



**CONTACT DETAILS: ANNEMARIE VAN HEERDEN, SASOLBURG, SOUTH AFRICA**

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## **AMADEUZE LABRADOR PUPPIES**

### **Matters to consider before adopting a Labrador Puppy**

Read variety of books about the breed, and be informed about what to expect from a Labrador puppy. Labrador puppies are mostly very active and require lots of attention, love, care and basic training.

- ★ Labradors are wonderful family pets and very popular all over the world, mainly due to their wonderful temperaments. Be prepared that the new family member will stay for the next 10-15 years.
- ★ Puppies require playtime, obedience training-classes and ample opportunities for exercise and socialization with humans and other dogs. Unattended puppies will become bored and as result may become very destructive - sadly many of them end up in dog shelters, hoping to find new homes and love! Do you have enough time for the puppy?
- ★ Puppies are like babies, and cannot be left home alone for several hours. Will there be somebody at home during the day (or at least most of the time) to care for the puppy?
- ★ Puppies need a safe and enclosed environment. Is your garden completely secure and fenced? Is the pool covered/fenced?
- ★ Puppies need top quality dog food, at least for the first year of their lives but preferably also after that, for growth and good health. A good food choice for a growing puppy includes Large Breed Puppy Food from Eukanuba, Hills or Royal Canin, which can be obtained from veterinary outlets. Are you prepared to buy your puppy top quality food?
- ★ Pets need veterinary routine care as well as special care when they become ill. Are you prepared to provide for all veterinary costs that may be incurred during



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the lifespan of your dog, including annual vaccinations, regular deworming and flea- and tick treatment?

- ★ Bitches sold as pets should be spayed as soon as possible. Male dogs need not necessarily be neutered but should not have free access to unsprayed bitches of any breed. Are you prepared to avoiding an accidental mating by having female pets spayed?
- ★ Raising a Labrador puppy in a home with babies/young children can be challenging as both the puppy and the children requires lots of time and attention. Do you have enough time/help on hands for this?
- ★ Labrador puppies desperately need basic obedience training. Be sure to enroll your puppy at a reputable dog school (preferably run by an animal behaviorist) before age 16 weeks and at least for the first year of his/her life. Are you prepared to commit yourself to this?
- ★ Only purchase puppies from reputable, responsible and registered breeders. A responsible breeder will take all possible and necessary precautions to avoid breeding to hereditary diseases. However, we are dealing with live animals and, as with humans, environmental matters play a crucial role in the well-being and health of your pet.
- ★ Reputable, responsible breeders will:
  - Provide test results of the sire and dam on request, including hip- and elbow test results, PRA & EIC status, as well as current eye test results for hereditary diseases like cataracts;
  - Allow you to visit the entire litter along with the dam (and sire, if present) at a suitable age, maybe after the first set of vaccinations;
  - Provide you on a regular basis with pictures of puppies as they grow up;
  - Keep the puppies in a safe and clean area;
  - Allow puppies to leave for their new homes when at least 8 weeks old;
  - Provide you with complete guide-lines regarding caring and feeding the puppy when leaving for his/her new home;



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- Be available for suggestions and guidance to puppy buyers, should there be any concerning matters, after taking their new puppy home;
  - Breed for quality, not quantity.
  - Sell every puppy with a Terms of Agreement document (Contract) signed by both parties;
  - Register complete litters with the KUSA.
- ★ Be careful NOT to:
- Buy a puppy from the internet with no references/knowledge of the breeder.
  - Buy a puppy from someone who mass-produces puppies, or breed a number of different breeds simultaneously.

***And you will enjoy your Labrador!***

Poplap is a lovely lady and a fine example of the Labrador breed. She is fun loving and her happiest moments are when running freely in the fields, chasing after a ball or retrieving from water! Although she is not very keen on showing, she was successfully made up as South African breed champion at the age of 2 years, and achieved 10th position in 2010 on the South African Showdogs Leaderboard (Labradors). She has a lovely female head with kind expression, a thick shiny coat and she moves well. She adores her human family and enjoys the company of all other canine members of our family. Since 2011 she gave us 3 lovely litters of black and chocolate puppies but might



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need to retire from our breeding program in the nearby future due to health considerations.