



Border Collie Breeder Red Flag Checklist

Use this handy checklist as you research and meet breeders. Spotting just one or two of these can help you avoid headaches and heartbreak down the line. ***If these don't describe your breeder, you're on the right track!***

1. The breeder does not provide clear documentation for health testing of parents (hips, eyes, and genetic screening) or only offers verbal reassurances.
2. Puppies are not raised in a clean, safe, and social environment, or you are not allowed to see where the puppies live.
3. Breeders that produce many litters each year or focus on selling as many puppies as possible.
4. Focus is on fad colors or rare patterns, or charges more for color instead of temperament or ability.
5. Puppies are sold at fairs, shows, online classifieds, or advertised with “specials” and convenient shipping that seems “too convenient”.
6. Border Collie puppies are registered with the appropriate registries such as ABCA or AKC.
7. You cannot meet the mother (dam) or father (sire), or the breeder is reluctant to share their info or show the dogs' living situation.
8. Puppies appear unsocialized and overly shy, fearful, or are kept away from normal household environments and not exposed to a variety of age-appropriate socialization experiences.
9. There is no written contract, health guarantee, or the breeder makes unrealistic health promises.
10. The breeder avoids questions about experience, health, or can't provide references from previous buyers.

Being aware and staying alert to these red flags will help you find a breeder who truly puts their dogs, and your puppy's future, first.

Disclaimer

All information provided is for general guidance only and should be reviewed by each owner. As a Licensed Family Dog Mediator (LFDM), I offer education and coaching and do not diagnose, treat, or prescribe; always consult your own Veterinarian and a Certified Professional Dog Trainer before applying any advice or routines to your puppy or dog. Some links on this page or site may be affiliate or partner links, and I may earn a small commission at no extra cost to you; as an Amazon Associate, I earn from qualifying purchases. Review our “Terms and Conditions” and “Privacy Policy” for more information.

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