

Evening Song English Shepherds

2024 puppy application

Please print out all forms, keep the introduction pages for your records, and send this question section back to us. Feel free to write longer answers on the back of a sheet if needed.

It may be helpful to keep a copy of this application for your own records.

Please give your name, mailing address, e-mail and phone #:

Have you owned an English Shepherd before, done research on the breed, or met one?

What do you hope that your puppy will bring to your family or farm, because of the breed you've chosen?

Will your pup be learning on a farm? *A farm is not a requirement. (About half of our pups go to active family/suburban homes, depending on the litter.)

For potential farm dogs, are you looking for herding ability, hunting ability (rodents, coons, tracking, etc), guarding your property, companion for small children?

If on a farm, what livestock will your pup need exposure to? (This helps me as I introduce puppies to the barn cats and livestock here.)

Do you have a business on your farm (or in your home) where your pup will need to be interacting with visitors on a regular basis?

Will customers, friends or family members bring other dogs to your property?

For suburban pups, what qualities are you hoping for, which will fit your lifestyle? (Will your pup come home to an active suburban lifestyle, therapy or obedience training, agility training, etc?)

Is your puppy's new home an apartment? If you rent, do you have permission from your landlord to have a dog (and more specifically, a dog that will be 45-65 pounds at maturity)?

Is there fencing in place, for a safe place to run and/or train?

Who usually lives at home, and who visits frequently. (This helps us to watch all the pups as visitors interact with them, with your situation in mind. Children, teenagers, workmen, older family members, boisterous visitors, any types of visitors or family members that you care to list will help us as we observe the litter over the few months that they are with us.)

What other dogs are at home, or in the groups that visit frequently? Please include male/female information and their breeds or size. (One example could be...an older female English Shepherd and a family is considering a young female ES to join the group.)

Is there anyone in your home reluctant to bring in a puppy at this time? Please explain if so:

Do you currently have a pet-vet? Please give their info below, and feel free to also give them our contact info.

Describe what might be a typical day for your puppy once he or she is part of your farm and/or family?

Have you had a dog in the past that you've needed to give back to a shelter, return to a breeder, or had to rehome? Can you describe in general terms what the circumstances were? (I am in this category, to my dismay, and no judgment is intended, but I also need to ask...)

If you cannot keep this pup at any point in the future, will you agree to contact us and allow us to either take the pup back as a foster, or help in the rehoming process?

Preference: Are you looking for a male or a female... Will you consider either, if there are puppies of both sexes that could be a good fit for you? (Please note here, we typically choose not to place a pup in a home where there is already a same-sex dog in residence).

Preference: Do you have a color preference, size preference, temperament preference? (We match pups to potential farms and families for personality and working ability. If two or three pups seem a good match for one particular family or farm home, it's good to know the preferences as each is considered.)

***Pups are not placed only on the request of color or markings, but on the suitability of working traits or companion temperament.

Are you hoping to breed your dog in the future? (I watch for certain things in a companion dog, farm dog, etc, and a future representative of the breed in a breeding setting is another quality that I'm watching the pups for.)

PLEASE NOTE: Only one or two pups from any given litter *may* be chosen to place in potential breeding homes. This is at the breeder's discretion, and will be based on a different framework of conversations and evaluations.

Thanks so much for your time. We look forward to seeing which puppy might be the one to join your farm and/or family!!!

Please mail a completed copy of this application to us at the address below. (No payment is due at this time. Laura will let you know that the application was received, and that you are on the list to call when pups are born.) If you find a pup sooner than our Evening Song litter is born, please let us know so that our list can be adjusted for others who may be waiting.

Only after pups have arrived, and contact/phone call has been made, will deposits be requested.

A deposit at that time reserves a "spot" in the litter, but not a specific pup. Evaluation, communication, and another phone call will occur during the first 6-7 weeks, and placement decisions are made mutually (usually) before 7 weeks of age.

Puppies may leave for their new homes between 8 and 10 weeks of age, and after their first vet appointment.

Thanks so much for your interest!

Laura and Jeff Dykstra

Dykstra's Farm and Evening Song, LLC

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