

Obedience and Training:

As with all working breeds, the Rottweiler needs firm guidance and training. It is vital that early socialising be carried out. The best time to start socialising is from 8 weeks of age, although preferably the puppy's breeder would have started prior to this. Socialising should include exposure to other people, different situations and other dogs that are known to have stable character and are vaccinated. All new experiences should be pleasant, non-threatening and non-stressful so that they may learn about the world in a positive way.

Once your puppy has had its twelve week Vaccination it can commence formal obedience training. The Rottweiler Club of Victoria Inc in conjunction with K9 Resolutions run training sessions at KCC Park, 655 Westernport Highway, Skye on Wednesday nights. Please contact either the club (www.rottweilerclubofvictoria.com) or K9 Resolutions (www.k9resolutions.com.au) for more information.

Some activities you can do with your Rottweiler

- Conformation Showing
- Obedience Trials
- Rally Trials
- Therapy Dog Work
- Tracking
- Track and Search
- Trick Dog
- Draft Test
- Endurance Test
- Herding
- Agility
- Scent Work
- Backpacking
- Weight Pulling



For more information on any of the above activities go to the Dogs Victoria Website (dogsvictoria.org.au).

In summary:

Firstly, take your time, do your research and make sure that the Rottweiler is the breed you want to have in your life. Then, make sure you source out a reputable breeder. Rottweiler breeders aim for a dog of abundant strength, black coated with clearly defined rich tan markings, whose powerful appearance does not lack nobility, and which is exceptionally well suited to being a companion, service or working dog. A true utility dog.

Lastly, invest time into your puppy and follow through into adult hood with continual socialisation, obedience training and life experience. No finer companion exists than a well trained and well socialised Rottweiler.



ROTTWEILER CLUB OF VICTORIA Inc.

Dedicated to the Rottweiler Breed

Email: rcvsec1@gmail.com

Website: www.rottweilerclubofvictoria.com

Facebook: Rottweiler Club of Victoria

Breed History:

The Rottweiler is considered to be one of the oldest surviving dog breeds. Its origin goes back to Roman times. These dogs were kept as herder or driving dogs. They marched over the Alps with the Roman legions, protecting the humans and driving their cattle.

In the region of Rottweil, these dogs met and mixed with the native dogs in a natural crossing. The main task of the Rottweiler then became the driving and guarding of the herds of cattle and the defence of their masters and their property. This breed acquired its name from the old free city of Rottweil and was known as the "Rottweil butcher's dog", because their main use was to herd livestock and pull carts laden with butchered meat to market. Although still used to herd stock in many parts of the world, Rottweilers are now also used as search and rescue dogs, police dogs and more recently Therapy Dogs.

General Appearance:

The Rottweiler is a medium to large size, stalwart dog, neither heavy or light and neither leggy or weedy. He is correctly proportioned, compact with a powerful build with great strength, agility and endurance.

Character:

A correct rottweiler has a calm demeanour and radiates great strength. Self-reliant with strong nerves and fearless character, the Rottweiler is very aware and keenly alert of its surroundings. They are friendly by nature and generally love children. They are affectionate and loving with their family and willing to please. They are keen and quick to learn, devoted to family and aloof with strangers.

Ideal Owners:

A fit, active, well adjusted mature adult who realises that an untrained and unsupervised Rottweiler has the potential to be a menace to society. People who are willing to learn about dog behaviour and share their home with a Rottweiler, taking time to train and socialise the dog will be greatly rewarded.

The Rottweiler is a dog that likes companionship, not a dog that you can just leave in a backyard, this breed is not suited to a busy person with little time to share with the dog.

Looking for and purchasing a Rottweiler puppy:

Where can I find a reputable breeder?

If you are looking to find a purebred, pedigreed puppy the best place to start would be The Rottweiler Club of Victoria Inc Litters available page on our website

www.rotweilerclubofvictoria.com/breeding/litter-expected-whelp-notice or Dogzonline

www.dogzonline.com.au which only lists breeders that are registered with their Dogs Australia state body.

First Contact:

Contact via email is now the standard way to make an enquiry, so for many prospective puppy owners, an email to several breeders may be the first step in searching for a puppy. Remember that your enquiry email is a bit like a job interview – first impressions matter!

Although the purchase price of a puppy is an important factor for you to consider when adding a new pet to the family, sending an email with nothing other than “How much for a puppy?” will not create a good impression.

Reputable breeders will want to know a little bit about you and the home you are offering, along with any experience you may have with a Rottweiler or other breeds. They want to make sure that their puppies go to the right homes and that you and your family and lifestyle are a good match.

Health Issues and health testing of breeding stock:

All dogs, whether purebred or mixed can suffer from health problems. Some health problems are hereditary, meaning they are passed on to puppies from their parents. Some health issues relate to environmental factors as well, no walking puppy long distances while young, playing roughly with bigger dogs, playing on slippery floors and no climbing up and down stairs when young.

Conditions reputable Rottweiler breeders test parents for prior to breeding:

- Hip Dysplasia
- Elbow Dysplasia
- Missing Teeth
- Bite problems
- JLPP (Juvenile Laryngeal Paralysis & Polyneuropathy)
- LEMP (Leukoencephalomyelopathy)
- Echocardiographic Examination for Cardiac Disease

Note: your puppy cannot be tested for the above items until it is 12 months of age.

Can I meet the parents of my puppy?

Meeting the mother of the litter, and if possible, the father will give you a good idea of how your puppy is likely to look and behave as an adult. Because behaviour and temperament are largely heritable, you should avoid puppies from overly timid or anxious parents, and those that show signs of aggression.

It may not be possible to meet the father of your puppy in person – he may live with another breeder, interstate or even overseas. Advanced reproductive technologies allow genetic material to be frozen, transported and stored, meaning a dog can sire a litter without leaving their home, country, or even years after they have died.

Visiting the mother and pups

It is usual for breeders to restrict visits in the first few weeks after birth to minimise disruptions that may stress the mother and pups. Once the pups are a bit older, they will usually welcome visits from their puppy buyers, and many good breeders encourage several visits before the puppies head off to their new homes.

Source of knowledge and support

When you purchase a puppy from a reputable breeder, you should expect ongoing support and advice. Reputable breeders will be there for you throughout your puppy's life and feel a responsibility for every puppy they breed.

Questions to ask your breeder:

How often do you breed a litter? - Most reputable breeders will only have a few litters a year (most breed even less frequently).

What health issues affect the Rottweiler Breed and what health testing do you do? – A reputable breeder will be able to tell you the health issues that have been previously mentioned in this flyer. They will also be happy to give you a copy of the results of the tests they have conducted for both the mother and father of the litter.

Will I be able to meet the parents of the litter? - As mentioned previously.

Once the litter is born, will I be able to visit the mother and puppies? - As mentioned above.

Do you have any questions for me? – Most reputable breeders will want to ask you plenty of questions. Good breeders want to ensure that the puppies they have raised are going to homes where they will receive all of the care, training and love they need and that each puppy is matched to its new home.

What information will I receive with my puppy? – You should expect to receive quite a bit of written information when you purchase a puppy. There should be details of the parents and copies of both the mother and fathers health testing results. There should be plenty of information about the breed and also details of worming treatments, vaccinations and veterinary health certificates.

What kind of ongoing support do you offer? – Good breeders will be glad to provide ongoing advice and support, they also want to receive updates and celebrate milestones and hear of any health issues that might pop up.

It doesn't feel right.....

If you are not happy with the breeder's answers to any of your questions, or you feel something just isn't quite right, it is time to find another breeder. It can be hard to walk away – especially if litters are few and far between – but purchasing from an unscrupulous breeder will only lead to heartbreak and expense. You want your new family member to be happy and healthy, and to be part of your life for a long time.....so it will be worth the wait.