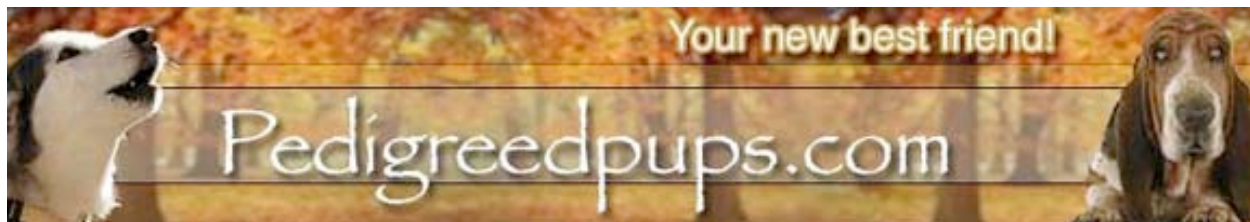


## **Pedigreedpups.com - Purebred Dogs and Puppies Information**

**5 Top Articles from Our Website**

# Contents

How do I know if my female dog is in heat? .....	3
Dog Training Is Very Important .....	6
Clipping & Trimming Your Dogs Nails .....	12
How Old is Your Pet – Really? .....	17
Finding a Dog : Tips for finding the perfect purebred dog or puppy .....	22



# Pedigreedpups.com - Purebred Dogs and Puppies Information

## Top 5 Articles from Our Website

For your reading enjoyment, here are 5 of our most popular articles taken directly from our website for your reading pleasure. We hope you enjoy them. Want to read more? Feel free to visit our website anytime, at <http://www.pedigreedpups.com>

### 1 – How do I know if my female dog is in heat?

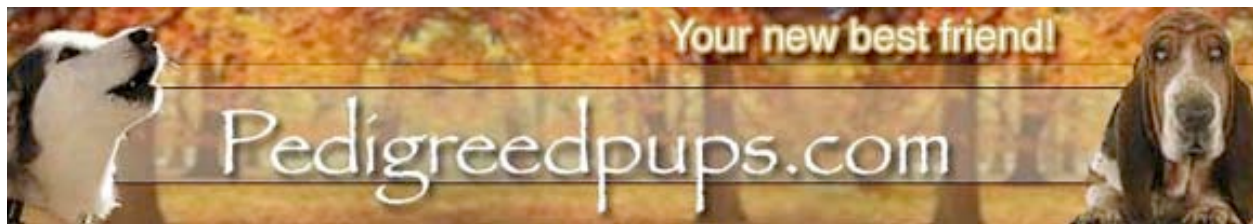
**How will I know if my female dog is in heat?** Intact, sexually mature female dogs (female dogs that have not been surgically spayed) are said to be in estrus, or "in heat", or "in season", during their occasional heat "cycle" which can happen once or more yearly.

If your female dog is in heat or about to be, be forewarned that generally most have their first heat cycle around **6 to 12 months of age**. Sometimes females of the larger dog breeds may not have their first seasonal estrus cycle until they are 12 months of age or older.

On average, the complete female heat cycle takes around 6 months which results in **about 2 heat cycles each year**. Time variation and lengths of heat cycles as well as intervals between cycles may occur when the female goes into heat but overall each individual female's pattern tends to be relatively close to the averages. Remember, overall this information is very general and not all female dogs will follow these patterns.

Overall, the average female's dogs heat cycle lasts **about 3 weeks**. It can be estimated that the average times between heat periods is around six months. Some female dogs can come into estrus as early as every 4 months, while others may do so only once a year.

3 – Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



Just like in human women, some dogs heat cycles may be shorter than average while other dogs may have longer ones (4 weeks or longer). If your female dog is in heat or about to be, there are many things you must know about the entire process.

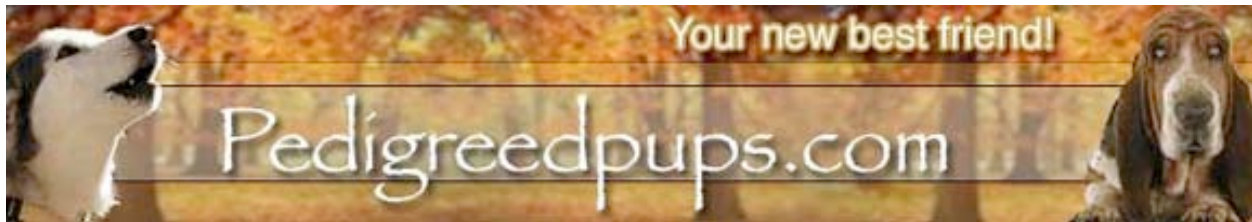
Keep these important points in mind, concerning your female dog, also called a bitch, and her heat cycle. First, assume your dog to be "in season" for at least 21 days which may vary due to your individual females heat cycle. Second, keep in mind that conception is most likely to happen during the middle third of her heat cycle – typically around 7 to 14 days after the heat starts. Third, you will need to confine your dog for the entire heat cycle – up to 21 days or more depending on your particular bitch, to make sure that accidental mating does not happen.

If you have any questions consult with your veterinarian if your female dog is in heat. Especially if your dogs heat cycles do not seem "normal" as cycling problems can often be an early indicator of other or more serious health problems.

My female dog is in heat. Each canine "heat cycle" consists of four major stages: Here are the stages you can easily expect when your female dog is in heat.

**First Stage – Proestrus:** begins with the appearance of vaginal bleeding, swelling of the vulva, possible increase in urination and, most noticeably, male dogs beginning to hang around you home (but the female still rejects the male during this time). Fertilization can not happen at this stage. The length of proestrus on average is about 9 days, and may range of 1 to 17 days depending on the individual dog.

**Second Stage – Estrus:** if your female dog is in heat, this is the time in which the female dog will allow the male to breed her. This time is also called "standing heat" and can last anywhere from 4 to 21 days depending on the individual dog.



Vaginal discharge will turn to a lighter shade of red. In most dogs, once this vaginal discharge becomes straw colored, the dog can be said to be most ready for breeding. Other behaviors to look for, she may lift her tail and rub her rear end against various objects, such as the wall or fencing. This particular behavior is called "**flagging**". Ovulation does occur during this flagging stage which may last between 4 to 7 days.

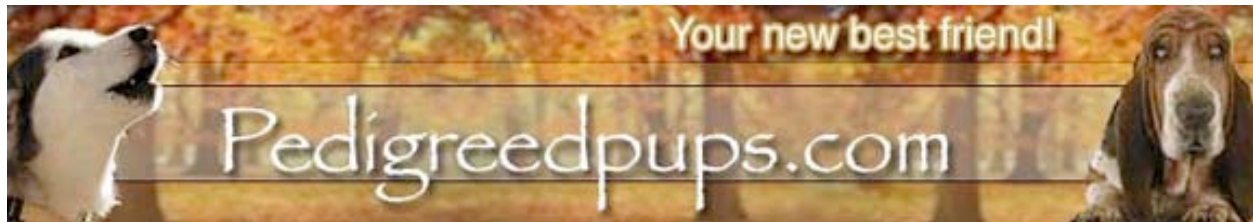
**Third Stage – Metestrus:** the stage that readies the uterus for pregnancy. If fertilization does occur the fertilized eggs may take up to a week before they attach themselves to the uterine wall. False pregnancies frequently occur during the metestrus stage. Keep in mind that this stage can easily last 4 to 14 days. Overall it averages out as approximately 7 days. Keep in mind that this interval stays the same even if the dog becomes pregnant.

If fertilization does not occur then this stage will revert back to anestrus, which is stage four of this process. **Fourth Stage – Anestrus:** the resting time between heats which normally lasts about 5 months.

If you want further scientific proof of the exact stage of estrus your female dog may be in, your veterinarian can assist in several ways. First, by performing an analysis of the cells of the vagina under the microscope (cytology) to determine the stage of estrus as well as being able to measure progesterone levels in the bloodstream.

**If you do not intend to breed your bitch, you really should consider spaying her.** If your female dog is in heat, is about to be or has just gotten over being "in season", not only will you be helping to control the overpopulation problem by cutting down on unwanted litters, but there are many health benefits associated with spaying your dog such as decreased chance of mammary tumors or pyometra, not to mention the whole issue of dealing with vaginal discharges and frisky Romeos hanging around outside your home just waiting for an opportunity.

If you do elect to spay your dog, this can be done during the heat cycle however it would probably be best to wait until the heat cycle is over to decrease any chance of complications during surgery.



Please know that there is no behavioral benefit in letting your female have a litter before spaying her. In fact, just the opposite is true in all the health benefits your dog will enjoy. And the earlier you spay your dog, the more potential risks you are cutting out. In fact, if you spay you dog before her first heat cycle, you give her the most health benefits of all associated with spaying by preventing potential reproductive problems that could occur down the road.

Article written and reprinted with permission of:  
<http://www.pedigreedpups.com/>  
Purebred Dogs, Puppies and Dog Breeders –  
"Your New Best Friend"  
Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

## 2 – Dog Training Is Very Important

To have a good working relationship with your dog, remember, that **dog training is essential.**

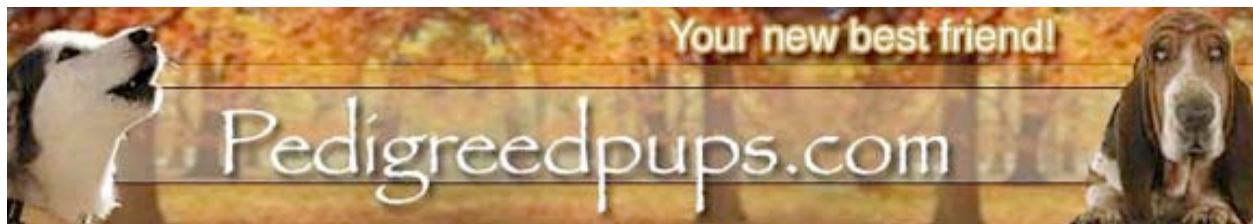
Some dog breeds may be more responsive to training than others, but all are capable of learning at least the basics.

If your dog is not learning for some reason, more often than not, it is the fault of the trainer, not the dog.

The main objective of any kind of dog training is to simply examine how well you and your dog work together as a team, by putting you through various kinds of exercises – be it agility, flyball, obedience or whatever.

There are many kinds of training available for your dog but all rely on the basic commands learned in obedience. Once your dog has mastered the basics of sit, stay, come, heel and all the other obedience commands then you can easily venture out into other types of training and dog sports such as agility, flyball, search and rescue, Schutzhund and so much more.

6 – Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



We'll attempt to discuss, in some detail, as many different kinds of training for your dog as there are possible – just in case you become interested in participating in any one of them. More will be added from time to time so keep checking back for more dog training methods.

### **Obedience Dog Training**

Dog obedience competitions have been around since at least the early 1930's. The AKC version of this dog sport is now promoted and practiced by hundreds of kennels, dog obedience, and dog specialty clubs throughout the United States.

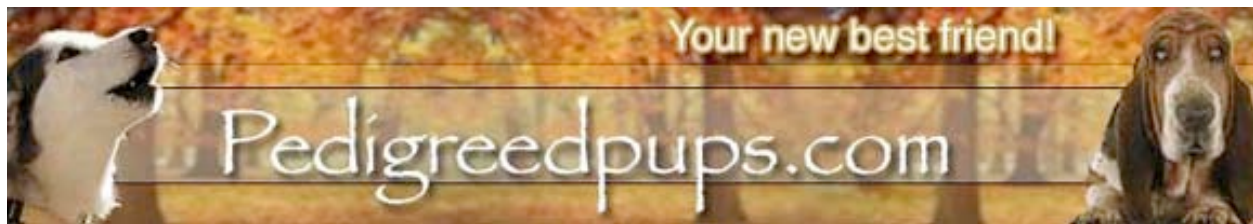
Dog obedience is an exciting sport and thousands of competitors all over the world enjoy participating with their canine partners. A few minutes of obedience training your dog every day, with plenty of praise and encouragement, will help your canine companion develop into real obedience professionals!

Most obedience dog training and competitions begin with the exercises that illustrate the dogs good manners – such as standing to be touched by a stranger, walking on a leash at the owner's side, sitting and lying down with distractions, and coming when called.

More advanced dog obedience training classes prove the owner's ability to train the dog to do a variety of "tricks" such as jumping different kinds of obstacles, fetching a dumbbell, obeying commands whether given by hand signal or voice, and finding items touched by the owner in the midst of several other identical objects.

The main goal in dog training, especially obedience, is to create a working team with both team members working in sync. Above all, Dog Obedience Trials are considered to be "fun competitions" and are designed to be enjoyed by both the dog and the owner.

To be eligible to compete in AKC Dog Obedience Trials, a dog must be registered with the AKC or listed with the AKC Indefinite Listing Privilege (ILP) program, or be a Foundation Stock Service recorded breed that meets



the eligibility requirements for competition and be a minimum of 6 months of age.

### **Frisbee Dog Training**

Frisbee dog training is an excellent sport to promote cardiovascular development in your dog.

The running and jumping involved in this sport works well to improve muscular strength and prevents misdirected energy in an otherwise bored dog. There are three basic skills needed to play Frisbee: Throwing, Catching, and Retrieving.

Playing frisbee with your dog can be lots of fun. If you and your dog are in good health there are many reasons to teach your dog to play frisbee – it is a great way to keep your dog in excellent condition, it promotes both a great physical and mental challenge for both you and your dog, and it offers an opportunity for you and your dog to work as a team.

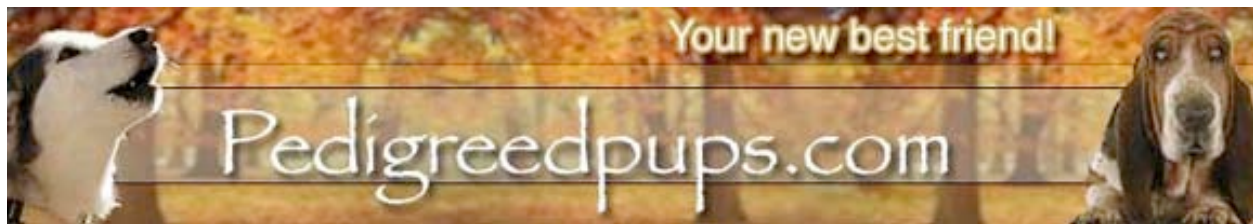
Remember this very important dog training point – this is best done with older dogs, not young puppies whose bones and joints are still developing. If you have a dog that enjoys playing fetch with a ball or a stick of some kind then you can expect that your dog can easily be trained to catch Frisbees with a little extra practice.

Frisbee competitions are open to all breeds of dogs – regardless of breed type or size. All dogs can compete “paw to paw” – it doesn’t matter if the dog participating is a mixed breed or a purebred canine. Most dogs really love it! And if you’re good at it, then all the better.

### **Agility Dog Training**

Agility training for you and your dog can be lot's of fun. Sort of a combination obstacle course–play ground, agility dog training is comprised of multiple types of obstacles that the dog must complete in a certain length of time.

The dog handler must use strategy to get their dog safely from the



beginning of the course to the finish and through an array of all sorts of obstacles within a limited amount of time. Accuracy is very important as well as the ability to correctly complete the agility course with as few mistakes as possible within the time limit.

Many benefits are available as a result of this type of agility dog training.

Not only does the dog get a lot of great exercise (as well as yourself), but other benefits include socialization skills from being around other people and animals, body awareness skills for the dog (many are not aware that the back feet can work independently from the front), an increased feeling of confidence in the dog as it learns to safely make it through the different obstacles. The most important thing of all is that your dog learns to trust you as its leader.

If you are interested in getting more information about agility, contact your local dog clubs or trainers who can put you in touch with the appropriate people.

### **Conformation Dog Shows**

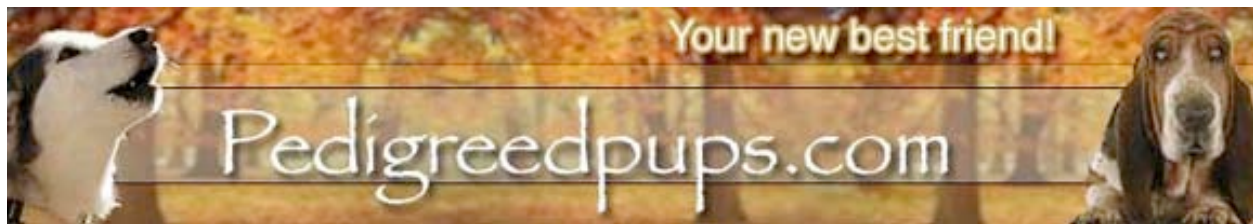
The main thought or reasoning behind dog shows, also called conformation events, in the first place is to evaluate future breeding stock. Spayed or neutered dogs are not eligible to compete in conformation classes.

These events range from large all-breed shows, with thousands of different dogs entered representing all different dog breeds, to small local specialty club shows, featuring one specific breed and are often compared to human beauty contests.

Showing dogs at these confirmation events is a great dog sport and also an old and fine art, where the thrill of competition is combined with the joy of seeing beautiful dogs meticulously groomed, highly trained and then presented at the height of their athletic and natural ability.

Conformation dog shows are only one of many kinds of dog events in which purebred dogs can compete.

9- Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



In case you are interested, the best place to start this sport is by joining a local kennel club or a breed-specific specialty club. Showing your dog can be an exceptional and enjoyable experience for you both.

Dog training classes can be the best hands-on way to practice for the show ring while attending actual dog shows is another great way to learn what judges and other competitors do and are looking for in the show ring.

### **Flyball Dog Training**

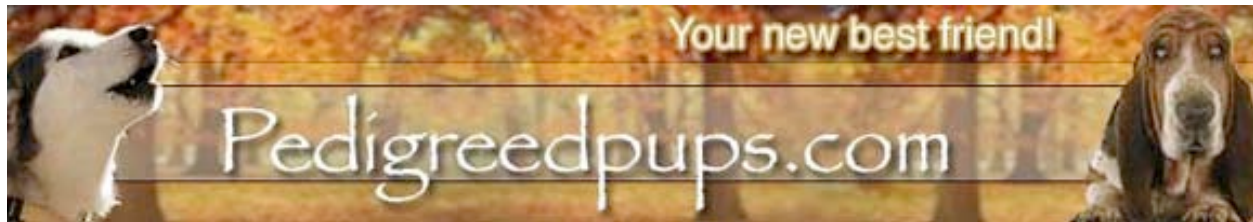
Interest in flyball is certainly growing. Flyball is actually a team dog sport. Flyball is actually a timed relay race between two teams of 4 dogs each. These dog teams will race side by side down a 51-foot (15.54m) course. Each dog team consists of a minimum of 4 dogs racing in each heat (plus up to two alternate dogs).

Alternate team members can be interchanged after each heat is completed. There are between 3 to 5 heats per race, and a team has to win a majority of heats to win the overall race. The first flyball team to have all four dogs complete the course, without error, wins the heat. Dog training is essential to make sure that these teams perform as one large well timed machine.

Here is what each dog must do to compete in a flyball event: 1) go over 4 hurdles to the end of the flyball course, 2) trigger a flyball box pedal to drop the ball, 3) catch (retrieve) a tennis ball and then, 4) return back to the start/finish line over all four hurdles (with the tennis ball in it's mouth) to where the next dog eagerly waits to start it's own leg of the heat.

Dropped balls or missed hurdles require the dog to rerun the course – after the rest of the team has finished (which will add extra time to the overall heat for that particular team). Needless to say, each dog team wants the fastest and cleanest run possible from each of the dog participants involved.

**10-** Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



A few flyball facts: any dog may participate, regardless of its breed, shape or size, All dogs in flyball must be at least 12 months old to compete, Dogs do need to be relatively fit to play flyball, and it is a relatively cheap dog sport overall to participate in.

### **Schutzhund Dog Training**

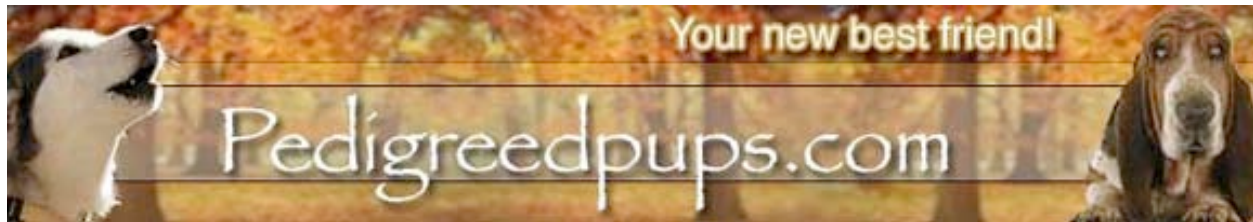
The main purpose of this dog sport is to emphasize the correct working temperament and abilities within the German Shepherd Dog breed. While dogs of many other breeds also participate in the sport of Schutzhund (German for "protection dog"), this dog breed evaluation test was developed specifically for the German Shepherd Dog.

Schutzhund trials are a sport for the working dog with the intention of demonstrating the dog's overall intelligence and utility abilities and to cover their abilities in three separate phases – trailing, obedience and protection.

Since the original conception over 100 years ago, many other countries and working dog organizations have also adopted Schutzhund as both a sport and as a test of working dog performance. International rules have also been established. All sizes and types of dog breeds are eligible but the minimum age requirement is 15 months.

In the tracking phase the dog must follow a scent trail from human footprints left by a stranger. The tracking phase is intended to test the dog's ability to scent, as well as its mental and physical endurance levels.

In the obedience phase, the dog works both on and off lead. This phase includes a series of heeling exercises, a gun shot test (to see how the dog reacts to sharp noises), and a series of field exercises. Also, the dog is required to retrieve dumbbells of varying weights and sizes over various surfaces, walls and hurdles.



The protection phase of Schutzhund is the part most people think about when they hear the word Schutzhund. This is the ultimate test of the dog's courage, mental stability and mental abilities, proper temperament, physical strength, and agility. Most importantly, the handler's control of the dog is absolutely essential in how well the dog responds to the commands of the handler.

Article written and reprinted with permission of:  
<http://www.pedigreedpups.com/>  
Purebred Dogs, Puppies and Dog Breeders – "Your New Best Friend"  
Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

### **3 – Clipping & Trimming Your Dogs Nails**

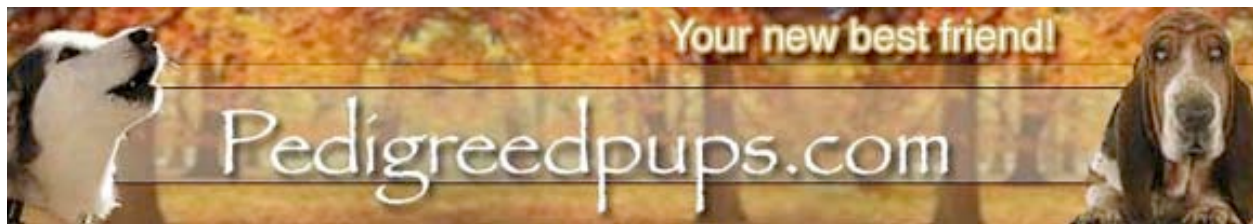
**Trimming your dogs nails is just one of the regular dog grooming tasks that you need to do at home on a frequent basis.**

As in all other dog grooming tasks, you must reward your dog for positive behavior throughout the grooming session, This is a very important part in your dog's grooming behavior. If you fail to do this your dog may never fully accept future grooming procedures.

Trimming your dogs nails is not painful when you use a sharp nail trimmer and when don't clip the nails too short. Trimming your dog's nails regularly will easily prevent any of the potential problems listed below.

#### **Why should I cut my dogs nails in the first place?**

All dogs need their nails clipped unless your dog is so active that it wears its nails down on it's own. When a dog's toe nails become too long they can interfere with the dog's gait. Later on, as the nails continue to grow, walking can become very awkward or painful.



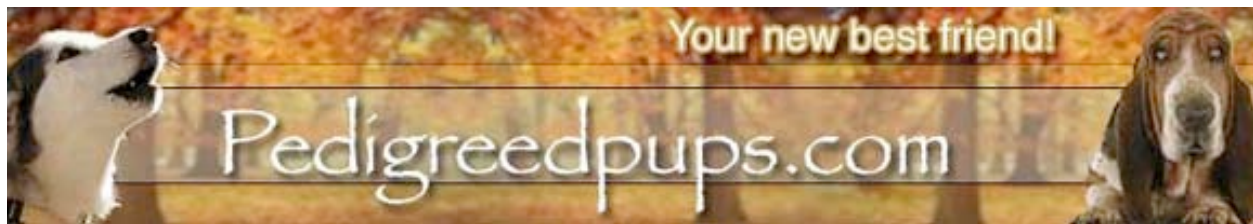
A few benefits of trimming your dogs nails include the following:

- \* Toe nails help provide traction for the dog and help them to walk or run without slipping.
- \* Untrimmed nails can split resulting in a great deal of pain, bleeding, and /or a trip to the veterinarian's office.
- \* Dogs cannot walk correctly if their nails are too long. Dogs whose nails are excessively long can also be hurt due to slips and falls.
- \* Torn nails can be extremely painful. Infection can occur as a result requiring long-term antibiotics, soaking and / or surgical removal.
- \* Overly long nails can grow into the bottom of the foot while dewclaws can grow into the leg if neglected long enough. Dewclaws don't touch the ground and don't wear down as fast as the other nails when your dog walks on rough surfaces. These types of ingrown nail problems are very common especially on the dewclaws. Ingrown nails, as in humans, can often become infected and are very painful.

### **How do I know if the dogs nails are too long?**

If you hear a clicking sound when your dog walks around, the nails are too long. It is a good idea not to wait that long – once or twice a month is a good habit to get into for trimming your dogs nails. Look closer for yourself – hold your dog's foot and press the dogs toe so that the nail is fully extended.

If you can see that your dogs toe nails curve beyond the bottom of the dogs toe pad, then the nails are too long and need trimming. Don't forget the dewclaws if your dog has them. Dewclaws, located on the inside of the paw, need to be included in your dog's nail trimming routine.



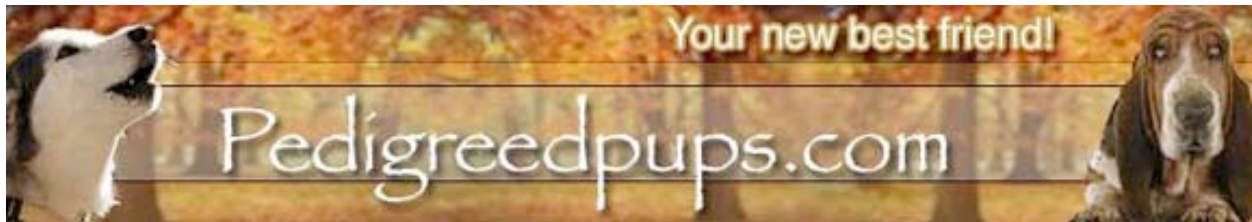
If you regularly trim your dog's nails you should have no problem. Some dogs work regularly on rough surfaces and are able to wear down their nails, but overall most dogs will need some extra help from you. Even if you don't actually trim the dog's nails each time, regular inspection of your dog's feet and nails will help assure you that your dog's feet stay healthy. A good idea is to make nail inspection and nail trimming an important part of your dog's routine grooming procedure at least two or three times a month.

Keep this in mind – when the dog toe nails grow, the quick inside the dogs nail grows as well. When the nail is very long, the quick becomes very long also. Cutting overly long nails to the correct length would easily cut into the quick. **The best idea for trimming your dogs nails is to cut the long nails slowly, a little bit at a time over the course of several days or weeks.** The quick inside the nails will regress a little bit each time the dog's nail is clipped. Using this procedure, the long nails can be shorted with little pain or trauma to the dog.

### **What exactly is the quick when trimming your dogs nails?**

The quick grows along with the nail – it is the living part of the nail that has blood vessels running throughout. So if your dog's nails are over grown you will not be able to clip the nails to the desired length without cutting into the quick. If the nails are overly long, you will need to trim the tips of your dog's nails often. Over time the quick will shorten as you clip the nails bit by bit.

Cutting into the quick during the dog nail trimming procedure is very painful for your dog and will easily result in bleeding. Cutting into the quick of the nails could also lead to an infection. If your dog has light colored nails you will be able to see the quick much easier. If your dog has nails that are dark in color, you will not be able to see the quick inside. To avoid cutting into the quick you'll want to start by trimming small pieces, a little at a time, off each nail, over a period of several days or weeks.



### **Trimming your dogs nails – When should I start?**

If you have a puppy you should start trimming your dogs nails within a few days or weeks of when you bring your new puppy home. If you have an adult or an older dog the answer is pretty much the same – start trimming your dogs nails right away. If you get the puppy used to the procedure early on it probably will not take too long for it to adjust to the whole nail trimming routine.

Handling your puppy's feet everyday will also get the puppy used to touch as well as helping to prepare it for future training, grooming and veterinary sessions. Nail trimming will be much easier in the future if your puppy doesn't mind having his feet handled. Patience is very important here. Concerning adult dogs, you may need to spend a lot more time getting him used to the nail trimming procedure.

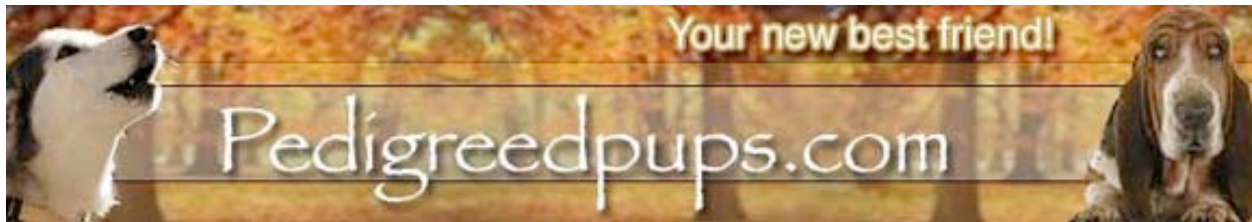
### **Trimming your dogs nails – What tools do I need?**

The style of dog nail clipper that you choose is a matter of personal preference. It is also important that the clipper is the correct size for your dogs nails and also the right size to fit in your hand properly. Make sure that you keep your nail trimmer sharp so that it makes a fast clean cut. A dull clipper will do nothing but hurt your dog. A pet nail file is also good to have on hand as is some form of styptic powder and plenty of dog treats to reward good behavior. Dog treats are good to draw a dog's attention away from a bleeding nail.

Always make sure that you're using a sharp pet nail trimmer when trimming your dogs nails. It is very important to choose a nail trimmer that is the right size for your dog's nails. Two common types of nail trimmers include the guillotine style and plier type.

Guillotine style dog nail trimmers require that the dog's nail be inserted through a hole in the top of the trimmer. When you squeeze the handle the blade comes down and cuts through the nail. The blade that must be changed frequently to maintain a nice clean cut.

15– Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



Plier type dog nail trimmers work much like shrub pruning shears. The two blades cut through the nail as the handles are squeezed together. This type of nail trimmer works great on thick nails. These nail trimmers don't have blades that must be replaced but they do have to be sharpened when they become dull to maintain a nice clean cut.

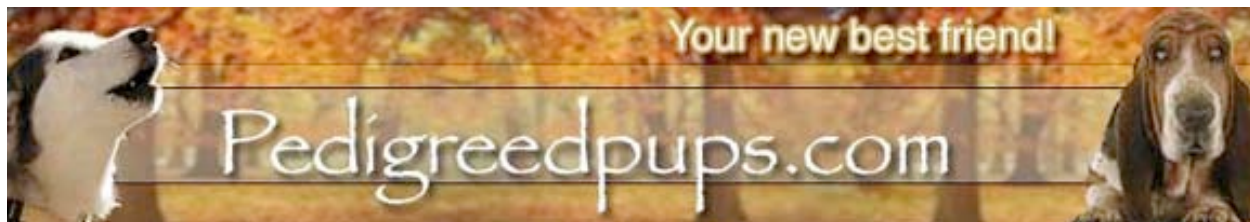
### **Trimming your dogs nails – How to cut a dogs nails**

- \* Start small, one toe at a time, and use a sharp clipping tool.
- \* Work in bright light and be aware of where the quick is.
- \* When you clip the nails, if you see the black spot inside the nail, go no further.
- \* When starting out, clip one nail a day until you can do them all at once.
- \* If dog nail trimming is completely new to you, don't be afraid to ask your veterinarian or groomer to show you the correct way to trim your dog's nails.
- \* Give your dog lots of praise and a great treat when each successful nail cutting session is over.

I've cut my dog's nail too short and my dog is bleeding! Now what do I do? First things first, do not panic. Stay calm and upbeat, do not baby your dog too much, and try to distract your dog with dog treats. One way to stop the bleeding is to take a pinch of styptic powder and press it against the bleeding toenail. Applying some styptic powder will help stop the bleeding.

When trimming your dogs nails, other methods to use in place of the styptic powder are: styptic pads, flour, cornstarch, a bar of soap or styptic pencils. The nail will stop bleeding on it's own in about 5 to 10 minutes. Now, give your dog lots of treats while you wait. Don't be too tough on yourself, even professional dog groomers occasionally cut into the quick.

**16**– Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



## Overview

If you take the time to learn the tricks of trimming your dogs nails; use only the best SHARP tools for trimming; train your dog with positive feedback, praise and lot's of treats, and show patience throughout the entire dog nail trimming process, you will both learn to enjoy the time you spend together as well as providing for your dogs health and safety.

Article written and reprinted with permission of:

<http://www.pedigreedpups.com/>  
Purebred Dogs, Puppies and Dog Breeders – "Your New Best Friend"  
Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

## 4 – How Old is Your Pet – Really?

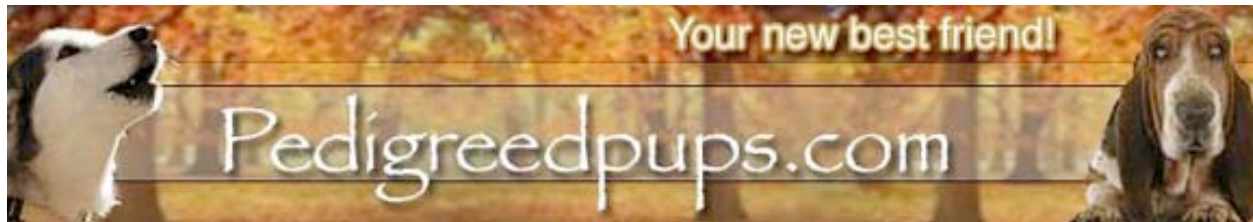
Have you ever wondered – Just how old is my dog – really? More than likely you know the dogs age in years, or at least have an approximation of its age, but do you really have any idea how old it may be – chronologically speaking?

I'm sure you've heard of the old "seven year theory". You know, the system where each year of a dog or cats life is the equivalent of 7 of ours.

An example of this thinking would be that a 1 year old dog would be the age and developmental equal of a 7 year old person.

Now just how many 7 year old kids do you know that are sexually mature – and also able to reproduce? A cat or dog is much more likely to have a litter when it is one year in age or younger, or at the other extreme, ten years or older, than is a human who is under the age of seven or over the age of seventy!

17– Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



This age system was simple – but way too simple. Many people today may still use these calculations when coming to some idea of their pets chronological age. Still, due to examples like the one above you can see why this most simple of systems is not accepted today.

In the early 1950's a French veterinarian, Monsieur LeBeau, formulated another system to address this problem. In LeBeau's system, a dog/cat of 1 year in age became the equivalent of a 15 year old person – due to the onset of puberty in each species. The second year of a dog/cats life became the equivalent of a 24 year old person – someone/ something that has reached full maturity. After two, each year of an animals life would equal 4 years of human life.

Here we go! Pop quiz time! Just how old would a 6 year old cat “really” be using this newer system? According to the LeBeau theory, the dog/cat would be the equivalent of a 40 year old person. Remember,  $24 + (4 * 4) = 40$ . How about a 10 year old dog? If you came up with 56 then you were correct!

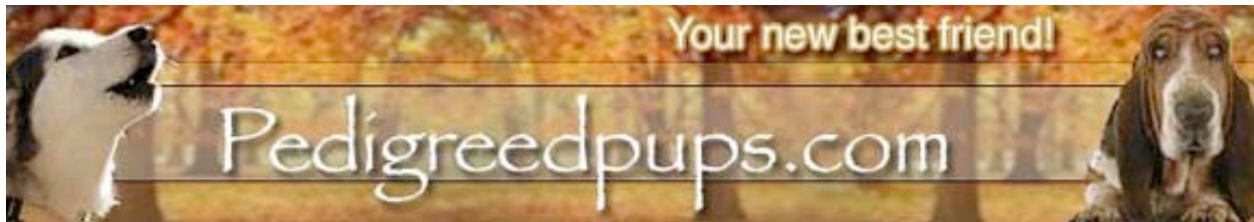
It is interesting to note that **dogs and cats move up this newer age scale at the same rate until they reach the age of 14.** At that time the rates begin to differ between dogs and cats compared in human age terminology. This chart would work quite well for a dog or cat having an average life expectancy (ALE) of 14 years.

As we all know, oftentimes animals, as do people, may exceed the ALE which would call for further refinement of this age formula.

For this we need to be aware of something called the maximum life span (MLS). Basically, this is the average life expectancy or the amount of years a person, animal, etc. may reasonably expect to live.

The MLS on the other hand, is the genetically based maximum age beyond which no member of that species may live.

**18**– Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



Now, with that in mind, consider this addendum to the first age chart. A human maximum life span is close to 110 years. A cats maximum life span is around the mid-30's, while a dogs maximum life span is around 29.

So, just how do you calculate a cat or dogs age who lives past the 14 year mark? In this event, each year of life past 14 for a dog would equal 2 1/2 human years, and only 2 for a cat.

Due to recent research it has been found that many times an animal may live past his ALE when given improved care, activity, social and psychological stimulation. If we examine the oldest living dogs on record, we can begin to see that most had a regular moderate exercise program that included differing levels of psychological and social stimulation.

Currently, the oldest living dog on record worked as a herding dog in Australia (**29 years old**). The runner-up, a mere 27 years of age, was a Lab who lived in the home of a game keeper in England. Other famous notables include Higgins, the terrier on Petticoat Junction and the Beverly Hillbillies (20); Pal, the collie who started the role of Lassie(18);and,last but certainly not least, Rin Tin Tin, movie star and German Shepherd who lived to be at least 16 years of age.

The following charts will show you just how LeBeaux theories work when determining the age of your pet. We hope this material is of help to you in the future.

Cat/Dog	AGE	Human
1-----		15
2-----		24
3-----		28
4-----		32

19- Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



**AGE**

<b>Cat/Dog</b>		<b>Human</b>
----------------	--	--------------

(Continued)

5-----		36
6-----		40
7-----		44
8-----		48
9-----		52
10-----		56
11-----		60
12-----		64
13-----		68
14-----		72

<b>AGE</b>		
<b>Cats/Humans</b>		<b>Dogs/Humans</b>

15-----	74-----	74.5
16-----	76-----	77
17-----	78-----	79.5
18-----	80-----	82
19-----	82-----	84.5

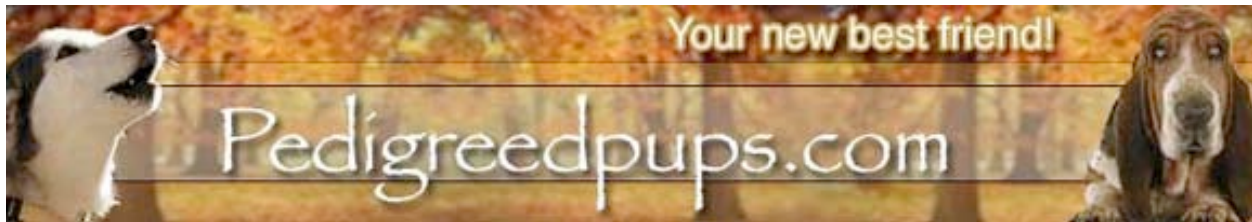
20- Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



Cats/Humans	AGE (Continued)	Dogs/Humans
20-----	84-----	87
21-----	86-----	89.5
22-----	88-----	92
23-----	90-----	94.5
24-----	92-----	97
25-----	94-----	99.5
26-----	96-----	102
27-----	98-----	104.5
28-----	100-----	107
29-----	102-----	109.5
	30-----	104
	31-----	106
	32-----	108
	33-----	110
	34-----	112

Article written and reprinted with permission of:  
<http://www.pedigreedpups.com/>  
 Purebred Dogs, Puppies and Dog Breeders -  
 "Your New Best Friend"  
 Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

21- Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



## 5 – Finding a Dog : Tips for finding the perfect purebred dog or puppy

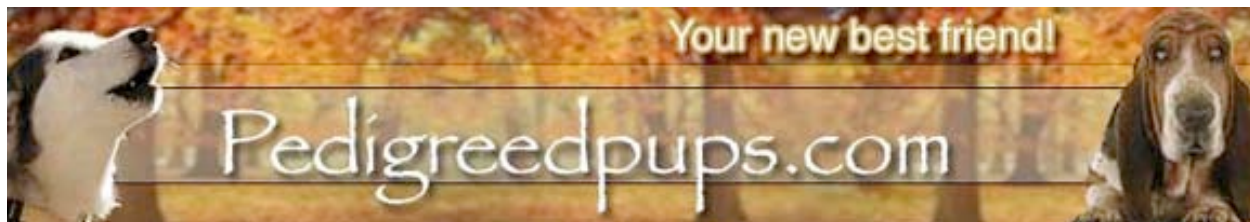
**Finding a Dog 101** – Dogs are fantastic companions, and love you no matter what, but remember:

- **Dogs DO take time!** Remember, just like us, they are social animals who do not like being left alone. You can't just stick them out in the yard or leave them in the house alone all the time and expect everything to be all right.

Many types of behavioral problems occur just as a result of this one thing. Do you honestly have ample time every day to spend walking, feeding, cleaning up after, grooming, exercising and playing with your dog? And dogs often live for ten to fifteen years, so enter into this as a seriously long-term commitment.

- **Dogs DO cost money.** There are food requirements which vary from dog to dog. They will need regular health care as well including: shots, wormings, check ups, etc. Some dog breeds will additionally need regular grooming. Puppies will damage things in your house from time to time – it's a fact. Finding a dog may lead to things being replaced more often. You will have to do more cleaning from time to time – shedding fur, etc.

- **Dogs DO require ample space** which can vary from breed to breed. Take the time to research ALL the requirements needed for all breeds you may be interested in. Do you live in an apartment? A duplex/townhouse or condo? A single family home? Do you have a securely fenced yard or access to a securely fenced in area for your dog to play in? If not, can you seriously make some other kind of suitable and realistic arrangements for your dog to get adequate DAILY exercise? Finding a dog requires a lot of forethought and planning.



**1) Be Honest.** Finding a dog can take some time. First of all, do you really want a dog? Is a purebred dog perfect for you? Or would you be just as happy adopting a dog from the local animal shelter or rescue organization in your area?

**2) So you still really want a dog even will all the needs listed above in mind**

If you can honestly answer all these needs mentioned above with a positive response then you're ready for step 2.

So now, you must now ask yourself:

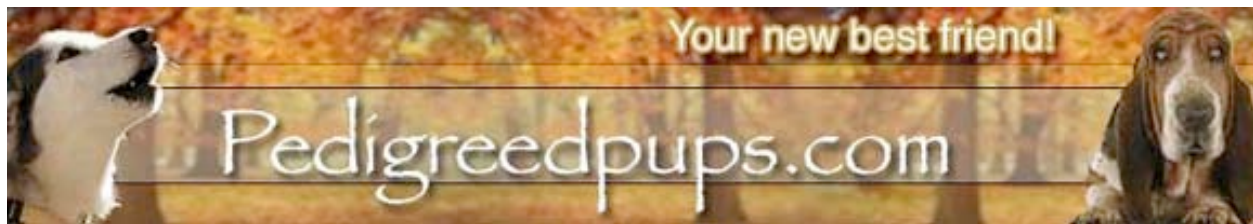
**Finding a Dog 101** – What breed of purebred dog do you want?

Research, research, research! Before selecting a purebred puppy breed you must first carefully consider many things about yourself and your family, such as: your exercise schedule, your own personality, your family and home situation, what you expect of your dog (watchdog, companion for your children, hunting, etc.), whether you live in a house with a fenced yard or in an apartment/duplex/condo, etc. You want to honestly match the dog's needs to yours as closely as possible for the best match possible. Finding a dog takes plenty of forethought and research.

For example, if you're athletically inclined, you don't want a doggie couch potato – a dog that has low exercise needs. If you're a couch potato yourself, you don't want a purebred puppy that needs a lot of exercise.

● **First, DO NOT decide on any dog breed based on looks alone.** When finding a dog take your time and do lots of research BEFORE making any new kind of new doggie addition to your family. The eight major purebred dog groups found in the AKC in particular (Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, Herding and Miscellaneous) is a great place to start. Feel free to use the dog breed resources on our site as a good place to start as well. We offer many individual dog breed profiles including lots of indepth information on many kinds of purebred dog.

23– Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



## **Finding a Dog 101 – Next: Selecting Your Dog. Do you want an adult or puppy?**

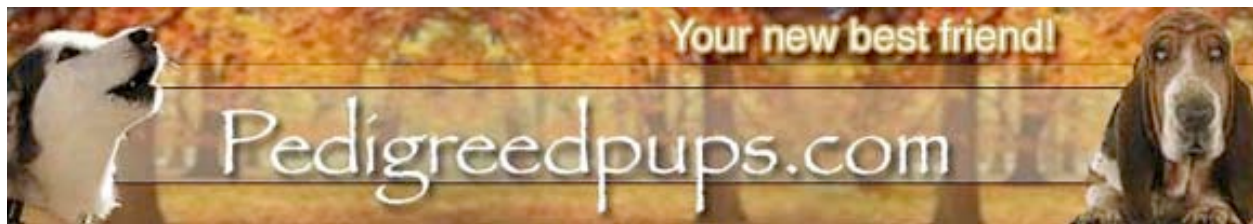
Almost everyone wants a puppy. Puppies are lots of fun and can be easy to train and socialize, but they require a lot of time and care. Adult dogs often require less care overall than puppies but may have developed some types of behavioral or socialization problems during their life.

If you are more inclined to get an adult dog, one good choice to start with is a rescue dog, possibly from a local shelter or rescue organization. There are many shelters and breed rescue groups available which can be visited on the internet, via the phone or in person depending on your area and finding a dog in one of these places can potentially mean saving it's life. Sometimes these organizations may have puppies for adoption as well.

## **Finding a Dog 101 – Where is the best place to find a dog or puppy?**

- **First, consider adopting a dog** from a shelter or purebred dog rescue organization. Way too many dogs are euthanized each year, and you might just find a dog – the perfect companion for you, at the local pound or through a rescue group for your favorite breed. And you saved a life in the process!

- **Second, find a "real" breeder.** A real breeder of purebred dogs usually belongs to a breed club for their specific dog breed as well as belonging to several other dog related organizations. Additionally, many purebred dog breeders may be involved in showing their own dogs or participating in other dog related activities as agility, lure coursing or herding events. Finding purebred dogs or purebred puppies here means you have a much better chance at learning about the dogs ancestors, breed health problems, littermates, seeing the actual living conditions the puppy was raised in, and have a resource for future questions and a new friend for the life of your new dog.



**Other very important things to look for in a purebred dog breeder** – do they: provide references; have a clean kennel with healthy, well-socialized animals; provide a pedigree and registration application form; give you written instructions on feeding, training and care; provide a written contract with conditions of sale and warranty; give you a record of vaccinations and wormings?

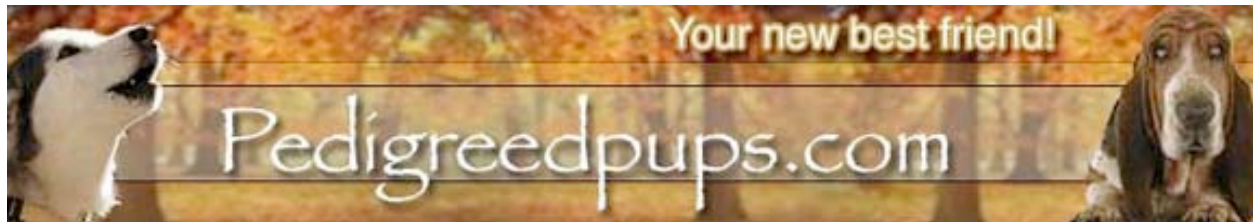
**Are the breeders:** interested in your qualifications to be an owner of one of their precious puppies (your home and family situation, etc); insistent that you take the purebred puppy to a vet for a check-up immediately after purchase; insistent that you continue with vaccinations and wormings on a regular basis; encouraging the relationship between you and the breeder as a continuing one; there for you on an "on-call" basis with ANY future questions or problems that you may have about you new puppy or dog?

#### **Places to avoid when finding a dog:**

- **pet shop.** These poor puppies are often poorly bred and raised in the most terrible living conditions. You'll never get a chance to see the parents, littermates or the actual original home they were bred in and you will never know what kind of inherited health problems they have until way too late. Finding a dog here means a potential lifetime of health problems as well as the potential to carry on this awful practice of puppy milling by supporting the sellers of their animals.

- **backyard breeders.** Typically these are people who own a dog but are not knowledgeable at all in the details about the breed, inherent health problems and risks, history of their dogs (other than their "papers"), etc. and think it will be "fun" or maybe even "profitable" to have a litter of puppies. Any dog breeders who lets you handle a very young puppy, shows signs of neglect (such as lack of water, and dirty conditions) in their kennel, are willing to sell a puppy under seven weeks of age are not looking out for the puppies best interest. Leave and find a reputable breeder asap! Finding a dog here also means many potential problems and no real support for your new puppy in the future.

25– Visit <http://www.pedigreedpups.com> for more dog info.



You can find conveniently located breeders in our breeders directory. Remember, it is up to you to check them out thoroughly BEFORE buying / adopting.

We suggest you take your time when searching for your new canine companion. Call breeders, visit their websites if possible, contact parent clubs for references for reputable breeders in your area. **The more research you do BEFORE you bring your new companion home, the better off everyone, including the doggie new addition, will be.**

<http://www.pedigreedpups.com/>  
Purebred Dogs, Puppies and Dog Breeders – "Your New Best Friend"  
Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.