

# Why Breeders Wait Until 8–9 Weeks to Send Puppies Home



One of the most common questions we receive is: Why can't we bring our puppy home sooner? When you're excited to welcome a new family member, even a short wait can feel long. But those first eight to nine weeks of a puppy's life are incredibly important, and responsible breeders use that time very intentionally.

## **Health Comes First**

During the early weeks, puppies are developing rapidly. Before they leave for their new homes, they receive their first veterinary exam and initial vaccinations. This early care helps ensure they are healthy, strong, and off to

the best possible start. We also monitor their growth, nutrition, and overall well-being every day. Keeping puppies with us through this stage allows us to address any health concerns early and send them home confident and thriving.

### **Critical Social Development**

The time puppies spend with their mother and littermates teaches them essential social skills that humans simply can't replicate. Through play and interaction, they learn bite inhibition, communication, and how to read social cues. Puppies separated too early can miss out on these lessons, which may affect their behavior later in life.

### **Understanding Each Puppy's Personality**

Around weeks six and seven, puppies begin to show their unique personalities. Some are bold and adventurous, others are gentle observers, and many fall somewhere in between. As breeders, we spend daily time observing and interacting with each puppy so we can truly understand their temperament.

This knowledge allows us to thoughtfully match each puppy with the right family. Our goal isn't just to place puppies quickly — it's to create lifelong partnerships that suit both the puppy and their new home. A well-matched personality leads to smoother transitions, happier families, and more confident dogs.

### **Setting Puppies Up for Lifelong Success**

Those extra weeks are an investment in your puppy's future. By the time they go home at eight or nine weeks, they are healthier, better socialized, and more emotionally prepared to transition into a new environment. While the wait can be hard, it ensures that your puppy arrives ready to thrive as a cherished member of your family.

We believe that every puppy deserves the strongest possible start in life — and every family deserves a companion who is well prepared for the journey ahead.