

## Clip marks (Updated November 6, 2018)

Puppies will now be clipped according to their birth order (and then by male and female). This means that the firstborn male will be the right shoulder male, the next male born will be left shoulder and so forth. The females will be the same; the firstborn will be right shoulder, etc.

Clip marks go in this order for both males and females.

- #1 Right shoulder (RS),
- #2 Left shoulder (LS),
- #3 Right hip (RH),
- #4 Left hip (LH),
- #5 Double shoulder (DS), #6 Double hip (DH),
- #7 Right shoulder right hip (RSRH),
- #8 Left shoulder left hip (LSLH)
- #9 Double shoulder right hip (DSRH)
- #10 Double shoulder left hip (DSLH)
- #11 Right shoulder double hip (RSDH),
- #12 Left shoulder double hip (LSDH)

and if there was 13 of one sex that last puppy would be double shoulder double hip (DSDH)! That would be a lot of clipping!

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## Identification Numbers:

What is the system used to assign the identification numbers to puppies, and how can I use it to determine if puppies on the training phase report are littermates?

As you all know, each litter is assigned a letter. In general, we tend to go in the order of the alphabet when assigning the next litter, but that can never be certain because we also ensure that each dam's litters begin with a different letter (i.e. we wouldn't want a dam with two "S" litters). Also, if we happen to get a very small litter, we might use a more "unique" letter like Q or X for their names.

The identification numbers, though, always go in order. Right now, we are in the 5 series. This series started with a puppy assigned 5A00.

The ID always starts with a number, and then the letter moves from left to right. So, after the puppy assigned 5A99, the next puppy would be 50A0 (then 50A1). When we get to 59A9, the next puppy would be 500A.

And when a puppy is assigned 599A, the next puppy will be 5B00.

This goes through the alphabet, although we do skip a few letters, namely "I", "O" and "Q". In the past, when the puppy's ID was also tattooed in its ear, these letters could be too easily confused with numbers.

When the last puppy in the 5 series is born and assigned 599Z, we will move on to the 6 series.