

Buying A Dog or Cat

What you need to know



R+ Dog Training

Caveat Emptor!

Buyer beware indeed! The original Latin phrase urged *Caveat emptor, quia ignorare non debuit quod jus alienum emit* "Let a purchaser beware, for he ought not to be ignorant of the nature of the property which he is buying from another party."

Nowhere is this more true than when buying a new dog or cat. Laws and regulations have either not kept up with the changes to the way that dogs and cats are bred and sold or are not backed up by effective policing; scammers abound. Taking a few precautions and spending some time doing research can save hours of heartache and even loss of considerable funds.

What You Should Do

- 🐾 Think long and hard about whether you can spare the time, effort and cost of taking on an animal for the next 10-15 years
- 🐾 Consider your lifestyle and how you will make changes to fit in with your new animal
- 🐾 Choose an appropriate animal (age, activity level, breeding)
- 🐾 Research, research, research! Ask breed clubs, other animal owners etc.
- 🐾 Find out what the legal requirements are (licensing for breeders, microchipping, paperwork) and ask for proof
- 🐾 Cross check with the relevant authorities. Fraud is common.

What You Should Not Do

- 🐾 Follow your heart - your head is more important: if it doesn't seem right, walk away
- 🐾 Buy an animal online; it will almost certainly be from a puppy or kitten farm
- 🐾 Buy a puppy or kitten without seeing them interacting normally with their mother
- 🐾 Pay upfront without meeting the purchaser in person with the animals or pay over the odds
- 🐾 Exchange animals at a meeting point (car park, service station etc) or agree to delivery
- 🐾 Buy an animal because you feel sorry for it; you are not rescuing it, just making way for the next poorly bred animal.

Make sure that you get the best dog or cat possible: contact R+ Dog Training and ask about our Advice Services

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