

## **Sourcing your puppy**

HOW TO FIND THE RIGHT DOG BREEDER: [KC Item 2101](#)

KENNEL CLUB FIND A PUPPY PAGE: [KC How To Find A Puppy](#)  
CLUB ACCREDITED BREEDER SCHEME: [KC Item 203](#)

### **BREED CLUBS:**

The breed clubs usually have someone who keeps a puppy register :

[COTSWOLD & WYEVERN LABRADOR CLUB](#). Sec. Mr K Gawthorpe - 01932 874539  
[EAST ANGLIAN LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB](#). Sec. Mrs J Cole. Tel No: 01354 680375  
[KENT, SURREY & SUSSEX LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB](#). Sec. Mrs K Walsh. Tel No: 01483 797653  
[LABRADOR CLUB OF SCOTLAND](#). Sec. Miss Farquarson. Tel No: 01382 459099  
[LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB](#). Sec. Mr A Ellis. Tel No: 01766 522146  
LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB OF NORTHERN IRELAND. Sec. Mrs Hughes. Tel No: 028926 38603  
[LABRADOR RETRIEVER OF WALES](#). Sec. Mrs M Barker. Tel No: 01443 842585  
[MIDLAND COUNTIES LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB](#). puppy co-ordinator Margaret Thorpe & Eileen Walker 01283 217939  
[NORTH WEST LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB](#). Puppy Register Co-ordinator:- Mrs. Jenny Dobson 07887 840723  
NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB. Sec. Mr P A Smith. Tel No: 01642 292965  
THREE RIDINGS LABRADOR CLUB. Sec. Mrs P Gill. Tel No: 01943 467926  
[WEST OF ENGLAND LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB](#). puppy co-ordinator Claire Mills 01458 833158.  
[YELLOW LABRADOR CLUB](#). Sec. Mrs Wiles. Tel No: 01895 823227

### **OTHER SOURCES OF PUPPIES:**

Champdogs, lists breeders and this site only allows you to advertise your puppies if the health tests on the parents have been carried out [Champdogs](#)

Chocolate Labradors. Lots of info on this site about health tests etc and breeders too [Chocolate Labradors](#)

## **Basic questions to ask a breeder**

Have BOTH parents been hip scored and what are the scores?

Hip Dysplasia is in the breed. To try and prevent this the parents hips are x-rayed, the x-rays are then sent to a panel of vets and given a score of between 0 and 53 on the right hip and same for left (total 106) For example, my Saffy has a hip score of 3:4, so a total of 7. The average is 15. *Ideally* you are looking for anything there or less.

Ditto Elbows - scored between 0 and 3 each side. 0:0 being the best. A score of 1 is ok, anymore than this is cause for concern and to ask the breeder more.

Have both parents got current clear eye certificates?

The eyes are checked annually like an MOT. Drops are placed in each eye to dilate the pupil and then a vet will examine each eye to look for any anomalies. Eye diseases in the breed are:

Hereditary Cataract (HC)

Generalised Progressive Retinal Atrophy (GPRA)

Total Retinal Dysplasia (TRD)

Multifocal Retinal Dysplasia (MRD)

Can you see the paperwork for the above tests?

Are the puppies raised in the home?

How have they been socialised? (ie have they met different people, what sort of sounds & smells have they been exposed to.)

Can the mother & puppies been seen and met? (so you can asses her temperament and see how the pups are being raised.)

(The sire may live hundreds of miles away or may live at the same residence.)

Are the puppies Kennel Club registered?

Have the puppies been wormed?

What do you get in your puppy pack? (usually: easy to obtain food for a week, copies of the health paperwork, pedigree, Kennel Club registration & diet & advice sheet.)

The above lists the basic requirements, they are now some DNA genetic tests that more breeders are doing for the eye disease GPRA (called the Optigen test), CNM (centro-nuclear myopathy which is a type of muscle wasting disease) and EIC (exercise induced collapse. Ask to see the paperwork.

The link below shows you the MINIMUM health tests a Labrador Breeders should carry out on the PARENTS of the puppies [KC About Health Requirements pdf](#)

More: <http://www.doggenetichealth.org/guide.php>

<http://www.thelabradorretrieverclub.com/health.htm>

<http://www.lab-health.co.uk/>