

JUST WHAT ARE PAPERS?

The term 'papers' refers to a certificate issued by the Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC) which is represented in each state. In Victoria the state body is the Victorian Canine Association Incorporated.

Victorian Canine Association Inc.

Tel: 9788 2500

The certificate provides official proof that the dog is pedigree and has been registered with this body, (not your local council - which is an entirely different registration process).

The certificate lists information about the dog and its relatives for three generations! Details such as the dog's registration number, sex, official pedigree name, colour, date of birth etc are also included in order to identify the dog will be indicated on this certificate. The pedigree certificate will indicate championship status of the dog's parents and forebears' with CH in front of a dog's name.

In Australia, the dog's name has a prefix, which is the name of the kennel that bred the dog, then the unique name of the dog.

The first digit of the registration number will indicate, the state in which the dog was bred, i.e. 3 = Victoria.

Dogs that have been imported have a suffix to their name i.e. IMP NZ. = imported from New Zealand. Therefore the name would appear as: CH Kennel Name, Dog Name, IMP NZ.

Anyone can own purebred dogs registered on either the MAIN or LIMITED register. Naturally a puppy must be pure bred to be registered on either of these registers. This means both of the puppy's parents must have been purebred, registered dogs of the same breed.

There are several differences between the MAIN and Limited registers.

A dog on the MAIN register can be shown and bred from to produce pedigree puppies. The registered owner needs to be a VCA member to be able to show these dogs (i.e. exhibit at conformation shows or obedience events). The breeder needs to be a VCA member and have a kennel prefix

to have the dog's puppies registered officially as purebred/pedigree and obtain papers'.

A dog registered on the LIMITED register may not be shown or exhibited. Any puppies produced from or by this dog cannot be registered on either the MAIN or LIMITED registers. Dogs placed on the LIMITED register may be transferred to the MAIN register, with the approval of both the registered owners and breeders.

If puppies are advertised as having 'papers' this means they should be registered on either the MAIN or LIMITED register. This system applies throughout Australia, and it is the only registration process available.

If puppies are advertised for sale as being 'pedigree/ purebred, no papers' means the puppies are not registered.

Why buy a registered Pug ? If I'm only buying a Pug pet, and if one without papers is cheaper?

The dog that you are looking at with 'no papers' has no documented genetic past history. It is no more a purebred than any other mixed breed dog such as a 'cockerpoo' or a 'maltipoo' (a cocker spaniel/poodle or a maltese/poodle cross). Not only will you probably pay almost as much for this puppy (within one or two hundred dollars perhaps), you will have absolutely no idea what it will look like when it grows up.

How do I find a Breeder of Registered Pugs?

Victorian Canine Association Inc. specialty clubs specialize in various breeds, in this case the Pug, the Pug Club of Victoria Inc. will have knowledge of all the breeder members and their area of operation

**Remember, not every breeder of
Pure bred dogs is a reputable breeder**