



# Your guide to bringing a puppy into your life

More Humanity towards Animals



# Please follow our checklist before bringing a new puppy into your life

There are puppies in shelters all over the UK who desperately need a loving home. That's why we always encourage adopting a puppy rather than buying one. However, if you've decided to buy rather than adopt please follow our checklist to make sure you don't buy a farmed puppy and by doing so, unwittingly support the illegal traders.



Please share this checklist with your friends and family if any of them are considering buying a puppy. Together, we can put an end to the illegal puppy trade and stop dogs from suffering like this.

Thank you!

# If you choose to buy rather than adopt...

- ✓ Always buy from a reputable and licensed breeder and ask to see their licence.
- ✓ Check that they have the correct paperwork for the puppy.
- ✓ Ask as many questions as you want – a reputable breeder should always be happy to not only answer all your questions, but offer you support with your new companion before and after the purchase.
- ✓ Spend some time with the puppy to make sure it's the right temperament for you.
- ✓ Check the puppy's eyes, nose and ears for discharge sores and look carefully for any fleas or skin problems.
- ✓ Make sure the puppy is at least eight weeks old before it leaves its mother and check the paperwork for its first vaccinations.
- ✗ If the breeder won't let you view the puppy with its mother and the rest of the litter, walk away.
- ✗ Avoid buying dogs through advertisements, newspapers, online and through some pet shops.
- ? If you have any concerns, ask a local vet to accompany you when you make a second visit.



## Help FOUR PAWS end the illegal puppy trade

- Please sign our petition against illegal puppy farming at [www.four-paws.org.uk](http://www.four-paws.org.uk)
- If you suspect a breeder is running an illegal puppy farm, please report it to your local authority.
- Call FOUR PAWS on **020 7922 7954** for more copies of this leaflet to give to family and friends or to distribute in your local area.
- Support our work with a gift at [www.four-paws.org.uk](http://www.four-paws.org.uk)

Thank you!

FOUR PAWS, 32-36 Loman Street, London, SE1 0EH  
Telephone: 020 7922 7954 Fax: 020 7922 7955  
[office@four-paws.org.uk](mailto:office@four-paws.org.uk) [www.four-paws.org.uk](http://www.four-paws.org.uk)  
Charity No. 1118102 Company No. 5848230

More Humanity towards Animals

