

This is a generic response that I have put together to answer inquiries quickly. It should answer any questions you may have and more. If not please let me know! You may also need to check out this link <https://rufflyspeaking.wordpress.com/2009/04/26/puppy-buyer-ettiquette>

I find now that there is this huge influx of people wanting to get a Vizsla that I have to ask if you have actually met any Vizslas before? Please also watch this video <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?extid=0&v=1916871951754068>

In addition to the information provided below please check out this link. <http://www.pupquest.org/index.php> There is a great deal of information that can be used to broaden your knowledge about finding a great breeder.

When talking to breeders, they will want to know your experience with dogs in general and Vizslas specifically.

Why a Vizsla? They will want to know how much you know about the breed/how much time you have spent with them. Make sure that they are truly the breed for you. As you know, all breeds are different in some way or another. Their behavior and appearance which are achieved through selective breeding is what makes them identifiable as a breed. Our rescue recently got a 6 month old pup from a family that went to a multi breed facility wanting a Lab, and the seller talked them into a Vizsla - he had no Labs and told the people that they were just alike...NOT!

Often Vizslas are promoted as being great with children. Actually, that blanket a statement isn't actually true. Some are. Some aren't. It depends on so many factors.

What are the demographics of your home?

Age, marital status, children, other pets, activities you participate in that include your dog are all important bits of information for a breeder who cares about the pups they are breeding.

If you mentioned having a running partner as a reason for getting a Vizsla how much running and what type do you do?

Those of us who work in rescue truly have a vested interest in matching people with quality breeders and making sure that the breed matches your family.

I am happy to talk about the breed, but also want you to know that you can check with some close by Vizsla Club of America members. We have a list

of those who offer to educate about the breed.

http://www.vcaweb.org/breed/ask_a_member.shtml has the link to the pdf.

Please also be careful when sending deposits etc. Due to the increased demand with the pandemic there have been multiple scams related to dogs. Always ask a trusted source to review what you find if you choose to go in a direction you find on your own.

It is always a good idea to contact the local rescue group in your area to see who the bad characters may be that you come across. Unfortunately there are many. The local groups in this area are:

Buckeye Vizsla Rescue.

All rescue groups for the breed are at: <https://vcaweb.org/find-a-vizsla/rescue/>

Others wonderful resources for locating a great breeder are [Vizsla Puppies](#) and [Responsible Breeders of Vizsla Puppies](#) on Facebook. There is a ton of information available to help you find a breeder who is out to preserve the breed for health temperament and purpose.

When contacting breeders, you want to make sure that the parents were health tested. Please keep in mind that the breed club recommends certain health tests for all breeding animals. The information for the Vizsla is at <http://www.caninehealthinfo.org/brdreqs.html?breed=VZ>

People often perceive that since they "just want a pet" that the parents do not need to have titles or health testing.

- Titles and health tests together indicate that the breeder is doing more than indiscriminately breeding dogs.
- They are proving that the dogs they breed meet the breed standard in temperament and appearance and potentially will be healthy so that the dog you bring home looks and behaves as you would expect that particular breed to be.
- In earning titles on the parents they are testing the ability of the dog to be around people, do a job, have a sound temperament. In testing health the breeder is stacking the odds in his or her favor to produce healthy pups.
- BTW, titles and health testing generations back in a pedigree, but none on the parents and grandparents means very little if anything at all.

In general, Vizsla puppies from responsible reputable hobby breeders in the

Midwest range in price from \$1200 to \$2800. Some may be more. Some may be slightly less but not likely as \$1200 just isn't very common anymore.

Price does not reflect quality neither do well crafted websites. Most responsible, hobby breeders have many, if not all, of their puppies spoken for before birth. Only lucky circumstances (a large litter, a change in circumstances of a prospective home, no appropriate puppy for a planned home) would make it such that a puppy would be available anytime a breeder is contacted. Plan on spending approximately 6 months finding a breeder that meshes with you and probably another 6 months for a puppy to be available for you.

When looking at a breeder for a puppy, these are true "please run away" warnings:

- SELLS MALES FOR LESS MONEY THAN FEMALES. This is because a premium is placed on females by other "wannabe" breeders to start their own backyard breeding program.
- SELLS "SHOW QUALITY" WHILE THEY NEVER SHOW THEMSELVES. How can you know? Markings? That only represents about 10% of what makes up a "show quality" dog.
- SELLS ANY PUPPY WITH FULL REGISTRATION for more money, regardless of the quality or health of the pup.
- DOES NOT HAVE VERIFIABLE HEALTH CLEARANCES on hips AND elbows of at least MOST of the dogs on the pup's pedigree. If you are told "our vet said they are healthy" this is a BIG red flag.
- "BREEDING STOCK COMES FROM HEALTHY LINES" If you are told this, DEMAND PROOF.
- "HEALTHIER EUROPEAN LINES." Don't believe it. There are healthy and unhealthy lines in all countries.
- DOGS WHICH ARE BRED BEFORE TWO YEARS OF AGE AND/OR ARE BRED EVERY HEAT CYCLE.
- "BOTH PARENTS ON PREMISES." Good breeders go out and find the stud dog that best complements their bitch. Breeders who tend to be in it "for the money" only, don't want to pay a stud fee, so they just get a boy and a girl, and whatever they produce, they produce. Also, if they own several females that they breed to one of their males each and every time. This tells me they are just pumping out puppies - high volume - high sales - more money in the seller's pocket (This is not an absolute. Some good breeders DO have the stud dog, but this is not always the case).
- MULTIPLE LITTERS PER YEAR On occasion a responsible breeder will have more than one or two litters per year but that would be a rare

circumstance.

- BREEDER DOESN'T FOLLOW UP ON PREVIOUS LITTERS to assure the pups they have produced are healthy. This is especially important if the puppy seller touts "healthy dogs." If they haven't bothered to follow up on previous litters, how can they make this claim????
- THE "HEALTH GUARANTEE" SALES PITCH. Read the text. Unless the information is specific regarding conditions and time line, it can be worthless. For example, Hip Dysplasia cannot be fully verified until the dog is 2 years of age (OFA), or via a PennHip certification at any age past 4 or so months.
- BREEDER HAS A USDA LICENSE. This almost guarantees you are dealing with a mass production puppy factory.
- "AKC INSPECTED." Every breeder who breeds AKC registered dogs is subject to AKC inspection. This means nothing.
- BREEDER DISCOURAGES YOU VISITING THEIR FACILITIES, or "suggests" you meet somewhere to get your pup. This is often offered as a convenience to you. It is really because the breeder doesn't want you to see their kennel.
- HAS A FACILITY OR NETWORK OF PUPPY RAISERS and isn't raising puppies in their home and exposing them to many different experiences.
- PRETTY WEBSITES with lot of cute pictures and flowery language like "Farm raised with love," or "we just love our fur babies." Provides little or no useful information such as pedigrees of parents, health clearances, breeding philosophy, etc. This is a very crafty and effective way to bamboozle you as the buyer.
- REQUIRES MONEY UP FRONT before any paperwork (such as pedigree info, contract into, etc) is provided.
- REQUIRES DEPOSITS (USUALLY NON-REFUNDABLE) before their bitch is bred or the litter is whelped.
- SELLS WITHOUT A CONTRACT.
- PUPPIES REGISTERED WITH OTHER THAN AKC REGISTRY. While AKC registration does not assure a good breeder, NO responsible American breeder uses any other registry with the typical exception being the Canadian Kennel Club. The puppy mill industry has created many bogus registries to trick buyers. Dogs registered with APR (American Pet Registry), CKC (Continental Kennel Club, not to be confused with the Canadian Kennel Club, a legitimate registry), ACA (American Canine Association), AMW (Archive of Merit Worldwide), FIC (Federation of International Champions), etc, are indicative of a commercial puppy factory.
- DOESN'T ASK YOU ANY QUESTIONS. In an effort to confuse you

into thinking they are a responsible breeder, you may be asked to complete a questionnaire, but you won't be asked any follow up questions.

- "I JUST BREED NICE PUPPIES FOR NICE PEOPLE." This is the hallmark of a bad breeder. You are a nice person, and you want a nice puppy, but not from this breeder. What this REALLY means is, "I am breeding whatever dogs I can get my hands on, and I am selling them to anyone who comes up with the cash."
- BREEDS MULTIPLE BREEDS. Some good breeders may breed one or possibly two other breeds, but anyone who has more than 4 or 5 different breeds of dogs is making a business out of pumping out puppies. There is no way this many dogs can be given the attention and care that they need. This is a puppy factory.
- "CHAMPION BLOODLINES." This could mean one dog in a 64 dog pedigree has attained a championship. This also implies that the parents aren't champions. This is just another trick to fool you.
- DOES NOT HAVE A LIFETIME RETURN POLICY FOR DOGS OF THEIR BREEDING. Do not concern themselves with rescue, and take no responsibility for the dogs they have produced once the sale is done and money has changed hands. These breeders represent a large part of the mess that purebred rescue groups have to clean up.
- JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS (EASTER/MOTHER'S DAY, ETC)! Good breeders just don't market their "merchandise" this way. In fact, ethical breeders strongly discourage giving puppies as gifts at any time of year. The decision to add a puppy should be made by the entire family, and good breeders will want to meet with the prospective owners.

Additional useful pieces of Information::

- This site is for Frenchies but the information pretty much holds true <http://sto-robrenchbulldogs.tripod.com/id19.html>
- The Vizsla Club of Long Island has some fantastic items under The Breed. Among them are:
 - <https://vcli.net/how-to-find-a-reputable-breeder>
 - <https://vcli.net/first-time-owner-info>
- The "Find a Puppy" listing on the AKC website is ONLY a classified ad service <http://marketplace.akc.org> . The AKC does not endorse nor verify any of the advertisements on display. It is not a measure of quality. The primary function of the AKC is to keep records of pedigrees and events. NO individual is a member of the AKC. Currently, the AKC requires a DNA on EVERY dog that sires more than 3 litters a year. AKC DNA may simply mean that he has sired a lot

of litters. BUT, The Vizsla Club of America also requires that all dogs shown at their National Specialty have a DNA number. So a dog with multiple titles, may also have a DNA #. It will not be a “we are great because... comment.”

- The AKC is not an organization that verifies quality of either dogs or breeders.