Your Neighborhood Pet Store Since 1991

Purebred Puppies Vs. Mixed Breed Puppies

There are many different types of dogs in a very wide range of shapes, sizes, colors, and temperaments. Domestic dogs have been selectively bred over thousands of years to become what we know today. Dogs that are purebred have been bred for generations from only one particular breed or strain. Dogs that contain the genetic material from at least two different breeds are considered mixed breeds.



So when you make the decision to bring a puppy into your home and life, you must choose whether you want that puppy to be a purebred or a mixed breed. What factors should you consider?

Purebred Puppies:

House

Pro's

- 1. You know what to expect! Each individual breed has its own standard that describes its size, coat type, possible health issues, and personality. If you have very specific needs when it comes to your new puppy, a purebred can leave out a lot of the potential questions.
- 2. A reputable breeder will often genetically screen their dogs before breeding to help ensure they do not pass on possible congenital defects to their puppies. This will help provide a truly healthy animal that will have a greatly reduced chance of health issues down the road.

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Purebred Puppies: (con')

Con's



- 1. Purebred dogs can be irresponsibly bred. When a breeder cares about the quality of their dogs, they ensure that they only breed individuals that perfectly reflect the breed standard in regards to temperament, confirmation, and health. When dog owners breed two less than ideal dogs, they get less than ideal puppies that deviate from the breed's standard, making them less predictable.
- 2. Every breed has its own genetic health issue that tends to appear, and it can still occur in dogs that were responsibly bred. For example, Labrador Retrievers are notoriously prone to hip dysplasia and Dalmations are more likely to be deaf. The Canine Inherited Disorders Database is a fantastic resource that lists all common genetic disorders that occur in each individual dog breed to help educate dog owners and breeders alike.

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Mixed Breed Puppies:

Pro's

- 1. Mixed breed dogs are incredibly unique! These weird mixes often get much more attention than purebred dogs just because they may not look anything close to common! Anyone can go get a Labrador, but there may only be that one litter of puppies that involve so many breeds that they become their own little interesting breed. After all, the dog breeds we know today are only in existence now because someone decided to mix a variety of different breeds together until they got a combination they liked!
- 2. Mixed breed dogs tend to be healthier and live longer lives. They generally avoid all common congenital health defects of purebred dogs. While getting a mixed breed isn't a guarantee of good long term health, studies do show that mixed breed dogs tend to be healthier than purebreds.
- 3. Mixed breed dogs tend to be much more affordable than a purebred!

What do purebreds and mixed breed puppies have in common?

When you get a puppy, you are getting a companion for approximately 10-15 years of your life. Immediate obedience lessons, discipline, and frequent socialization with the world will help to ensure you have a well adjusted and happy dog.

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Mixed Breed Puppies:

What do purebreds and mixed breed puppies have in common?

(con't)



Any puppy can grow into a terribly behaved dog with a poor temperament, regardless of breed, if you don't put the proper time into him. Furthermore, any dog can develop serious health issues if not taken care of properly over his lifetime. Regular vet checkups, yearly vaccines, parasite prevention, routine blood tests, a great diet, and proper exercise will help ensure you have done everything possible to keep your dog healthy!

