

WHAT'S THE REAL COST OF BUYING A LABRADOR PUPPY?



For Charlie it was **£7,600** after he had to have both his hips replaced at just one year old.



For Boomer it was **£3,500** after she had to have a major operation on her pelvis at just 9 months old.



Charlie and Boomer are two of the lucky ones, they have found families that adore them, and have the patience and commitment to stand by them through their troubles. Many others with similar problems are not so lucky, with some ending up in rescue centres, or worse still, being put to sleep, through no fault of their own.

Sadly both dogs had problems because of Hip Dysplasia, a condition easily tested for in their parents. They were bought from unscrupulous breeders who had not carried out basic health checks on their dogs before breeding them.

Simply checking the breeder has KC registered the puppies and had the parent's hips scored and eyes tested before you visit them could literally save you thousands of pounds and a lot of heartache.

Hip Scores: The Breed average is currently 15, and ideally parents scores should be in this area, however a few points higher is unlikely to give cause for concern.

Eyes should be clear (Certificates are valid for a year) *.

It only costs around £12 to register a puppy with the Kennel Club; therefore cost is no excuse for the breeder not to do it.

**For further information visit
www.lab-health.co.uk**

*** Buying from health tested stock reduces overall risk, it does not however guarantee future health, and breeders should give you advice and guidance on minimising risk to your puppy, particularly in the first 12 months of its life**