

How to Select a Labradoodle Puppy

Thinking about getting a Labradoodle puppy? This is the place to look first!

From Labradoodle:

Buy NowWhen visiting a breeder and litter, after looking over the conformation of the pups and checking that the litter and the parents have the necessary health clearances and documentation, the next step is temperament testing. There are several simple things you can do to assure that you take home the puppy that is most suitable for your family and lifestyle. After observing the litter, you probably have a pup that you are leaning toward. Perform these tests with the puppy that you are considering:

Test #1: Crouch low and walk backward, clapping your hands softly. Most Labradoodles will come running to you, as they are outgoing and friendly. If a pup doesn't respond in such a manner, that is not a pup you should consider.

Test #2: Touch the puppy all over. Take special care to touch his paws, ears and tail. If the pup allows this without trying to squirm away or put his mouth on you, he is a good candidate and you can proceed to the next test.

Test #3: Drop something, such as your keys, a bone or a book. The Labradoodle pup should be curious about it. He shouldn't run away. He might even go up to it to check it out. A pup that runs away will not be a good choice.

Test #4: Roll your puppy over onto his back. Hold him there for a few seconds. After holding him there, rub his tummy. A good prospect will lie quietly, and if he gets a tummy rub for it, he'll quickly learn how to earn that reward. If the pup gets squirmy, gets mouthy or tries to get up, he will not be a good pup to put into a family with children.

Test #5: Expose the pup to other animals such as other dogs, cats and other pets. Labradoodles tend to welcome other creatures of all types, rarely showing aggression or prey drive toward anything.

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- Return to Designer Dog Series -