

## Palouse Doodles Guardian Home Program Details

The Palouse Doodles Guardian Home program is designed to give doodles a loving family environment from puppyhood, ensuring a happy and healthy life while minimizing the need for kennel-raising. Families receive a high-quality dog at no upfront cost, committing to care for and breed the dog under the program guidelines.

### Why Guardian Homes?

- **Humane Breeding:** Dogs avoid kennel environments, growing up as beloved family pets.
  - **Limited Breeding:** 2 Litters (or a half price doodle for 1 litter)
  - **Cost Savings:** Families gain ownership of an expensive dog in exchange for their partnership with Palouse Doodles.
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### Guardian Family Responsibilities

#### 1. Basic Care:

- Feed a high-quality dog food rated 4+ stars on [Dog Food Advisor](#).
- Provide regular grooming and veterinarian care.
- Maintain a safe and loving home environment.
- Agree to read the book ***Bernedoodles: A Head to Tail Guide*** by Sherry Rupke and abide by limited exercise guidelines in first year of growth for preventative health

#### 2. Financial Commitment:

- Cover routine expenses: food, grooming, vaccinations, general vet care, flea and heartworm prevention.
- Notify the breeder of any illness or injury for guidance on treatment.

#### 3. Breeding Requirements:

- Track the dog's heat cycles. There will be two per year beginning at age 11-13 months. Notify the breeder of the first heat around 9-12 months. Breeding will occur typically on 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> heat cycle, depending on the best fit for family and breeder.
- Transport to stud service during the 2nd or 3rd heat (typically days 11, 13, and 15). Stud fees are covered by the breeder.

#### 4. Pregnancy and Whelping:

- Limit physical activity during the second half of pregnancy.
- Groom the dog before Day 50 for hygiene during whelping.
- Change dogfood to a "Puppy" version of food your dog is eating by 4<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy.

- Meet breeder for whelping and postnatal care at an agreed location.
    - Optionally, families can whelp the litter at home with breeder guidance, receiving \$1,500 per litter for your services (\$2,500 for litters of 9+ puppies). Breeder pays for food, setup, and all costs associated with whelping that are required for whelping and raising litter.
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## **Breeder Responsibilities**

### **1. Cover Breeding Costs:**

- All expenses related to breeding, pregnancy, and whelping.
- Veterinary care for pregnancy and litters.
- Puppy food, deworming, and vaccinations for the litter.

### **2. Guidance and Support:**

- Provide step-by-step guides for breeding, pregnancy, and whelping.
- Offer phone, video, or in-person assistance as needed.

### **3. Transportation and Care:**

- Arrange and cover transportation for whelping and postnatal care.
  - Ensure the dog's comfort and well-being during their stay.
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## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Can we whelp the litter at home?**

Yes, families can choose to whelp at home with breeder support. Compensation and step-by-step instructions will be provided.

### **2. How does the dog adjust to whelping away from home?**

Dogs typically settle in within hours. The breeder ensures their comfort and reduces stress to protect the puppies.

### **3. What if the dog gets sick or injured?**

Routine care apart from pregnancy is the guardian family's responsibility. If issues arise during pregnancy or whelping, the breeder assumes financial responsibility.

### **4. Can we visit during whelping?**

Visits are limited to short, supervised interactions after the puppies are 1-2 weeks old, prioritizing the mother's comfort.

**5. How long does the dog stay with the breeder?**

The dog stays for approximately 7-8 weeks postpartum until the puppies are weaned and ready for adoption.

**6. What happens after the breeding commitment is fulfilled?**

The dog is fully owned by the guardian family, free of further breeding obligations.

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**Program Philosophy**

This program aims to balance ethical breeding practices with the well-being of both dogs and families. By rejecting puppy mills and supporting humane, family-centered breeding, Palouse Doodles ensures every dog gets the care and love they deserve, with a maximum of two litters whelped by each of our dams.

**Contact:**

For more details, reach out to **Stacy Leeper** via call or text @253-426-5546.