GENERAL

maltese x shih tzu puppies for sale perth wa

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Discovering the Charm of Maltese x Shih Tzu Puppies for Sale in Perth, WA

When it comes to choosing a new furry companion, the world of mixed breed puppies opens up a treasure trove of personality, charm, and unique traits. One of the most adored crossbreeds is the Maltese x Shih Tzu mix, often affectionately called a “Maltih.” If you’re living in Perth, WA, and looking for a Maltese x Shih Tzu puppy, you’re in the right place. This article dives deep into what makes this mix special, why Perth is an ideal location to find them, and how to choose a reputable breeder. Whether you’re a first time dog owner or a seasoned pet enthusiast, the information below will guide you every step of the way.

Why the Maltese x Shih /Tzu Mix Is a Popular Choice

The Maltese and Shih Tzu are both beloved for their gentle nature, affectionate demeanor, and striking appearance. When combined, the resulting offspring inherit the best of both worlds:

- Size & Weight: Typically between 3–8 /kg, making them perfect for apartments and homes alike.
- Temperament: Friendly, playful, and highly sociable with children and other pets.
- Coat: A silky, low shedding coat that can be either wavy or straight, depending on genetics.
- Health: Generally robust, but like all breeds, they can inherit certain conditions (discussed later).
- Longevity: Lifespan ranges from 12–16 /years, giving you many years of companionship.

These traits make the Maltese x Shih Tzu an excellent family dog, a loyal companion, and a stylish addition to any household.

Key Characteristics of Maltese x Shih /Tzu Puppies

Physical Appearance

While each puppy is unique, common visual markers include:

- Short, fine, or slightly wavy coat that may be white, cream, or a mix of colors.
- Small, dark eyes that shine with curiosity.
- Rounded ears that are either floppy or semi pricked, depending on the genetic influence.
- A compact, well balanced body with a slightly tapered tail.

Behavior & Personality

The Maltese x Shih /Tzu blend tends to exhibit:

- A friendly and outgoing nature, often eager to meet new people.
- High adaptability; they thrive in both quiet family homes and bustling city apartments.
- Strong loyalty to their owners, often forming a close bond.
- Moderate to high energy levels, especially during playtime and training sessions.

Health & Wellness

Like any mixed breed, they can inherit health issues from either parent line. Common concerns include:

- Dental Problems: Both breeds have a tendency toward dental issues; regular brushing and check ups are

essential.

- Eye Conditions: Conjunctivitis or dry eye can occur, especially in puppies with a more Shih /Tzu-like eye shape.
- Respiratory Issues: Breeds with flat faces may experience breathing difficulties; monitor for wheezing or snoring.
- Joint Health: Hip dysplasia is rare but possible; maintain a healthy weight to protect joints.

Choosing a reputable breeder who screens for these conditions can dramatically reduce the likelihood of health complications.

Choosing a Reputable Maltese x Shih /Tzu Puppy Supplier in Perth, WA

Finding a trustworthy breeder is crucial for ensuring the health, temperament, and overall well being of your future puppy. Here are essential steps to follow:

1. Research Local Breeders

Use online directories, local pet forums, and the **Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC)**to locate breeders who specialize in Maltese, Shih /Tzu, or mixed breeds in the Perth area. Pay attention to:

- Years of experience.
- Availability of health certificates.
- Reviews from previous buyers.

2. Visit the Breeder's Facility

Schedule a visit to observe the living conditions:

- Clean, safe, and spacious environment.
- Social interaction between puppies and their mother.
- Signs of proper nutrition and veterinary care.

3. Ask the Right Questions

During your visit, inquire about:

- Health screenings performed on both parents.
- Vaccination records and deworming schedule.
- Breeding practices and genetic testing.
- Post sale support (training advice, health guidance).

4. Examine the Puppy's Early Development

Healthy puppies display:

- Active movement and curiosity.
- Clear eyes and ears.
- Proper weight gain and a balanced appetite.
- Interaction with other puppies and adults.

5. Verify Legal Compliance

Ensure the breeder complies with **Australian animal welfare laws**, including:

- Proper licensing.
- Transparent breeding records.
- Availability of a written contract and return policy.

Preparing Your Home for a New Maltese x Shih /Tzu Puppy

Once you've selected a puppy, it's essential to create a safe, welcoming environment. Here's what to consider:

1. Puppy Proofing Your Space

- Secure loose wires and cords.
- Remove toxic plants and chemicals.
- Place a comfortable bed in a quiet corner.

2. Essential Supplies

1. Food & Water Bowls: Stainless steel or ceramic to prevent bacterial growth.
2. High Quality Puppy Food: Look for brands with real meat as the first ingredient.
3. Collar & Leash: Adjustable collar with ID tags.
4. Crate: Ideal for training and safe sleeping.
5. Grooming Tools: Brush, nail clippers, and dog shampoo.
6. Dental Care: Dog safe toothbrush and toothpaste.

3. Establish a Routine

Puppies thrive on consistency. Set up a schedule for feeding, potty breaks, training sessions, and playtime. Consistency helps reduce anxiety and accelerates learning.

Training & Socialization Tips

Early training and socialization lay the foundation for a well behaved adult dog. Follow these key steps:

1. House Training Basics

- Take the puppy outside every 1–2 /hours.
- Use a designated potty area.
- Reward with treats and praise immediately after a successful potty session.

2. Basic Obedience Commands

Start with simple commands such as:

- "Sit" – helps with calm behavior.
- "Stay" – improves impulse control.
- "Come" – essential for safety.
- "Leave it" – prevents ingestion of harmful items.

3. Positive Reinforcement

Use treats, toys, and affection to reward desired behavior. Avoid punishment, as it can lead to fear or aggression.

4. Socialization with Other Dogs & People

Expose your puppy to:

- Other friendly dogs in controlled settings.
- Children of various ages.
- Different environments (parks, streets, pet stores).

5. Grooming Routine

Regular grooming keeps your puppy healthy and comfortable:

- Brush twice a week to prevent matting.
- Trim nails every 3–4 /weeks.
- Check ears for wax buildup and clean gently.

Health Care Checklist for Your Maltese x Shih /Tzu Puppy

1. Veterinary Visits

- Initial check up within 2 weeks of arrival.
- Vaccinations: DHPP, rabies, and any region specific shots.
- Microchipping for identification.
- Spay or neuter surgery between 6–12 /months.

2. Parasite Prevention

- Flea and tick prevention as per vet recommendations.
- Heartworm prophylaxis, especially in warm climates.

3. Dental Care

- Daily tooth brushing.
- Chew toys that promote clean teeth.

4. Nutrition & Weight Management

- Feed a balanced diet appropriate for size and activity level.
- Monitor weight; adjust portions as needed.

Common Questions About Maltese x Shih /Tzu Puppies in Perth

Is the Maltese x Shih /Tzu mix hypoallergenic?

While no dog is 100% hypoallergenic, the low shedding coat of this mix typically causes fewer allergic reactions. Regular grooming reduces dander.

What is the typical lifespan?

With proper care, these puppies can live 12–16 /years.

Are they good with children?

Yes, they usually enjoy interacting with children and can be gentle companions when supervised.

Do they require a lot of exercise?

Moderate daily walks and play sessions keep them healthy and prevent boredom.

Finding the Right Puppy in Perth, WA

Perth's dog friendly culture, coupled with a growing number of responsible breeders, makes it an ideal place to find a Maltese x Shih /Tzu puppy. Here's how to narrow down your search:

1. Local Kennel Clubs: Contact the Australian National Kennel Council for breeder directories.
2. Pet Expos & Fairs: Attend events like Perth Dog Show to meet breeders face to face.
3. Online Communities: Join Perth dog owner groups on Facebook or Reddit to gather recommendations.
4. Veterinary Clinics: Many vets collaborate with reputable breeders and can provide referrals.

What to Expect When Buying a Maltese x Shih /Tzu Puppy in Perth

Once you've identified a breeder, the purchasing process typically involves:

- Initial contact and discussion of availability.
- Visit to meet the puppy and assess the environment.
- Review of health records, vaccination history, and breeding details.
- Signing a contract outlining responsibilities and return policy.
- Final payment and pickup or delivery arrangements.

Remember, a reputable breeder will

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