



October Bernese Mountain Dogs

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To make sure our puppies go to the best of homes we ask that you answer the following questions about your life style and environment.

Do you have a fenced yard that is puppy escape proof? _____

Do you have a chain link dog run that is dig-out proof, and has shade cover for long periods when you will not be home to let the puppy out on leash if you do not have a fenced yard? _____

Will you feed the dog food we recommend even if it is difficult ? _____ (We feed the B.A.R.F. diet, Bones and Raw Foods, this diet will have to be made at home or ordered from specialty meat packing houses. For more information on this diet go to www.barfworld.com and order the book "Give your dog a bone", or "The Barf Diet" a condensed version. Our puppies are raised on this diet and have never eaten dog food. This diet has proven to eliminate skeletal problems and increase longevity. If you have any doubts read the book "Food Pets Die For" — shocking facts about pet food by Ann N. Martin online at www.newsagepress.com. You must agree to feed this diet if you want an "October" puppy or older dog, **if you switch your dog to "dog food" your money-back contact is null and void.**

Will you feed the recommended vitamin supplements on a daily basis? _____

Will you insist that your vet follow our recommendations on shots, and not give combination shots? _____

Will you *not* crate this puppy for longer than four hours at a time until he or she is older than four months of age? _____

Will you take your puppy out to meet and greet all and make sure he or she is well socialized? _____

Will you not expose your puppy to areas where there are heavy infestations of other dogs until after 18 weeks when his shots are completed? _____

Are your children disciplined enough to not tease the new puppy or throw their hands up in the air and scream and run should the puppy bite, as all puppies do? _____

Will you be diligent in your training regime? Bernese can be stubborn, they are large strong dogs and need a firm but steady and calm training regiment. A spoiled Berner is a very unhappy dog (they need you to be the pack leader). _____

Are you ready for a 24 hour a day commitment? _____

Have you lined up a puppy sitter should the need arise? _____ Bernese do very poorly if kenneled away from home.

Have you fenced off parts of the yard with precious plants? _____

Have you located a puppy kindergarten or puppy play group in your area? _____

Is there an obedience class in your area that doesn't use the jerk-choke collar method of obedience training? _____ If you are not sure attend a class without a dog. Good classes use buckle collars, not choke collars, and the incentive method with food or clicker training, not punishment.

Will this puppy be a member of your family and live in the house with you and your family? _____

Why have you decided that a Bernese Mountain Dog is the right dog for you? _____

If you are purchasing a companion will you have your pet neutered? _____
What sex are you interested in? _____ What is the difference? The biggest difference is size -males are from 90 to 120lbs..... and up to 27 1/2" at the shoulder, females are from 75 to 90 lbs..... and about 24-26" at the shoulder. Temperament also varies - females are very loving and attention seeking in the house, but tend to roam off sooner outdoors, males are less clingy indoors and seem to stay closer, outdoors. **Remember any dog left outside unattended and unfenced will roam.**

Will you have your dog checked every spring for heartworm (carried by Mosquitoes) and put him on preventive until late fall? _____ (or use black walnut daily all year.)

Will you keep your pet free from possible tick infestations so he will not contract the sometimes fatal, and often hard to detect, Lyme's disease and Bartonella carried by ticks? _____

Will you love and cherish this puppy as you would any family member? _____

What is your time frame for receiving a puppy? _____

How many dogs do you presently own? _____

What breeds? _____

A phone number where you can be reached should a puppy become available sooner than expected? _____

All Pet puppies are sold on an AKC limited registration. These pups are not eligible for breeding and none of their offspring can be AKC registered. Although should they turn out to be lovely dogs that do deserve to be shown and can easily become Champions the limited registration

can be reversed to co-ownership and full registration. To qualify for this reversal, genetic screenings for hips and elbows must pass as well as the difference in service fee between a show pup and a pet pup being paid. We must also see either a video tape or the dog in person to help you decide if your pet is indeed a show-potential quality dog. Once an AKC Championship is obtained we will sign off as co-owners. We have recently instituted a puppy-back policy on females. Since we do not operate a large kennel and have limited space to keep dogs, this measure will insure the continuation of our line we have worked so hard to establish. On females we will sign off after receiving this pup and there will be no up fee between pet and show price.

Neutered dogs cannot be shown, so if you neuter your pet the registration cannot be reversed. Although neutering may increase your pets life span and is always a good idea for a family pet. The AKC does allow neutered dogs 7 years or older on full registration to be shown in veterans class at Specialty shows.

If you are buying a show potential puppy. We insist that your dog be shown to an AKC championship and pass all genetic screening before being used for breeding, so we remain as co-owners until these obligations are completed. Or you may put the pup on limited registration until the clearances are complete and then switch to co-ownership when when your dog is over two years of age and all clearances are passed, then begin showing at AKC shows.

Have you ever finished a Champion before? _____

How many shows do you expect to attend to finish a Champion? _____

Will you show her or him personally or hire a professional handler? _____

You will also have to sign a contract giving us first right of refusal at the original fee should you decide to sell. We guarantee our pups to be healthy when they leave our home, please make an appointment with your vet to have this verified within 48 hours of picking up your pup. We can only guarantee that the parents are as free as possible of genetic defects, not the pups, should problems occur in the first year we will replace or refund. We cannot be responsible for health problems later but we want to know and will try to help with diagnoses etc. Of course **hips and elbows are not x-rayed until a minimum of 18 months**, this is a large breed and hip x-rays at an earlier age will almost always show subluxation (looseness) this is a normal growth pattern for a large dog. **We guarantee our pups to have no crippling dysplasia and will replace a pup with crippling dysplasia on x-rays taken, only after the age of 18 months, and these x-rays must be sent to us for consultation with our vet before ANY surgeries.**

If this seems reasonable to you and you are still interested in a pup please return this form and your deposit of \$200.00 to get on our list for a puppy. If we have a puppy available and you turn it down your deposit is non-refundable. If you notify us before you receive a notice that your puppy is available we will refund your deposit.