

Buying a Golden Retriever Puppy

What to expect from a Breeder who puts
Health, Welfare and Temperament First



✓ Essential Documents

- Signed AWF Puppy Contract
- KC Registration Certificate (if applicable)
- Microchip Registration Certificate
- Temporary Pet Health Insurance
- Vaccination Certificate
- Copies of Health Certificates

A good breeder will

- have socialised and habituated the puppy
- provide a supply of food
- provide a blanket smelling of Mum
- follow the Code of Practice for Dog Breeding

✓ Health Certificates (Both Parents)

Official Health Schemes

- BVA/KC scheme for hip dysplasia (HD)
- BVA/KC scheme for elbow dysplasia (ED)
- BVA/KC screening for eye disease; full ophthalmological testing before breeding, to include gonioscopy (includes checks for multiple inherited diseases). Litters can be screened for MRD

DNA tests relevant to breed

- PRA - Progressive retinal atrophy
- ICT-A (Ichthyosis)

Some DNA testing panels will also include
other rare genetic diseases

Breed Health and Conservation Plan (BHCP)
www.dbrg.uk/guide-to-buying-a-puppy.html
goldenretrieverbreedcouncil.co.uk



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Brief explanation and other diseases that may be more common in the breed - if in doubt ask your vet for guidance



Official Schemes

Hip dysplasia - abnormal formation of the hip joint- pain and lameness

Elbow dysplasia - abnormal formation of the elbow joint - pain and lameness

MRD - multifocal retinal disease - often asymptomatic, may cause visual issues

DNA tests relevant to breed

PRA - Progressive retinal atrophy - eye disease leading to blindness

Ichthyosis - scaled, roughened patches of skin

Other Diseases - no current health scheme or DNA test available

Allergic skin disease

Aortic stenosis (heart disease)

Arthritis

Cancer

Ectopic ureter - incontinence in puppies, caused by malformation of drainage to bladder

Epilepsy

Glaucoma - increased pressure in eyeball, usually causes blindness

Hypothyroidism - underactive thyroid gland, causing lethargy and weight gain

Polyneuropathy - progressive weakness caused by neurological disease