



BREEDER OR GREEDER?

All ethical breeders are registered, but not all registered breeders are ethical.

What does this mean for the buyer? It means to support ethical breeding practices, you need to do a little homework, the same as when buying a car or building a home. A good place to start is asking these questions:

1. Are you registered with your ANKC/Dogs Australia affiliated state body?
2. Do you compete in dog shows or dog sports?
3. Have the parents of this litter had health clearances/DNA (not just parentage)?

The answer to all these questions should be yes. A buyer should also be able to ask to see proof of health clearances, or photos of parents competing in dog sports or shows without feeling like they are putting a breeder out - good breeders love talking about their dogs and these questions are easy ones for them to answer.

Now some buyers and even breeders will be thinking, "but I don't want to compete with my dog, this doesn't apply to me." It is easy to think this, however would you rather buy a home from a builder who pieced the building materials into shape by chance and luck; or would you buy a home from a builder with years of trade experience and knowledge, and working from a plan? Both are shelters, both will keep the weather out for some time - but which is most likely to suffer early failures and cost a fortune in maintenance or repairs, or worse, be condemned?

Breeders involved in dog shows or various dog sports choose their dogs based on stable temperament, physical and mental health, proper structure for movement and health, and the overall well-being of generations in the bloodlines. Reputable breeders extensively research pedigrees spanning many years to breed their litters, viewing this as the cornerstone of their breeding program. They take pride in discussing these aspects, as they form the basis of their carefully crafted breeding line, ultimately producing high-quality, healthy puppies.

After all the hard work, an ethical breeder not only offers support but also remains accessible and communicative. In case of any future issues, they are committed to taking back their dogs or helping with rehoming. Ethical breeders prioritise accountability.

When looking to purchase, consider supporting local DOGS AUSTRALIA breeders in your state. Verify their ethical practices by conducting your own research and asking the necessary questions to ensure they are caring for their beloved breeds.

