



Pet vs. Show Quality

I often get the Puppy Inquiry "I'm looking for just a Pet-I don't want a Show Puppy". First off I must be clear- There is no thing as "JUST" a Pet and certainly not from any puppy bred here. I breed Quality Golden Retrievers, I sell them to Quality Pet Homes and they have Quality Lives! I have considered each breeding carefully and have spent a lot of time, money and energy producing Goldens that have time and time again proven themselves not only in the show ring but also temperament and health wise. My companion homes bring me much happiness and ease of mind knowing that the puppies that I place in companion homes will be loved and cared for throughout their lives. They will enrich the lives of their new found family in ways too numerous to count.

I breed Golden Retrievers from Champion show lines, I have chosen these particular lines because this is what venue I choose to pursue. Understand that when I undertake a specific breeding that my intent is for my next show dog. Puppies that are determined to be Show Quality will be shown, potentially bred, thus promoting my breeding program. We take our breeding programs VERY SERIOUSLY!

How do I choose my show puppies? At 8-9 weeks I will have had these weeks to individually evaluate all the puppies based on which one I believe best represents the breed standard or description of the breed. This may be proportions, angles, coat, size, attitude, tail carriage, etc. Most of the structural details that I will evaluate are unnoticeable by an untrained eye. AND THEN WE CROSS OUR FINGERS !!!

What this means to you, the pet/companion puppy buyer is that you are getting a puppy that much thought and consideration has gone into this particular breeding. The sires and dams, great sires and dams and great-great sires and dams have all been tested by board certified health clearances on our dogs as well as know the temperament. Responsible breeders can't afford to have anything other than a healthy, reputable breeding program. Most our puppies are sold by word of mouth. Just as certain as the pet puppy buyer wants a healthy, happy, long-lived dog, the responsible dog breeder wants these same things. Pet homes are every bit, if not more, important than show homes to the show dog breeder!

From said breeding I may or may not have show homes other than my own. So although a puppy may be determined "show quality" if a show home is not available it will be placed in a companion home setting. Each

litter produced here at Klasique Goldens has been bred and raised with the thought that any one of the puppies may be "our" next show dog. That is the reason for the high level of health requirements, temperament requirements and socialization in raising each and every litter.

What is most important, however, is that the correct puppy be matched with the current home, be it show or companion. Both pet and show homes are equally important.