



The Steps to Becoming a Dogs Victoria Breeder

If you are thinking about breeding purebred dogs, Dogs Victoria would like to welcome you and help you learn everything you need to know to become a responsible breeder. There are a number of requirements for both you and your breeding female to meet before you can begin planning your first litter. Below is a flow chart outlining the steps you need to take **BEFORE** you can breed your first litter.

If you have any questions in regards to becoming a Dogs Victoria member, or qualifying for a Dogs Victoria Breeder's Prefix either visit our website at www.dogsvictoria.org.au or call our Member Services Team on 03 9788 2500.

YOU

Step 1 - Membership of Dogs Victoria

You must have been a member of Dogs Victoria for 12 months before you can apply to become a Registered Breeder.

This is to encourage new members who are thinking of moving into breeding to get involved in the various dog-related activities offered by Dogs Victoria, and to give you time to learn more about your chosen breed and what it was bred to do **BEFORE** breeding your first litter.

Step 2 - Complete the Dogs Victoria Breeder Education Package

The Dogs Victoria Breeder Education Package aims to provide new or inexperienced breeders with all of the information they need to become a successful breeder and provides a point of reference throughout your breeding career.

Consisting of nearly 30 smaller units, it covers everything from Victorian State Government and Local Council requirements, Dogs Victoria Rules and Regulations relating to breeding, as well as all of the steps involved in breeding, whelping and raising a litter of puppies.

Step 3 - Apply for your unique 'Breeder Prefix'

A Dogs Victoria Breeder's Prefix is a 'Registered Kennel Name'. Every puppy you breed will carry the Prefix, and there are national rules regarding its length and format.

Step 4 - Prefix Granted

Once you have been officially granted a prefix, and received your Prefix Certificate, you are eligible to breed and register a litter with Dogs Victoria.

YOUR BREEDING FEMALE

Step 1 - Your Breeding Female needs to be registered 'pedigree pure-bred'

To qualify for breeding with Dogs Victoria your Breeding Female must be pedigree, pure-bred. She should have a Dogs Australia Pedigree Certificate (often called pedigree 'papers') and she must be registered on the **Main Register** (blue pedigree certificate).

*If she is a cross-breed or mixed breed, is pure-bred but does not have papers, or if she is pedigree pure-bred but registered on the **Limited Register** (orange pedigree certificate), you will not be able to breed her and register the litter with Dogs Victoria.*

Step 2 - Your Breeding Female must be registered in your name with Dogs Victoria

If your breeding female is not currently registered in your name, you will need to have her transferred into your ownership **BEFORE** it is time to breed her.

Step 3 - Minimum breeding age

Dogs Victoria's Regulations list a minimum breeding age for every breed. These vary from 12 months to 24 months and are designed to protect the welfare of breeding animals and to allow time for health testing.

Step 4 - Health Testing

Before being considered for breeding, your Breeding Female needs to have undergone all relevant health testing for your breed. This includes MANDATORY health testing (for those breeds who have this requirement).

Step 5 - 'Clearance to Commence Breeding'

All breeding females are required to be examined by a veterinarian prior to breeding. Your vet will need to sign off that she has reached adequate maturity and is healthy and suitable for breeding.