



## FAQ's

Q. *Are Rottweilers safe around other animals?*

A. Generally speaking, they are tolerant of other animals if introduced in a sensible way. There is of course an inherent desire to "chase" [as with all dogs], but this can be channelled into some form of obedience training, and should never be encouraged. Many households share their Rottweilers with other breeds of dog, cats, rabbits and birds – even ducks!

Q. *Are Rottweilers reliable with children?*

A. Mutual respect must be established between a Rottweiler and younger members of the family. Provided children are encouraged to treat the Rottweiler with kindness and respect, and are not allowed to tease it, then yes, they are reliable around children. However, the Rottweiler's large size and exuberant nature can lead to them becoming boisterous if the children themselves are allowed to run around screaming and getting excited. So it is up to parents to ensure this does not happen. Any dog should not be left unattended with children or babies.

Q. *Is it best to get a dog or a bitch?*

A. The male Rottweiler is bigger, heavier, stronger and more arrogant. He is sexually aware 365 days of the year, though this is not an oversexed breed. He needs a firmer hand than the female and is not suitable for those inexperienced with dogs of strong character. Many breeders will NOT sell a male to first-time dog owners or those who have not owned large breeds before.

Females are more amenable and are maternal with the younger and older members of the family without losing their essential guarding qualities. They come "on heat" once or twice a year.

Q. *I have a busy household with strangers frequently visiting – how will a Rottweiler cope with that?*

A. A well socialised Rottweiler would have had lots of strangers frequently visiting and making a fuss of it, so will cope well. HOWEVER, one that has had little or no socialisation from day one will need to be secured in another room to avoid undue stress for the dog and a possible negative situation occurring, until the dog can be more socialised.

Q. *How much exercise will a Rottweiler need?*

A. They are a very active breed and will relish as much exercise as you are able to give; they do enjoy walking with the family, so you should expect to give them at least a half hour walk twice a day [say, once morning and once evening]. The exercise will benefit you too! Don't forget your poop-scoop bag!

Q. *Where is the best place to find out where to buy a Rottweiler?*

A. The Kennel Club will give names of Breeders who have a litter, but that does not mean that they are all experienced breeders. The Breed Clubs are the best way forward to give names of reputable Breeders who have a lot of experience and who follow the guidelines of good breeding, carrying out health checks, offer a back-up service and advice after a puppy is sold. Go and see a lot of adult Rottweilers before even contemplating a puppy. A reputable breeder will ask a lot of questions about you and your lifestyle before you are able to take one of their precious puppies.

Q. *At what age should a puppy be sold?*

A. 8 weeks or more is the usual age for a puppy to go to his new home, and never less than 8 weeks.

Also since 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016 it is **illegal** for any breeder to **sell a puppy** that is not **microchipped** and registered on a compliant database that meets the legal requirement. The breeder must always be the first recorded keeper of the **puppies** on the **microchip** database.

Q. *Should my puppy have a tail?*

A. It is now illegal for certain breeds to be docked. Very occasionally a puppy (of any breed) may be born without a tail. If you are offered a puppy without a tail you must ask for a certificate from a Vet. to say the puppy was born without a tail.

Q. *I have seen Rottweilers in the show-ring without tails. Why is this?*

A. A ban on docking only became law on April 6<sup>th</sup> 2007, so any Rottweiler born before that date could have been docked legally. Therefore for a number of years we will continue to see both docked and undocked dogs in the show-ring.

Q. *Are Rottweilers best suited to the town or the country?*

A. The versatile nature of the Rottweiler means he will adapt well to either environment. It is the quality of ownership which is the more important. Provided a Rottweiler has been bred for good temperament he can be an excellent dog for city or country life.

Q. *Should I get a rescue dog rather than a puppy?*

A. This is purely a matter of choice. If you do not have the time to devote to training a young puppy, then an older dog that is already house-trained for example, would be an excellent choice. There are so many in rescue kennels that need a permanent, caring home.

Q. *What is the price one would expect to pay for a quality K.C. registered puppy?*

A. Between £900 and £1,500 is the current approximate price.

Q. *What is it that makes them a rewarding breed to own?*

A. They are loyal, affectionate, trustworthy, easy to train and comedians as well – what more could you ask?

**Please don't get a Rottweiler if:**

- you are unwilling to train and educate your dog
- you lack leadership or you are unassertive
- you dislike regular daily exercise
- you don't value constant companionship and sometimes physical affection!
- you are fastidious or a house proud person
- you think dogs should 'run free'
- you cannot afford proper food and veterinary care

- you are not prepared to put in 100% supervision

Updated May 2020