

Looking for a Breed?

SCAA does not promote dog breeding and we rarely have the opportunity to rescue or place purebred dogs. We much prefer you consider adopting one of the beloved mutts we so desperately want to find loving homes for.

If you insist on buying a purebred dog, beware of unethical and/or cruel breeders here in Shanghai that are basically running purebred pet farms; breeding them illegally, cruelly and incestuously all to make a profit. Just because you are being offered a purebred animal, does not mean ethical standards have been used to breed it. And just because a breeder back home in your native country might recommend a breeder here in China to contact, it is quite possible they are not even aware that breeding standards in China are not even in the same ball park as in the West (not to say that we condone breeding anywhere in the world!). Ultimately, buyer and breeder beware! (But then why would you want to pay to breed the uniqueness out of an animal when there are so many abandoned animals in need of loving homes?!)

To further make our point:

Myths About Mutts

With pure breeds, I know exactly what I'm getting. With mixed breeds, it's always a gamble. True or False?

False. While the general physical and behavioral characteristics of a breed are predictable, the size, appearance and temperament of most mixed breed dogs can be predicted as well. After all, these days mutts are simply combinations of different breeds.

Certainly, breed dogs have parents and other ancestors who are all members of the same breed. But mixed or "pure," every animal is an individual. Two pure bred cats in the same litter are never the same "person." They'll have individual quirks, their own hearts, and their own response to you. Meeting an animal is by far the most important step in knowing what you're getting.

Mixed breeds are "inferior" dogs and cats. True or False?

False. All breeds are manmade, created as a deviation from "the original." Back when all animals picked their own mates they were naturally more like the mixed breeds of today.

The truth is: breed dogs often have health problems as a result of in-breeding and breeding for characteristics that were attractive to humans, but not so good for the animals (hairless dogs, for example, or dogs with flat or tipped-back noses).

Over-bred dogs and cats can pass problems down to mixed-breed puppies. So, getting a mix is no guarantee that you won't have breed-related genetic problems. However, the chances of avoiding them are much better with a mix.

Mixed breeds are less prestigious. True or False?

False. What could be more prestigious than a dog or cat who is the only one of its kind? Lots of people can say they have a Persian cat. How many people can say they have a 14% Persian, 27% Himalayan, 31% Maine Coon, 2% Turkish Angora, 18% American Shorthair, and 8% Russian Blue? You may be the only one! Now that's something to boast about!

Source: www.bestfriends.org. Shanghai information written by Carol Wolfson.