

Newspaper ad/puppy farms

Many dogs are bred for a quick profit by what is often referred to as a 'puppy farm', they are raised without care or love and sold to unsuitable households. These dogs will often end up being abandoned and destroyed each year - due to illness, behavioural issues or simply because they are just not the right type of dog for their new family. At Dogs Trust we strongly advise you to choose your breeders carefully - make sure the dogs are kept in clean conditions and that you can see the puppies' parents - and avoid buying your puppy from pet shops.

Getting a Dog

Be a responsible owner and neuter your dog – it's simply the best choice for you and your pet.

If you are interested in rehoming a dog, supporting Dogs Trust or for more information and factsheets about all aspects of dog ownership, please visit www.dogstrust.org.uk or contact:

**Dogs Trust
17 Wakley Street
London
EC1V 7RQ**

**Tel: 020 7837 0006
Reg. Charity Numbers: 227523
and SC037843**



Having a dog can be a great and rewarding relationship. However, it is also a very big commitment, demanding time, money and care. Before getting a dog you should think about your lifestyle and carefully consider what kind of dog you get, and where you get it from.

How to find the dog that's right for you

Think carefully about what kind of dog will best suit you – how big is your family, and what kind of house do you live in? Have you owned a dog before? Do some research to make sure that the kind of dog you are looking for is well suited to your family and your everyday life.

Where you can get a dog

If you decide to get a dog, you will need to think about where to get him from.

Dogs Trust

At our 17 rehoming centres we've lots of lovely dogs all looking for new homes – in fact, we care for over 16,000 dogs a year so there are plenty to choose from! When you visit a Dogs Trust centre, our staff will ask about your home and lifestyle to help find the right dog for you. Staff

at Dogs Trust centres will also be happy to give you their experience of all breeds. All our dogs are neutered, microchipped and given a complete health check - including vaccinations and treatment for worms and fleas - before going to their new homes. We also give you a collar and lead and four weeks' free insurance, all of which are covered by an adoption fee. As it may take a little time for your dog to settle in to his new home, we provide a free back-up service to assist you. In fact, Dogs Trust are there to offer help and advice for the rest of your dog's life should you need it.

Other rescues

There are many other dog rescue centres throughout the UK, including breed-specific rescues. Ask your vet if they know of any rescues locally or check breed association websites for recommended rescues.

Council kennels

Many councils rehome dogs collected as strays or abandoned in the local area. Contact your council to find out if they run their own premises and how you can rehome a dog from them.

A reputable breeder

If you decide to buy a pedigree dog, only go to a reputable breeder – The Kennel Club can give you a list or you can ask your vet about local breeders. And don't forget to find out as much as you can about your chosen breed's traits and habits.



Photo by Andy Catterall