

# Ridgy Didge

## Australian Cobberdogs

### RIDGY DIDGE PUPPY SELECTION AND ADOPTION PROCESS

Updated November 2023

Before your complete and return an Adoption Form, please read this information **carefully and fully**. We carefully match puppies to families, to ensure the best possible outcome for the dog and family. Therefore, it is important that you understand the full commitment involved in adopting and raising a Cobberdog before you apply to adopt one of our pups. This will help make this process satisfying for both you and Ridgy Didge.

#### Application to Adopt, and Booking Fee and Deposit

Please read this **entire page** before getting in contact.

1. Contact us when you've read the whole page and want to continue, use the contact form on our website to open and complete a short contact form to begin communications.
2. We will respond and send further details of our adoption process and costs schedule for you to consider, and an Adoption Form to complete and submit.
3. When application to adopt is successful, we will proceed and request a non-refundable booking fee to confirm your position on our waitlist.  
This will go towards your total puppy cost.
4. Once booking fee is paid and confirmed, you will go on the waiting list for a puppy that best suits your wish-list and circumstances.
5. Once the puppies are born, we will request a **confirmation deposit** to confirm your position. This will also go towards your total puppy cost.
6. Once puppies are allocated around 6-7 weeks, we will send you an invoice for **balance of payment**. This will include any extra freight costs for flying a puppy interstate.
7. We will only refund your payments if we are unable to give you the puppy you have requested on your application form. We can't refund your deposit if you change your mind; you can however move your deposit to another litter at another time.

#### Our Puppy Allocation Process

We did a special blog on this subject, to give you full insight into why we wait 6-7 weeks before allocating puppies to families. You can find it in our website blogs.

When our puppies have had their vet check at 6-7 weeks and we know they are all healthy we will allocate puppies to those who have paid their deposits. We are careful to consider the temperament of each puppy and best match it to a family, considering your wish-list, role of the puppy, family and circumstances.

We get to know the temperaments of our puppies early as they all have ENS (Early neural Stimulation) every day from birth. This is just a fancy term for a lot of handling and imprinting from birth. This time also gives us opportunity to look at their coats and see which type of coat they will have.

We will send photos of the litter so you can see them as they grow. This ensures there are no surprises for you by the time you are allocated your puppy. You are welcome to visit your puppy once you know which one is yours, and to take photos.

Your puppy will be ready to go to you around 8-9 weeks of age with plenty of information on puppy care, along with a vaccination card and other important paperwork.

## Full Purchase Price and Inclusions for Puppies

When our waitlist is open, puppy price will be detailed in our application information that we will send to you when you apply to adopt. We do send puppies interstate and transport costs are added to these prices depending on puppy's travel destination and ongoing time in our care.

**INCLUSIONS:** The purchase price for a Ridgy Didge Cobberdog includes:

- comprehensive vet check
- vaccination appropriate for age
- microchipping
- worming program as advised by veterinarian
- MDBA registration number
- guarantee for health for all the genetic canine diseases that were screen-able for your pup's parents. (See our **Genetic & Health Screening** page)

**EXCLUSIONS:** We are unable to guarantee the health of our dogs for problems *outside* of those we test and screen for, after they leave us at Ridgy Didge. These include

- improper behavioural management, and
- disease or injury from improper care, such as issues arising from environment and diet.

Please see our blog about **Hip Scores** and protecting puppy's hips as hip joints continue to form until the puppy is 18-24 months; apart from genetics, hip and elbow problems can arise from improper nutrition and over- or inappropriate exercise, and lifestyle stresses.

## Puppies go home at 8-9 Weeks

We are sorry but we can't hold onto puppies for you after they are nine weeks of age. This is a crucial bonding time for young puppies once they leave their litter mates, so very important for them to start early training. The only exception to this policy would be extenuating circumstances for families unable to collect their puppy at nine weeks.

## Socialising and Training your Cobberdog

We look for people who want to commit to training their pup and care for their Cobberdogs as part of the family.

Cobberdogs are very intelligent and playful and while puppies are very cute and cuddly they will become naughty and destructive without training and stimulation. They really do need socialisation, taking out in the car to the beach, to a cafe for coffee, to Saturday sports where possible. They also need to go to puppy school as soon as age permits so both you and your puppy learn good dog language and behaviour.

## Care of your Cobberdog's Coat

Your Cobberdog pup is a non-shedding dog so will need clipping 5 to 6 times a year (every 8-10 weeks) to maintain a nice tangle free coat. This of course depends on how short you want to keep the coat. In addition to this your Cobberdog will require brushing at least weekly, and ear cleaning once weekly.

## Our Guardian Program

With each litter of puppies we select the pup we think will have the best qualities for breeding into the future. We then test the pup for inherited diseases to make sure they are really going to carry on the best qualities. From there we choose a responsible family who fulfils our conditions and would like to give a breeding pup a wonderful forever home. This means that the guardian takes the pup we choose at 9-10 weeks, with no purchase charge, and cares for the pup in their home, while we retain breeding rights for a set period of time. At the end of the set breeding period the dog is desexed and the contract finishes.

We do keep male pups in guardian homes but not as frequently.

For more information about this program, see our website under Breeding at Ridgy Didge; or to go on the wait list for a guardian pup please contact us through our website Contact page.