

Buying a Puppy Checklist

Pet ownership may be immensely rewarding but it comes with heavy responsibilities. Before getting a pet, it will be most helpful to go through this checklist with the entire family to ensure that everyone is agreeable and in this together. A pet is a lifetime commitment; not only for the season.

Responsible Pet Ownership

1. Pets need to be accepted by the entire household
2. Pets need to be taken care of for their entire lives (10 to 18 years)
3. Pets cost time and money (training, food, veterinary bills, etc.)
4. Pets should not be allowed to disturb others (e.g. they should be leashed when out for a walk)
5. Do your research before buying a pet

Premises

6. Pet shop is licensed by AVA to sell puppies. Grade decal issued by AVA should be displayed prominently.
7. Pet shop premises is clean.

Pet Shop's Handling/Knowledge of Puppies

8. Shop owner or attendant is able to handle the puppies confidently and correctly.
9. Shop owner or attendant is knowledgeable about the puppies and their care.

Behaviour/Condition of the Puppy

10. Puppy looks bright and alert.
11. Puppy stands and moves naturally and comfortably.
12. Puppy is in good physical condition.
13. Puppy's eyes, nose and ears are clean and free from excessive discharge.
14. Puppy's hair/coat appears clean and lustrous with no obvious hair loss.
15. Puppy does not scratch or chew itself excessively.





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Regulatory

- 16. Puppy must be microchipped
- 17. Puppy must have a vaccination card with details such as microchip number, vaccination and etc.
- 17. Puppy must be licensed and you must accept the change of dog ownership in AVA system before bringing the puppy home.
- 18. The pet retailer and pet owner must complete the AVA Pet Purchase Declaration (PPD) form in AVA system (PALS).

Healthcare

- 19. Puppy kept at the shop must be at least 9 weeks old and has received two vaccinations and rested one week following the second vaccination.
- 20. Puppy kept at the shop must be at least 12 weeks old and has received two vaccinations and rested one week following the second vaccination.
- 21. Puppy was imported not less than 72 hours earlier. (For imported kittens)
- 22. Puppy has been dewormed. (Check vaccination certificate)
- 23. Puppy is free from external parasites, i.e. ticks & mites.

Note:
These guidelines are intended to help you choose a puppy that is healthy and suitable for you. We would advise that if any of the boxes is not ticked, you should reconsider your purchase and/or consult a veterinarian. If you have any queries please contact us at **1800 476 1600** or email us at ava_arc@ava.gov.sg.

