

When you see the litter, they'll all be cute. How do you decide which one to bring home?



Ideally, you are working with an incredible pet-providing professional who knows these puppies well! They have likely been raising and rearing them from the moment they were born and can share with you specific details of their individual personalities, characteristics and qualities. In this case, we strongly recommend you enlist their help in successfully matching which is the best puppy for YOU! In doing this, please have an open conversation with them about what you are wanting in a canine companion and allow them to help make the very best selection possible with you and for you. Again and again this is so beneficial and proves to be the best case scenario!

If this is not your situation, and you feel a little alone in the decision making process, here's what we suggest...

As it is with most things in life, there are a handful of leading indicators you can specifically look for when choosing a puppy from a litter, which will help ensure a happier and healthier canine companion; one who will be easier to build a relationship with, easier to train and easier to integrate successfully into your life, family and home!

First, may we suggest you begin by watching the puppies play together. You will want to identify and ultimately choose the puppy that is both curious and friendly toward you and others in your family.

Also, watch for the puppy that is holding its ears high and has a super waggy tail... signs of a very happy puppy!

Spend a little time picking up each puppy, cradle it in your arms and look for the one who settles down most quickly. Understand that it is common for all of them to struggle initially, but note the ones who calm down sooner than later, almost as if they are trusting in you to protect them. We suggest that you avoid choosing the one that continues to struggle in your arms, as well as the one that is shy towards being picked up in the first place.

Next, drop your keys or another similar item and pay particular attention to the reactions of each of the puppies. Take special note of the ones who quickly bounce back from being startled and then curiously choose to go and investigate the cause of the noise - this type of investigative behavior is a very good thing!

Handle each puppy from head to tail, spending particular attention to how they react when you play with their paws, their ears and their mouths. Comfortable puppies won't mind at all and that's a good thing.

Moreover, healthier puppies will have cleaner eyes, ears, mouths and noses, brighter and shinier coats, gums and teeth. It's a good idea to avoid puppies with any bodily discharge or other smelly or dirty appearances.

Similarly, sample test both the vision and hearing of each puppy one at a time by first clapping your hands and then also rolling a ball along the floor. Watch for each puppy's response and reaction. Choose the one who shows signs of hearing by responding appropriately to the clapping and acknowledges the rolling ball with their eyes.

Finally, after all of that, there are likely multiples to choose from, especially if you are working with a world-class pet-providing professional. Review your results, follow your heart and pick the one who will make for your ideal canine companion throughout the many years to come. After all, you're going to be together for a very long time – SO pick the one you absolutely adore and the one who undoubtedly loves you back - CONGRATULATIONS!