

DEFINITION OF A BREEDER

**By
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Friends I have a glass jar with seven pieces of green and white paper in the jar. You can reach in and grab one with your eyes open or closed. Only one is a hundred dollar bill and the others are dollar bills. As a puppy buyer this might work with the eyes closed but as a breeder you had better damn well study the jar or your litter to get the best.

What is the single most desired trait in a breeder? EXPERIENCE! All the studying pedigrees, breeds, genetics, wins, coats, conformation, etc. mean little compared to raising many litters with long term goals in place. If you are not at least three deep in at least one side of a pedigree you are not a breeder yet. You are just raising good puppies from someone else's work. How many dogs have you raised cradle to grave? How many dogs of your own have you buried?

Very few above mentioned the need to see early natural abilities. Early natural abilities and a desire to work along with a puppy willing to learn should be the primary qualities any breeder is looking for. A good breeder should also be also be a trainer (person with training skills) to develop the ability to recognize greatness in a puppy before it leaves the litter. I am a firm believer in finding greatness in early natural ability because that is a skill set that is genetic. Just think how many dogs made champions that were lousy producers because a good owner and trainer invested heavily to see a certain dog make it.

Finally if you sell every puppy that you raise you're not a breeder. A breeder should keep as many as possible to find greatness for the next generation.