

# Boxer Puppy Buying Checklist

By Knock Out K9's · [knockoutk9s.com](http://knockoutk9s.com)

## Before You Contact a Breeder

- Confirmed boxer is the right breed for our lifestyle (energy, size, time at home).
- Budget set: purchase price (\$1,500–\$3,500) plus first-year costs (\$1,500–\$2,500).
- Home is puppy-proofed (crate, gates, secure yard or potty plan).
- All household members agree on rules (couch, beds, who feeds, who walks).

## Vetting the Breeder

- Breeder health-tests parents: cardiac (Holter), hips, thyroid, DM/ARVC.
- Breeder shows me the parents (in person or live video).
- Breeder asks ME questions about my home and lifestyle.
- Breeder produces a limited number of litters per year.
- Breeder has references from past puppy families I can contact.
- Breeder requires the puppy be returned to them if I can no longer keep it.

## Red Flags — Walk Away If...

- Won't let me see parents or where puppies are raised.
- Multiple breeds and litters always available.
- Wants payment by wire, gift card, crypto, or app-only transfer.
- Pressures me to decide immediately or pay before meeting the puppy.
- Puppies offered under 8 weeks old.
- No written health guarantee or contract.

# Boxer Puppy Buying Checklist (continued)

## Questions to Ask Every Breeder

- Can I see the parents' health clearances?
- How many litters do you produce per year?
- What socialization do puppies get before going home?
- What food are puppies on, and what do you recommend transitioning to?
- What does your health guarantee cover, and for how long?
- Can you connect me with families from past litters?
- What happens if I can no longer keep the dog?

## What to Receive at Pickup

- Signed contract and written health guarantee.
- Vet wellness exam record and vaccination history.
- Deworming schedule (already completed and upcoming).
- Microchip number and registration paperwork.
- AKC registration paperwork (if applicable).
- Sample of current food (for 7–10 day transition).
- Familiar-smelling blanket or toy from the litter.
- Breeder's contact info for ongoing support.

## Bringing Puppy Home — First 72 Hours

- Vet wellness check booked within 72 hours of pickup.
- Crate set up in a quiet area with bedding and a chew toy.
- Feeding schedule set (4 small meals/day at consistent times).

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 Potty schedule set (every 1–2 hours, after meals, naps, play).

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 Family agreed: no over-handling, lots of nap time (18–20 hrs/day).

*Looking for a healthy, family-raised boxer puppy? Browse available litters at [knockoutk9s.com/puppies](https://knockoutk9s.com/puppies) or get in touch at [knockoutk9s.com/contact](https://knockoutk9s.com/contact).*

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