Buying a puppy: the checklist

Tasstur Stockholm · based on Jordbruksverket's advice and Swedish law

Red flags: walk away if...

- [ ] The person you talked to is not the one who hands over the puppy (middlemen are a typical sign of smuggling).
- [ ] The puppy shows signs of illness at handover: diarrhoea, lethargy, poor condition. Never buy a puppy that isn't fully healthy.
- [ ] The ears or tail are cropped. That is banned in Sweden, so the dog wasn't born here.
- [ ] You're asked to pay someone other than the seller, or in a way that can't be traced. Pay only the seller and get a receipt.

Is it safe? (not a smuggled puppy)

- [ ] Never buy on impulse from an online or social-media ad.
- [ ] Meet the puppy with its mother and littermates in their home, not in a car park.
- [ ] Swedish-born puppy: the mother is in Jordbruksverket's dog register. Ask to see the proof.
- [ ] At least 8 weeks old (15 weeks if brought in from abroad).
- [ ] Vet inspection certificate from the last 7 days; vaccinated against parvovirus, HCC and distemper; usually chipped.
- [ ] Written contract with the seller's full name, personnummer, address and phone.
- [ ] All documents handed over at the sale. Never accept "I'll post them later".
- [ ] Imported: EU pet passport, CANIS-FELIS-FERRETS certificate, microchip.
- [ ] If the seller refuses any of this, walk away.

The first month at home

- [ ] Register the dog in Hundregistret (Jordbruksverket): before 4 months, or within 4 weeks of buying an older dog. SEK 40 online.
- [ ] Insurance for vet care and liability.
- [ ] Choose a vet and book the vaccinations.
- [ ] Collar tag with your name, address and phone (required in Stockholm off the leash).
- [ ] Gear: leash, harness or non-strangling collar, bed, car crate, bags. Shock and spiked collars are illegal.

- [ ] Book a puppy course: SBK, a local brukshundklubb or Studiefrämjandet.
- [ ] Train being alone step by step, from minutes up.
- [ ] Save the numbers of 24/7 vets in your phone.

Rules change. Check the current text at jordbruksverket.se. Map and guide: dogmap-stockholm.netlify.app