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Overview

Here are answers to our most frequently asked questions (FAQ). If you have additional questions not covered here, please contact us via phone or email. This document is regularly updated. For the most current version, please visit our [Online FAQ](#) and check the footer date.

Privacy Concerns

Opt-In for Email Communications: To receive updates on future litter at Shomaisou, [Opt-In](#).

Opt-Out of Email Communications: To stop receiving emails from Shomaisou, [Opt-Out](#).

Waitlist Information: (as of 08/27/2024)

- **Long List:** 750+ families
- **Short List:** 280+ families
- **Short-Short List:** 35 families
- **Approved Homes List:** 17 families

We typically receive one application per day, and we process them within 48 hours. If you do not receive a response within 24 hours, please follow up with us.

Preferred Application Criteria (not mandatory)

1. A home with a fenced yard or an apartment/townhouse/condo with a fenced yard.
2. A U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
3. 18 years of age or older.
4. Comfort with a price range of \$3,000 to \$5,000.

We prefer homes involved in AKC/UKC conformation, dog sports such as CAT/Fast CAT, agility, obedience, and scent work. We also value homes with children participating in 4H or AKC Juniors, although this is not a requirement.

Buyer agrees to provide a minimum amount of training to keep the Animal safe. Breeder recommends training for and certifying as an AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) <https://images.akc.org/pdf/ebook/CGC2.pdf>. Buyer agrees to "strive" for any AKC certification. The Shiba Inu does well in other AKC Dog Sports including advanced levels of CGC, Agility, CAT/Fast Cat, Rally, Obedience, Scent Work, Trick Dog, Barn Hunt, Farm Dog and others. <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/sports/get-started-in-dog-sports-and-events>.

Breeder Definitions

- **Heritage Breeder:** We are a heritage, accountable, and preservation breeder focused on maintaining the health and original qualities of the Shiba Inu breed. We participate in both AKC and Nippo events.
- **Professional/Commercial Breeder:** Regulated by the USDA and licensed, these breeders often supply puppies to pet stores and are known for their high standards and volume.
- **Casual Breeder:** Individuals or families who breed occasionally, often referred to as "backyard breeders." They may benefit from education to improve practices.

- ****Substandard Breeder:**** Facilities that do not meet basic needs and are often the source of retail rescue operations. These facilities are unlicensed and unregulated. For more on breeder terminology, see our [Definitions](#).

What Makes A Reputable Breeder? May 25, 2019 by [BoomlayShibas](#).

Thank you for your interest in our dogs. [Here is a summary of our current breeding plans](#).

We utilize multiple websites and social media.

- Main website: <http://shomaisou.com> (Redirects to our Good Dog site)
- Blog, website, current info outside of Good Dog: <http://shibas.dog>
- Our Facebook is <https://www.facebook.com/Shomaisou/>
- My Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rex.gaylord>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/gaylordrex/>

Please review this [FAQ](#) or <http://faq.shomaisou.com> for questions asked in the past that may be of interest to you. If you have not done so already, follow the link to [my puppy form on my website](#) or <http://app.shomaisou.com> to submit your interest in upcoming litters. This is the preliminary info we use to determine new homes for our puppies. Basic information important to us when placing our puppies? Please include your complete address when filling out the information.

You can keep track of our puppies on the [webcams](#) below and we encourage you to follow the puppies growth progress on the [online spreadsheet](#).

Webcams: <http://shibas.dog/camera-page.html>

Available Dogs

Shiba Puppies to approved homes

Adult Shiba's to approved homes

Check the most recent [Newsletter](#).

Open Letter

We encourage you to be active with your Shiba. [Coursing, both CAT and Fast CAT](#), because of the high prey drive of a Shiba are a couple of AKC dog sports that require almost no training and they just love it. Coursing ability testing (CAT) is demonstrated below. I like to show this video because neither I nor the dogs had seen CAT before that day. The B/T maybe 2 hours before. It shows how fast they take to it and how much they love it. The Black and Tan is my Guccifer and the Red boy is Star-Lord X Kimi puppy CH Gunner, full but younger brother of Shake. <https://www.icloud.com/sharedalbum/#B0bG6XBubMqkhU>

Just like you must consider that you are making a 15 to 20-year commitment when you get a Shiba puppy, we commit to supporting every puppy for its lifetime. Because of that, it's important to us that where that puppy is placed with a family, we feel we can establish a long-term relationship. It's been our experience that people who are most involved and engaged early

on, stay in touch with us best so we have pictures and updates and, in some cases,, participate with us in conformation and dog sports. The personal relationship matters to us. We like you to stay engaged from the beginning of the process. We like you to be watching the cameras, watching the spreadsheets and asking questions. We like you to visit our dogs and visit the puppies before they go home. We like to place our puppies close to home so we can evaluate our breeding program in person on occasion (Since we travel for dog shows, close is a relative term).

We love this breed, so do not feel like you need to get a puppy from us. As a steward to of the breed, we are always happy to answer any questions you may have and help you find the right puppy even if it is not one of ours. Let us know if you have any questions or we can help you with your search for the right Shiba.

Rex Gaylord レックス・ゲイロード

[Shomaisou \(Victory Dancing Kennel\)](#)

(440) 683-6651 Office

(702) 845-3283 Cell

[LinkedIn](#)



We list our puppies on our [AKC Marketplace](#) and [GoodDog](#). We also have an active [FaceBook](#) page but Facebook has a policy against advertising or selling puppies, it is informational only.

[Do you take deposits?](#), We do not take deposits or commit to where the puppies are going until both the homes and puppies have been evaluated.

[How does your waitlist work?](#) , We have a list of interested people we have applications from, but we evaluate the puppies at 7-8 weeks. Between 8-12 weeks we decide what we will keep and then match the puppies up to the best homes we have for them. We will give feedback as to where you are on the waitlist and what you may do to get moved up to our Short List or Approved Homes List by phone or email upon request.

[How do you determine who the new homes are?](#) We evaluate every puppy and every prospective home to determine the best match. In the end, no matter how many prospective homes we have, the puppies go to the best home we can determine for that puppy.

How do you evaluate the homes? We keep lists, but we do not take deposits or commit to where our puppies are going until both the homes and puppies have been evaluated. Here is a nonexclusive list of the criteria we use:

This is a commitment by us and by the prospective home of sometimes 20 years into the future care and wellbeing of the puppy. The new home needs to be somebody that stays in contact well, is stable and that we enjoy supporting.

1. We look for people that are willing to learn, constantly are looking for new information about the care of this breed and is just as willing to share that knowledge with others.
2. We look for people who have life skills that can be used later on in supporting the breed by being involved in organizations in support of the Shiba (Meetup groups, Shiba breed organizations or clubs, genetic or health research, etc.)
3. When practical, we go to the prospective home and look for potential issues. It's also an opportunity to get to know the prospective homeowner. If not practical to see the home in person, we like to do virtual calls and give us a tour of their home.
4. We contact other breeders, breed associates and veterinarians for validations.
5. The final step we take is background checks. This assures us a person is who they say they are (we will not sell to a Substandard Breeding facility, pet shop or commercial breeders), live where they say they live and we don't see something that would cause us to not place a puppy in the home.

If you happen to be traveling to NE Ohio, you should come visit our dogs (by appointment only).

What is important to you when placing your puppies? Just like you must consider that you are making a 15 to 20-year commitment when you get a Shiba puppy, we commit to supporting every puppy for its lifetime. Because of that, it's important to us that where that puppy is placed is with a family, we feel we can establish a long-term relationship. It's been our experience that people who are most involved and engaged early on for extended time, stay in touch with us best so we have pictures and updates and, in some cases, participate with us in conformation and dog sports.

- The personal relationship matters.
- We like you to stay engaged from the beginning of the process.
- We like you to be watching the cameras, watching the spreadsheets and asking questions.
- We like you to visit our dogs and visit the puppies before they go home.
- We like to place our puppies close to home (when possible) so we can evaluate our breeding program in person on occasion (**Since we travel for dog shows close is a relative term**).

What is the AKC Juniors Program and why do you support it?

As former K9 handler, I like my dogs to have a job, feel like a needed member of the family. When I was training working dogs, I was never involved in AKC events. Had I known about the [AKC Juniors Program](#); I know my kids would have loved it. In the conformation ring today, I get to see young people learning and showing their handling skills in the Juniors Ring, but also in the regular confirmation ring and other dog sports events. I love letting them take my dogs in the ring for me and more importantly I look for families that have young members that can participate with one of my dogs they own in conformation, obedience, agility, rally, CAT, Fast CAT, scent dog, farm dog and more. Sometimes a co-ownership contract works well for these homes as I get to attract young people into dog sports and my dogs get active full lives as members of a family. It also gives me a chance to mentor young people competing in dog sports and sometimes the whelping box. Because of this I have put together some links and files for families that would like more information on Juniors Program. In some areas 4H clubs train for Juniors competitions. If you are on my waiting list, be sure to let me know this is an interest, I give your home higher consideration when making the home decisions.

[AKC Juniors Program](#)

[National Shiba Club of America Juniors Rankings](#)

[Search for a club to train with.](#)

I've added some Juniors related document to my AKC repository, you can get to it here: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/h25vv0xe2kfkxmi/AAD3ljZFvImL4QKrPcCjU4T8a?dl=0>

Does a Shiba make a good Therapy Dog?

Quite by accident in the beginning, some of our Shibas stumbled into Therapy Dog Roles. We let one of our girls (Michi) go to a home in WV under a co-ownership. The home also runs a business consisting of some physical therapy locations. The home also has an adult child that has been physically and mentally handicapped since birth, unable to care for himself. We saw that he and Michi developed a communication method completely of their own making. You would have to see it, but she is very gentle and attentive to him. The home utilizes an electric fence transmitter that is boundary marked by red flagging. Michi goes to the physical therapy offices. The flagging is placed by the doors, so she knows not to go out the doors. She greets the patients who look forward to seeing her at their next appointment. She also greets the delivery people like UPS and FedEx, gently takes their hand in her mouth and leads to the cookie jar so they can give her a cookie. Then came along Kami, a male Shiba that we co-own who is doing the same things as his mom, Michi.

Ace/Gunner

Mark Smyers and Kivrin who used to show with us did therapy and went to read to kids at library.

2-3 years ago, I placed a co-owned girl with a family of 7 (2 adults, 5 children). 2 of the boys are autistic.

How do we move up on your waitlists?

1. Stay engaged and in contact. We are communicating with daily with homes by phone, text, email, video and in person. It's easy to fall off our radar. The burden is on you to keep yourself relevant.
2. Demonstrate to use why you are the best home for one of our puppies (ask questions, keep us up to date on changes you are making for when the puppy comes home, putting in fences, building their spaces).
3. Schedule a visit to our home and invite us to yours.
4. Watch the cameras and daily growth. Help with names and report unusual or comical observations.

How do I move from the “Long List to the “Short List?”

If you received a notification that you were approved to move forward with our program, you are on the “Long List.” We have an automated process where if the home meets a minimum certain criterion, they are automatically moved to the “Short List.” If you are not clear where you fall on the lists, ask. If you are not automatically on the “Short List” ask what you need to do. As we notice certain people are engaged, asking questions, scheduling calls and visits, they get manually moved to the “Short List.”

How do I move from the “Short List” to your list of vetted and approved homes (Approved Home List) used to select the best homes for your puppies?

1. Stay engaged and in contact. We are communicating with daily with homes by phone, text, email, video and in person. It's easy to fall off our radar. The burden is on you to keep yourself relevant.
2. Demonstrate to use why you are the best home for one of our puppies (ask questions, keep us up to date on changes you are making for when the puppy comes home, putting in fences, building their spaces).
3. Schedule a visit to our home and invite us to yours.
4. Watch the cameras and daily growth. Help with names and report unusual or comical observations.
5. [Keep your privacy options updated.](#)
6. Take steps to correct any concerns we have expressed.

How to complete our background check.

When we move a family to the “Short List” it's time to start the background check process so we can get the family moved to our list of “Approved Homes.” Contact us anytime if you are ready to start this process but have not received the email requesting it.

My application was rejected. How do I get it approved?

There are a few things that we will see in an application that immediately gives us pause with placing one of our puppies with a home. If you were rejected, contact us and we will discuss why and what can be done to get approved for the “Long List.”

[Schedule a Call or Appointment](#)

How do you evaluate the puppies? We will not do the evaluation on the puppies until they are 7-8 weeks. We use video and I consult with breeders in California, Oregon and Ohio for their unbiased opinions. We review their markings, head shapes, temperaments, reach and angles, eye and ear shape and angles, and head to neck angles in relation to the shoulder and elbow alignment. It's not an exact science, only a good predictor based on observations at that age as to what they will develop into later. We have to take into account the lines involved and how fast they mature. Everybody gives their opinion and then I decide on the type of placement the puppy should go to (Show/Breeding home, Dog Sports home, Companion home). Then at 10 weeks I take them to my vet for health certificate and to discover any underlying health issue we need to consider when placing them in a new home. They will go to their new homes after 12 weeks old. Occasionally we will keep one or more to grow them up to 6 months or more to evaluate the breeding and/or to reevaluate the puppy.

Can you tell me about your current dam(s) and sire(s)? We feature our sires and dams [here](#).

Do you or will you ship your dogs? No, we do not ship dogs. I must confirm that they are going to a good forever home and not a commercial breeder, broker or pet store. I have delivered them in person for the cost of my round-trip ticket. I fly the puppy in the passenger compartment, not cargo. If you are offered one of our puppies and you decide fly in, you can do Akron (CAK) or Cleveland (CLE). I can meet you there and do transfer at the airport or I can pick you and take you back.

I don't think the new ESA rules apply to this type of in-cabin pet transport Here are some of the rules that would apply if you fly your puppy. As 2/18/21 you can fly these airlines: Delta, American, Southwest, Jetblue, Alaska, Allegiant, and Frontier.

<https://www.delta.com/us/en/pet-travel/overview>

<https://www.aa.com/i18n/travel-info/special-assistance/pets.jsp>

<https://www.southwest.com/html/customer-service/traveling-with-animals/pets/index-pol.html>

<https://www.jetblue.com/help/traveling-with-pets>

<https://www.alaskaair.com/content/travel-info/policies/pets-traveling-with-pets>

<https://www.allegiantair.com/traveling-with-pets>

<https://www.flyfrontier.com/travel/travel-info/family-pets/?mobile=true#traveltips>

United requires that they be at least 16 weeks old (We fly them 10-12 weeks)

<https://www.united.com/ual/en/us/fly/travel/animals/in-cabin.html>

[Will you provide references?](#) Yes, I am happy to provide references to serious homes for our dogs. I will provide my breeders and mentors; other co-breeders I have shown with or conducted business with and happy companion and dog sports homes. I prefer to ask permission from them each time I plan to use them as a reference, so just ask me for the names.

[I am ready for my new dog or puppy now and don't want to wait. Who do you recommend?](#) Contact us, we can help you with names of other reputable breeders.

[How many dogs do you have onsite?](#) We have two (4) dogs and no other pets at our home. One (1) adult female, one (2) adult males and a 4-month female we are grooming for conformation ring. We prefer to be under 6 (not counting puppies) at any one time.

[We are slowly learning how to be a better breeder through co-ownership,](#) so some of our boys have been moved out to other homes and we co-own some of our girls. Currently we own or co-own seven (6) breeding age Shiba's. Four (3) males and four (3) females. We own 100% of the breeding rights of both the boys and girls even if they are co-owned. The ones listed below are considered a part of [our current or future breeding program.](#) [See our adult dogs.](#)

[What about health checks? Which ones do you do?](#) We breed for health, structure, and temperament and strive to preserve and improve the original Japanese breed. As a **Heritage Breeder**, it is very important to us and we only breed if we are sure it will be for the betterment of the breed. We check hips, eyes, patella, elbows and more when they are old enough to get those checks performed and certifications obtained. We also do Embark Breeders complete health DNA testing. There are links to all our dogs that include to the most current status of their health checks posted on the OFA site. Here is an example to our most recent, [Guccifer](#). Our contract will also specify exactly what health checks have been performed. Please note that hips can't be certified until they are at least 2 years of age. If we choose to breed before that age, we check that the parents and grandparents are clear first and will do a preliminary x-ray. At 10 weeks of age, they have their first parvo/distemper booster and will have been examined by a licensed veterinarian. If the puppy goes home at 12 weeks, the rest of the shots are the responsibility of the new home. By Our Contract, we require that the new home be vaccinated according to the most recent publication of [Dr. Jean Dodds' \(Dodds, Jean Dr.\) Vaccination Protocol for Dogs.](#)

[Do you have supporting reasons for following a vaccination protocol?](#) Yes, many but sometimes a video is an easier way to show this. Watch this [video](#) from Planet Paws. The next video comes with a **WARNING!!! This video is disturbing and heartbreaking to watch.** The puppy was administered vaccinations too close

together and too many at the same time. This is a recording of the resulting [champing fits](#).

1. [Dr. Karen Becker “Why Do People Over Vaccinate Their Pets?”](#)
2. [Dr. John Robb “The Science Behind ‘Protect The Pets’”](#)
3. [Dr. Jean Dodds “Vaccination Protocol”](#)
4. [Shomaisou Shiba Inu Summary](#)
5. [What Are Vets Not Telling You About Dog Vaccines?](#) 6/24/2024 Dr. Karen Becker

What is the detoxification method used when a puppy is over-vaccinated (new)?

When a puppy is over-vaccinated, there isn't a specific “detoxification” method, but supportive care can help minimize any adverse reactions. Here are general approaches often used:

1. Homeopathy: Some holistic veterinarians use remedies like Thuja or Silicea to help detoxify the body after vaccination. These are thought to help the body process and eliminate the effects of excess vaccines.
2. Dietary Support: A healthy, nutrient-rich diet supports the puppy's immune system. This includes:
 - Fresh, high-quality protein sources
 - Antioxidants (such as vitamins C and E)
 - Omega-3 fatty acids (fish oils) to reduce inflammation
3. Probiotics and Prebiotics: These can help maintain gut health, which is closely linked to immune function.
4. Liver Support Supplements: Milk thistle is often recommended as a supplement to support liver detoxification after over-vaccination.
5. Hydration: Ensuring the puppy is well-hydrated helps flush out toxins and support the overall recommendations.
6. Monitor Symptoms: If your puppy experiences severe reactions such as lethargy, vomiting, swelling, or fever, it's crucial to consult a veterinarian. They may administer treatments like antihistamines, anti-inflammatory drugs, or other supportive care.

Over-vaccination should be avoided by following a careful vaccination schedule and consulting with a veterinarian about necessary vaccinations, especially for sensitive or young puppies (This question was updated on 9/27/24).

What if the same vaccination is administered one day apart (new)?

If the same vaccination is administered one day apart, it can potentially lead to an overreaction of the immune system or an increased risk of side effects. While this situation is not common, here's what you might expect and how it should be handled:

Potential Reactions

1. Mild Reactions:
 - Lethargy
 - Fever
 - Swelling or soreness at the injection site
 - Loss of appetite
 - Temporary gastrointestinal upset (vomiting or diarrhea)
2. Moderate to Severe Reactions:
 - Allergic reactions such as hives, facial swelling, or itching
 - Anaphylaxis, though rare, is a serious allergic reaction that may cause difficulty breathing and requires immediate medical attention
 - Autoimmune responses, where the body's immune system overreacts, potentially leading to more serious long-term issues

Veterinary Support and Management

If the same vaccine is mistakenly given one day apart, it's important to notify a veterinarian immediately. Here's how they may approach the situation:

1. **Observation and Monitoring:** The vet may recommend closely monitoring the puppy for signs of an adverse reaction, especially within the first 24–48 hours.
2. **Supportive Care:**
 - Antihistamines (like Benadryl) or anti-inflammatories may be given if the puppy develops mild symptoms like swelling or itching.
 - Steroids may be used to reduce inflammation in more severe cases.
 - Intravenous fluids may be provided to maintain hydration and support the immune system if the reaction is more significant.
3. **Bloodwork or Testing:** In some cases, the vet might want to do bloodwork or additional diagnostics if there's a concern about long-term effects, particularly if the puppy develops signs of autoimmune reactions.

Preventive Measures

Moving forward, your vet will likely adjust the puppy's vaccination schedule to ensure that no further errors occur and may take extra precautions if your puppy has shown any adverse reactions.

In short, while one-day-apart vaccinations are not ideal, immediate veterinary consultation and care can help mitigate any risks. (This question was updated on 9/27/24).

What is Dr. Jean Dodds recommended protocol for over-vaccination detoxification in dogs? What products does she recommend (new)?

Dr. Jean Dodds, a veterinarian known for her work in canine health and vaccination protocols, recommends a more conservative approach to vaccination and offers guidance on detoxification for dogs that may have been over-vaccinated. If a dog has been over-vaccinated or has had an

adverse reaction to vaccines, she suggests a holistic detoxification protocol aimed at supporting the immune system and overall health.

Dr. Jean Dodds' Protocol for Over-Vaccination Detoxification

1. **Homeopathic Remedies:**
 - **Thuja occidentalis:** Often recommended after vaccination, especially if there are concerns about adverse reactions. Thuja is believed to help the body clear vaccine residues and mitigate side effects.
 - **Silicea:** This is sometimes used to promote the elimination of foreign substances from the body, including vaccine components.
2. **Nutritional and Immune Support:**
 - **Milk Thistle:** Dr. Dodds recommends milk thistle to support liver detoxification. The liver plays a crucial role in clearing toxins from the body, and milk thistle is a natural supplement believed to enhance liver function.
 - **Probiotics:** She suggests adding probiotics to the dog's diet to support gut health and improve the immune system. A healthy gut is essential for overall immunity.
 - **Antioxidants:** Antioxidants, such as vitamins C and E, help neutralize free radicals and reduce inflammation, which can be especially important after vaccination.
3. **Dietary Adjustments:**
 - **Fresh, Whole Foods:** Dr. Dodds often recommends a fresh, whole-food diet to boost the dog's immune system and overall health. A high-quality, balanced diet with limited preservatives and additives can help the body recover from vaccine overload.
 - **Avoid Processed Foods:** Limiting processed foods, which may contain harmful preservatives or ingredients, can reduce the toxic burden on the body.
4. **Holistic Supplements:**
 - **Omega-3 Fatty Acids:** Fish oils or other omega-3 supplements can help reduce inflammation and support the immune system.
 - **Detoxification Blends:** Some holistic vets and practitioners may recommend specific detox blends that include herbs like dandelion or burdock root to help the body eliminate toxins.
5. **Rest and Hydration:**
 - Encouraging the dog to get plenty of rest and stay well-hydrated helps support the body's natural detoxification processes. Hydration assists in flushing out toxins and maintaining healthy organ function.

Products Commonly Recommended by Dr. Jean Dodds:

While she doesn't endorse specific commercial products in many cases, the following are general types of products she may suggest:

- Homeopathic Remedies (e.g., Thuja, Silicea) from companies like Boiron or Hyland's.
- Milk Thistle Supplements: Available in capsule, powder, or liquid form from brands like Herbsmith, NaturVet, or Dr. Mercola.
- Probiotics: Dr. Dodds' own HemoPet offers probiotic formulas tailored for canine health, but there are also other high-quality probiotics for pets, such as Provable or FortiFlora.
- Omega-3 Fatty Acid Supplements: Fish oil capsules or liquid, like Nordic Naturals or Grizzly Salmon Oil.
- Antioxidant Supplements: Products containing vitamins C and E, or blends designed for pets, are widely available.

Consult a veterinarian

It's essential to work with a veterinarian, especially one familiar with holistic practices or familiar with Dr. Dodds' vaccination philosophy, before starting any detoxification regimen. They can tailor the approach based on the specific needs of the dog and monitor for any adverse effects. (This question was updated on 9/27/24).

Would you provide the sources for the preceding information about vaccination detox (new)?

The information provided about Dr. Jean Dodds' recommended protocol for over-vaccination detoxification in dogs comes from a combination of her published work, expert interviews, and general holistic veterinary practices. Here are some key sources that support the protocol:

1. Dr. Jean Dodds' Books and Articles:
 - Dr. Dodds is the co-author of "The Canine Thyroid Epidemic" and "CANINE NUTRIGENOMICS: The New Science of Feeding Your Dog for Optimum Health." In these books, she discusses her approach to vaccinations, health, and nutrition, which includes strategies for detoxification and supporting a dog's immune system.
2. HemoPet Website:
 - Dr. Dodds' nonprofit organization, HemoPet, has extensive resources on canine vaccination protocols and health, including articles discussing over-vaccination and detox protocols. The website often mentions homeopathic remedies like Thuja and nutritional support like milk thistle and probiotics for liver and immune system support.
 - Visit the HemoPet website at www.hemopet.org.
3. Holistic Veterinary Resources:

- Many holistic veterinarians recommend similar detoxification methods for over-vaccination, including the use of homeopathics (Thuja), milk thistle for liver support, and antioxidants to reduce inflammation. These practices are common in holistic and integrative veterinary medicine.
 - Examples include the American Holistic Veterinary Medical Association (AHVMA), which promotes the use of homeopathy, herbal medicine, and nutraceuticals.
4. Homeopathy in Veterinary Medicine:
- Homeopathic remedies like Thuja occidentalis are widely discussed in both alternative human and veterinary medicine. Books on veterinary homeopathy, like Dr. Richard Pitcairn's "Natural Health for Dogs & Cats," also reference the use of such remedies for vaccination detox.
5. Probiotics and Immune Health:
- Research supporting the use of probiotics for gut health and immune system balance is widely available, and these principles are supported by veterinarians advocating for holistic care. Studies show that gut health is linked to overall immune function, which is why probiotics are often recommended after vaccinations.

These sources, including Dr. Dodds' work and holistic veterinary practices, emphasize a more natural, supportive approach to helping dogs recover from potential vaccine overexposure. Always consult with a trusted veterinarian for specific medical advice tailored to your dog's needs. (This question was updated on 9/27/24).

Do you use titers in your vaccination program? Yes, at a minimum I vaccinate all my dogs for parvo, distemper, Bordetella, and rabies, but after they get their 3 parvo/distemper and rabies vaccinations, then I do titers (around 6-7 years of age) and if they have adequate antibodies, then I do not re-vaccinate for them. On the rabies titer, state laws and local jurisdictions vary in accepting a titer result instead of a new rabies vaccination. Research your local laws. In my county, the State of Ohio leaves it up to each county to decide and I happen to live in one that accepts a rabies titer. The following is an excellent article by Dr. Carol Osborne, DVM Chagrin Falls (Ohio) Pet Clinic.

- [Vaccine Titers – The New Wave of Preventative Pet Care](#)

Do you recommend getting an insurance policy on a new puppy? Each situation is going to be different, for instance purchasing most policies for us is not cost effective for multiple dogs, but for one or two pets it may be a good fit for you. More and more employers are offering a pet insurance option as a benefit. We have always included the AKC insurance option in our information packets that go home with our puppies. AKC recently published a guide on this, link below. We have also published a page on our insurance options at <http://shibas.dog/insurance.html>.

- [What Dog Owners Need to Know About Pet Insurance](#)

Do you have a contract and if you do, what is in your contract? We have a contract template we follow, but each puppy contract is customized to the mutual needs of the puppy, the buyer and us. Our template is setup to be used for three (3) different types of transactions.

1. The first type is for a puppy going to its forever pet home and/or intends to participate in dog sports ([Companion/Dog Sports Contract/Limited AKC Registration](#)).
2. 2nd type is for somebody that is showing the dog but needs some mentoring or a partnership with conformation ([Co-owned Show Prospect/Full AKC Registration](#)). Basically, we agree to mentor or partnership and pay it forward to the breed and to the future of showing dogs.
3. The 3rd type is for a puppy going to a person who intends to show and/or breed it eventually ([Show Prospect/Full AKC Registration](#)).

We believe that all misunderstandings can be avoided with a solid, and fair contract that is fully understood by all parties involved. We avoid any verbal agreements before or after the fact.

Here is a recent example of our contracts. Example Contract:

[https://shibas.dog/PDF/Example Companion Dog Sports Contract.pdf](https://shibas.dog/PDF/Example_Companion_Dog_Sports_Contract.pdf)

Under the Companion/Dog Sports Contract/Limited AKC Registration, I noticed that you specify that the dog should be spay or neutered by 2 years. Is it okay to have this done sooner? Our [Health Guarantee](#) is voided if spay or neuter is performed before 12 months of age. We prefer to wait until 18 months but allow up to 2 years of age. If you have some clear research when an animal should or should not be desexed, I would be interested in seeing that information for future reference and contracts.

At what age should I spay or neuter or should I spay or neuter?
Alternatives?

[Parsemus Foundation brief flyer Should I Consider Hormone-Sparing Sterilization for my Dog? Good Dog Spay and Neuter Information \(January 2022\)](#)

[Dr. James Serpell & Dr. Chris Zink Talk C-BARQ & Early/Spay Neuter 5/14/2020](#)

[The Health Implications of Early Spay and Neuter](#) (AKC Canine Health Foundation)

[Early Spay-Neuter Considerations for the Canine Athlete: One Veterinarian's Opinion](#)

[Risks and Benefits to Spaying and Neutering Your Dog](#)

[Why I've Had a Change of Heart About Neutering Pets \(Dr. Becker\)](#)

[What You Need to Know About Early Spay/Neuter: Reconsidering a Common Practice Hormone-Sparing Sterilization \(Parsemus Foundation\)](#)

Early Spay Neuter & C-BARQ. With Dr. James Serpell, world-renowned leading canine behaviorist and co-creator of C-BARQ, and Vet of the Year (2009), Dr. Chris Zink, DVM

[Watch the Seminar](#)

What do you send home with a new puppy and what should we get before the new puppy arrives home?

When a puppy leaves our home, it has been dewormed, has its first parvo/distemper (Puppy DPV), microchip and a health certificate from our veterinarian. It goes home with enough kibble that it has been on to allow transition to a new one, a very lightweight collar, leash (not for safety, but for light training and exposure to having something on their neck), plush toy with littermates and mothers' scent. They have been well socialized, exposed to crate training and have had access to the outdoors through a doggie door.

Suggested items to have before the puppy arrives include (Links are just examples):

- [3 door wire crate](#) (Approx. 24' long 17-18" wide 18-21" high) that has divider so puppy can be confined to smaller area (12" X 18") when they are smaller. If crate is too big it makes potty training more difficult. This can be secure in a car or used in the house. The 3 doors give you options especially when moving it to a car.
- Play pen area (I like the wire [4' high x-pens](#) so they can be confined to an area where they can't be destructive.
- [Potty training bell](#) and/or doggie door.
- 1 or more baby gates (I buy the cheap ones at Walmart of various sizes so I can control what areas the puppy/dog has access to.
- [Flat slicker brush](#) (I prefer the ones that have metal teeth, but Teflon tipped to prevent scratching. Caution: Do Not Use the FURminator type deshedding brushes. They strip out the guard hairs and destroys a Shiba coat. When a Shiba blows coat (twice a year at least), daily brushings and a very good vacuum are essential. I recommend a blower like what a groomer uses. Take them outside and brush and blow keeps it manageable. [Blower example and the one I own.](#)
- Kibble or the food you have chosen to feed your puppy.
- Secure collar and/or harness with good leash.
- Nail clippers and or grinder (we use both clippers and grinder, so they are used to them before they leave our home).
- Crate pads (We also like to use used hospital pads; they are very inexpensive).
- Food and water bowls that fasten securely to inside of crate. We like stainless steel for ease of use and cleanup. Example: [1 quart Flat Sided Stainless Steel Pail with double hooks](#) and [Snap'y Fit Stainless Steel Food Bowl](#).
- Toys(s) – The Shiba loves to destroy a plush toy and to get the squeaky things out. When they do, throw away the plastic item.

[Does spay or neuter change how often or how much a Shiba will shed?](#) I researched this question and I found very little about it. I don't have spayed females, but I know that my neutered male blows his coat just like everybody else.

Do you microchip your dog's/puppies? Shiba's, because of their independent nature and tendency for unreliable recall off leash, it's imperative that they be properly microchipped. We send our puppies home with an ISO standard microchip free of charge. I do this because I take my responsibility seriously when bringing new puppies into this world. I never want one of my dogs to end up euthanized in a shelter or to end up in rescue; so I require that I be listed as an alternative contact on at least one (1) [Microchip Registrants](#). I like [HomeAgain](#), and personally use [AKC Reunite](#), but there are many to choose from.

How are your puppies socialized? We raise the puppies as regular members of our household inside our home. They have a dedicated puppy area, but as soon as practical are exposed to the adult dogs in our household. The puppy area is within eyesight of our home office where somebody is almost always home to interact with them. If nobody is home, they are constantly monitored on video/audio cameras. The Shiba is a very clean animal and so it's a very easy process to have them trained to relieve themselves outdoors and they are kept very clean. Since we no longer have children at home, we encourage visits to our home by adults with young children as often as practical.

Do you follow the "Puppy Culture" program?

Beginning with litters born in 2020, we started following the "[Puppy Culture](#)", program. Because of that puppies go to their new homes after 12 weeks instead of 10. We will be sending our puppies home prepared to cope with life and the program helps prepare the new puppy homes. We provide checklists and key points to share with our puppy buyers which will prepare them to follow through with the "Puppy Culture" program after their puppy goes home with them.

How much do your dog's cost and do you take payments? As a breeder, I should caution you that if this is the first question you ask, it is looked upon as a possible red flag that you might not be the best home for the breeder's puppy. We do not take payments. With that said, I know cost of the puppy is factor that must be considered by you. The price of the puppy is determined by the type of contract they are placed under.

For more information about pricing you should schedule a [consultation](#), but I will email the current prices upon request.

The cost of a puppy runs from \$3,000 on a Companion/Dog Sports Contract (AKC Limited Registration), \$4,000 on a Co-Ownership Contract (Full AKC Registration), \$5,000 on a Show/Breeding Prospect Contract (Full AKC Registration).

We try to place our puppies as close to home as possible and evaluate all forever homes (We require by contract that in the event you can't keep the puppy it is returned to our home for re-homing). Just like you should go to a breeder's home, I like to visit

the prospective home before agreeing to place a puppy. The first step in this evaluation process was to fill out this form located at <http://app.shomaisou.com>

Is the Shiba Inu the right dog for me? A reputable Shiba breeder will talk more people out of getting a Shiba than they ever talk into one. While we love this breed, the Shiba is not for everyone. The Shiba is very aloof, smart, but sometimes challenging to train. They are an ancient breed with some feral tendencies.

Is the Shiba a good prospect for doing agility?

The Shiba is a very nimble, fast and agile dog. There are some that do very well in agility. . Like all dogs that will be doing dog sports, they need to be evaluated to make sure they are structurally sound if they will be doing a lot of it. There are some Shiba breeders that have a heavy emphasis in their breeding program for producing sound agility prospects. We happen to live in an area with many agility Shiba's and the National Shiba Club of America actually holds a Shiba only agility, obedience and rally competition in Erie, PA. This year it was FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2019-(**Shiba Only**) Obedience, Rally, Agility. Saturday & Sunday 21st & 22nd (**All Breed**-Agility) Countryside Agility Training Center - Erie, PA.

Video Highlights From Past Events: <http://sports.shibas.org/video/index.html>

Event Page: <http://www.shibas.org/events-companion.html>

Note: This event is held same location and same weekend each year.

How do you name your puppies? I pick a theme and give our puppies temporary names (The 3 girls in first litter were themed with Taylor Swift songs – Thanks Joni). Since another litter was born on Pearl Harbor Day, it was only natural to use that as a theme. We are open to more ideas including Japanese names of distinguished military leaders. Send us your thoughts and ideas?

What got you interested in the Shiba? I have always had working dogs and my wife fell in love with the breed when a co-worker got one in Las Vegas. Wife wanted one but had no idea what their job was. As I researched the breed, I got more and more intrigued. I like to tell people that when I saw the dogs 101 video that said, "If you are looking for an easy dog to train, keep on looking," but in reality, the video probably came out after we already our first Shiba.

How long have you been associated with the breed? We got a male Shiba as a pet in 2008. We happened to walk through a dog show in Las Vegas and met a couple that showed Shiba Inu in the conformation ring who told us, "You really should show that dog, he would be a lot of fun." We later figured out that 'he would be a lot of fun' was likely code for, bring your dog to the show so I can get the points.

How long have you been breeding Shiba Inu? We got our first dam to begin our breeding program in 2011. By that time, we had found some mentors in breeding and showing the Shiba that we had been learning from for about 2 years. We do health

checks for the hips, elbows, patella's and eyes. Our first litter was whelped about seven (7) years after we first began our study of the breed. I bred and trained German Shepherds in the 80's and 90's.

What is your favorite and least part of having Shiba Inu? They are both the same traits. The fact that they are so independent and aloof is my favorite part of having the Shiba, but extra care has to be taken with them to keep them safe. The fact that I can stop my oldest boy on a dime on command, don't mean he will do it the next time, so off leash always has to be in a safe place just in case they "act like a Shiba." Shedding is a major issue with a Shiba.

What do you feed your dogs and puppies? We have tried a few different things ranging from making our own, cooking for them, raw, dehydrated and we have come back to the same dry type food 3 times. *We used to feed Taste of The Wild, High Prairie Puppy Formula with Bison and Roasted Venison. I liked to feed it dry because it seemed to keep their tarter down.*

I also an Orijen product called [Acana Regionals Meadowland](#) , but at \$80 for 25lbs I can't afford to feed it all the time.

For dogs not in whelp or standing at stud I have fed [4Health Puppy Formula](#). With the **controversy over grain free** I am following the advice of [Dr. Karen Becker](#) (Becker, Karen Dr.) by supplementing occasionally with **sardines** just in case one of my dogs is not making enough **taurine** on their own.

Dr. Becker and Rodney Habib (Habib, Rodney) out of Canada do a lot of video's with other guests on many subjects that concern the health of your animal. I also subscribe to a closed group on Facebook called [Inside Scoop](#) with Rodney Habib, Dr. Karen Becker and Susan Garrett (Garrett, Susan) to try and stay ahead of the issues.

If I need to use powder supplements, I like to put them in [Primal raw goats' milk](#). I have used [Purina Fortiflora](#), [DogZymes Cran-Tri-C](#), [DogZymes Complete](#) and [DYNE High Calorie Animal Supplements](#). I also keep on hand a couple things if somebody isn't eating well. I keep [Hills Prescription Diet A/D cans](#), [Taste of The Wild cans](#) and some [freeze-dried products from The Honest Kitchen](#) and [4Health cans](#). We feed puppies three times daily and adult dogs two times daily on a regular schedule. Shiba's like regular routines.

[Why we quit feeding Taste of the Wild (TOTW)]

Diamond, the manufacture of TOTW has a history of salmonella contamination and recalls, especially in 2012. In 2017 we had a litter of 6 and a litter of 1 on the ground at the same time. All seven (7) were on TOTW, High Prairie Puppy Formula with Bison and Roasted Venison that we had fed for several years. All of the puppies developed loose stools that we had many tests run on; extensive and very expensive stool studies sent in by my veterinarians. We would ID bacteria and treat and start again. It was a vicious cycle. They started going home with loose stools and most following our recommended food of TOTW. They were otherwise healthy. As the puppies went to their new vets, they also took stool samples. Amazingly, the new vets all came up with the same diagnosis, a bacteria overgrowth of a bacteria that should be in the gut naturally, but

there were too many. The odd part, most of the vets were coming up with a different bacteria name. At the time it didn't make any sense, but one of the new puppy owners while doing her research found a post that TOTW had a bacterial contamination in some of their foods. Because of that she took her TOTW back to Tractor Supply where she had purchased it and they promptly refunded her money. Since the Tractor Supply brand 4Health is rated very high she picked up the reasonably priced 4Health puppy formula. Since I still had two (2) of the puppies waiting to go to homes I decided to go to Tractor Supply (I had never shopped there before, was buying my food online) and get 4Health and took them off TOTW. At this point I was willing to give Diamond the benefit of the doubt that they were taking care of the issue; after all they do add probiotics to their products, and I could see how this could happen. As I walked down the aisle and came to the TOTW there it was. TOTW was still on the shelf at ½ price! I don't know about you, but I choose not to do business with a company that puts profits above safety of my pets.]

This information was brought to my attention January 28, 2019 of a pending class action alleging heavy metals contamination (Thank you Erin).

<https://www.chagrinfalls.petclinic.com/2018/03/20/class-action-lawsuit-orijen-acana-dog-foods/>

We recently started feeding some of the Kirkland brand dog foods from Costco. [Costco rebrands products made by Diamond](#). Even though Diamond is the maker of Taste of the Wild, after learning some of the other breeders are feeding it, I decided to try it on my boys, but not the girls yet.

[We like Purina Pro Plan - Focus Adult - Sensitive Skin & Stomach - Salmon & Rice Formula](#). Like Acana, it's expensive, but the girls are doing well on it and Purina is a big supporter of AKC conformation and dog sports. Purina replaced Eukanuba a few years ago as the main sponsor of the AKC National Championships held every December.

More Dog Treats Recalled for Salmonella (published 7/30/19)

Lennox International of Edison, New Jersey, is recalling its Natural Pig Ears dog treats due to potential contamination with **Salmonella** bacteria.

For complete information, please visit the following link:

[Lennox International Recalls Pig Ears Dog Treats.](#)

Just Published Best Dog Foods with Grain

Looking for an [alternative to grain-free](#)? Here are The Dog Food Advisor's **20** most recommended dog foods that **contain grain**.

- Wellness Complete Health Lamb and Barley
- Annamaet Option Salmon Meal and Brown Rice
- Holistic Select Anchovie, Sardine and Salmon Meal
- Eukanuba Small Bites Chicken Formula
- Canidae All Life Stages Multi-Protein Formula

[Click here to view all 20 Best Dog Foods That Contain Grain](#)

Please be sure to **share** the news of this alert with other pet owners.

Mike Sagman, Editor
The Dog Food Advisor
Saving Good Dogs from Bad Dog Food

P.S. Not already on our dog food recall notification list? [Sign up to get critical dog food recall alerts sent to you by email](#). There's no cost for this service.

Rodney Habib and Dr. Karen Becker ranked the thirteen worst pet food brands of the year (Posted August 2021). <https://planetpaws.cmail20.com/t/d-l-quujiky-thddtdqj-t/>

Download Rodney Habib and Dr. Karen Becker [Pet Food Homework PDF](#).

[Do you rescue Shiba Inu?](#) I have worked with rescue to help place them in Nevada but found it very frustrating. I currently support Shiba rescue in two ways. First, we only breed to try and make something better than we have. Even dogs we don't keep we commit to for the rest of their life. We will not let one of our puppies go into rescue because we require that we be alternate contacts on their microchip. Second, we make financial contributions to rescue and we also use an app on our smart phone from [WoofTrax](#) "Walk For A Dog" that contributes to our rescue of choice ([FAQ](#)). Currently we are contributing to the "[Tri-State Shiba Inu Rescue Inc.](#)"

Where can I find out more information about Shiba Inu? Here are some groups/forum's that might be of interest. If you know of others, please let us know so I can add them.

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ShibasUSA/info>

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/shiba-inu/info>

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ShibaSports/info>

<http://www.shibainuforum.org>

Who we are...

We are a Shiba Inu [Heritage Breeder](#). We breed for health, structure, temperament and strive to preserve the original Japanese breed.

[LinkedIn](#) - Rex

[LinkedIn](#) - Tanya

[FaceBook](#) - Shomaisou (In process of moving this to WeMe)

[WeMe](#) - Shomaisou

[Our Shiba Pics on Flickr](#)

What we do with our Shiba's...

[Kayaking Shiba's](#)

[Silver State Kennel Club](#) - Member - Legislative Committee

Nevada Dog Law Blog - Owner - Contributor

[National Shiba Club of America](#) - Member

Shiba Inu Fanciers of Nevada - Disbanded 5/2013

[Heart of Dixie Shiba Fanciers](#) - Member

[Las Vegas Kayakers](#) - Member

[Los Angeles/Orange County Shiba Inu Meetup](#) - Member

Nevada Shiba's Meetup Group - Organizer - Closed 5/2013

[Las Vegas Shiba Inu's Meetup](#) - Member - Started 6/2013

[Cleveland Shiba peeps](#)

[OH Shows Dogs](#)

[Shibas at the Shows- USA](#)

If I lived in Hawaii [Shiba Inu Hawaii](#)

[Cleveland All-Breed Training Club \(CABTC\)](#)

[Medina Kennel Club](#)

[Koeki-Shadan-Hojin Nihonken Hozonkai](#) (Nippo) – Member

[AKC Coursing Ability Testing \(CAT\) and Fast CAT \(FCAT\)](#)

Join Us at These Shows (And meet our dogs)

[Barkaritaville - Tallmadge, OH - All Breed Show](#) February 29 and March 1 2020. (Bella, puppy coming out weekend) **Bella** and Ace, maybe Star-Lord or Guccifer. This is a Shiba Supported Entry Show.

(If you plan to meet us at any of these venues, call us to confirm)

Newsletter

We publish a newsletter to help stay engaged with our current and prospective homes of our dogs.

[January 2019](#)

[May 2019](#)

[June 2019](#)

[July 2019](#)

[August 2019](#)

[September 2019](#)

Our Links:

FAQ: <http://faq.shomaisou.com>

Blog: <http://shibas.dog>

Puppy Application: <http://app.shomaisou.com>

Book Appointment: <http://bookings.shomaisou.com>

Puppy Cams: <http://shibas.dog/camera-page.html>

(See [The Original Shiba Inu Puppy Cam](#))

Our Dogs <http://shibas.dog/ourdogs.html>

Daily Puppy Growth Spreadsheet:

Our AKC Marketplace: <http://marketplace.shomaisou.com>

Our Yelp Page: <http://yelp.shomaisou.com>

Our WeMe Page: <http://weme.shomaisou.com>

[Our Research Docs Repository](#)

Interesting Links (For your own reading, we do not necessarily agree with everything here:

[Banning Puppy Mills \(Substandard Breeding facilities\)](#)

[Duping Dog Lovers](#)

[Analyzing Ethics](#)

[Early Adoption](#)

[Picking the Perfect Puppy](#)

[How I became an owner of the Japanese dog Shiba Inu](#)

[Is Shiba Inu Really the Right Breed for You?](#)

[For Dog Lovers, 10 Heartwarming Japanese Movies](#)

[Japanese dogs, the Internet stars!](#)

[A Passion for Primitive Dogs](#)

[Therapeutic Fasting of your Healthy Dog](#)

[How to Spot a Puppy Scam](#)

[What actually goes into the cost of a puppy from a reputable breeder?](#)

[10 reasons I'm using a breeder for my next puppy](#)

[Can Your Dog Be a Blood Donor?](#)

[The eHarmony of Dog Finding](#)

[10 Life Changing Life Hacks for Dog Owners](#)

[How to Spot a Puppy Scam](#)

Additional Resources

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nihon_Ken_Hozonkai

[Nippo Website](#)

[National Shiba Club of America](#)

[Shiba Inu Fanciers of Northern California](#)

[Search for an AKC Event Near Me](#)

Meet with Us

Book an [Appointment](#) to visit our dogs in our home.

You may get a follow-up call to verify who you are before your visit. This is an example why: https://www.dispatch.com/news/20190514/puppy-shot-to-death-by-robbers-posing-as-dog-buyers-police-say?fbclid=IwAR2eUyh_gw3JTyl4A8o-t7ZkTcLX19TP93GI5ESyD5isuOEPchU3CjPpsTw

You may also [Schedule](#) a call with any questions.

Good luck with your search and I hope we have something we can offer you. If you have any other questions, as a steward of the breed I would be happy to help answer them. I am usually available to talk on the phone 8am – 11am weekdays and anytime in the day on weekends. Please stay away from Pet Stores and any breeders who sell to or may be “Substandard Breeding facilities.” Feel free to friend me on FaceBook.

Contracts and Terminology

[Terminology](#) is a spreadsheet of the most up to date definitions used in our contracts. The definition is a framework for what a term means when used to in our contracts. The terms may differ in some ways to what that term may mean in another context.

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