

Beware Buying a Beagle Puppy

To anyone thinking of buying a beagle puppy BEWARE! Don't let their super cute faces fool you. We were at the international airport coming home from holidays when we saw a gorgeous beagle working there. We had lost our 14 year old English springer spaniel about 2 years ago and the kids had been pestering us for another dog so on the spot we decided to buy a beagle. What a shock! She was hyperactive from the day she came home.

We took her to puppy training with Dee (who took one look at her and recommended she would make a great quarantine scent detection beagle) but she seemed to settle and started to work really well in puppy class. We did some basic training which also helped. We then took her home and thought she's done her training she should be fine. **Oh no** she was just saving up her destruction! To date she has destroyed an air conditioner, wooden outdoor setting, about 20 items of clothing, pool noodles, plants, her dog beds, toys (hers and the kids) you name it, she destroys it.

When she was about 11 months old we decided we couldn't take it anymore and called Dee (my husband wanted to surrender her). She talked to me about options and as a family we decided we would try and keep her. This meant tiring her out and giving her lots of jobs to do. She is walked on a daily basis twice a day or more, taken out on outings with us and we spend as much time as we can with her and exhaust her.

At 13 months old, she is doing much better (so are we) but before purchasing a beagle make sure you have the time to spend with them (and empty your yard of anything you want to keep). It does get better! But we still can't trust her with the washing it is her weakness.

Editors Note

Beagles are NOT pets. They are working dogs – scent hounds meant to work all day every day. Boundless energy and with no-where to direct it causes heartache as it did for this family. While the family have kept their pet, it has been months of sheer frustration and hard work. Always research a breed before jumping off the deep end and buying it.