



## PuppySpot Protects Dog Lovers Against Puppy Scams

**LOS ANGELES, CA (June 7, 2017)** – While there are many ways to find a puppy, it's imperative for any prospective puppy owner to ensure their puppy is coming from a responsible, [legitimate puppy source](#). [PuppySpot.com](#), a [trusted service](#) that connects dog lovers with an exclusive, screened network of [breeders nationwide](#), shares industry best practices to eliminate the risk of falling victim to fraudulent sources.

1. **Educate yourself on where your puppy is coming from.** If getting a puppy through a breeder, verify the quality of that breeder. PuppySpot helps its customers do just that with an extensive screening process of its breeder partners' background, experience level, licensing and operations. Among other requirements, the company explicitly rejects first-time breeders as a means of discouraging schemes prioritizing profit over the welfare of puppies.
2. **Obtain full details about the puppy's characteristics and history.** Any legitimate source will share, at a bare minimum, the puppy's birthdate, height, weight, information on both parents and any known health issues.
3. **Ask for photos and videos of the puppy, parents and/or littermates.** [Responsible breeders](#), shelters and rescue organizations are transparent and, within their technological capabilities, will happily honor these types of requests. Conversely, it is important to beware of any source unwilling or claiming to be unable to honor such a request.
4. **Ensure that before your puppy travels, a licensed veterinarian confirms the puppy is healthy enough to travel.** At PuppySpot, for example, a [proprietary nose-to-tail examination](#) with a licensed veterinarian is conducted and then reviewed by a dedicated team of health specialists before the company will clear any puppy for travel. Puppies are living, breathing beings and minor health issues can sometimes arise, but having a health verification in advance minimizes any unwanted surprises when welcoming a puppy into your home.
5. **Ask to see relevant documentation.** Depending on the puppy and circumstance, registration, vaccination and veterinary health records should be obtainable and it is well within your rights to demand that your puppy come with those records. Anyone who cannot or will not share your puppy's health and vaccination history should raise red flags, as a responsible source will readily offer up available documentation on any puppy within their care.



6. **Never send money via wire unless a valid reason is given or it's one of several payment options offered.** A reputable online source will offer a variety of payment methods in addition to or instead of wire payment, such as credit card or Paypal. If immediate wire payment is required, consider the reason – if none is given, beware.
7. **Be wary of a puppy source who insists on meeting you in person as opposed to arranging a puppy to travel to you.** A common puppy scam happens when a prospective puppy parent shows up at a meeting place and the puppy and handler are a no-show. A reputable source will handle logistics and travel arrangements to make sure the puppy arrives to you in a safe, seamless way.

One of the primary reasons PuppySpot exists is to ensure dog lovers have access to responsible, caring, reliable sources for their puppies and don't have to rely on inhumane, unreliable or fraudulent sellers. That's why transparency is key.

"I found so many puppy scams online and was terrified of buying my puppy sight unseen," Vikki B. of Florida wrote to [PuppySpot](#) soon after welcoming home her Pug. "However, PuppySpot was excellent – they held my hand through the process, I got the exact pup I had picked, and his breeder was very responsible, clearly having taken very good care of him."

"It's heartbreaking to hear stories of dog lovers who have fallen victim to puppy scams, but the good news is that there are countless responsible breeders out there who are terrific sources for getting a new puppy," says [Greg Liberman](#), Chief Executive Officer of PuppySpot. "Trust and transparency live at the core of what we do and, as a result of our industry-leading standards and compliance team, we have the privilege of working with thousands of hardworking and compassionate breeders who spend every day doing what they do out of a genuine love for the animals in their care. And, above and beyond breeding and raising puppies, their top priority is doing everything they can to ensure their puppies find happy homes."

If you or someone you know suspects you've fallen victim to a puppy scam, visit the International Pet and Animal Transportation Association (IPATA) [website](#) that includes how to spot a pet scam and what to do if you already paid the scammer. Victims should also report scammers to the [Federal Bureau of Investigation's Internet Crime Complaint Center](#).

For more about PuppySpot, visit [www.PuppySpot.com](http://www.PuppySpot.com) or follow on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [Instagram](#).



### **About PuppySpot**

PuppySpot's mission is to make lives better by placing healthy puppies into happy homes. Based upon a fundamental belief that finding a puppy does not have to come with so many x-factors, PuppySpot does not ask for trust, but seeks to earn it through transparency and action. To that end, PuppySpot is a USDA-licensed company and winner of the Feefo Gold Trusted Service award, an independent seal of excellence that recognizes exceptional business experiences, rated by real customers.

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