

WHEN SELECTING A CORGI FOR PET OR SHOW. . .

If a Corgi is in your future, buy from a reputable breeder — one whose priority is clearly the healthy minds and bodies of the dogs he/she breeds. **Reputable breeders and Corgi parents will gladly share their knowledge and experience with you about this bright, energetic, lovable dog!** Try to visit more than one breeder and don't be afraid to ask a lot of questions. A good breeder should ask you as many questions as you ask because he/she wants to make sure the puppies are getting a good home. Look around. Check for cleanliness of the facilities and contented well cared for dogs/puppies. The adult dogs of a breeder are the best indication of how your puppy will turn out.

When purchasing a Corgi as a pet, concerned breeders should require that it be neutered or spayed. The health of your Corgi as a neutered or spayed animal is greatly enhanced. Bladder and prostate problems, and some of the more common cancers can be almost totally eliminated in the older dog by simply neutering or spaying when they are young.

If you are considering purchase of a Corgi for showing and breeding, you should be aware that breeders recommend several involved and expensive tests be done prior to any breeding considerations. The Corgi breed currently seems to be having problems with Caesarean sections and uterine inertia that lead to increased costs of rearing a litter. This is in addition to the cost of the dam's pre-breeding check-up by your vet, the stud service fee, possible airline shipping charges, and increased vitamins, protein and food for the momma-to-be.

Working with a competent and concerned breeder should give you added resources. You can have their help evaluating your Corgi physically and mentally. They can offer guidance as to the selection of a suitable mate, reassure during the pregnancy, offer advice and may directly help during the whelping process. They can give guidance in the proper feeding, care and socialization of the puppies. Once the pups are at least 8 weeks old and have received preliminary inoculations, they may be able to help you find suitable homes for your puppies.

There is a lot more to breeding than just putting a male and female together. The Corgi you love and cherish was not just evolved, it was the result of clear thinking, hard work and expense.