



If you are contemplating dog breeding, there are certain questions that you will need to ask yourself before proceeding:

- Have I the time to devote to a litter until the puppies are old enough to go to their new homes, which is usually around eight weeks?
- Am I knowledgeable enough to advise new owners about the various aspects of caring for their puppies, including rearing, diet, training and health problems?
- Can I afford to pay for the recommended health tests for the bitch prior to mating her and, where necessary, her litter? A list of the various health tests that are recommended for golden retrievers can be found here.
- Do I know enough to help the bitch during the whelping, if necessary?
- Can I afford to pay for a caesarean should the dam have difficulty whelping the litter?
- Could I cope with a very large litter e.g 10 or 12 puppies?
- Do I have sufficient knowledge to rear the litter correctly, including on worming, vaccinations and socialisation?
- Would I be able to find good homes for the puppies?
- Am I in a position to take back or re-home any puppies if it becomes necessary?

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GRCWA

MISSION STATEMENT

Our responsibility is to promote the temperament, appearance, soundness, natural retrieving and hunting abilities of the Golden Retriever. Our members are dedicated to the responsible breeding and ownership of the Golden Retriever. We advance and protect the interests of the breed through events, education, The National Breed Council and research.

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SHOULD I BREED MY GOLDEN RETRIEVER?



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SHOULD I BREED MY DOG?

At some point, every dog owner may consider the question: **To breed or not to breed?**

Keep in mind that the difference between a purebred and a well-bred purebred can be summed up in two words: **responsible breeders.**

Responsible breeders maintain and improve the future of purebred dogs. They are the key to a healthy dog bred to the highest standards. Breeders' hard work and dedication help preserve the health, temperament and quality of golden retrievers. They keep up-to-date on the latest health testing available and participate in ongoing canine health research. They serve as ambassadors to the breed opening their homes to prospective owners, matching puppies with suitable families. The work of responsible breeders can be seen every day in the eyes of a healthy, well-tempered dog – a purebred dog that truly is well-bred.

The GRCWA is responsible for the preservation, protection and welfare of the golden Retriever in WA and serves as a contact for anyone looking for information on or breeding advice about the breed. An experienced breeder is the best source of information and advice on the intricacies of breeding. Visit www.grcwa.com to find responsible breeders and further information.



**BEFORE BREEDING
YOUR GOLDEN RETRIEVER
TAKE THE TIME TO RESEARCH,
TALK TO EXPERIENCED BREEDERS
AND JOIN THE GRCWA.
DOGS FROM RESPONSIBLE BREEDERS
ARE MORE LIKELY TO GROW UP TO
BE HEALTHY GOOD
AMBASSADORS OF
THE BREED.**



SOME CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONSIBLE BREEDERS

Responsible breeders

- Believe that each litter that they breed, should be an improvement on the parents.
- Give careful consideration to health issues, genetic concerns, temperament, soundness and appearance.
- Plan ahead of each mating so as to ensure that each puppy produced will be bred in the best possible environment.
- Accept responsibility for the puppies they produce throughout each puppy's lifetime and are always available to answer questions and provide information to the puppy's new owners.
- Are aware that the breed has an official standard or written description of how the ideal golden retriever looks, moves and behaves. They are careful to only breed dogs that meet this standard.
- Understand the value of ANKC registration. They register their litters with the ANKC.
- Keep current on the latest policies and activities of the National Golden Retriever Council and the GRCWA.