



SHADOW SPIRIT ENTERPRISES

Assistance Dog Training  Education & Support

Puppy Guide



From Birth to Forever



..... 

Purpose-bred Labrador Retrievers,
raised with science, experience and lifelong support.



Purpose Bred

Carefully selected
working bloodlines for
sound temperament
and trainability.



Health Tested

Hip & elbow scored.
DNA tested for
PRCD & EIC.



Early Development

Science-based programs
to build resilience,
confidence and
adaptability.



Family Raised

Raised in our home
with love, handling
and daily life
experiences.



Lifetime Support

Ongoing guidance
and support
long after your
puppy comes home.



shadowspiritenterprises.org



shadowspiritenterprises@gmail.com





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WHY SHADOW SPIRIT ENTERPRISES?

At Shadow Spirit Enterprises, our passion is purpose breeding Labrador Retrievers with the temperament, soundness and intelligence required for life-changing work and wonderful family companionship.

We are committed to ethical breeding, early development, and lifelong support for every puppy and their family.



PURPOSE BREEDING

Our core mission is to breed Labradors for assistance dog work across Australia.

Not all puppies are required for this work, so occasionally puppies are available to approved families.

Priority is given to assistance dog applicants and families with additional needs.



WORKING DOG BLOODLINES

All our dogs come from carefully selected working lines, chosen for their temperament, trainability and health.

We breed for soundness, intelligence and a willingness to work and please.



HEALTH TESTED

All breeding dogs are health tested to help reduce the risk of hereditary conditions and to promote long, healthy lives.

- ✓ Hip & Elbow Scoring
- ✓ DNA Tested for PRCD (Progressive Rod Cone Disease)
- ✓ DNA Tested for EIC (Exercise Induced Collapse)



DOGS VICTORIA REGISTERED

Amanda King is registered with Dogs Victoria (3100043146) and all our puppies are registered with Dogs Victoria on the Limited Register (Mains Register by Application).



ACCOUNTABLE BREEDING

We are registered on the Victorian Pet Exchange Register (PER) to ensure accountability and transparency in breeding.

PER Source No: RB103409



RAISED WITH LOVE & CARE

Our puppies are raised in our home as part of our family. They are handled daily, experience a wide variety of enrichment activities and are prepared for the world with confidence.



A strong start today creates a confident companion for life.





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BUILDING BETTER PUPPIES

Science, experience and purposeful early development.

At Shadow Spirit Enterprises, every litter follows a carefully planned early development program designed to support confident, resilient and adaptable puppies. These experiences are introduced gradually during the critical developmental period to encourage curiosity, problem solving and recovery from new experiences.



OUR EARLY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PROGRAM	AGE	WHY IT MATTERS
 Early Neurological Stimulation (ENS)	3 – 16 days	Gentle neurological exercises designed to support resilience and healthy development.
 Early Scent Introduction (ESI)	3 – 16 days	Daily exposure to different scents to encourage early scent processing and confidence.
 Daily Handling	Birth onwards	Gentle handling helps puppies become comfortable with people and routine care.
 Sound Desensitisation	Birth – 8 weeks	Gradual exposure to household and environmental sounds builds confidence.
 Novel Surfaces & Objects	From 3 weeks	Different textures and environments encourage exploration and adaptability.
 Problem Solving Activities	From 4 weeks	Encourages independence, persistence and confidence through age-appropriate challenges.



Pregnancy confirmed



Birth and neonatal care



Health checked



Early development begins



Why does this matter?

The first eight weeks of life play a significant role in shaping how puppies respond to the world around them. While genetics provide the foundation, carefully planned early experiences help puppies develop confidence, adaptability and curiosity. Our goal is not to overwhelm puppies but to introduce new experiences in a positive, age-appropriate way that prepares them for life with their future families.



GROWING THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Learning through play, exploration and confidence building.

Puppies are naturally curious. Our carefully designed obstacle courses and sensory stations provide safe, age-appropriate challenges that encourage exploration, problem solving and resilience.

These experiences help build confidence, coordination and the ability to adapt to new environments.



OBSTACLE COURSES & ACTIVE PLAY



Tunnels



Wobble boards



Bridges



Levels & heights



Different surfaces



Climb, explore & discover



Builds courage & curiosity



Balance & coordination

SENSORY STATION EXPERIENCES



Textures & ball pits



Natural materials



Sound & movement



Novel sights



Rest & recovery areas



WHY EXPERIENCES MATTER

Positive early experiences help puppies develop confidence, adaptability and problem solving skills. From novel surfaces to different sounds and textures, each challenge teaches puppies they can handle new things and recover from them – building resilience for life.



SOCIALISATION & LIFE SKILLS

Growing confident puppies through purposeful experiences.

The world is full of new sights, sounds and experiences for a young puppy. Through positive, age-appropriate socialisation and life skills activities, we help puppies learn that new things are safe, predictable and rewarding.

Our goal is to raise confident, adaptable puppies who are ready for whatever life brings.



Exploring, learning and building confidence every day.

BUILDING CONFIDENCE



REST & RECOVERY
Plenty of rest time helps puppies process new experiences and build resilience.



POSITIVE HUMAN HANDLING
Gentle, regular handling helps puppies feel comfortable and secure with people.



VETERINARY CARE & RESILIENCE
Early experiences like vet checks help puppies learn to cope and build confidence.

LEARNING ABOUT THE WORLD



Exploring obstacle tunnels



Confidence on new surfaces



Crossing bridges



Crawling through new spaces



Scent discovery & curiosity



Exploring different textures



Learning in a safe environment



Meeting animals & new sights



WHY SOCIALISATION MATTERS

Socialisation is about far more than meeting lots of people. At Shadow Spirit Enterprises we carefully introduce puppies to different surfaces, sounds, animals, environments and challenges at a pace appropriate for their age. Every experience is designed to build confidence rather than overwhelm, helping puppies become adaptable, resilient companions.



EXPLORE
Courage to try new things.



RECOVER
Rest, recharge and reset.



GROW
Strong puppies become confident adult dogs.



DAILY ROUTINES & FOUNDATIONS FOR LIFE

Building structure, trust and wellbeing one day at a time.

Puppies thrive when their days include a balance of predictable routines, learning, play, rest and connection. These foundations support healthy development, emotional regulation and a strong bond with their people.



⌚ A BALANCED DAY

A mix of activities and rest helps puppies learn, grow and stay happy.



NUTRITION

Regular meals with fresh water to fuel growth and learning.



LEARNING

Short, positive training sessions build skills and confidence.



PLAY & EXPLORATION

Time to play, explore and interact safely with their surroundings.



REST & RECOVERY

Plenty of quiet time helps puppies process and consolidate learning.



CONNECTION

Calm, positive bonding strengthens trust and the human-dog bond.



🛡️ FOUNDATIONS FOR LIFE

Early skills and experiences lay the groundwork for confident, reliable adult dogs.



Confidence on different surfaces



Exposure to everyday sounds



Problem solving & independence



Balance & coordination



Exploration of new environments



Positive interactions with people & dogs



Gentle handling & grooming



Building body awareness



Appropriate chewing outlets



WHY ROUTINE MATTERS

Routine helps puppies feel safe, understand what to expect and settle more easily. It supports their developing brains, reduces stress and creates the foundation for a confident, well-adjusted life.



Small, consistent choices each day create big, positive changes for life.



PREDICTABLE

Consistent routines help puppies feel secure and learn faster.



POSITIVE

Positive experiences build trust, confidence and resilience.



PURPOSEFUL

Every day provides opportunities to grow, learn and connect.



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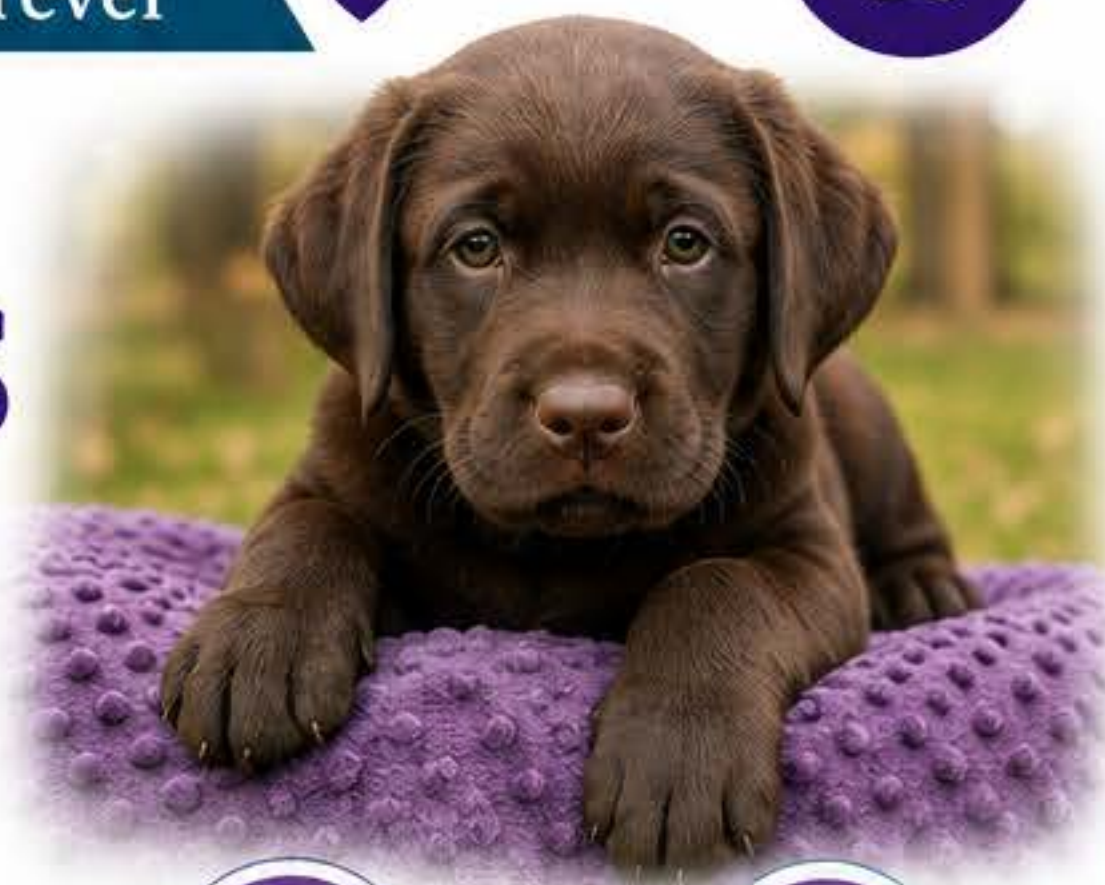
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THE SHADOW SPIRIT ENTERPRISES ADOPTION PROCESS

Finding the right puppy for the right family.

Our adoption process is designed to ensure every puppy is matched with a home where they will thrive.



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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Tell us about:

- ♥ Your family
- ♥ Lifestyle
- ♥ Experience
- ♥ Goals
- ♥ Assistance dog prospects (if applicable)



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GETTING TO KNOW YOU

We spend time learning about:

- ♥ Your expectations
- ♥ Activity level
- ♥ Home environment
- ♥ Future plans

Because choosing the right puppy matters.



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PUPPY MATCHING

We don't match purely by colour or gender.

We consider:

- ♥ Temperament
- ♥ Confidence
- ♥ Recovery
- ♥ Motivation
- ♥ Energy level
- ♥ Suitability for your goals



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GOING HOME

Each puppy leaves with:

- ♥ Health check
- ♥ Vaccination
- ♥ Microchip
- ♥ Worming
- ♥ Pedigree papers
- ♥ Puppy information guide
- ♥ Lifetime breeder support



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SUPPORT CONTINUES

We love updates and remain available for advice throughout your puppy's life.



Whether your puppy becomes a beloved family companion or progresses into an assistance dog, we are always here to help.



Our commitment doesn't end when your puppy goes home— it lasts for the lifetime of every Shadow Spirit Enterprises puppy.



A THOUGHTFUL JOURNEY

We take the time to understand our puppies and our families. Together, we set the foundation for a happy, fulfilling life.





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INVESTMENT & ADOPTION COSTS

Quality care, planned with heart and purpose.

We are committed to raising confident, healthy Labrador puppies with the best start in life.

Fees reflect the time, expertise, health care and resources invested in their early development.



DEPOSIT
\$500

- ♥ Payable when puppies are **1 week old**
- ♥ Secures your chosen puppy
- ♥ Deducted from the final purchase price



FINAL BALANCE
\$5,000

- ♥ Due when puppies are **6 weeks old**
- ♥ Puppies are ready to go home from **8 weeks** of age



OUR COMMITMENT

Every Shadow Spirit Enterprises puppy is carefully raised using structured early development, Puppy Culture principles, enrichment, socialisation and positive experiences to provide the very best start in life.



EVERY SHADOW SPIRIT ENTERPRISES PUPPY GOES HOME WITH



- ✓ Comprehensive veterinary health check
- ✓ Veterinary health record
- ✓ First vaccination
- ✓ Microchip
- ✓ ANKC pedigree registration papers

- ✓ Worming completed
- ✓ Puppy information guide
- ✓ Puppy starter pack
- ✓ Lifetime breeder support



LIFETIME SUPPORT

Buying a puppy is the beginning of a relationship, not the end of a transaction.

We remain available throughout your dog's life to provide advice, answer questions and celebrate milestones with your family.



Explore



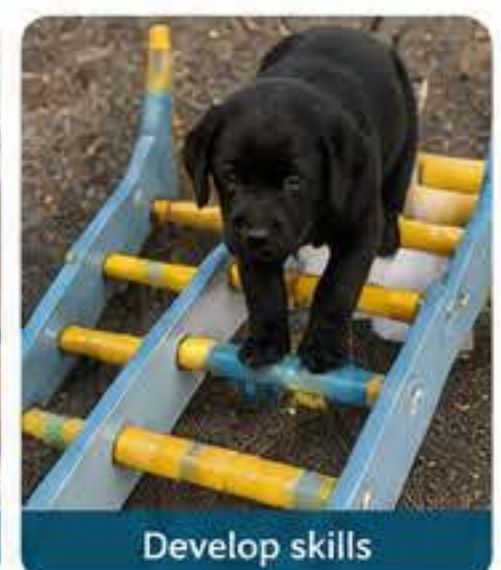
Build confidence



Experience new things



Rest & recover



Develop skills





From Birth to Forever



BRINGING YOUR PUPPY HOME

The first days set the foundation for a lifetime of trust.

Coming home is a big adventure for your puppy. Patience, consistency and predictable routines will help them settle and feel safe in their new world.



PREPARING YOUR HOME

- ♥ Create a safe, quiet space with a comfy bed and fresh water.
- ♥ Puppy proof your home—remove hazards, cords and small items.
- ♥ Have a crate or pen ready if you plan to use one for rest and safety.
- ♥ Gather quality puppy food, bowls, leads, toys and chews.
- ♥ Plan who is doing what so routines are consistent.



THE FIRST 48 HOURS

- ♥ Keep things calm, quiet and predictable.
- ♥ Let your puppy explore at their own pace.
- ♥ Supervise all interactions with people and children.
- ♥ Offer reassurance and praise, not constant attention.
- ♥ Encourage rest between short play and exploration.
- ♥ Establish a toilet routine from the start.



FEEDING



- ♥ Feed the same high quality food your puppy has been eating.
- ♥ 3 meals per day until 6 months of age.
- ♥ Fresh water always available.
- ♥ Use puppy dry food to reward behaviours.



SLEEPING



- ♥ Puppies need 18–20 hours of sleep per day.
- ♥ A quiet sleeping area helps your puppy relax.
- ♥ Crate or pen can help with settling and routine.
- ♥ Never wake a sleeping puppy.



TOILET ROUTINE



- ♥ Take puppy outside first thing, after eating, after play and before bed.
- ♥ Use the same spot each time.
- ♥ Praise calmly when they go in the right place.
- ♥ Accidents happen—clean without fuss.



PLAY & ENRICHMENT



- ♥ Short play sessions build confidence and bond.
- ♥ Use appropriate toys and rotate them.
- ♥ Provide mental stimulation—puzzle toys, snuffle mats, and gentle games.
- ♥ End play before your puppy becomes over-tired.



WHAT TO EXPECT IN WEEK ONE

- ♥ Your puppy may be tired, quiet and a little unsure—this is normal.
- ♥ They are learning your household, your routines and the rules.
- ♥ Eat, sleep, play, toilet outside—that's the plan!
- ♥ Build trust through calm guidance and positive experiences.
- ♥ Enjoy every moment—these first days go quickly.



Top Tip

Consistency is the greatest gift you can give your puppy. Routines create security, and security builds confidence.





GROWING TOGETHER

Support today builds a confident, well-adjusted companion for life.

Your puppy will grow and change quickly. Providing the right balance of structure, training, socialisation, rest and care will help them develop into the best version of themselves.



BEFORE PUPPY COMES HOME

Preparation helps your puppy settle in with confidence.

- ♥ Create a safe, comfortable space.
- ♥ Gather essential supplies.
- ♥ Find a trusted veterinarian.
- ♥ Choose a puppy school or positive training class.
- ♥ Plan your puppy's routine.
- ♥ Ensure everyone in the family is ready.



EXERCISE – THE RIGHT AMOUNT AT THE RIGHT TIME

-  **8–12 weeks:**
Short play and exploration periods.
 -  **12–6 months:**
5 minutes of structured exercise per month of age, up to twice daily.
 -  **6–12 months:**
Gradually increase duration and variety.
 -  **12 months+**
Build fitness and stamina over time.
- Always balance activity with rest and recovery.*



TRAINING PRIORITIES

- ♥ Build a strong bond through trust and positive experiences.
- ♥ Teach basic skills using reward-based methods.
- ♥ Focus on calm, attention and self-control.
- ♥ Keep sessions short, fun and successful.
- ♥ Consistency and patience are key.



VETERINARY CARE

- ♥ Register with a trusted veterinarian.
- ♥ Complete the vaccination schedule.
- ♥ Regular health checks keep your puppy on track.
- ♥ Discuss nutrition, parasite control and desexing.
- ♥ Never hesitate to ask questions—your vet is a valuable partner.



NUTRITION

- ♥ Feed a high-quality puppy diet.
- ♥ Follow feeding guidelines for your puppy's age and weight.
- ♥ Provide fresh water at all times.
- ♥ Avoid sudden diet changes.
- ♥ Healthy nutrition fuels growth, learning and wellbeing.



GROOMING & HEALTH

- ♥ Brush regularly to get your puppy used to handling.
- ♥ Check ears, eyes, teeth and nails.
- ♥ Gentle handling builds confidence and makes grooming easy.
- ♥ Maintain dental care and nail trims as needed.
- ♥ Healthy habits start early.



ADOLESCENCE – EXPECT BIG CHANGES!

- ♥ From around 6 months to 2 years, puppies test boundaries.
- ♥ Stay consistent with rules and routines.
- ♥ Provide mental stimulation and outlets for energy.
- ♥ Keep training fun and reward-based.
- ♥ Patience now prevents problems later.
- ♥ You've got this—stay calm and keep guiding your puppy forward.



Remember

Every puppy is an individual. Celebrate the small wins, seek help when needed and enjoy the journey of growing together. You are your puppy's world.





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WHEN CAN I VISIT THE PUPPIES?

Please contact Shadow Spirit Enterprises to arrange a **suitable visiting time**.

Puppies can generally be visited from **4 weeks of age onwards**, once they are becoming mobile, confident and ready for short, positive interactions with prospective families.

Visits are by appointment only to ensure the wellbeing of both the puppies and their mother.



CAN I CHOOSE MY OWN PUPPY?

Yes—but with guidance.

At Shadow Spirit Enterprises we spend every day observing our puppies as they develop. We assess confidence, recovery, curiosity, resilience, engagement with people and overall temperament.

Assistance Dog puppies are always selected first, as these puppies must meet very specific temperament and behavioural requirements.

After suitable assistance dog puppies have been identified, we work closely with each family to help match them with the puppy that best suits their lifestyle, goals and experience.

Our priority is not simply choosing your favourite puppy—it is finding the puppy that is most likely to thrive in your home for many years to come.



WHAT SHOULD I HAVE READY BEFORE MY PUPPY COMES HOME?

- ✓ Secure fencing
- ✓ Safe sleeping area or crate
- ✓ Food and water bowls
- ✓ Quality puppy food
- ✓ Collar and lead
- ✓ Safe chew toys
- ✓ Find a trusted veterinarian
- ✓ Book your Puppy School
- ✓ Time available for settling in and bonding



DEPOSITS, PAYMENTS & RETURNS



DEPOSIT

A **\$500** non-refundable deposit secures your chosen puppy once puppies are approximately **1 week old**.

The remaining **\$5,000** balance is payable when puppies reach **6 weeks of age**.

Puppies are ready to go to their new homes from **8 weeks of age**.



IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND

Should you decide not to proceed with your purchase, the **\$500 deposit is forfeited**.

This allows Shadow Spirit Enterprises to cover the costs associated with re-advertising and finding another suitable home for the puppy.



IF YOUR PUPPY BECOMES UNAVAILABLE

If your allocated puppy becomes unwell or is otherwise unavailable through no fault of the purchaser, your **full deposit will be refunded**.



HEALTH GUARANTEE & REFUNDS

A **full refund will only** be provided if:

- ♥ the puppy is returned within **72 hours** of collection; and
- ♥ a registered veterinarian provides written confirmation that the puppy was affected by a significant illness, congenital, neurological or lifelong condition that existed prior to leaving Shadow Spirit Enterprises and was not caused after collection.



RETURNING A PUPPY

If a puppy is returned due to change of mind, lifestyle changes or personal circumstances, Shadow Spirit Enterprises will provide a refund of **40% of the purchase price (\$5,500)**, provided the puppy is returned in **good health**.

This policy reflects the significant costs involved in accepting a puppy back into our care, including:

- ♥ Veterinary health assessment
- ♥ Behavioural assessment
- ♥ Administration and advertising
- ♥ Time invested in finding another suitable family
- ♥ Older puppies generally require more time to successfully rehome.



IF CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE...

If you are ever unable to keep your Shadow Spirit Enterprises puppy or dog, please contact us before advertising them yourself.

Over many years we have developed a large network of families looking for well-bred Labradors.

We are happy to:

- ✓ Advertise your dog through our network
- ✓ Help assess suitable homes
- ✓ Offer advice throughout the rehoming process



The final decision regarding the new home always remains yours, and all proceeds from the sale are paid directly to you.



WILL YOU STILL HELP AFTER I TAKE MY PUPPY HOME?

Absolutely.

Every Shadow Spirit Enterprises puppy includes lifetime breeder support.

Whether you have a question after one week or ten years, we're always happy to provide advice, guidance and ongoing support.



OUR PROMISE

At Shadow Spirit Enterprises we don't simply breed Labradors—we carefully raise puppies with the very best start in life.

Through thoughtful breeding, structured early development and lifelong support, our goal is to produce confident, healthy companions who become treasured members of your family for many years to come.



CONSUMER INFORMATION: This policy operates in addition to your rights under the Australian Consumer Law. Nothing in this guide limits or excludes any rights or remedies available under that legislation.





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Your Shadow Spirit Journey Continues

Bringing home your puppy is the beginning of a beautiful journey.

We are honoured to have played a part in raising your new family member and we are here for you every step of the way.

Our commitment to you and your puppy doesn't end when you drive away—it lasts a lifetime.

You are never alone on this journey.



LIFETIME BREEDER SUPPORT

We are here for you for the life of your dog.

- ♥ Training and behaviour advice
- ♥ Health and nutrition guidance
- ♥ Troubleshooting challenges
- ♥ Milestone celebrations

Whether it's one week, one year or ten years after bringing your puppy home, please don't hesitate to contact us. We're always happy to answer questions, offer training tips, provide general advice or simply celebrate your dog's milestones with you.



COMMUNITY & CONNECTION

Follow our journey



Facebook

Shadow Spirit Enterprises
facebook.com/
Shadowspiritenterprises



Instagram

@shadowspiritenterprises
instagram.com/
shadowspiritenterprises

- ♥ We love seeing our puppies grow and would love you to share photos and updates throughout their lives.



TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Continue learning together

- ♥ Fortnightly Dog School
- ♥ Puppy School
- ♥ Training advice whenever you need it
- ♥ Behaviour guidance as your puppy matures
- ♥ Assistance Dog pathways available for suitable dogs

Learning doesn't stop at eight weeks—it lasts a lifetime.



HEALTH FOR LIFE

Your puppy's health is our ongoing priority.

- ♥ Health testing and screening
- ♥ Nutrition and exercise advice
- ♥ Preventative care guidance
- ♥ Future reminders and updates as your dog grows

A healthy start leads to a healthy future.



IF YOU EVER NEED TO REHOME YOUR DOG



Life happens, and circumstances can change.

If you are ever unable to keep your Shadow Spirit puppy or dog, please contact us before advertising them yourself.

Over many years we have developed a large network of families looking for well-bred Labradors.

We are happy to:

- ♥ Advertise your dog through our network
- ♥ Help assess suitable homes
- ♥ Offer advice throughout the rehoming process



The final decision regarding the new home always remains yours, and all proceeds from the sale are paid directly to you.

Our goal is to help every Shadow Spirit dog find a safe, loving and appropriate lifelong home.



WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please keep in touch over the years by sending us:

- ♥ First day home photos
- ♥ Birthday updates
- ♥ Training achievements
- ♥ Funny moments
- ♥ Holiday adventures
- ♥ Health updates
- ♥ Graduation photos
- ♥ Anything that makes you smile!



A Journey of Love, Trust & Adventure

Your puppy may be small today, but together you will build a lifetime of memories, trust and unconditional love. We are so grateful to walk this journey with you.



CONTACT SHADOW SPIRIT ENTERPRISES



Website
shadowspiritenterprises.org



Email
shadowspiritenterprises@gmail.com



Facebook
facebook.com/Shadowspiritenterprises



Instagram
@shadowspiritenterprises



QUESTIONS?

Whether you have a question about feeding, behaviour, training, health, adolescence or simply want to ask if what your puppy is doing is normal...

Please contact us.

We genuinely enjoy hearing from our Shadow Spirit families.

Thank you for trusting us with your new family member.



We look forward to supporting you every step of the way!

