

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If the breeder is familiar with Puppy Culture, they may discuss specific aspects they have incorporated into raising the litter, such as early neurological stimulation, socialization exercises, and enrichment activities. They may share insights into how they address fear periods and developmental milestones in their puppies, including strategies for building confidence and resilience.

### 4 Temperament and Behaviour Assessment:

Can you describe the temperament and personality traits of this particular puppy?

Have you observed any specific behaviours or tendencies in the puppy?

How do you match puppies with their potential owners based on temperament?

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The breeder may provide observations and insights into the puppy's temperament and personality based on their interactions and observations. They may discuss any behavioural tendencies or preferences they've noticed in the puppy and how they assess temperament for matching puppies with suitable owners.



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# 8 Important Topics To Discuss With The Breeder

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## You Fall In Love With A Designer Puppy (and how they should respond - part 3)



### 5 Training Philosophy and Methods:

- What are your beliefs regarding force-free training methods?
- How do you approach behavioural challenges or issues in your puppies?
- Can you provide guidance on positive reinforcement training techniques?

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The breeder should express a commitment to force-free training methods and positive reinforcement techniques. They may offer guidance on using rewards-based training to reinforce desired behaviours and address behavioural challenges. They may discuss their approach to shaping behaviour and fostering a positive relationship between the owner and the puppy. Any mention of “balanced training”, “punishment” etc, should be a red flag as these methods have negative impact on puppy development, particularly in early development/fear periods.

### 6 Breeding Practices and Ethics:

- Why did you choose to breed this particular pair of dogs?
- Do you have a breeding philosophy or code of ethics that guides your practices?
- How do you ensure responsible breeding practices and the well-being of your breeding dogs?

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The breeder may explain their reasons for breeding the specific pair of dogs, such as health, temperament, and breed standards. They should be able to articulate their breeding philosophy and practices, including a commitment to responsible breeding, health testing, and ethical considerations. They may discuss measures taken to ensure the physical and emotional well-being of their breeding dogs and puppies.



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## 8 Important Topics To Discuss With The Breeder

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### You Fall In Love With A Designer Puppy (and how they should respond - part 4)



#### 7 Support and Resources:

- Will you be available for support and guidance after I take the puppy home?
  - Do you offer any resources or recommendations for puppy training classes or behaviourists?
  - Can I contact you if I have questions or concerns about the puppy in the future?
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The breeder should express willingness to provide ongoing support and guidance after the puppy goes home. They may offer recommendations for force-free puppy training classes, behaviourists, and resources for further learning. They should assure the new owner that they are available for questions or concerns that may arise as the puppy settles into its new home.

#### 8 Contract and Guarantees:

- Can you provide a copy of the purchase agreement or contract?
  - What guarantees do you offer regarding the puppy's health and temperament?
  - What is your policy if the puppy doesn't work out in its new home?
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The breeder should provide a clear and comprehensive purchase agreement or contract that outlines the terms and conditions of the sale. They may offer guarantees regarding the puppy's health, including provisions for refunds or exchanges in the event of a serious health issue. They should be transparent about their policies and procedures if the puppy doesn't work out in its new home, emphasizing the importance of responsible rehoming if necessary (responsible breeders will require you to return the puppy to them for rehoming)







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Miss Behaviour proudly supports animal rescue as an active volunteer with Zoe's Animal Rescue Society. However, also understands that there are times when seeking out a breeder may be appropriate.

If you can adopt, please do!  
[Check out Zoe's adoptables here.](#)

If you aren't sure about your chosen breeder's responses, feel free to [Contact Us.](#)

If you would like to schedule training, please visit our website for more information:  
[www.missbehaviouryeg.ca](http://www.missbehaviouryeg.ca)



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