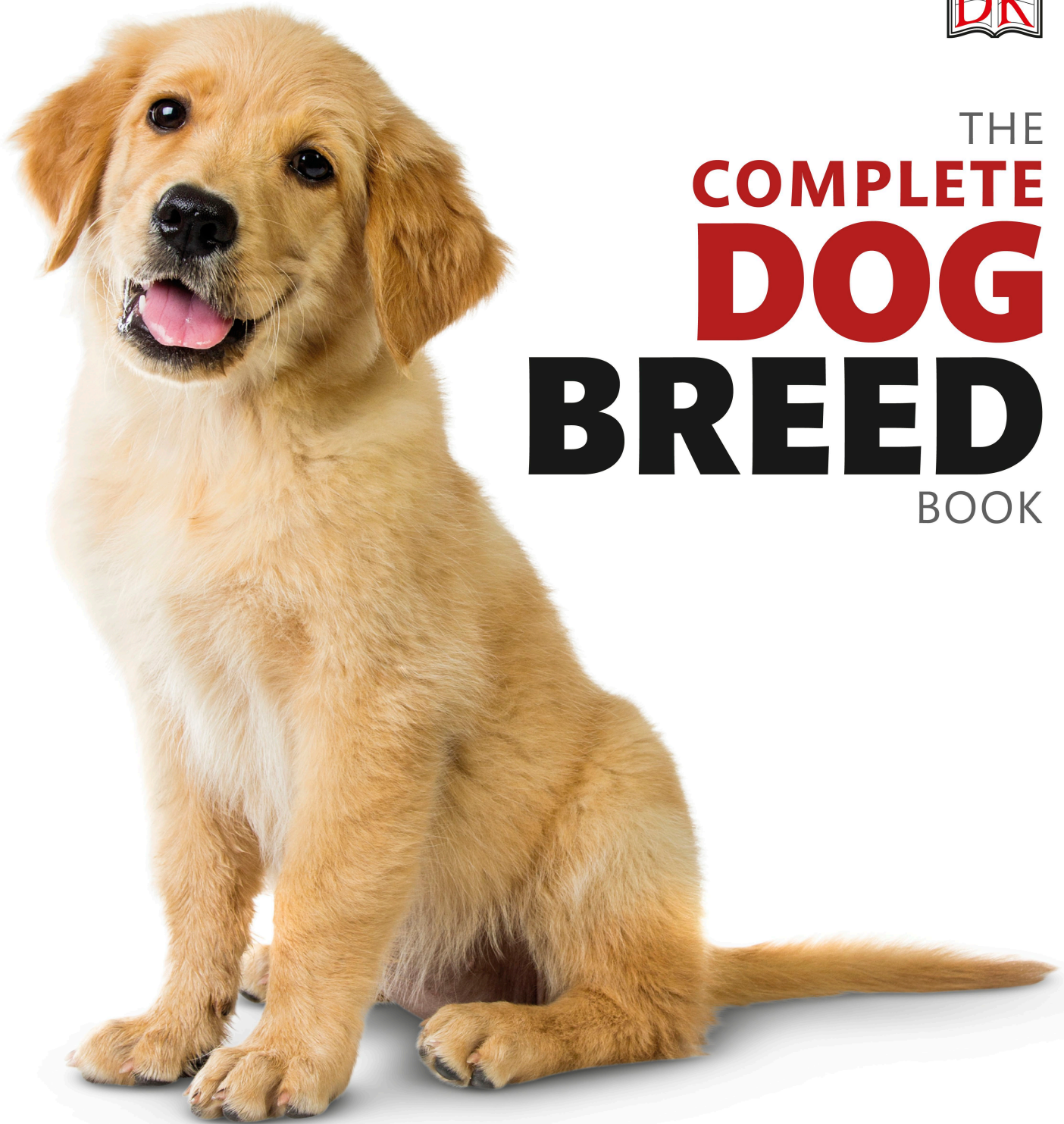




THE
**COMPLETE
DOG
BREED**
BOOK



NEW EDITION

CHOOSE THE **PERFECT DOG** FOR YOU





THE
COMPLETE
DOG
BREED
BOOK

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Commissioned photography by
TRACY MORGAN



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CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION TO DOGS

What is a dog? 8

Choosing the right dog 14





2 GUIDE TO BREEDS

Primitive dogs	22
Working dogs	32
Spitz-type dogs	96
Sight hounds	124
Scent hounds	136
Terriers	186
Gundogs	220
Companion dogs	260
Crossbreeds	282

3 CARE AND TRAINING

Preparing for arrival	294
Food and feeding	298
First days	300
Handling your dog	302
Grooming	304
Good behaviour	306
Socialization	312
Training your dog	320
Health	330

GLOSSARY	340
INDEX	342
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	351







INTRODUCTION TO DOGS

WHAT IS A DOG?

The evolution of the dog from wild predator to domestic companion has been greatly influenced by human intervention. It has taken just a few hundred years to produce seemingly endless variations on the canine theme - but planned breeding has not removed the basic characteristics of the dog's ancestor, the wolf.



Dogs are social animals

Evolution of the dog

All dogs share a common ancestor: the grey wolf. While this relationship is fairly apparent in breeds such as the German Shepherd or Spitz-type dogs, with their wolf-like heads and pricked ears, it is hard to see the connection between wolves and Toy Poodles or St. Bernards. Genetically, however, any dog of any breed is virtually identical to the wolf. The transition from wolf to the huge diversity of domestic dogs known today happened relatively quickly. The process began gradually, with random changes in size and shape, but accelerated when humans began to selectively breed those dogs that exhibited characteristics they desired.

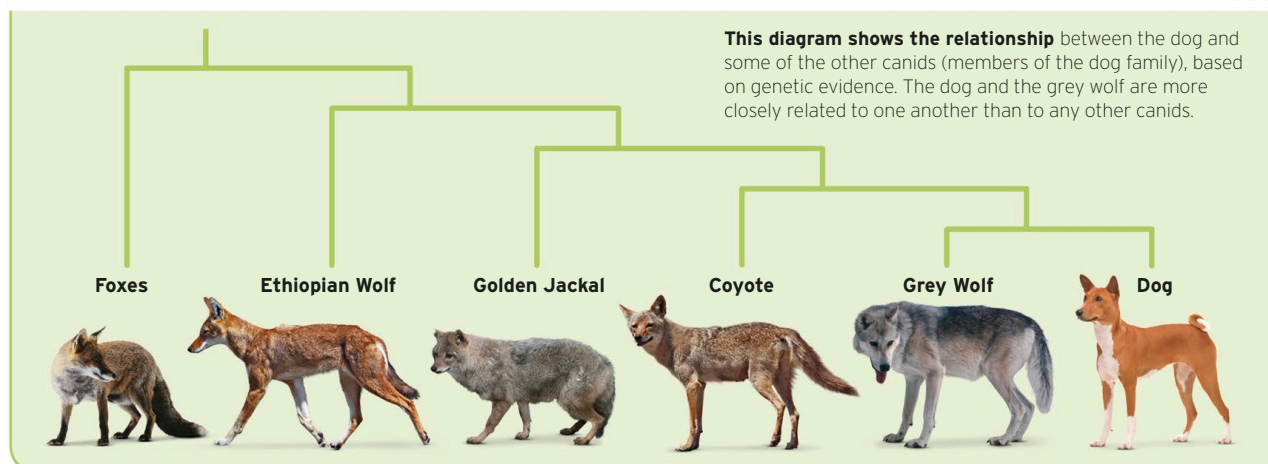
In from the wild

Grey wolves and dogs diverged between 15,000 to 40,000 years ago, but when and where they developed a close relationship with humans is unclear. DNA evidence for

domesticated dogs has been found in several locations in Asia and Europe; the timing varies from 20,000 to 40,000 years ago, which suggests that domestication events may have occurred more than once, and in different areas. The oldest remains known to be domesticated dogs date back to around 14,000 years ago, and comprise human-dog burials from the Middle East and Germany. Older dog fossils from Europe and Asia also exist, but whether these are fossils of domesticated dogs remains uncertain.

There are alternative theories about how dogs became domesticated. Some scholars believe that wolves scavenging around early human encampments were killed for their meat and skin; their orphan pups were taken in and reared in captivity, and were found to be valuable as hunters and protectors, beginning the process of domestication. Others question why humans would want to domesticate a large predator that would compete with them for food. They suggest

RELATIONSHIPS OF THE DOG FAMILY



THE SHAPE OF A PREDATOR

The canid family are shaped to be efficient hunters. This Weimaraner remains true to his ancestral body plan and can move with speed and grace.

that wolves were more trusting of humans, and could learn and adapt to human behaviour, and so in part may have domesticated themselves. Over subsequent generations, this led to physical developments such as drop ears, and behavioural changes, such as increased friendliness, to encourage humans to fulfil their needs.

Hundreds of years passed before deliberate breeding became more sophisticated, selecting for coat type, colour, temperament, and specialized skills, eventually creating hundreds of different breeds. The selection processes have altered over the years, and while certain characteristics fall out of favour, others become embedded in the breed standard.

Information from dog DNA

In the past, the history of a dog breed was pieced together from written records, pictures, and information handed down from past breeders and owners. Today, the analysis of DNA (the hereditary template found in body cells) has also made it possible to track the inheritance of features such as size and coat colour, and to look at the differences and similarities between one breed and another. Most importantly, looking at DNA has made it possible to identify which breeds are at risk of specific genetic diseases and conditions (see pp.338-39). Scientists sequenced the first complete dog genome (the complete set of genetic information possessed by an organism) in 2005 using the DNA of a Boxer.

PACK MENTALITY

Doing things cooperatively is an inbuilt canine characteristic, but domestic dogs now look to humans, rather than other dogs, when they need help.



Even with the use of genetic analysis, unravelling the history of a particular breed is not easy. Some breeds are commonly said to be very ancient, but genetic evidence suggests that the majority are, in fact, modern re-creations. With few exceptions, most breeds known today were developed no earlier than the 19th century.

Dog anatomy

The physical characteristics of a dog are typical of a predator whose survival relies on efficiency in locating and catching prey. Humans have done much to adapt canine design, but the basic anatomy of all breeds of dog is the same.

The skeleton of the dog evolved to provide speed, strength, and manoeuvrability. A highly flexible spine and freely moving forelimbs allow a dog to move with a long, swinging stride. The most important characteristics of a dog's skeleton are seen in the legs. The two large forearm bones, the radius and the ulna, are locked together in such a way that a dog can make rapid changes of direction without the bones rotating and breaking. In a further adaptation, two of the wrist bones are fused together - unlike the separate bones seen in humans - to give a dog strength and stability when moving in a straight line. Combined with long, powerful toes, with claws like studs on running shoes, this limb arrangement gives a dog a high degree of control whether it is running, jumping, or turning.

Classified as carnivores, dogs are anatomically adapted to eat primarily meat, although, given the opportunity, domestic dogs will eat almost anything. A dog's teeth are designed to deal with tough foods such as hide, flesh, and



bone. Four large canine teeth at the front of a dog's mouth are used for grabbing and biting prey, while the sides of the jaw include specially modified teeth, the carnassials, which the dog uses for shearing off meat. Dogs have a capacious stomach for the storage of large quantities of food and, as meat can be digested rapidly, a short intestinal tract.

Dogs have a wide-angled field of vision that functions best at long distance and they are extremely sensitive to movement. Out of the corner of an eye, a dog can pick up the flicker of a rabbit a hundred metres away, but at close range, canine vision is less efficient, which is why a dog may fail to spot a toy on the ground in front of his nose. Dogs have little use for sophisticated colour vision and their eyes have far fewer colour-receptive cells than those of humans.

Sharp hearing and the ability to pinpoint the direction of sounds is essential to wild hunting dogs. Breeds with erect ears shaped like those of the wolf are likely to have more acute hearing than breeds with drop ears, which rely more on sight or scent when hunting. A dog's highly sensitive ears allow it to pick up sounds at a far higher frequency than can be heard by humans. Smell is the most important of all canine senses. Sniffing is the way a dog

TALL AND SHORT

The extreme diversity of dog breeds is illustrated by the differences in leg length between an Irish Wolfhound and a Wire-haired Dachshund.

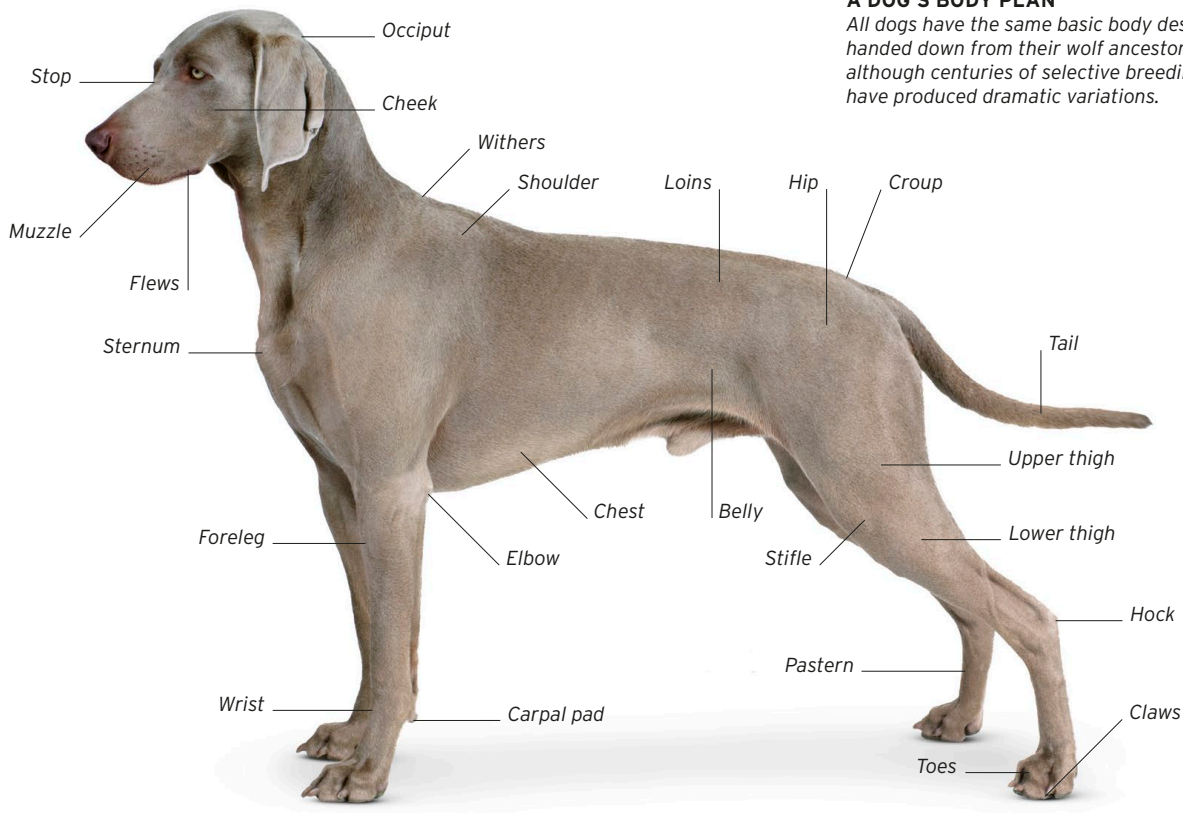
reads its surroundings and the area of the brain that interprets smells is around 40 times larger than the corresponding area in a human brain. Dogs' noses are packed with far more scent receptive cells than humans: while a person has an estimated 5 million scent receptors, a small dog may have closer to 130 million. In breeds renowned for their scenting ability, such as hounds, the number of scent receptors may be as many as 200-300 million.

Unlike humans, dogs do not have sweat glands in their skin, except on the bottoms of their paws. To cool down, dogs must pant, tongue hanging out. The tongue produces copious saliva, some of which evaporates and so helps to reduce body temperature.



A DOG'S BODY PLAN

All dogs have the same basic body design, handed down from their wolf ancestor, although centuries of selective breeding have produced dramatic variations.



Head shapes

All canine heads are variations of three basic shapes. The majority of dogs have a mesaticephalic head, in which length and width are of medium proportions. A dolichocephalic head is long and narrow, with a barely noticeable stop. Brachycephalic heads are broad based and short in length.



Dolichocephalic head
(Saluki)



Mesaticephalic head
(German Pointer)



Brachycephalic head
(Bulldog)

Ear types

Pricked, sensitive, wolf-like ears - the original canine shape - occur in many breeds of dog, but centuries of planned selection have created a large variety of other ear shapes. There are three main types: erect, semi-erect, and drop. Within these categories are many variations, such as the type of erect ear known as candle flame. Ear types are often the defining characteristic of a dog group; for example, scent hounds usually have long, pendant ears. Ears strongly influence a dog's overall appearance. The correct set, shape, and carriage of the ears are considered very important in recognized breeds, and are described precisely in official breed standards.



Erect
(Alaskan Malamute)



Candle flame
(Russian Toy)



Button
(Pug)



Drop
(Broholmer)



Rose
(Greyhound)



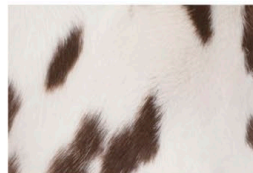
Pendant
(Bloodhound)

Coat varieties

The majority of dog breeds have a double coat like their wolf ancestor. This usually consists of an insulating layer of soft, dense hair covered by a harsher outer coat of varying length and texture. A few thinner-coated breeds, such as greyhounds, have just a single layer of hair (no undercoat). In some breeds, chance genetic mutation has produced dogs that are either completely hairless or have just a few strands of hair on the head and legs.



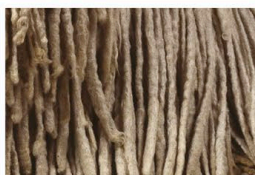
Hairless
(Chinese Crested)



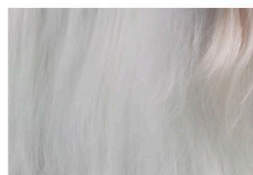
Short
(Dalmatian)



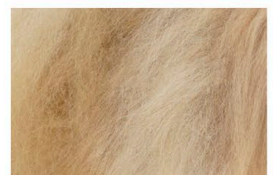
Curly
(Poodle)



Corded
(Komondor)



Long, straight
(Maltese)



Long, fluffy
(Pekingese)

Breeds and breed groups

Although many distinct varieties of dog were recognized earlier, until the early 20th century their breeding was not necessarily strictly controlled. When dog breeders started to cooperate with one another and form clubs they were able to produce dogs of consistent type. This led to the writing of breed standards that describe the ideal appearance (with permissible variations) and temperament of a breed, and its suitability for function. Dogs were also registered in stud books to enable their pedigrees to be reviewed for future breeding.

Despite the detailed dog breed standards that exist, there are as yet no universally recognized criteria for classifying dog breeds in groups. The main regulatory bodies are the Kennel Club (KC) in the UK; the Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) – the World Canine Organization, which includes 86 member countries; and the American Kennel Club (AKC). These all group breeds together based loosely

on function, but no two systems are exactly the same. Both the UK and American Kennel Clubs recognize seven groups, while the FCI has ten. The number of individual breeds recognized by these organizations also varies.

This book places breeds together in eight major groups: primitive dogs; working dogs; spitz-type dogs; sight hounds; scent hounds; terriers; gundogs; and companion dogs; plus a section on crossbreeds and random bred dogs. The groupings of the so-called primitive dogs, sight hounds, and the spitz-type dogs in this book have been made on the basis of well-established genetic relationships. In some cases, this results in a breed appearing in a different group from the one that might be expected. The Basenji, for example, is often grouped functionally with hounds but genetic evidence places it among the primitive breeds, which is where this book, and the FCI, place it. For the remainder of the groups, more traditional, functional groupings are used.

HOW DOGS ARE GROUPED IN THIS BOOK

The dog groupings used in this book are illustrated below with an example of a dog that appears in each category.



Primitive dogs
pp.22-31
Basenji

Working dogs
pp.32-95
Broholmer

Spitz-type dogs
pp.96-123
Finnish Spitz

Sight Hounds
pp.124-135
Greyhound



Scent Hounds
pp.136-185
Basset Hound

Terriers
pp.186-219
Parson Russell Terrier

Gundogs
pp.220-259
Bourbonsais Pointing Dog

Companion dogs
pp.260-281
Russian Toy

Crossbreeds
pp.282-291
Labradoodle

HOW TO USE THE BREED CATALOGUE

Amount of exercise required: from up to 30 minutes a day (1 bar) to more than 2 hours a day (3 bars).

Amount of grooming required: from once a week (1 bar) to every day (3 bars).

Ease of training: from easy (1 bar) to time consuming (3 bars).

Level of sociability: from dogs that need early socialization (1 bar) to naturally lively and amenable dogs (3 bars).

Data scale



Height of dog in relation to human adult male. The dog's height is measured from its feet to the highest point of the withers

Group to which dog belongs

WORKING DOGS 95

GREAT DANE

GENTLE AND EASY TO MAINTAIN, THIS DOG TAKES UP A LOT OF ROOM

KC

Kennel club recognized

Height range

71-76cm (28-30in)

Weight range

46-54kg (101-119lb)

Life span

Under 10 years

Origin

Germany

Other colours

Blue

Black

Brindle

Short, harlequin coat

Elegance and dignity combined with gigantic size make the Great Dane one of the most impressive of all dogs. Once a hunting dog in Germany, the easy-going Great Dane is content to be a house dog, provided there is enough room for it to flop comfortably. As well as space, the breed needs plenty of exercise.

Long, arched neck with no loose skin

Dark shading on head and ears

Deep, long, fawn body

Swatches show permissible colour variations for the breed

Information on coat colour

COAT COLOURS

Some dog breeds have just one coat colour

or only one colour combination, but many have two or three colour variations, or more. Where applicable, the breed descriptions in this book include colour swatches that match as closely as possible the coat colours recognized in a breed. These are in addition to the colours that can be seen in the photographs of the dog.

A swatch may represent a range of colours. The swatches listed in the key below are as specified in various breed standards but different names may be given for the same colour: for example, while red is used to describe a red coat for many breeds, ruby is used for King Charles Spaniels and Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. A final generic swatch is used to represent a variety of colours.

Cream; white; white-beige; blonde; yellow

Grey; ashen-grey; slate-grey; steel-grey; grey brindle; wolf-grey; silver

Gold; russet gold; apricot; biscuit; wheaten; sandy; mustard; straw; straw bracken; isabella; all shades of fawn; yellow-red; sable

Red; red merle; ruby; stag-red; deep red ginger; sandy-red; red-fawn; red-brown; chestnut-brown; orange; orange roan

Liver; bronze

Blue; blue merle (blue-grey); ash

Dark brown; bos (brown); chocolate; dead leaf

Black; nearly black; dark grey

Black and tan; vieräugl; karamis; King Charles; black grizzle and tan; black and brown

Blue, mottled with tan; blue and tan

Liver and tan

Gold and white (either colour may predominate); white and chestnut; yellow and white; white with orange, sable, and white; orange belton; lemon belton

Chestnut, red and white; red and white; red and white spotted

Liver and white; liver belton; brown and white (either colour may predominate); red roan; roan

Tan and white (either colour may predominate)

Black and white (either colour may predominate); piebald; black and white spotted; sesame; black sesame; black and silver

Black, tan and white; grey, black, and tan; white, chocolate, and tan; Prince Charles; (all also known as tricolour)

Brindle; black brindle; dark brindle; fawn brindle; pepper and salt; range of red brindles

Variety of colours or any colour

CHOOSING THE RIGHT DOG



A puppy can grow into a big dog, so know what you are buying

The dog you choose will probably be your companion for the next 10 or 12 years, so making the right decision is important. Being faced with more than 400 different breeds with a variety of exercise, training, and grooming needs can be bewildering. This section provides advice and flowcharts to help you narrow down your choice.

The perfect match

You may be attracted to a particular breed because of its looks, or have fallen in love with a beguiling puppy, but before going any further consider carefully whether you and the dog are a good match. To avoid difficulties and disappointments later on, take a look at your lifestyle and ask yourself the following questions.

What type of home do you live in, and are you a town or country dweller? A small apartment is obviously no place for a very large breed if both owner and dog are to cohabit comfortably. Remember, though, that a small dog with exceptionally high energy levels can also seem to take up a lot of room. Whether or not you have a garden, you will need access to open spaces where your dog can safely let off steam and meet other dogs. How house-proud are you? Can you tolerate loose hairs, slobber, and muddy pawprints? Keeping the place tidy can be harder with a dog around.

Can you give a dog the exercise he needs to stay physically and mentally fit? Some owners want an undemanding companion who is content with a short daily walk followed by a long snooze. If you enjoy an active lifestyle yourself, you may want a lively running mate to help set the pace for jogging or on long hikes. Large dogs do not necessarily need

more exercise than small ones. Some of the bigger breeds have a very laid-back attitude to life, while many small dogs, such as terriers, have boundless energy.

How much effort are you willing to put into grooming your dog? Long-coated breeds look beautiful but they are high maintenance and may need daily brushing and detangling. You should also consider the likely cost of professional grooming: some dogs have coats that are easy to care for in day-to-day terms but may need regular trimming.

Is your dog to be part of a family that includes children or other pets? Be wary of picking a breed that is large or exuberant enough to knock over a small child or an older person, or a dog with a natural chasing instinct that might put a beloved cat or guinea pig at risk.

Do you have enough room in your life for a dog? Exercise will take up time every day, but what dogs need as much as walks is company; any dog left alone for too long is likely to become bored, morose, and destructive. If you work away from the house all week, then unless you can make adequate care arrangements, a dog may not be a suitable pet for you.

Owning a dog is a long-term commitment in financial and practical terms. Make it a joy by choosing the breed that is as near as possible the perfect one for you.

HOW TO USE THE FLOWCHARTS

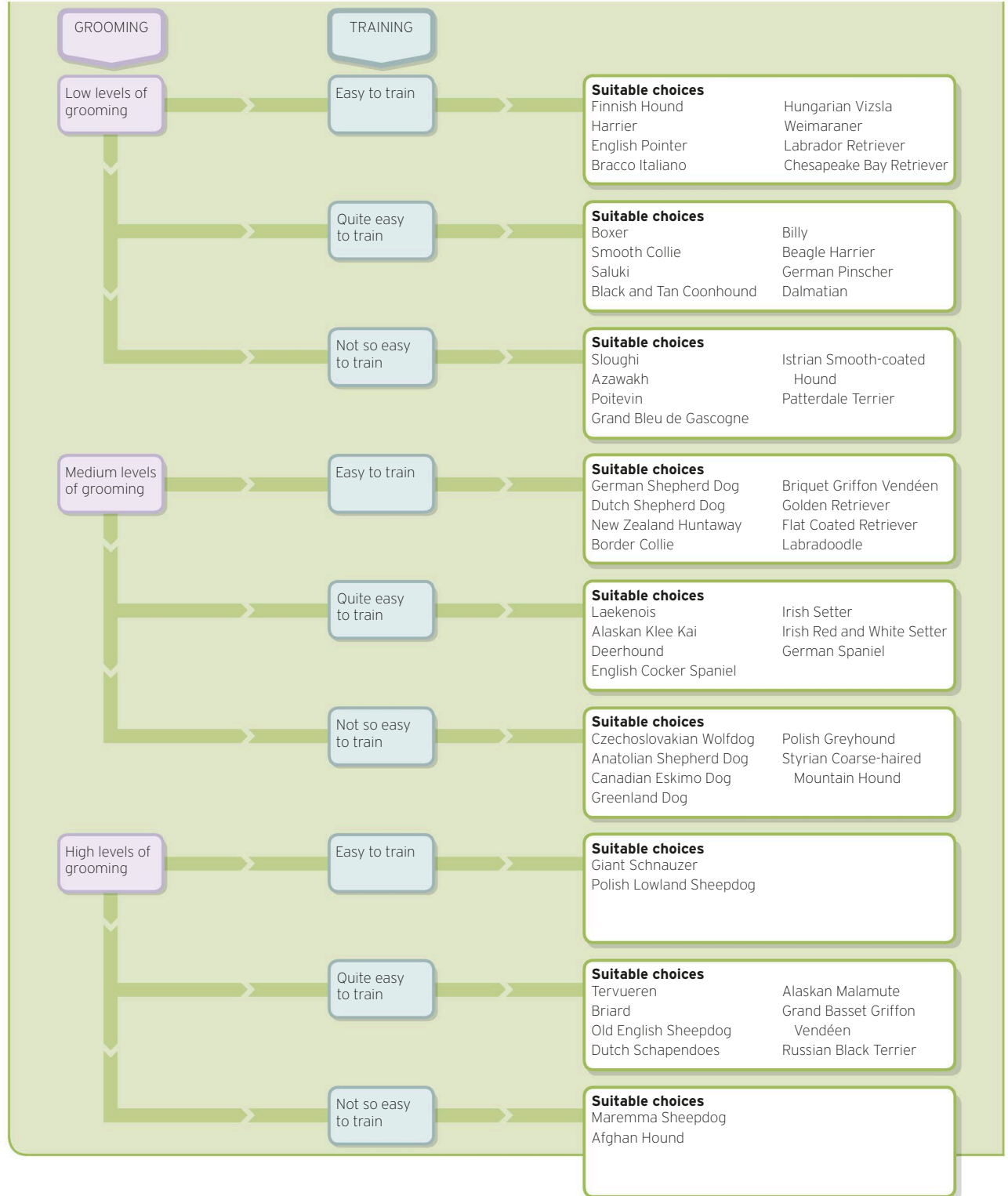
The following flowcharts will help you to choose a dog. They are based on three criteria: exercise, grooming, and training. Decide if you want a dog with high, medium, or low exercise requirements, and follow the paths to find suggestions for suitable breeds. Also look at the breed catalogue data to find further dogs not listed here.

HOW MUCH EXERCISE?		
HIGH More than 2 hours per day		
MEDIUM 1-2 hours per day		
LOW Up to 30 minutes per day		

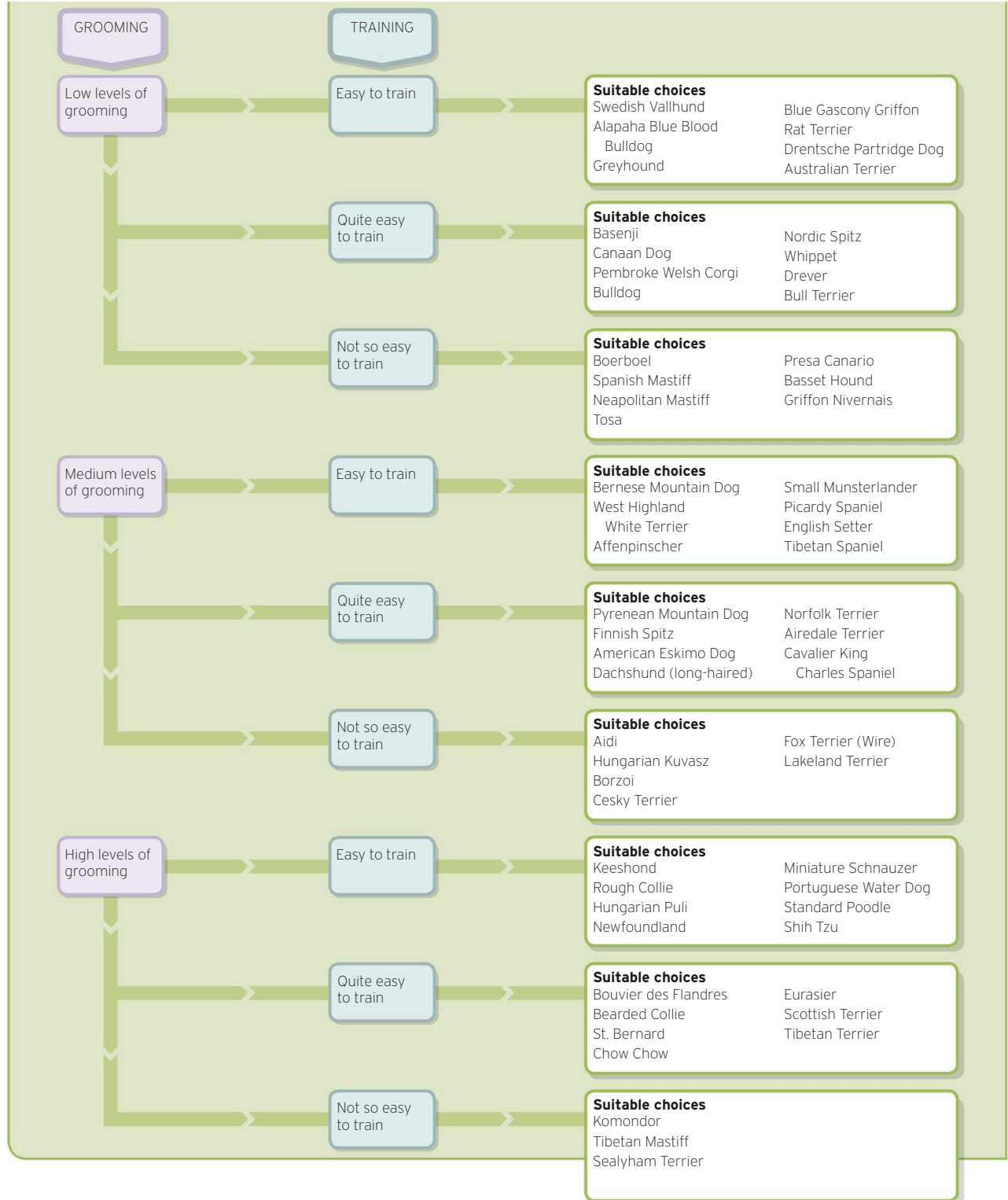
HOW MUCH GROOMING?		
HIGH Every day		
MEDIUM More than once a week		
LOW Once a week		

HOW MUCH TRAINING?		
HIGH Not so easy to train – time consuming		
MEDIUM Quite easy to train – needs patience		
LOW Easy to train		

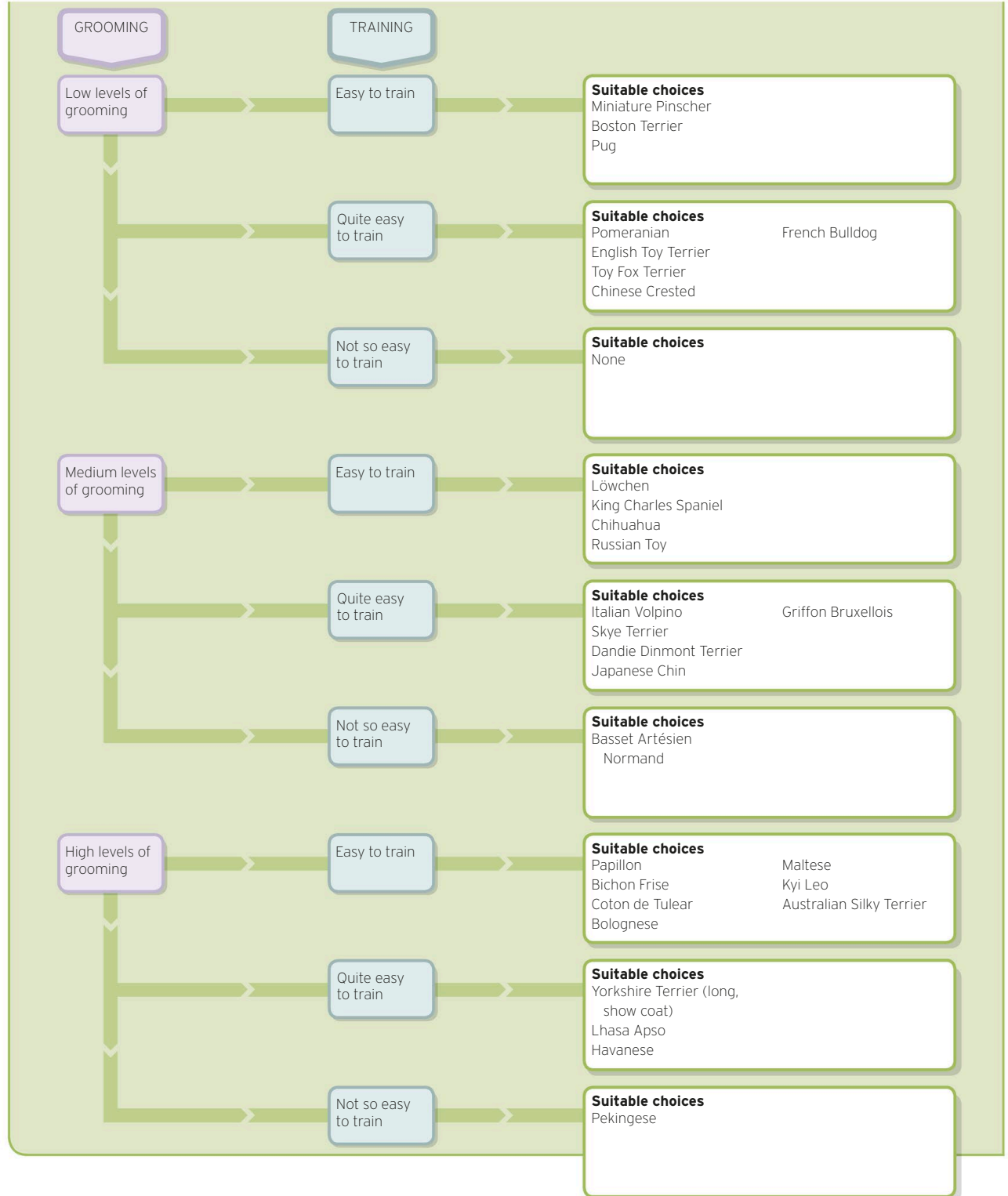
HIGH EXERCISE DOGS



MEDIUM EXERCISE DOGS



LOW EXERCISE DOGS



Finding a breeder

If you decide to buy a pedigree dog, you need to find a reputable breeder. A recommendation from your vet or a friend is ideal, and some kennel clubs provide lists of breeders; otherwise, the best way to choose a breeder is to visit several armed with a list of questions (see box opposite for the most important ones to ask).

Good breeders will be happy to give you plenty of time to observe the litter. It is particularly important to see puppies with their litter mates and their mother. Young puppies should never be kept in isolation, and if this is the case at any kennels you visit, then do not consider buying from them. The sire may not be at the same breeders, but if he is, ask if you can see him too. The appearance, behaviour, and temperament of the adult dogs will enable you to make a judgement on the likely future development of your puppy.

Watch how the puppies interact with each other and with people. Some puppies are boisterous and outgoing from the start, showing no reservations about approaching strangers, while others hang back from rough play and are nervous or shy. A confident puppy is usually a good choice, but a quieter dog may appeal to you more. However, check that a seemingly subdued puppy does not have health problems and is failing to thrive.

Expect breeders to ask you some questions too. They will want to know what sort of home and lifestyle you are offering, whether you are an experienced or a first-time



FAMILY GROUP

Never consider buying a puppy unless you can see the litter with their mother. No reputable breeder will keep young puppies in separate accommodation.



PICK OF THE LITTER

Even very young puppies have distinct personalities. Whether you favour a shy one or the boss of the litter, make sure that he has bright eyes, a clean coat, and appears used to a home environment.

owner, and if you are fully aware of the time and cost that keeping a dog entails. Do some homework before you pay your visit, and be honest with your answers.

A breeder should be able to supply vet's references and provide other credentials such as membership of a breed association. Also find out if your chosen breeder offers "after-sales" service, such as advice on feeding or health. Once you have come to an agreement, expect to collect your new puppy when he is about eight weeks of age.

Puppy farms

Never buy a dog from one of the many so-called "puppy farms". Such establishments are usually little more than canine battery farms, where dogs are kept in inhumane conditions, bred to exhaustion, and given little or nothing in the way of health care. Avoid buying from petshops too, as the puppies they sell do not usually have a history and may come from puppy farms. Also beware of advertisements offering a selection of different breeds, as these are often placed by dealers who trade in farmed puppies.

Buying a rescue dog

Unless you are set on buying a young puppy from a recognized breeder, you may find just what you want at a dog rescue centre. These centres occasionally have litters of puppies but in most cases their dogs are either fully mature or at least a few months old. Many rescue dogs are of mixed breeding, although some purebreds do turn up. If you prefer a pedigree dog, you could also try one of the numerous rescue societies that specialize in rehoming particular breeds, such as greyhounds.

Not all rescue dogs come from a background of neglect or cruelty. Some need rehoming because of an owner's death or change in family circumstances. However, many have an unknown or traumatic history, and may display behavioural

problems and anxieties that can be difficult to overcome. Think carefully before being tempted to take on such a dog in the hope of rehabilitating him, as you could end up with more than you bargained for. A good, loving home goes a long way, but traumatized dogs need experienced handling, an above-average amount of patience, and possibly professional retraining. Most rescue centres will offer you back-up advice and support.

When buying a dog from a rescue home, use the same approach as you would if buying from a breeder. Observe the dogs closely and ask, and expect to be asked, questions. Rescue homes screen prospective owners very carefully and will probably want to visit your home.

MAKING A GOOD MATCH

Adopting a rescue dog is a two-way process. While you are deciding which dog you want, a good rescue centre will assess your suitability as an owner. It will want to know as much as possible about you, your home, and your family.

10 IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO ASK A BREEDER

- Will the puppy have received his first vaccinations and been wormed before I collect him?
- Are your dogs screened for inherited diseases, and may I take a look at the screening certificates?
- Can you provide a written guarantee of the puppy's health?
- Will you provide a written contract of sale and does it specify what I should do if I can no longer care for my puppy?
- Can you provide references from, for example, a vet or previous customers?
- Have you registered the puppy with a kennel club?
- Can you provide a printed pedigree for the puppy?
- What do you consider the most important characteristics of this breed?
- How long have you been working with this breed?
- Have your puppies been well socialized in your home as well as in the outside environment?







GUIDE TO BREEDS

AFRICAN HUNTER

Elegant and immaculate, the Basenji makes the most civilized of pets, but African dogs like this have worked as hunting dogs for thousands of years.



PRIMITIVE DOGS

Most modern dog breeds are the result of many years of selective breeding for particular characteristics, but a few, commonly regarded as primitive dogs, have remained close to the original “blueprint” of their wolf ancestors. As a group, primitive dogs are not clearly defined, and not all authorities agree that such a category should be recognized.



Hairless dogs are depicted in ancient Pre-Incan artefacts

As variously listed, primitive dogs are a diverse group but many of them share typically wolf-like characteristics. These include erect ears, a wedge-shaped head with a pointed muzzle, and a tendency to howl rather than bark. Their coats are usually short but vary in colour and density according to the region from which the dog originates. Most primitive dogs come into season only once a year, unlike other domestic dogs, which have two cycles of oestrus a year.

Canine specialists are now taking an interest in dogs that have had little to do with humans and nothing to do with breed development programmes. These primitive dogs, which come from various parts of the world, include the Carolina Dog of North America and the rare New Guinea Singing Dog, which is genetically close to the dingo of Australia. Such dogs have evolved naturally rather than through breeding

for temperament or appearance and cannot be considered completely domesticated. The New Guinea Singing Dog, which is highly endangered in the wild, is more likely to be seen in zoos than in homes.

Several dogs are included in the primitive group because they are believed to be uninfluenced by any other types over thousands of years. Among them is the Basenji from Africa, long used for hunting in its native country before becoming a popular pet. Other examples are hairless dogs from Mexico and South America, genetic mutations of coated breeds, which resemble dogs depicted in the art and artefacts of ancient civilizations.

Recent genetic investigations suggest that two dogs included in this section – the Pharaoh Hound and the Ibizan Hound – should no longer be considered primitive. These breeds are popularly supposed to be the direct descendants of big-eared Egyptian hounds pictured in drawings dating back 5,000 years. However, there is genetic evidence that the line

of descent may not have remained unbroken down the centuries. It is probable that the Pharaoh and Ibizan Hounds are in fact modern recreations of a primitive dog type.

MAGICAL DOG

The Aztecs believed that hairless dogs were sent by the gods and had magical properties.



STILL WILD

The dingo-like New Guinea Singing Dog does not adapt well to domestic life. It may have inhabited New Guinea from prehistoric times.



NEW GUINEA SINGING DOG

IN TOUCH WITH ITS WILD SIDE, THIS DOG HAS A UNIQUE VOCAL RANGE

Height range
40–45cm (16–18in)

Weight range
8–14kg (18–31lb)

Life span 15–20 years

Origin New Guinea



Other colours



Sable Black and tan
White markings are common with all colour types.



This rare dingo-like breed is a native of New Guinea, where it lives feral or in semi-domestication. The Singing Dog is kept as a curiosity in zoos worldwide but has become a challenging pet for a few dedicated owners. It has the extraordinary ability to vary the notes of its howl, hence the name.

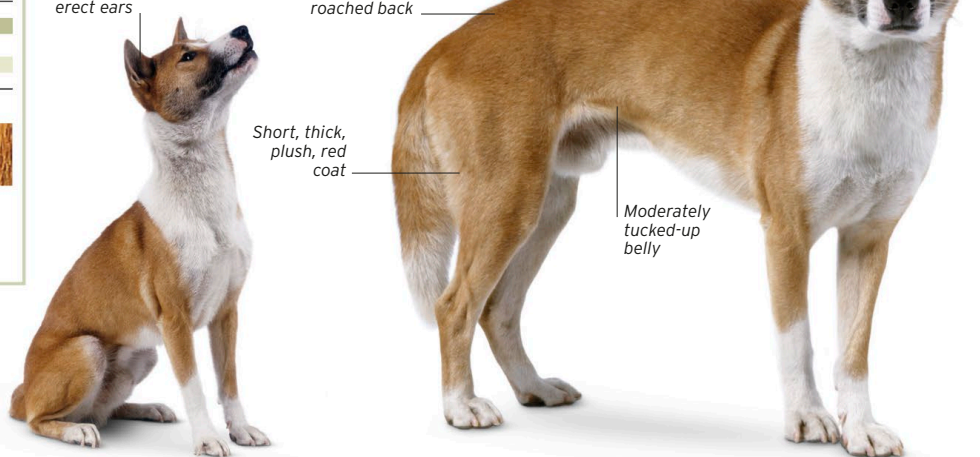
Small, erect ears

Slightly roached back

Short, thick, plush, red coat

Moderately tucked-up belly

Triangular eyes Wedge-shaped head



BASENJI

THIS NEAT AND GRACEFUL DOG IS SOMETIMES SHY WITH STRANGERS, BUT DOES NOT BARK

KC

Height range
40–43cm (16–17in)

Weight range
10–11kg (22–24lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Central Africa



Other colours



Variety of colours

White markings may appear on chest, feet, and tail tip.



A hunting dog from Africa, the Basenji was used for driving big game, locating its prey by both sight and scent. Sleek and beautifully built with an immaculate appearance, the Basenji is affectionate and fun-loving, and is a popular house dog. Unable to bark, it can, however, make yodelling noises.

Forehead wrinkles when ears pricked

Finely chiselled features

Long, elegant neck

Flat-topped skull

Smooth, short, red coat

Very long forearms

Tail carried in tight curl over back



CANAAN DOG

THIS STURDY AND STEADFAST DOG IS ALWAYS ON THE ALERT AND READY TO PROTECT

KC

Height range
50–60cm (20–24in)

Weight range
18–25kg (40–55lb)



Life span Over 10 years

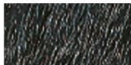
Origin Israel



Other colours



White



Black



Red and white
spotted



Black and
white spotted

Grey, brindle, black and tan,
or tricolour undesirable.

Bred in Israel as a watchdog and herder, the Cane Corso has strong protective instincts that do not usually turn into aggression. It is highly intelligent, and with steady training makes a reliable and affectionate companion. Not a common breed, it has yet to achieve widespread popularity.

Low-set,
broad ears

White chest
marking

Brush-like, thick tail,
carried high and curled

Dark, slightly
slanting eyes

Tucked-up
belly

Dense, harsh,
sandy coat

PHARAOH HOUND

THIS STREAMLINED, ELEGANT DOG IS GOOD IN THE HOUSE BUT WILL CHASE ANYTHING SMALL OUTDOORS

KC

Height range
53–63cm (21–25in)

Weight range
20–25kg (44–55lb)



Life span Over 10 years

Origin Malta



Although the modern Pharaoh Hound was developed in Malta, this graceful breed bears a strong resemblance to the prick-eared hunting dogs illustrated in the art and artefacts of ancient Egypt. The Pharaoh Hound is calm-tempered but needs a lot of exercise and, unless restrained outdoors, will fly off in pursuit of small animals, including other pets.

Large, erect
ears

Amber-coloured
eyes

Whippy tail,
carried in a high
curve when active

Slender,
elegant body

Toes often
marked white

Short, glossy,
slightly harsh,
rich tan coat

Well-arched,
long neck

White marks
on chest
common



CANARIAN WARREN HOUND

THIS HIGHLY STRUNG DOG IS BRED TO HUNT, AND NEEDS AN OUTDOOR LIFE

FCI

Height range
53–64cm (21–25in)

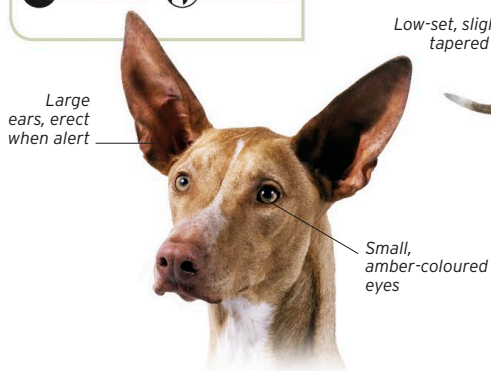
Weight range
16–22kg (35–49lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin Spain



Also known as the Podenco Canario, this hound – found on all the Canary Islands – has Egyptian roots dating back thousands of years. The breed has long been used as a rabbit-hunter and is highly valued for its speed, keen sight, and excellent nose. Sensitive and restless, the Canarian Warren Hound is unable to adapt to a quiet life indoors.



Large ears, erect when alert

Small, amber-coloured eyes

Low-set, slightly tapered tail



Slender, athletic body

Sleek, smooth, red coat

White markings on chest

Fine-boned but strong legs

Flesh-coloured nose

CIRNECO DELL'ETNA

GENTLE BUT LIVELY, THIS IS A HUNTER RATHER THAN A HOUSE DOG

KC

Height range
42–52cm (17–20in)

Weight range
8–12kg (18–26lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin Italy



This Sicilian breed, which may well have originated in the area immediately around Mount Etna, is rare outside its native country. Lithe and strong, the Cirneco dell'Etna is built to run and hunt. Although good-natured, this dog is not an ideal option for owners who want a placid house pet.

Other colours



White



White with orange



Erect, rigid ears set high on head

Low-set tail



Short, glossy, fawn coat

Narrow, almost flat skull

Strong, arched neck

White markings on chest

Powerful, muscular hindquarters

IBIZAN HOUND

THIS FAST RUNNER WITH AN OUTSTANDING ABILITY TO JUMP NEEDS SPACE AND EXERCISE

KC

Height range

56-74cm (22-29in)

Weight range

20-23kg (44-51lb)

Life span

10-12 years

Origin

Spain







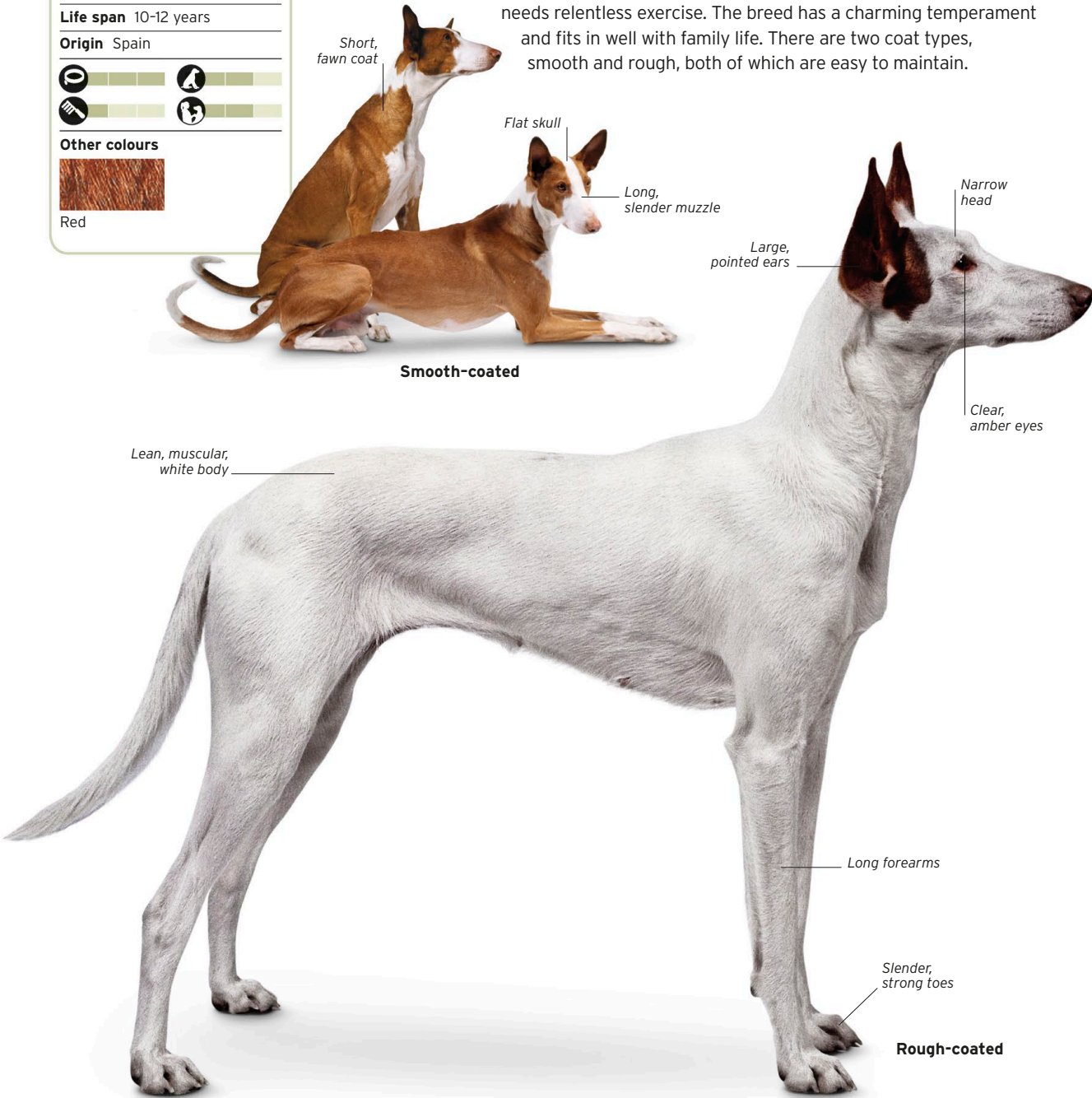
Other colours



Red



Used in Spain as a pack dog for hunting rabbits, the Ibizan Hound can cover the roughest ground at a “raking trot” characteristic of the breed. This dog also has an enormous jump and can easily leap over a garden fence. As long as an owner bears security in mind, the Ibizan Hound is not difficult to keep, but it is an all-action dog that needs relentless exercise. The breed has a charming temperament and fits in well with family life. There are two coat types, smooth and rough, both of which are easy to maintain.





PORTUGUESE PODENGO

AN ALERT WATCHDOG THAT MAKES A GOOD COMPANION

KC

Height range

Pequeno:

20-30cm (8-12in)

Medio:

40-53cm (16-21in)

Grande:

55-70cm (22-28in)

Weight range

Pequeno:

4-5kg (9-11lb)

Medio:

16-20kg (35-44lb)

Grande:

20-30kg (44-66lb)

Life span Over 12 years

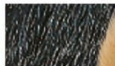
Origin Portugal



Other colours



White, yellow



Black

White dogs have patches of yellow, black, or fawn. Pequeno dogs may be brown.

Commonly known as the Portuguese Warren Hound,

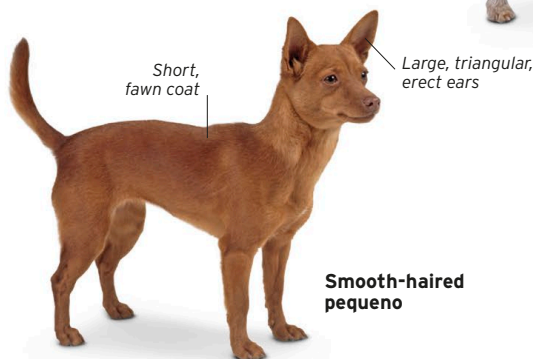
this breed has developed into several varieties with distinct differences in size and coat. Today's dogs may be small (pequeno), medium (medio), or large (grande), and some are smooth-haired while others have moderately long, wiry coats. All were traditionally used for hunting, and in Portugal some are still kept for that purpose, working either in a pack or alone. Regardless of size, their intelligence and alertness make them excellent watchdogs.



Fawn coat

Bearded muzzle

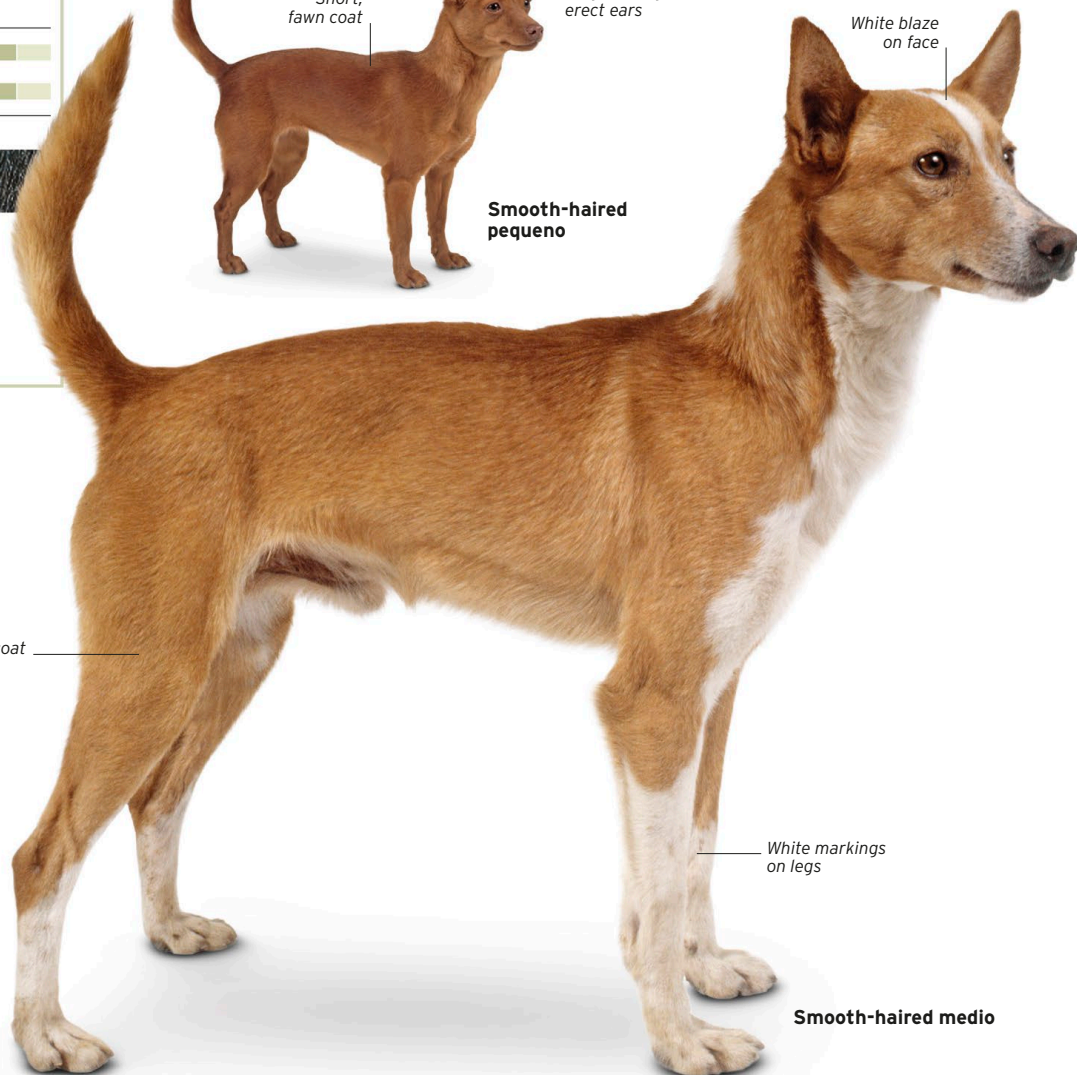
Wire-haired pequeno



Short, fawn coat

Large, triangular, erect ears

Smooth-haired pequeno



White blaze on face

Short, fawn coat

White markings on legs

Smooth-haired medio

CAROLINA DOG

THIS DOG RESPONDS TO TRAINING BUT CAN BE SHY

Height range
45–50cm (18–20in)

Weight range
15–20kg (33–44lb)



Life span 12–14 years

Origin USA



Other colours

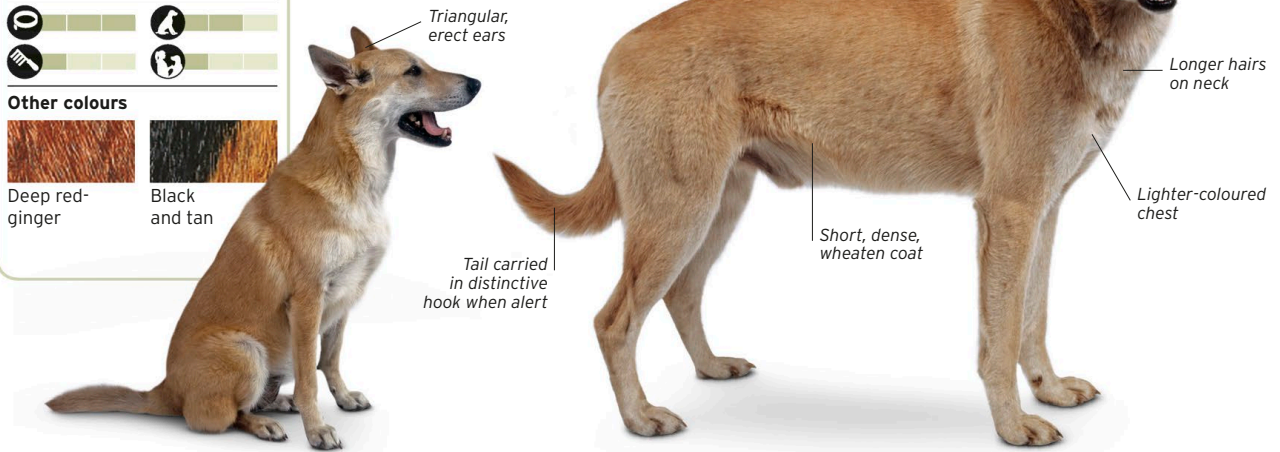


Deep red-ginger



Black and tan

Also known as the “American Dingo”, this dog’s ancestors are thought to have been domesticated and brought into North America by early settlers from Asia. In America’s south-eastern states, some still live semi-wild. Naturally wary, this dog needs early socializing to make it an acceptable pet.



PERUVIAN INCA ORCHID

A HAIRLESS, STRIKINGLY PATTERNED DOG WHOSE SKIN NEEDS PROTECTION FROM THE ELEMENTS

Height range
50–65cm (20–26in)

Weight range
12–23kg (26–51lb)



Life span 11–12 years

Origin Peru



Other colours



Any colour

Hairless dogs always have pink skin but the colour of mottling can vary.

The true origins of the Peruvian Inca Orchid are lost in time, but dogs of this type are known to have been important in Inca civilizations. There are two varieties of this breed: hairless and coated. The hairless Inca Orchid is better suited to indoor rather than outdoor life because of its delicate skin.



PERUVIAN HAIRLESS

THIS BRIGHT AND AGILE DOG IS AFFECTIONATE WITH OWNERS BUT SHY WITH STRANGERS

FCI

Height range

Miniature:
25-40cm (10-16in)

Medio:
40-50cm (16-20in)

Grande:
50-65cm (20-26in)

Weight range

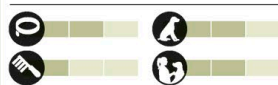
Miniature:
4-8kg (9-18lb)

Medio:
8-12kg (18-26lb)

Grande:
12-25kg (26-55lb)

Life span 11-12 years

Origin Peru

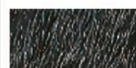


Other colours



Blonde

Dark brown



Black

Records of hairless dogs in South America date back to pre-Inca times. It has been suggested that this lively and graceful breed may have originated in China or Africa before it was introduced in Peru. Hairlessness, often accompanied by the absence of certain teeth, is

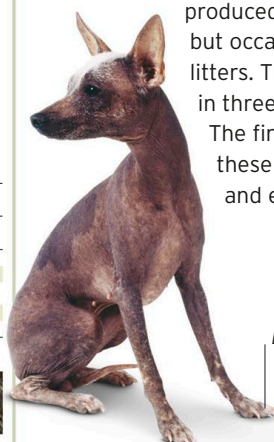
produced by a particular recessive gene, but occasionally, coated dogs do occur in litters. The Peruvian Hairless breeds come in three sizes - miniature, medio, and grande. The fine skin needs some protection as these dogs are susceptible to the cold and easily sunburned.



Distinct stop

Crest of hairs

Grande



Long feet

Miniature

Rose ear

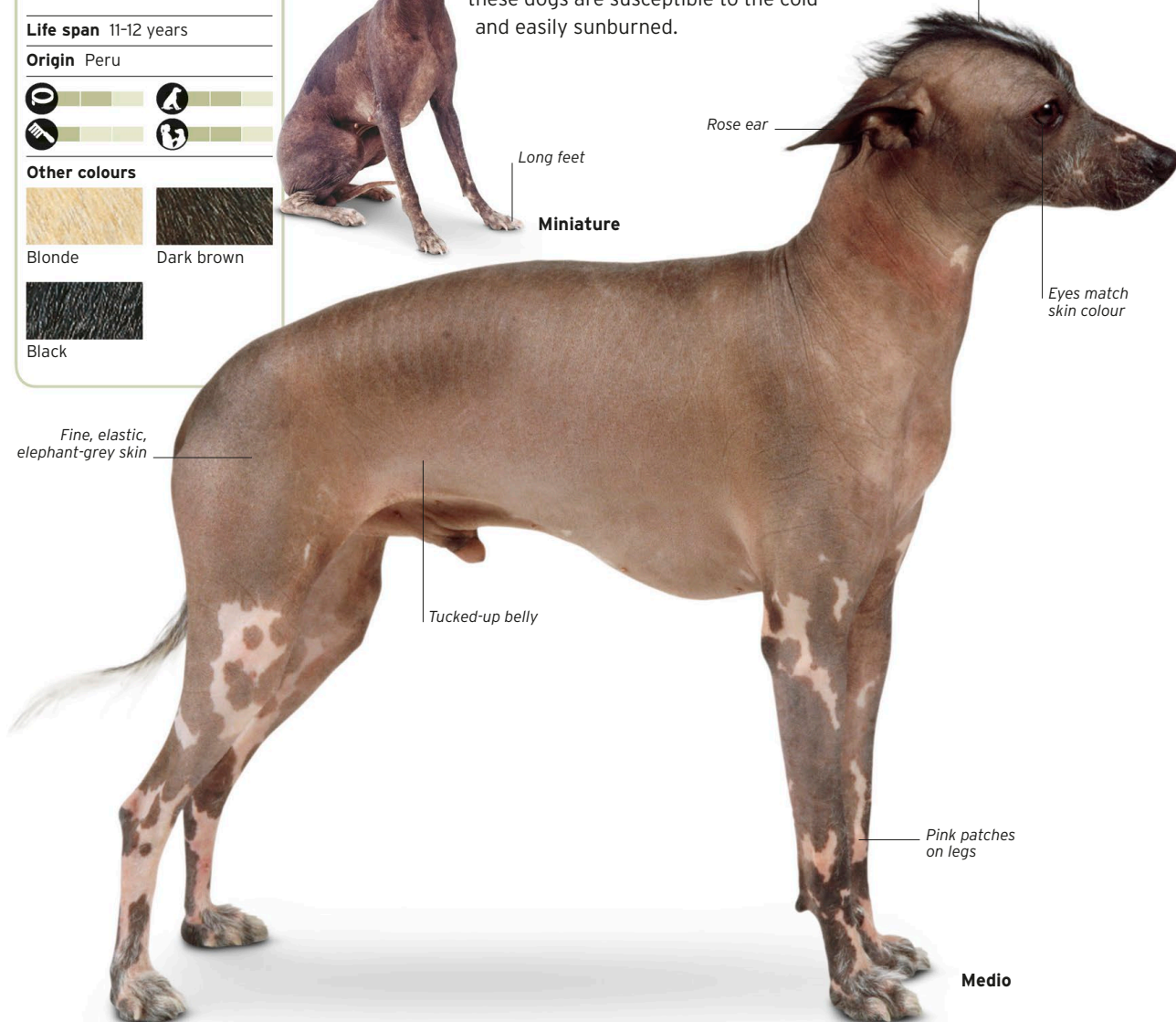
Eyes match skin colour

Fine, elastic, elephant-grey skin

Tucked-up belly

Pink patches on legs

Medio



XOLOITZCUINTLE

THIS CALM-NATURED, ALERT DOG IS EASY TO CARE FOR AND MAKES A DELIGHTFUL COMPANION

KC

Height range

Miniature:
25-35cm (10-14in)

Intermediate:
36-45cm (14-18in)

Standard:
46-60cm (18-24in)

Weight range

Miniature:
2-7kg (10-15lb)

Intermediate:
7-14kg (15-31lb)

Standard:
14-25kg (31-55lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Mexico



Other colours



Red



Liver

In pre-Conquest Mexico hairless dogs were believed to have sacred significance and were often used as a sacrifice or ritually eaten in religious ceremonies. Because of these practices, hairless dogs barely escaped extinction and it was not until the mid-20th century that breeders began to work towards its recovery. Three different sizes are now recognized. Like all hairless dogs, this breed has limited general appeal and remains something of a rarity. Nonetheless, the Xoloitzcuintle, also known as the Mexican Hairless, is charming, good-tempered, and intelligent, and is likely to reward its owner with loyalty and affection.



Black skin

Standard



Bronze skin

Miniature (puppy)



Tufts of hair on forehead

Large, long ears, erect when alert

Head has slight stop and tapering muzzle

Firm, slender neck

Dark grey skin

Traces of dark hair on tail

Intermediate



RESCUE WORK

A German Shepherd Dog working for a search-and-rescue team hunts for survivors in a collapsed building following an earthquake.

WORKING DOGS

The list of jobs that humans ask dogs to perform is almost endless. In the thousands of years since dogs were domesticated, canine helpers have guarded homes, rescued people in danger, gone to war, and looked after the sick and disabled – to give only a few examples. In this book the working group is represented by breeds traditionally developed for pastoral work and guard duties.



Shepherd dogs work as herders and guardians

In general, the dogs in this highly diverse group tend to be large, though there are a few small but nonetheless robust exceptions. Working dogs are bred for strength and stamina, and many of them are capable of living outdoors in all weathers.

A collie rounding up its flock is for most people the archetypal shepherd dog, but many other types of dog are used to work with livestock. These pastoral breeds, as they are known, are used for both herding and guarding. Herding dogs have a natural instinct for driving stock, though not all of them work in the same way. Border Collies, for example, keep their sheep in order by stalking and staring, while the traditional cattle-herders such as Welsh Corgis and the Australian Cattle Dog nip at heels, and some herders bark as they work. Guardian sheepdogs, which include mountain breeds such as the



Maremma and Pyrenean Mountain Dog, are designed to protect their flocks from predators such as wolves. Usually very large, many of these dogs are white and heavy-coated, scarcely distinguishable from the sheep they spend their lives guarding.

Guard duties of another kind are often carried out by dogs of the mastiff type, recognizable as descendants of the enormous Molossus dogs seen in friezes and artefacts from the ancient world. Such breeds as the Bullmastiff, the Dogue de Bordeaux, and the Neapolitan Mastiff are used worldwide by security forces and for guarding property. Typically, these dogs are massively built and powerful, with small ears (often cropped in countries where the practice is still legal) and pendulous lips.

Many working breeds are excellent as companion dogs. Pastoral herders are extremely intelligent and generally easy to train, and often enjoy using their skills in agility trials and other canine competitions. Livestock guardian dogs, because of their sheer size and protective nature, are less likely

to be suited to family life. In recent decades a number of the mastiff-type breeds have achieved great popularity as companions. Although some were produced originally for fighting, if reared in the home and socialized early they can adapt to life as a pet.

LIVESTOCK GUARDIANS

The protective instincts of breeds such as the Hungarian Kuvasz make these dogs unsuitable for the inexperienced owner.



AGILITY TRIALS

Border Collies are often seen displaying their agility and intelligence at working dog trials.

SAARLOOS WOLFDOG

THIS SELF-WILLED DOG IS RESERVED WITH STRANGERS BUT MAKES A LOYAL COMPANION

FCI

Height range
60-75cm (24-30in)

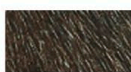
Weight range
35-40kg (77-88lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin The Netherlands



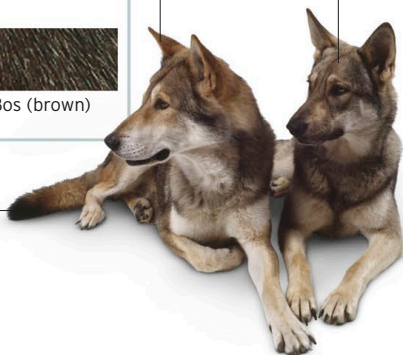
Other colours



Cream

Bos (brown)

Heavy-coated,
broad tail

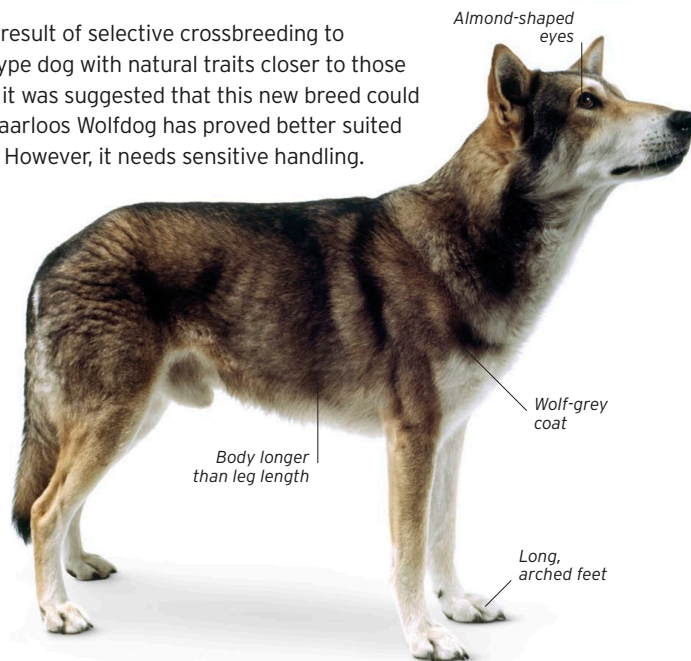


Triangular ears
with rounded tips

Wedge-shaped,
wolf-like head

The Saarloos Wolfdog is the result of selective crossbreeding to produce a German Shepherd-type dog with natural traits closer to those of its wolf ancestors. Although it was suggested that this new breed could be useful as a guide dog, the Saarloos Wolfdog has proved better suited to life as a pet and companion. However, it needs sensitive handling.

Almond-shaped
eyes



Wolf-grey
coat

Body longer
than leg length

Long,
arched feet

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN WOLFDOG

A WOLF-LIKE DOG WITH A DOCILE TEMPERAMENT

FCI

Height range
60-65cm (24-26in)

Weight range
20-26kg (44-57lb)

Life span 12-16 years

Origin Czech Republic



Straight,
high-set tail



Triangular,
erect ears

Wedge-shaped,
wolf-like head

Created through breeding programs that initially crossed German Shepherd Dogs with wolves, the Czechoslovakian Wolfdog has inherited many of the traits of its wild ancestors. This breed is quick, fearless, resilient, and wary of strangers. It is also faithful and obedient with familiar handlers, qualities that make it an excellent house dog.

Distinctive
lighter area
on face



Straight,
yellowish
grey coat

Dark nails

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG

THIS INTELLIGENT AND VERSATILE DOG IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR BREEDS WORLDWIDE

KC

Height range
58-63cm (23-25in)

Weight range
22-40kg (49-88lb)

Life span Over 10 years

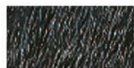
Origin Germany



Other colours



Sable



Black



As the name implies, this breed (formerly known as the Alsatian) originally worked as a shepherd dog and a protector of sheep. Highly adaptable and trainable, the German Shepherd Dog has proved valuable as a guard dog, guide dog, and tracker, and is widely used by police and armed forces all over the world. Despite occasional bad publicity for aggressive behaviour, German Shepherd Dogs produced by reputable breeders usually have a steady temperament. When trained by a responsible owner and allowed to enjoy an active outdoor lifestyle, this dog can become a trusted and faithful member of the family. Coats range from short-haired to long-haired.



Long-haired

Bushy tail

Head has clean-cut appearance

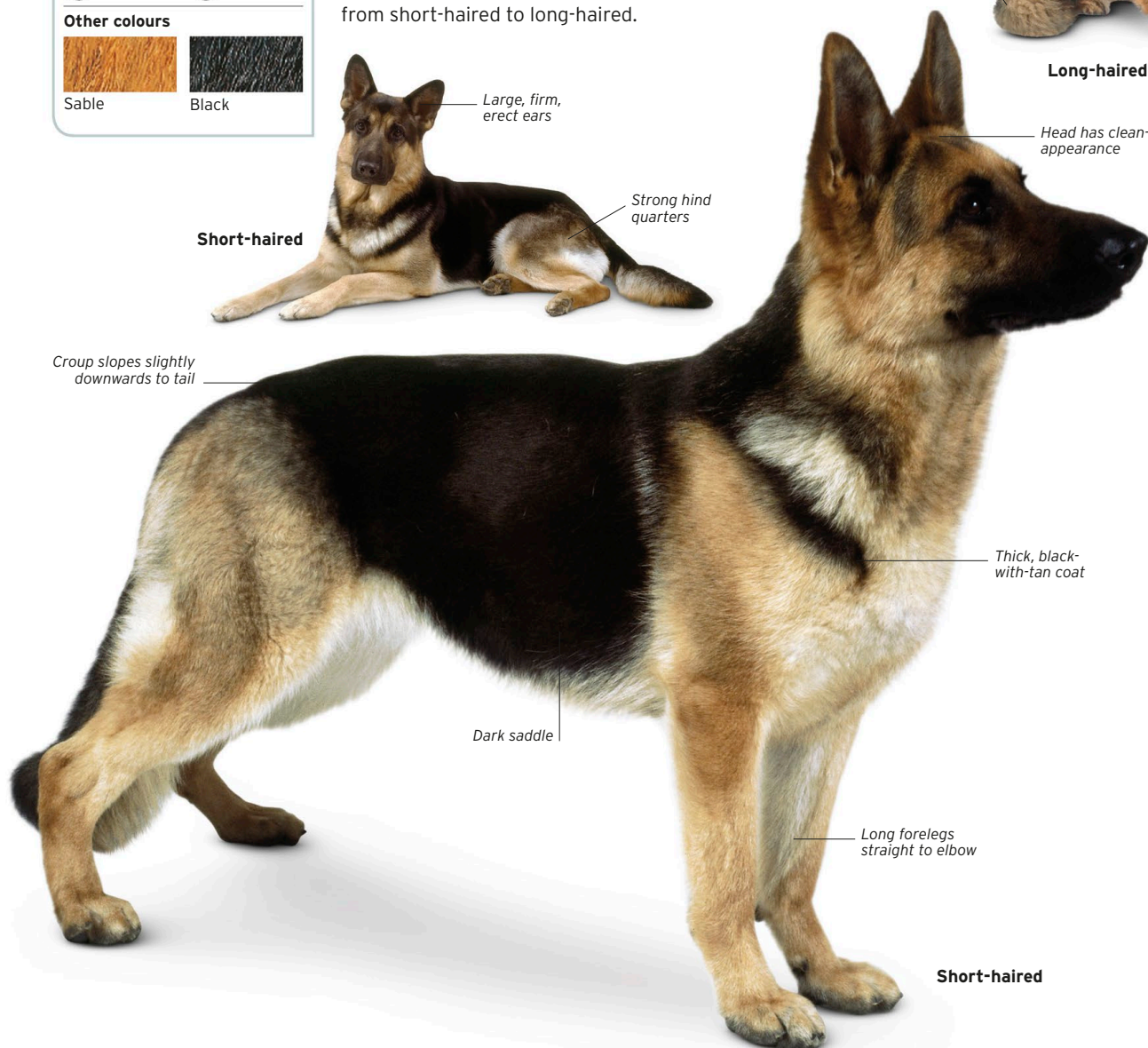


Short-haired

Large, firm, erect ears

Strong hind quarters

Croup slopes slightly downwards to tail



Thick, black-with-tan coat

Dark saddle

Long forelegs straight to elbow

Short-haired

KING SHEPHERD

EASY TO TRAIN, THIS DOG IS RELIABLE WITH CHILDREN AND OTHER PETS

Height range
64-74cm (25-29in)

Weight range
41-66kg (90-145lb)

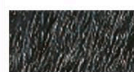
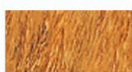


Life span 10-11 years

Origin USA



Other colours

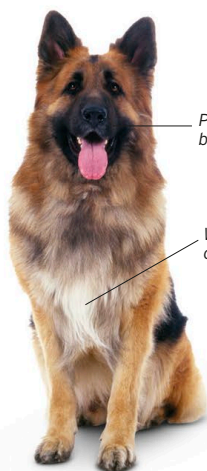


Black

Sable with
black markings

Black dogs may have red, gold,
or cream markings.

Developed in the United States and recognized since the late 1990s, this large and handsome dog clearly shows the German Shepherd Dog (see p.35) in its breeding history. King Shepherds love to work as herders or guard dogs, but have a placid and tolerant nature that allows them to fit in well with a family. There are two coat types: smooth and rough.



Long, muscular body
with black saddle

Predominately
black muzzle

White markings
on chest



Well-plumed tail

Rough-coated

Ruff of longer
hair around neck

High-set,
erect ears

Weather-
resistant,
thick, tan coat

PICARDY SHEEPDOG

THIS DOG ADORES LONG WALKS AND IS GENTLE WITH CHILDREN, BUT DISLIKES BEING LEFT ALONE

KC

Height range
55-65cm (22-26in)

Weight range
23-32kg (51-71lb)

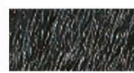
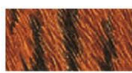


Life span 13-14 years

Origin France



Other colours



Dark grey

Fawn brindle

May have white markings.

The history of the Picardy Sheepdog is uncertain, but this tough-looking breed may have originated over a century ago in the Picardy region of northeastern France. With quiet and patient training, this dog makes a sociable companion and a good playmate for children. The rugged coat is relatively easy to groom.



Long tail curves
slightly at tip

Lighter hair
on chest



Thick, fawn
coat, harsh and
crisp to touch

Finely shaped head
hidden by long hair

High-set,
erect ears

Hair on
muzzle forms
moustache
and beard

DUTCH SHEPHERD DOG

USED FOR GUARDING, HERDING, AND AGILITY WORK, THIS DOG CAN ALSO MAKE A GOOD PET

FCI

Height range
55-62cm (22-24in)

Weight range
30-31kg (66-68lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin The Netherlands



Not often seen outside the Netherlands, and relatively uncommon even there, in the last 200 years this breed has become far more than an all-purpose farm dog. The Dutch Shepherd Dog has been used for security and police work, as a guide dog, and in obedience trials. Reliable and affectionate, the breed also makes a good family dog, though it has a natural wariness of strangers. There are three varieties of the Dutch Shepherd Dog: long-haired, short-haired, and rough-haired. The rough-haired type needs to have its coat plucked by a professional dog-groomer about twice a year.

Erect ears



Long-haired

Silver-brindle coat



Fawn-brindle coat

Short-haired



Coarse eyebrows

Harsh, wavy, silver-brindle coat

Feathering on underside of tail

Shorter hair below hock on hind legs

Light feathering on back of legs

Rough-haired

LAEKENOIS

THIS RARE BELGIAN SHEPHERD DOG IS DISTINGUISHED BY ITS UNUSUAL COAT

KC

Height range
56-66cm (22-26in)

Weight range
25-29kg (55-65lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Belgium



Head carried high
with alert expression

Wiry, reddish
fawn coat

Of the four breeds of Belgian Shepherd Dog, this wiry-coated variety was the first to be developed, in the 1880s. The Laekenois is named after the Château de Laeken, near Antwerp, and was once much favoured by the Belgian royal family. Rarely seen, this delightful dog deserves to be more widely appreciated.

Area of darker
shading

High-set,
erect ears

Shorter
hair on
muzzle

Body powerful
but not heavy

Round feet

GROENENDAEL

THIS BRIGHT AND ACTIVE DOG LOVES OUTDOOR LIFE AND IS FULL OF CURIOSITY

KC

Height range
56-66cm (22-26in)

Weight range
23-34kg (51-75lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Belgium



Long, straight,
black coat

Ruff of
longer hair
around neck

From 1893 black-coated Belgian Shepherd Dogs were selectively bred at a kennel in the village of Groenendael, near Brussels. This handsome variety is now extremely popular. Like most dogs formerly used for work, the Groenendael needs an owner who understands the importance of early socializing and firm but kindly control.

Slightly
sloping rump

Finely shaped
muzzle

Long
feathering
on legs

MALINOIS

A VERY HARDY AND ENERGETIC DOG WITH STRONG GUARDING INSTINCTS

KC

Height range
56-66cm (22-26in)

Weight range
27-29kg (60-65lb)



Life span Over 10 years

Origin Belgium



Other colours



Grey

Red

All colours have black overlay.

Believed to have originated in Malines, in Belgium, the Malinois is a short-haired variety of the Belgian Shepherd Dog. Like its fellow breeds, it is a natural guard dog. Although its behaviour may be unpredictable, with responsible training the Malinois socializes well and makes a loyal companion.

Thicker collar around neck

Distinctive black mask

Short, straight, fawn coat with black tips to the hairs

Triangular ears, mostly black

Almond-shaped, brown eyes

Pointed muzzle and medium stop

Darker tip on bushy tail

TERVUEREN

THIS DOG HAS A DOMINANT PERSONALITY AND ENJOYS A GOOD RUN, BUT SHOULD BE SUPERVISED

KC

Height range
56-66cm (22-26in)

Weight range
18-29kg (40-65lb)

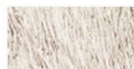


Life span Over 10 years

Origin Belgium



Other colours



Grey

All colours have black overlay.

The most popular of the Belgian Shepherd Dogs worldwide, this variety was named after the village where it was developed by a local breeder. The Tervueren has strong protective instincts and is frequently used for guarding and police work. Its beautiful, black-tipped coat sheds regularly and needs plenty of grooming.

Head carried high

Strongly muscled back

Upright, muscular neck

Abundant "breeches" on hind quarters

Black ears and mask

Rich, long, fawn coat with black overlay

Red coat



MUDI

THIS ACTIVE AND PLAYFUL FAMILY DOG ALSO MAKES A FEARLESS GUARD DOG

FCI

Height range
38-47cm (15-19in)

Weight range
8-13kg (18-29lb)



Life span 13-14 years

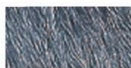
Origin Hungary



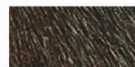
Other colours



Fawn



Blue merle, ash



Brown

May have white markings.

Originally used as a working dog by Hungarian sheep- and cattle-herders, this rare breed is tough, bold, and energetic. With its friendly and adaptable nature, the Mudi makes a good house dog. It needs plenty of exercise to stay fit and healthy, and responds well to sympathetic training.

Wedge-shaped head

Erect ears,
covered with
thick hair

Dense, shiny,
wavy, black coat

Black nose

Shorter hair
below hock

Feathered
backs to legs

SCHNAUZER

LIVELY BUT OBEDIENT, THIS DOG IS GOOD-TEMPERED WITH CHILDREN

KC

Height range
45-50cm (18-20in)

Weight range
14-20kg (31-44lb)

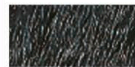


Life span Over 10 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Black

The medium-sized Schnauzer was established as a breed in the 1880s in southern Germany. Alert and agile, the Schnauzer was used primarily as a versatile farm dog with a formidable reputation for rat-hunting. Placid and affectionate, but with a lively sense of fun, the breed is now popular as a family dog.

Bushy eyebrows

Straight back

High-set,
drop ears

Bristly,
lighter-coloured
beard

Longer hair
extends over feet

Short, wiry,
pepper and
salt coat

Lighter-
coloured hair
on lower legs

GIANT SCHNAUZER

AN EVEN-TEMPERED, INTELLIGENT, AND EASY-TO-TRAIN DOG

KC

Height range

60-70cm (24-28in)

Weight range

29-41kg (65-90lb)

Life span

Over 10 years

Origin

Germany

Other colours



Pepper and salt



Robust and powerfully built, the Giant Schnauzer from southern Germany was originally used for farm work and cattle-herding. By the 20th century the breed's intelligence, trainability, and impressive appearance had been recognized as ideal qualities for a guard dog.

This breed is now widely used by police and security forces, but an equable temperament also makes it suitable as a home watchdog and pet. Despite its size, the Giant Schnauzer is easily manageable if given plenty of exercise. Its dense, wiry, double-layered coat needs regular maintenance, with daily grooming and an occasional trim.



Dark eyes



Deep chest

Drop ears with rounded tips

Bushy eyebrows overhang eyes



Tail carried high

Dense, wiry, black coat

Bearded muzzle

Strong, graceful neck

Slight feathering on back of legs



BOUVIER DES ARDENNES

A RARE DOG WITH A LONG-ESTABLISHED REPUTATION AS A WILLING WORKER

FCI

Height range
52-62cm (20-24in)

Weight range
22-35kg (49-77lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Belgium



Other colours



Variety of colours



This hardy, active, former cattle-herder from the Belgian Ardennes is now rarely seen, either as a working dog or a house dog. A handful of enthusiasts have kept the breed in existence, and with its adaptable temperament and zest for life the Bouvier des Ardennes has the potential for future popularity.

Ears slightly darker than body

Body length equals leg length

Black-edged lips

Tousled, fawn coat, dry to touch

Rounded feet

Erect, pointed ears

Coarse moustache and beard

Black coat



BOUVIER DES FLANDRES

THIS TOWN OR COUNTRY DOG IS HAIRY BUT NOT TOO DIFFICULT TO GROOM

KC

Height range
59-68cm (23-27in)

Weight range
27-40kg (60-88lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Belgium



Other colours



Variety of colours

May have small, white star on chest.



Of the various types of Bouviers once used in Belgium and France for cattle-herding and guarding, this breed from Flanders is the most commonly encountered. Despite originally being an outdoor dog - with an appropriately weatherproof coat - the Bouvier des Flandres can happily adjust to an urban home.

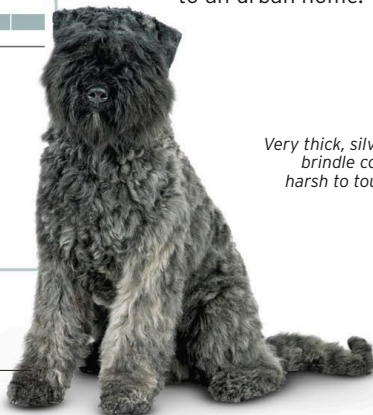
High-set, drop ears

Heavily feathered tail

Long, coarse beard

Very thick, silver-brindle coat, harsh to touch

Dense coat extends over feet



CROATIAN SHEPHERD DOG

THIS HERDING AND GUARDING DOG IS MORE SUITED TO WORK THAN DOMESTICITY

FCI

Height range
40-50cm (16-20in)

Weight range
13-20kg (29-44lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin Croatia



Relatively small and lightly built for a shepherd dog, this breed is active and alert. Easy to train for work, the Croatian Shepherd Dog may be harder to handle as a house dog because of its natural herding and guarding instincts. Its unusually wavy or curly coat is a distinctive feature.



Short hair on face

Erect, triangular ears, lined with long hair

Wavy, black coat

Shorter hair on lower legs



Narrow muzzle

Backs of legs slightly feathered

SARPLANINAC

THIS MAGNIFICENT AND VERY PROTECTIVE WORKING DOG IS HAPPY TO LIVE OUTDOORS

FCI

Height range
Over 58cm (over 23in)

Weight range
30-45kg (66-99lb)

Life span 11-13 years

Origin Macedonia



Formerly known as the Illyrian Shepherd Dog, this impressive breed is now named after the Sarplanina Mountains of Macedonia where it originated. The Sarplaninac is very much an outdoor, working dog. Although it has a sociable, though protective, temperament, its size and energy levels make it impractical as a family pet.



Broad chest

Broad, slightly rounded top to head

Longer hair forms ruff around neck

Heavily feathered, bushy tail



Drop ears

Long, dense, dark brown coat

Yellowish-grey lower legs

Long feathering on hind quarters

Other colours



Any solid colour



KARST SHEPHERD DOG

THIS RELIABLE AND DEVOTED DOG NEEDS A SPACIOUS HOME AND CORRECT HANDLING

FCI

Height range
53-63cm (21-25in)

Weight range
25-42kg (55-93lb)

Life span 11-12 years

Origin Slovenia



Formerly known as the Illyrian Shepherd, this dog was separated from another breed of the same name and renamed the Karst, or Istrian, Shepherd Dog in the 1960s. Used for herding and guarding in the alpine Karst region of Slovenia, this excellent working dog can make a good companion with careful training and early socialization.

Head as wide
as it is long

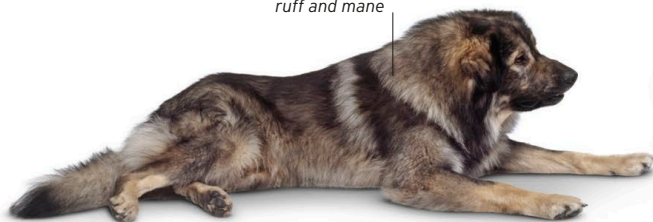
Flat, long,
iron-grey coat

Lighter grey
markings

Dark streak on
front of limbs

Long,
bushy tail

Hair on neck forms
ruff and mane



ESTRELA MOUNTAIN DOG

THIS DOG, FOR LARGE HOMES ONLY, CAN LIVE OUTSIDE IF GIVEN SHELTER

KC

Height range
62-72cm (24-28in)

Weight range
35-60kg (77-132lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Portugal



Other colours



Wolf-grey

Black brindle

May have white markings on
underside and extremities.

A livestock-guardian from the Estrela Mountains of Portugal, this fearless, rugged dog was bred to protect flocks against predators such as wolves. The Estrela Mountain Dog is a loyal and friendly, but strong-willed, companion that needs consistent and patient obedience training. There are long-coated and short-coated varieties of the breed.

Long head
with broad,
rounded skull

Dark face
mask

Black hairs
intermingle
with fawn hairs

Thick, slightly wavy,
fawn topcoat

Thick ruff
around
neck and
chest

Long-coated



PORTUGUESE WATCHDOG

THIS CALM-NATURED WATCHDOG MAY BE TOO BIG AND STRONG FOR MANY OWNERS

FCI

Height range
64-74cm (25-29in)

Weight range
35-60kg (77-132lb)

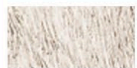
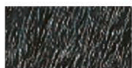


Life span 12 years

Origin Portugal



Other colours



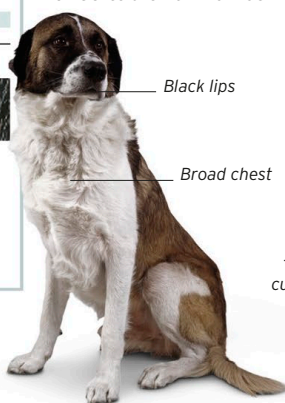
Wolf-grey

Black

Coat may be brindled and will always have white markings; white coats have patches of one of the colours.

Possibly descended from the powerful mastiffs brought into Europe from Asia by nomadic herders, this breed is also known as the Rafeiro de Alentejo, named after the Alentejo region of Portugal. Traditionally used for guarding, the Portuguese Watchdog is vigilant and suspicious of strangers. Formidable in size and strength, though not aggressive, this dog is unsuitable for novice handlers.

Triangular, drop ears



Black lips

Broad chest

Tail slightly curved at tip



Straight, dense, fawn coat

White markings on chest and legs

CASTRO LABOREIRO DOG

THIS BOLD AND VIGILANT WATCHDOG IS BETTER SUITED TO WORK THAN FAMILY LIFE

FCI

Height range
55-64cm (22-25in)

Weight range
25-40kg (55-88lb)

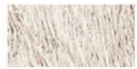


Life span 12-13 years

Origin Portugal



Other colours



Wolf-grey

May have a small, white spot on chest.

Named after its home village in the mountains of northern Portugal, this dog, sometimes known as the Portuguese Cattle Dog, was bred to work as a livestock-guardian. Its distinctive alarm bark starts low and ends high-pitched. This dog develops a strong bond with family members but may be hostile to strangers.

Triangular, drop ears



Almond-shaped eyes

Tail long-haired on underside, usually carried low



Short, very thick, harsh-textured, "mountain" brindle coat

PORTUGUESE SHEEPDOG

THIS HIGHLY INTELLIGENT DOG LIKES TO BE ACTIVE

FCI

Height range
42-55cm (17-22in)

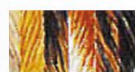
Weight range
17-27kg (37-60lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Portugal



Other colours



Variety of colours

May have a small amount of white on chest.

In its native country this shaggy, agile dog is sometimes known as the "monkey dog". The Portuguese Sheepdog loves to be outdoors, herding. Lively and extremely intelligent, the breed has also gained popularity as a companion and sporting dog in Portugal, although it is little known elsewhere.



Large eyebrows do not obscure eyes

Fawn coat



Black, shaggy coat resembles goat hair

Long beard and moustache

Tan markings on lower legs

CATALAN SHEEPDOG

A PLEASANT-NATURED DOG, BUT PROTECTIVE OF HOME AND FAMILY

KC

Height range
45-55cm (18-22in)

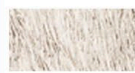
Weight range
20-27kg (44-60lb)

Life span 12-14 years

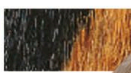
Origin Spain



Other colours



Grey



Black and tan



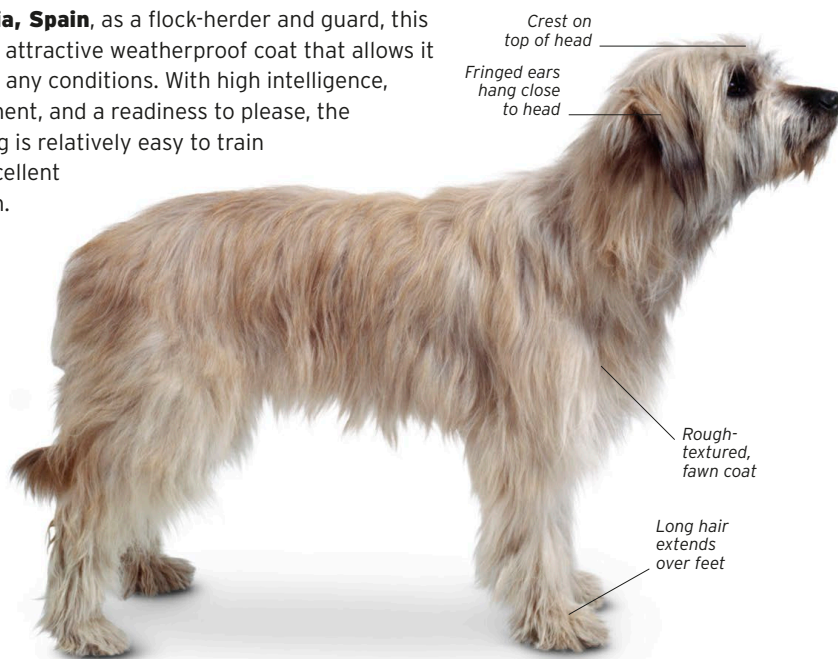
Sable

May have white markings.

Bred in Catalonia, Spain, as a flock-herder and guard, this hardy dog has an attractive weatherproof coat that allows it to work in almost any conditions. With high intelligence, a quiet temperament, and a readiness to please, the Catalan Sheepdog is relatively easy to train and makes an excellent family companion.



Round, dark amber eyes



Crest on top of head

Fringed ears hang close to head

Rough-textured, fawn coat

Long hair extends over feet

PYRENEAN SHEEPDOG

A LIVELY COMPANION, ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO TIRE OUT, WITH A STRONG HERDING INSTINCT

KC

Height range
38-48cm (15-19in)

Weight range
7-14kg (15-31lb)

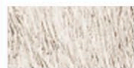


Life span 12-13 years

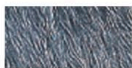
Origin France



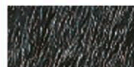
Other colours



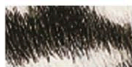
Grey



Blue



Black



Black and white

Blue coats may be merle, slate, or brindle. Unmixed colours are preferred.

Small and lightly built for a sheepdog, this breed has long been used for herding flocks in the French Pyrenees. It remained almost unknown beyond its native mountain regions until the beginning of the 20th century. Lithe, energetic, and ready to join in any interesting activity, the Pyrenean Sheepdog does well in canine sports such as agility trials. For an active family, the Pyrenean Sheepdog is an excellent pet. The breed comes in two coat varieties - long or semi-long - and may have a rough or smooth face.



Fawn coat with black hairs

Semi-long, rough-faced



White markings on chest

Fawn coat with black hairs

Semi-long, smooth-faced

Fawn coat woollier on hind quarters



Long, swept-back hair on face and cheeks

Long hair on legs extends over toes

Long-haired, rough-faced



BEARDED COLLIE

THIS DOG IS CALM BUT ALERT AND ACTIVE, SO BEST SUITED TO A RURAL HOME

KC

Height range
51-56cm (20-22in)

Weight range
20-25kg (44-55lb)



Life span Over 10 years

Origin UK

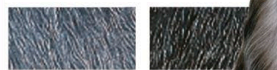


Other colours



Sandy

Red-brown



Blue

Black

Until the middle of the 20th century the Bearded Collie was familiar only in Scotland and the north of England, where it was valued as a sheepdog. Now widely appreciated for its attractive appearance, compact size, and gentle nature, this breed has great appeal as a pet. However, it is more likely to enjoy the space of a rural home than a compact urban environment.

Arched eyebrows do not cover eyes

Long, slate-grey outer coat

White collar

Toes hairy between pads

Large nose

Long moustache on muzzle

BRIARD

THIS LARGE AND BOISTEROUS DOG NEEDS A FIRM HAND AND PLENTY OF EXERCISE

KC

Height range
58-69cm (23-27in)

Weight range
35kg (77lb)



Life span Over 10 years

Origin France



Other colours



Slate-grey

Black

In its native country this large and lively French breed works as a herder and guarder of sheep. Bold and protective, but not aggressive, the Briard is an excellent family companion if given regular exercise and room to run and play. This is not a low-maintenance dog as the Briard's long, thick coat needs a lot of grooming.

Short, high-set, long-haired ears

Eyebrows fall over eyes

Black nose

Darker hairs blend in with main body colour

Long, flowing, slightly wavy, fawn coat

Strong, muscular legs

OLD ENGLISH SHEEPDOG

THIS GOOD-TEMPERED AND INTELLIGENT DOG NEEDS FREQUENT GROOMING

KC

Height range
56-61cm (22-24in)

Weight range
27-45kg (60-99lb)



Life span Over 10 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Grey

Any shade of grey, grizzle, or blue. Body and hind quarters of solid colour, with no white patches.

This breed is considered to be native to the UK, although it may have its earliest origins in various types of continental sheepdog. It was once the custom to completely dock the tails of Old English Sheepdogs, and the alternative name of Bobtail Sheepdog is still sometimes used. This big, strong dog requires a great deal of exercise and preferably wide open spaces to work off its energy. Its owner should be prepared to devote time and care to daily grooming, to prevent the heavy, shaggy coat from becoming tangled and matted.



White markings on head, neck, and chest



Eyes obscured by coat

Small ears covered by coat

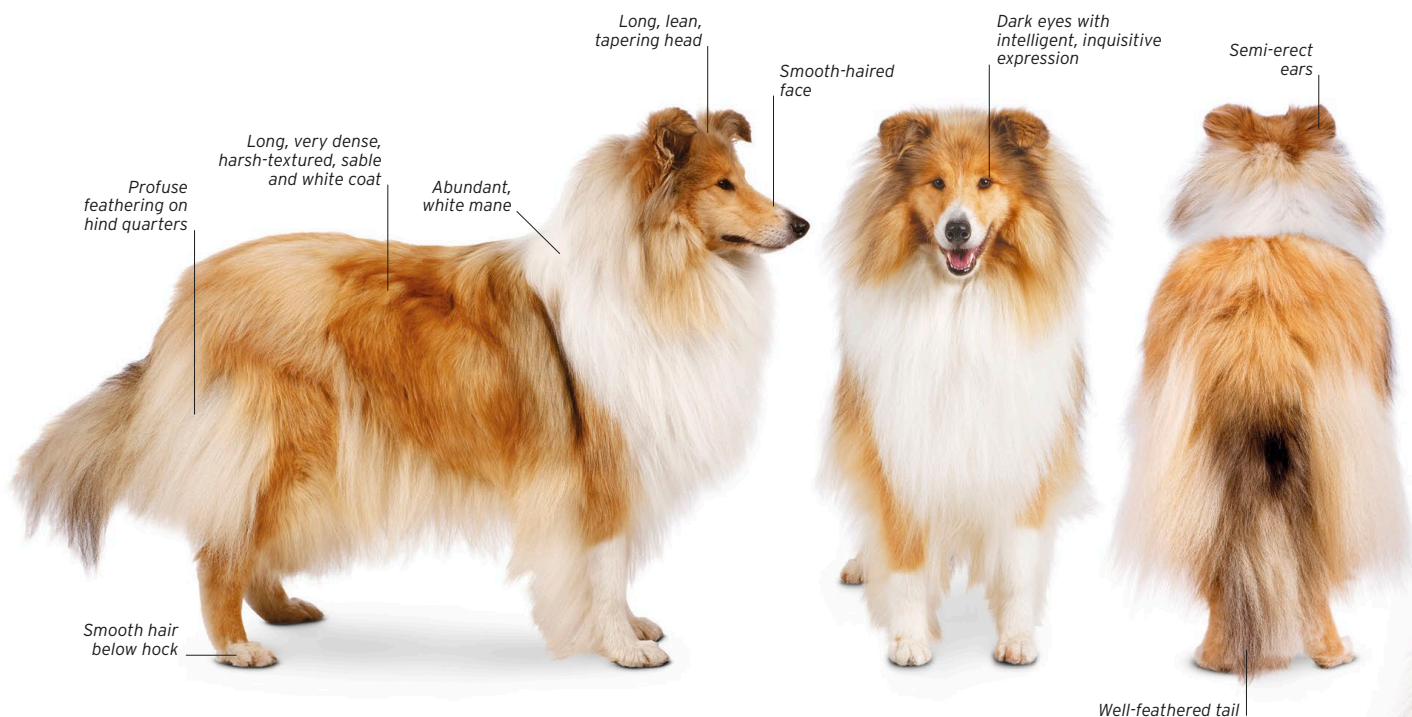
Adult and puppy

Deep, relatively short body

Longer coat on hind quarters



Very thick, shaggy, blue coat with white markings



ROUGH COLLIE

THIS PROUD AND BEAUTIFUL, SWEET-TEMPERED DOG MAKES A LOVELY FAMILY COMPANION

KC

Height range
51-61cm (20-24in)

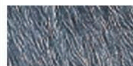
Weight range
23-34kg (51-75lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Blue merle



Black, tan,
and white

This rich-coated breed, a descendant of the rather less-refined Scottish working shepherd dogs, is much admired today as a pet and in the show ring. The Rough Collie's history may go back as far as Roman Britain, but dogs recognizably of this type did not attract wide attention until the 19th century. Queen Victoria is credited with popularizing the breed both in Europe and the United States. Later, "Lassie", the highly intelligent star of film and television, confirmed the Rough Collie's status as one of the best-loved dogs of all time.

This breed is mild-tempered and tolerant of other dogs and pets. It is highly responsive to training and makes an affectionate and protective companion. However, the people-loving Rough Collie readily accepts visitors to the home and therefore does not make a good guard dog. An athletic breed, it is eager for fun and will take part with brio in canine sports such as agility trials.

The herding instinct has not been entirely bred out of Rough Collies; their sharp awareness of movement may trigger an impulse to "round up" friends and family. Early socializing can prevent this trait from becoming a nuisance.

Like all breeds originally intended as working dogs, the Rough Collie becomes restless when under-exercised or left alone for long periods, and may start to bark excessively. However, given an energetic daily run, it can be kept in a modestly sized house or large apartment.

This dog's long, thick coat needs regular grooming to prevent tangles and matting. More frequent grooming sessions may be needed when the dense undercoat is being shed, which occurs twice a year.



SMOOTH COLLIE

A SLEEK, ELEGANT COLLIE WITH A FRIENDLY DISPOSITION

KC

Height range
51-61cm (20-24in)

Weight range
18-30kg (40-66lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin UK

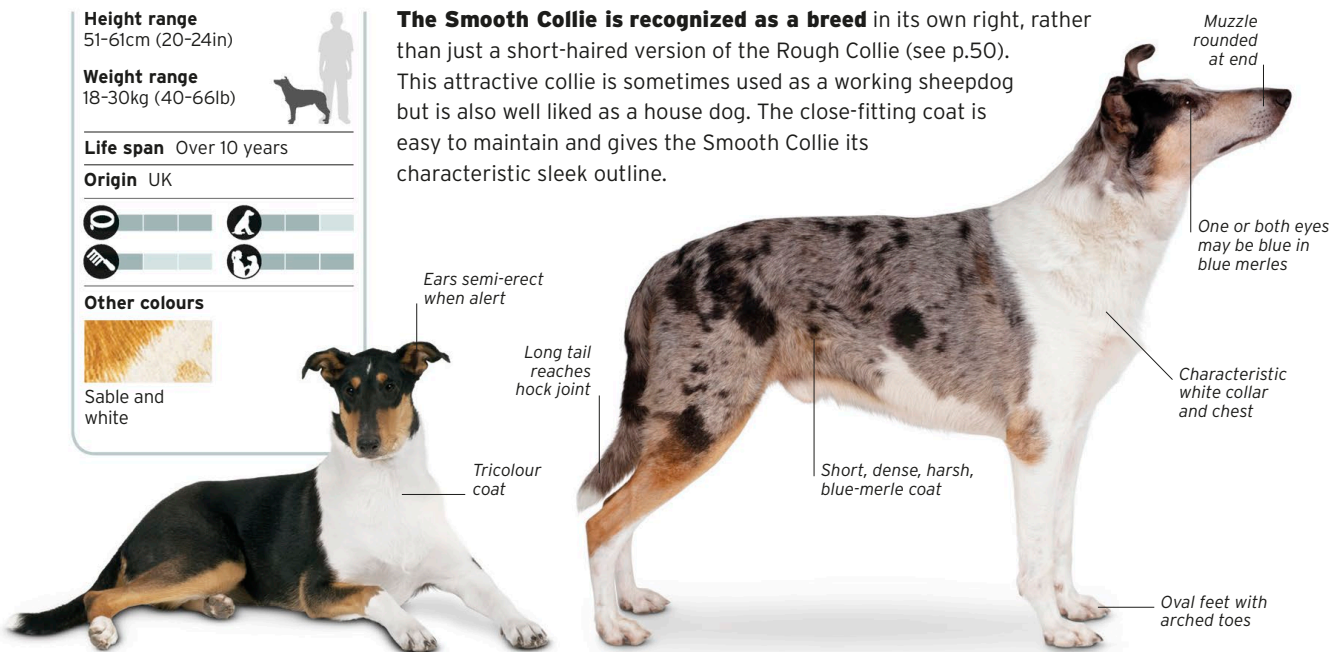


Other colours



Sable and white

The Smooth Collie is recognized as a breed in its own right, rather than just a short-haired version of the Rough Collie (see p.50). This attractive collie is sometimes used as a working sheepdog but is also well liked as a house dog. The close-fitting coat is easy to maintain and gives the Smooth Collie its characteristic sleek outline.



SHETLAND SHEEPDOG

A GENTLE-NATURED, FAMILY-FRIENDLY DOG THAT HAS BOUNDLESS ENERGY

KC

Height range
35-38cm (14-15in)

Weight range
7-11kg (15-24lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Black and white Blue merle



Black and tan

First bred in the rugged Shetland Islands, beyond the northern coast of mainland Scotland, this miniature collie is hardy and resilient. Bursting with energy but easily trained and affectionate, the Shetland Sheepdog adapts well to family life and is a loyal pet. Regular grooming sessions are necessary to maintain the beautiful coat.



BORDER COLLIE

THIS SUPER-INTELLIGENT, ACTIVE DOG NEEDS AN EXPERIENCED OWNER

KC

Height range
50-53cm (20-21in)

Weight range
12-20kg (26-44lb)

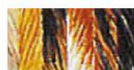


Life span Over 10 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Variety of
colours

The Border Collie's reputation for intelligence

reaches far beyond the borderland counties of the UK where it originated. Its excellence as a working sheepdog is legendary, and watching it in action at competitive events has become a popular spectator sport. Tireless energy, low boredom threshold, and an independent spirit make it an unsuitable pet for owners with restricted space or a sedentary lifestyle. However, this dog is highly responsive to experienced handling, and will reward commitment to training by becoming a faithful and obedient companion. The Border Collie has two coat varieties: smooth or moderately long.



Ears set
well apart



Low-set tail
reaches hocks

Muscular,
athletic body

Distinct
stop

Dense, black
and white coat

Feathering
on forelegs

Moderately long coat

POLISH LOWLAND SHEEPDOG

EASY TO TRAIN AS A SHEEP-HERDER, GUARD DOG, OR COMPANION

KC

Height range
42-50cm (17-20in)

Weight range
14-16kg (31-35lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Poland



Other colours



Any colour



Bred to work on the plainlands of Northern Europe as a herder and a guard dog, this delightfully shaggy dog is both rugged and agile. The Polish Lowland Sheepdog has brains as well as brawn and takes readily to training for a variety of purposes. Exercise and grooming should be high on its owner's agenda.

Heart-shaped drop ears hidden by hair



Oval-shaped feet



Long hair falls over eyes

Blunt muzzle

Thick, long, fluffy, black coat, fades with age

DUTCH SCHAPENDOES

THIS LITHE AND AGILE DOG WITH A JOYFUL TEMPERAMENT NEEDS TO BE FULLY OCCUPIED

FCI

Height range
40-50cm (16-20in)

Weight range
12-20kg (26-44lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin The Netherlands



Other colours



Any colour



Swift, tireless, and intelligent, this breed is the perfect natural sheep-herder. Moving as if on springs, a working Dutch Schapendoes can run at high speed and bound lightly over almost any obstacle in its path. The breed has the temperament to make a good companion but will not thrive without activity.

Well-feathered, long tail



Full moustache and beard



Long topknot of hair partially covers eyes

Abundant, slightly wavy, black and white coat

Well-rounded, firm, compact feet

SOUTH RUSSIAN SHEPHERD DOG

SAFE ONLY IN EXPERIENCED HANDS, THIS DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF UNDERSTANDING

FCI

Height range
62-65cm (24-26in)

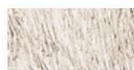
Weight range
48-50kg (106-110lb)

Life span 9-11 years

Origin Russia



Other colours



Ashen-grey



Straw



Yellow and white

This big sheepdog from the Russian steppes was bred not to round up flocks but to guard them against fierce predators. Quick to react, naturally dominant, and highly protective, the South Russian Shepherd Dog, also known as the Ovtcharka ("sheep-herder" in Russian), needs an owner who can establish authority early on.

Elongated head with broad forehead

Long, dense, white coat with coarse texture

Smallish, triangular drop ears

Feet covered with long hair

CARDIGAN WELSH CORGI

A SMALL, STURDY, AND ACTIVE DOG WITH A STRONG PERSONALITY

KC

Height range
28-31cm (11-12in)

Weight range
11-17kg (24-37lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Any colour

White markings, if present, should not dominate.

The two varieties of Welsh Corgi were classified as separate breeds in the 1930s. Less popular as a house dog than its relative, the Pembroke Welsh Corgi (see p.56), the Cardigan Welsh Corgi can be distinguished by its larger round ears and longer body. Full of character, it fits well into a small home.

Large, erect ears, rounded at tips

Harsh-textured, short, brindle coat

Relatively long, low-slung body

Fox-like head

Short, sturdy legs

Large, rounded feet

Long, heavy tail

PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI

A SHARP AND CONFIDENT WATCHDOG WITH A BIG BARK FOR ITS SIZE

KC

Height range
25–30cm (10–12in)

Weight range
9–12kg (20–26lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Fawn and sable



The two breeds of Welsh Corgi have a long history as cattle-herders and guard dogs in Wales. The more widely known of the two breeds, the Pembroke Welsh Corgi, is distinguishable from the Cardigan Welsh Corgi (see p.55) by its slightly smaller ears and shorter tail. This alert and energetic little dog makes an excellent watchdog and enjoys family life. Their tendency to occasionally revert to their herding instincts and nip ankles can be minimized by early training. Pembroke Welsh Corgis tend to put on weight easily, so need a well-regulated regime of diet and exercise.



Red coat
with white
markings

Tail carried low

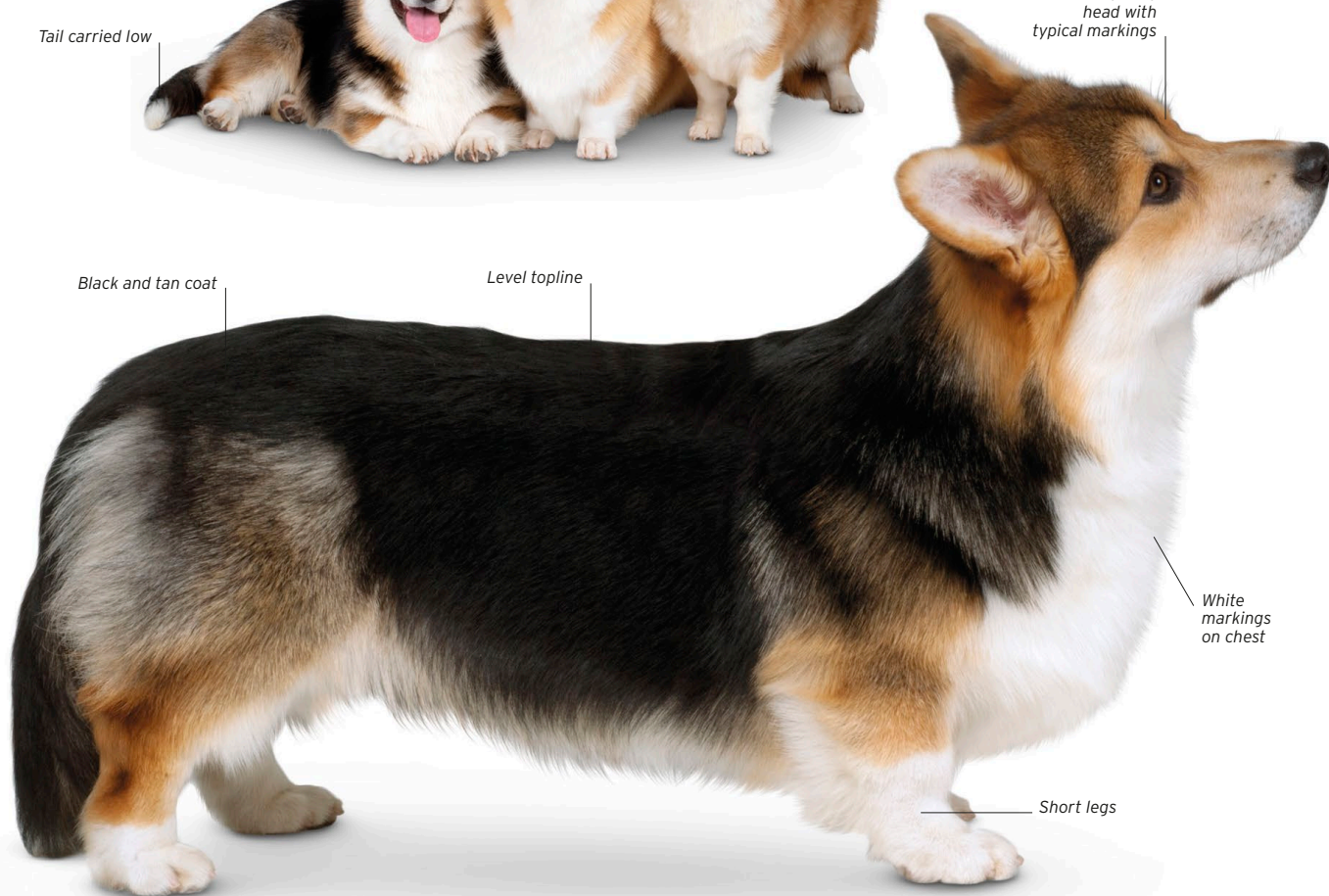


Erect ears,
rounded at tips

Fox-like
head with
typical markings

Black and tan coat

Level topline



White
markings
on chest

Short legs

SWEDISH VALLHUND

THIS UNUSUAL BREED IS ALERT, FRIENDLY, AND WILLING TO PLEASE

KC

Height range
31-35cm (12-14in)

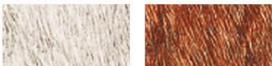
Weight range
12-16kg (26-35lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Sweden



Other colours



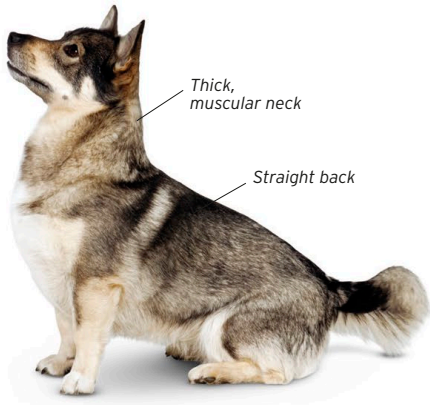
Steel-grey

Red

Red and grey coats may be mixed with brown or yellow.

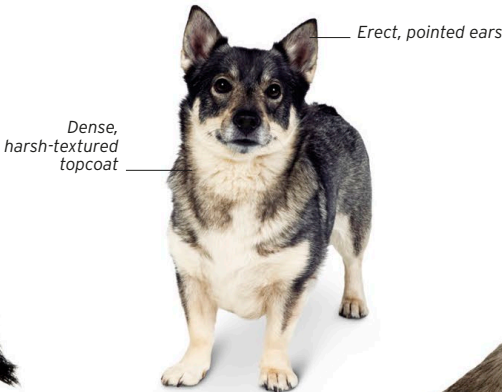


Like the Welsh Corgis (opposite and p.55), which at first glance it closely resembles, the Swedish Vallhund has been used for centuries as a cattle-herding dog. This tough and workman-like breed continues to make itself useful on Swedish farms. The Swedish Vallhund is uncommon as a house dog but is gradually becoming more widely known and appreciated for its happy personality. It is lively and companionable, always alert, and eager to respond to its owner's demands. Kept active and occupied, the Swedish Vallhund is likely to enjoy robust health and a long lifespan.



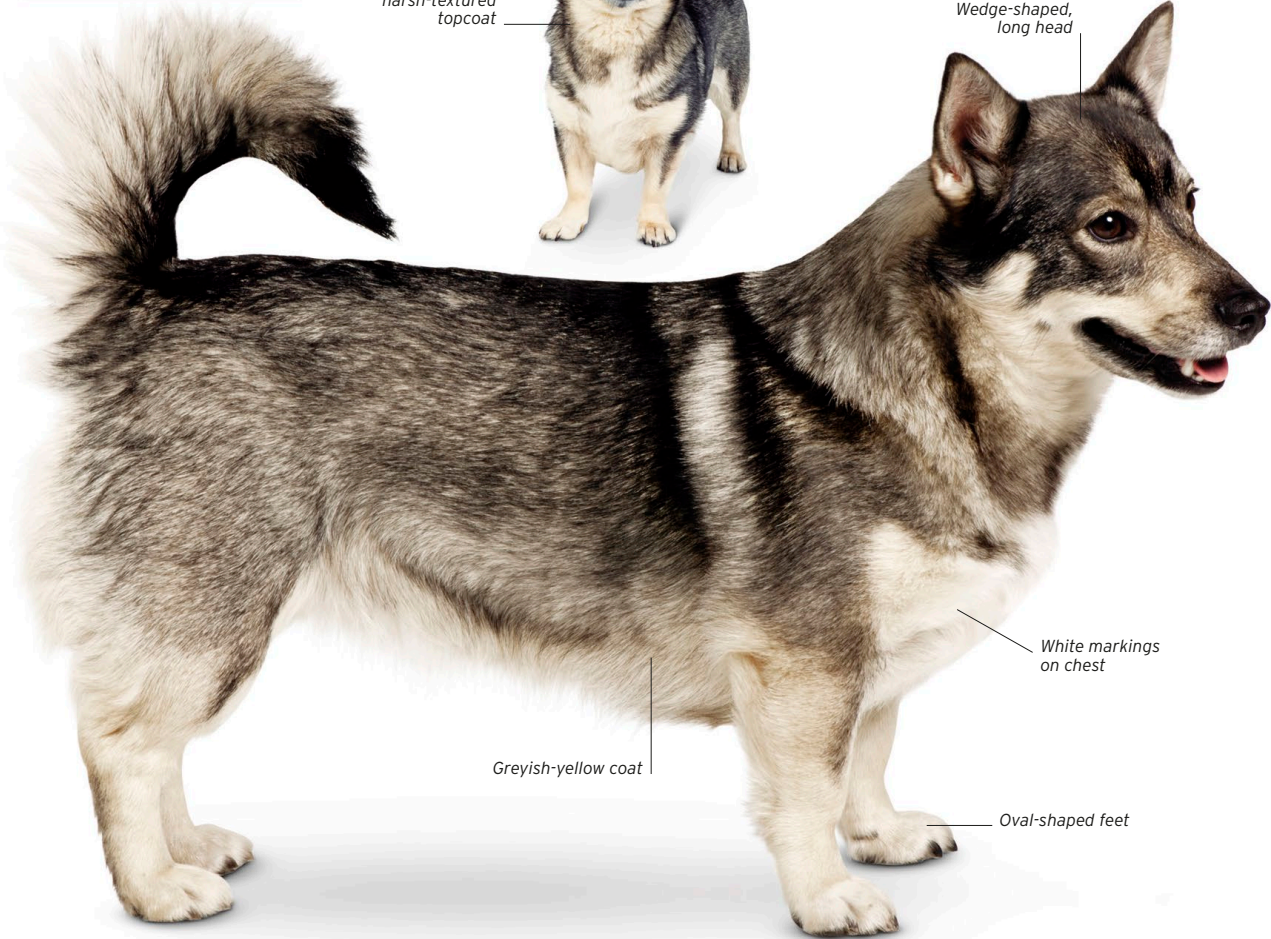
Thick, muscular neck

Straight back



Erect, pointed ears

Dense, harsh-textured topcoat



Wedge-shaped, long head

White markings on chest

Greyish-yellow coat

Oval-shaped feet

NEW ZEALAND HUNTAWAY

THIS INTELLIGENT AND FRIENDLY DOG BARKS READILY

Height range
56-66cm (22-26in)

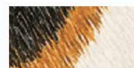
Weight range
25-40kg (55-88lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin New Zealand



Other colours



Tricolour

Dark brindle

Currently may still appear in other colours.

The New Zealand Huntaway lacks a breed standard and is not recognized by any kennel club due to its mixed breeding, which may include German Shepherd Dog (see p.35), Border Collie (see p.53), and Rottweiler (see p.81). Developed in New Zealand to be a working sheepdog, it is an excellent worker and is also gaining popularity as a house dog.

Bright-eyed, alert expression

Short, thick, black coat

Long, strong legs

Large feet

Typical tan markings

AUSTRALIAN KELPIE

A TOUGH, HARDY, AND TIRELESS DOG WITH A STRONG NATURAL HERDING INSTINCT

FCI

Height range
43-51cm (17-20in)

Weight range
11-20kg (24-44lb)

Life span 10-14 years

Origin Australia



Other colours



Variety of colours

The Australian Kelpie was developed to work as a sheepdog in the vast open expanses of Australia. Energetic and agile, the breed has seemingly endless reserves of stamina, and a low boredom threshold. An all-action dog, it is best suited to a working life where its herding skills can be put to full use.

Short, thick, water-resistant, chocolate coat

Pointed, erect ears

Thick, brush-like, slightly curved tail

Fox-like head

Fine-boned but muscular legs

AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOG

STRONG AND WORKMAN-LIKE, THIS TRUSTWORTHY DOG IS A LITTLE WARY OF STRANGERS

KC

Height range
43–51cm (17–20in)

Weight range
14–18kg (31–40lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Australia



Other colours



Red
speckle

Drop ear



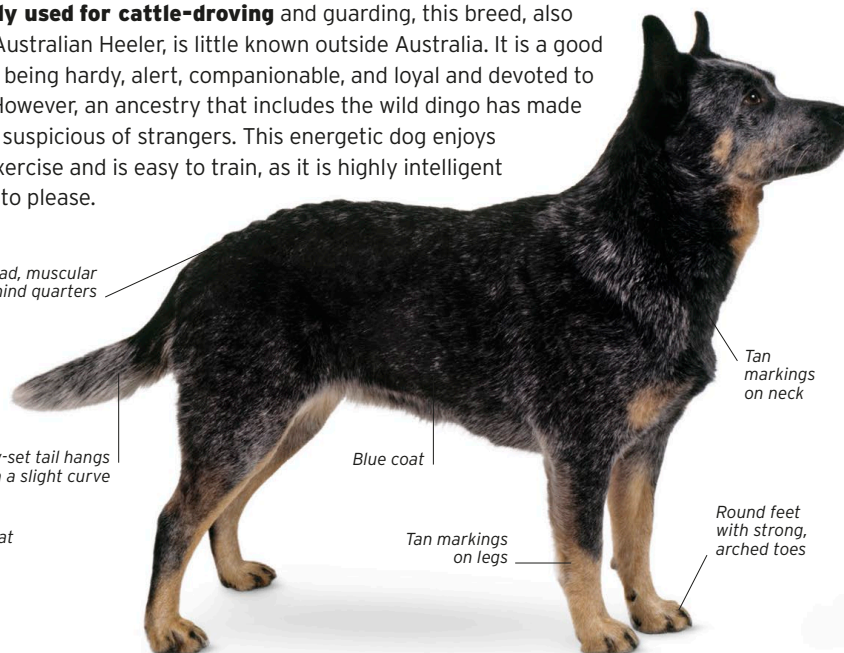
Puppy

Long, broad, muscular
hind quarters

Low-set tail hangs
in a slight curve

Blue coat

Once widely used for cattle-droving and guarding, this breed, also called the Australian Heeler, is little known outside Australia. It is a good family dog, being hardy, alert, companionable, and loyal and devoted to its owner. However, an ancestry that includes the wild dingo has made it naturally suspicious of strangers. This energetic dog enjoys plenty of exercise and is easy to train, as it is highly intelligent and willing to please.



Tan
markings
on neck

Blue coat

Tan markings
on legs

Round feet
with strong,
arched toes

AUSTRALIAN STUMPY TAIL CATTLE DOG

A DOG THAT IS EASILY TRAINED BUT NEEDS TO BE KEPT MENTALLY STIMULATED

FCI

Height range
43–51cm (17–20in)

Weight range
14–20kg (31–44lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin Australia



Other colours



Red
speckle

This short- or bobtailed breed was developed in the 19th century to herd cattle. After World War II numbers declined, and it would have disappeared but for an Australian redevelopment plan set up in 1988. The Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog is easily trained but needs to be kept busy to avoid behavioural problems.

Well-developed
thigh

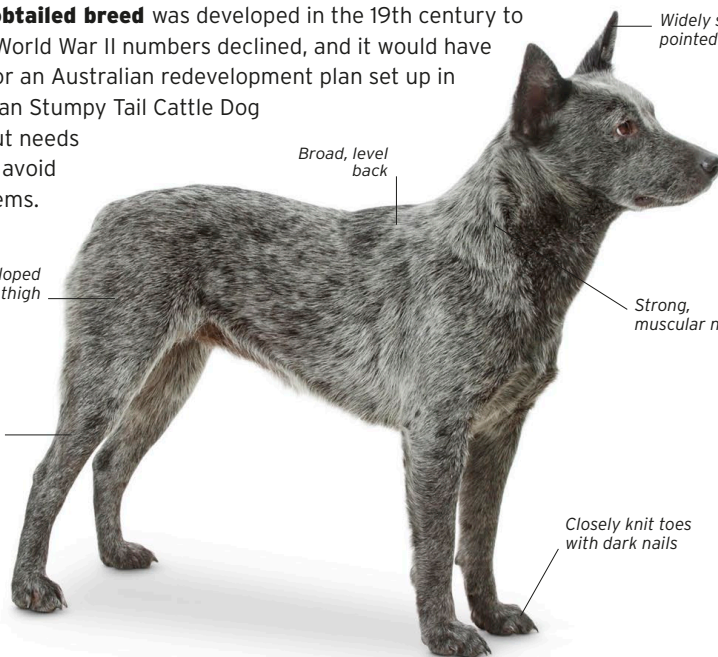
Blue coat

Broad, level
back

Widely set
pointed ears

Strong,
muscular neck

Closely knit toes
with dark nails





LANCASHIRE HEELER

THIS EXUBERANT DOG LOVES TO PLAY AND RARELY HAS HEALTH PROBLEMS

KC

Height range
25-30cm (10-12in)

Weight range
4-7kg (9-15lb)



Life span 15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Liver and tan

Intelligent, tough, and workman-like, the Lancashire Heeler is well suited to its original use as a cattle-herder in the north of England. The breed may have been the result of crosses between the Pembroke Welsh Corgi (see p.56) and the Manchester Terrier (see p.211). Less inclined to be "nippy" than other heelers, this smart-looking little dog is good with families if trained carefully.

Wide head between ears

Tail curves over back when alert

Firm body with level back

Short, glossy, black coat

Tan-coloured legs

Small, rounded feet

Well-defined stop

HUNGARIAN PUMI

THIS HERDING DOG HAS ADAPTED TO HOME LIFE

KC

Height range
38-47cm (15-19in)

Weight range
8-15kg (18-33lb)



Life span 12-13 years

Origin Hungary



Other colours



Cream



Grey



Gold

Small, white markings may occur on chest and toes.

The Hungarian Pumi was developed in Hungary during the 18th century as a cross between the Hungarian Puli (opposite) and terrier-type dogs from Germany and France. An excellent herder of livestock and a good all-round farm dog, the Hungarian Pumi has proved to be equally successful as a house dog. Bold and restless, this breed thrives on action.

Dense, wiry tufts on ears

High-set tail

Narrow, terrier-like head

Well-muscled, lean body

Thick, curly, black coat

KOMONDOR

NOT FOR NOVICES, THIS DOG NEEDS TACTFUL HANDLING AND SPECIAL GROOMING

KC

Height range
60-80cm (24-31in)

Weight range
36-61kg (79-135lb)

Life span Under 10 years

Origin Hungary



Dark eyes
partially
obscured
by coat



Drop ears
hidden
under coat

Long tail
curved
slightly at tip

Very long, heavy,
white corded coat



HUNGARIAN PULI

HIGHLY INTELLIGENT AND EAGER TO PLEASE, THIS DOG NEEDS TIME AND ATTENTION

KC

Height range
36-44cm (14-17in)

Weight range
10-15kg (22-33lb)

Life span Over 12 years

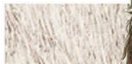
Origin Hungary



Other colours



White



Grey



Fawn

May have small, white
markings on chest and feet.

Thought to have been brought into Central Europe by the nomadic Magyar tribes of Asia, the Hungarian Puli was traditionally used as a herding dog. Affectionate and quick to learn, it makes a good family pet but gets bored easily without fun and company. Its corded coat needs special attention.

Small, black nose

Eyes covered by
long-corded, black coat

Profusely
coated tail
curls over back

Straight,
muscular back

Black coat forms
long cords



Short,
round
feet

BERGAMASCO

THIS OUTDOOR DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF SPACE AND GROOMING

KC

Height range
53–62cm (21–24in)

Weight range
26–38kg (57–84lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Italy



Other colours



Light fawn and Isabella
Black

May have white markings.

A sheepdog and guard dog, the powerful Bergamasco was bred for a tough, outdoor life in the northern Italian mountains. Its weatherproof coat is thick, greasy to the touch, and easily becomes matted, but once the coat becomes flocked, grooming time is greatly reduced. The Bergamasco is companionable and loyal but needs firm control.



AIDI

PROTECTIVE AND LOVING WITH OWNERS, THIS IS NOT AN IDEAL HOUSE DOG

FCI

Height range
53–61cm (21–24in)

Weight range
23–25kg (51–55lb)

Life span About 12 years

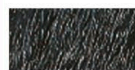
Origin North Africa



Other colours



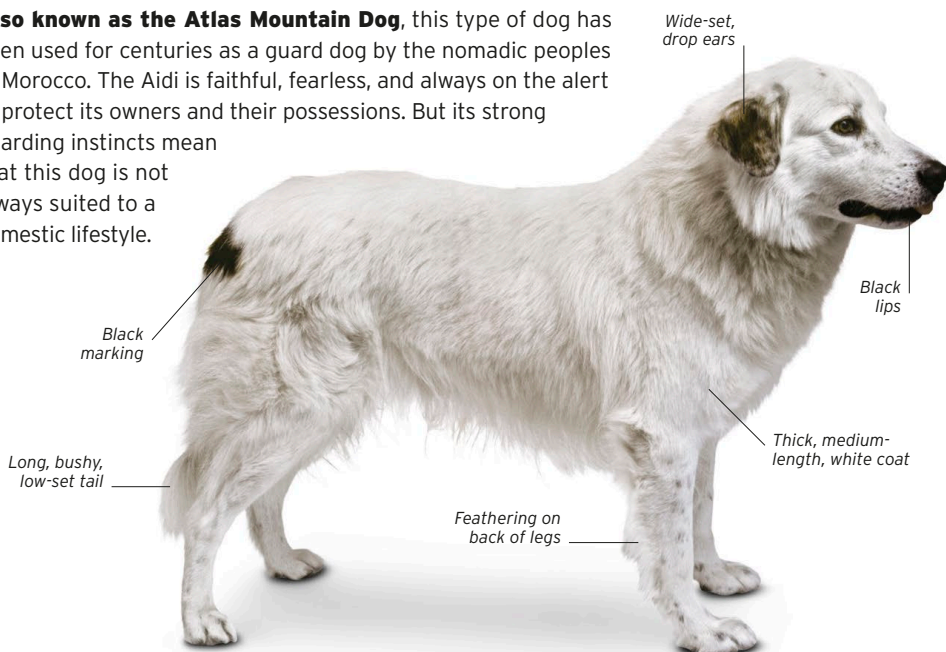
Fawn
Brown



Black

Fawn, brown, and black coats may be spotted with white.

Also known as the Atlas Mountain Dog, this type of dog has been used for centuries as a guard dog by the nomadic peoples of Morocco. The Aidi is faithful, fearless, and always on the alert to protect its owners and their possessions. But its strong guarding instincts mean that this dog is not always suited to a domestic lifestyle.



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD

THIS EVEN-TEMPERED, INTELLIGENT DOG ADAPTS WELL TO FAMILY LIFE

KC

Height range
46-58cm (18-23in)

Weight range
18-29kg (40-65lb)

Life span Over 10 years

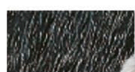
Origin USA



Other colours



Red, red merle



Black

All coats may have tan markings.

Not an "Aussie" at all, this shepherd dog was bred in the United States.

Its name derives from its ancestors, which were worked by Basque shepherds who emigrated to Australia in the late 19th century and then later moved on to the USA. The Australian Shepherd, still useful as a ranch dog and tracker, is becoming increasingly valued as a pet.

Pronounced stop

High-set,
drop ears

Tan markings

Thick, wavy,
blue-merle coat

White hairs
extend across
neck, chest,
and legs

Bushy tail

MAREMMA SHEEPDOG

POWERFUL AND PROTECTIVE, THIS IS VERY MUCH AN OUTDOOR DOG

KC

Height range
60-73cm (24-29in)

Weight range
30-45kg (66-99lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Italy



The sheep herders of the central Italian plains have long used the Maremma Sheepdog to guard their flocks. With an imposing stance and a magnificent, thick, white coat, this handsome dog has obvious attractions but needs expert handling. Like many dogs bred for outdoor work, this sheepdog is not the ideal choice for the home.

Short hair
on face

Small ears
hang flat
at rest

Black-rimmed
eyes

Thick collar
of hair on neck

Thickly haired,
low-set tail

Heavy, wavy,
white coat



GREEK SHEPHERD DOG

THIS STRONG-WILLED BREED IS FRIENDLY WITH THOSE IT KNOWS BUT WARY OF STRANGERS

Height range
60-75cm (24-30in)

Weight range
32-50kg (71-110lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Greece



Other colours



Variety of colours

The ancestors of this breed, which is also known as the Hellenic Shepherd Dog, may have been the sheepdogs brought into Greece many centuries ago by Turkish migrants. Tough, brave, and a natural guardian and flock leader, the Greek Shepherd Dog has excellent qualities for a working dog, but is too dominant in temperament to make a reliable family companion. There are two coat types: long-haired and short-haired.



CURSINU

THIS LOYAL AND INTELLIGENT DOG IS ENERGETIC OUTDOORS BUT CALM IN THE HOUSE

Height range
46-58cm (18-23in)

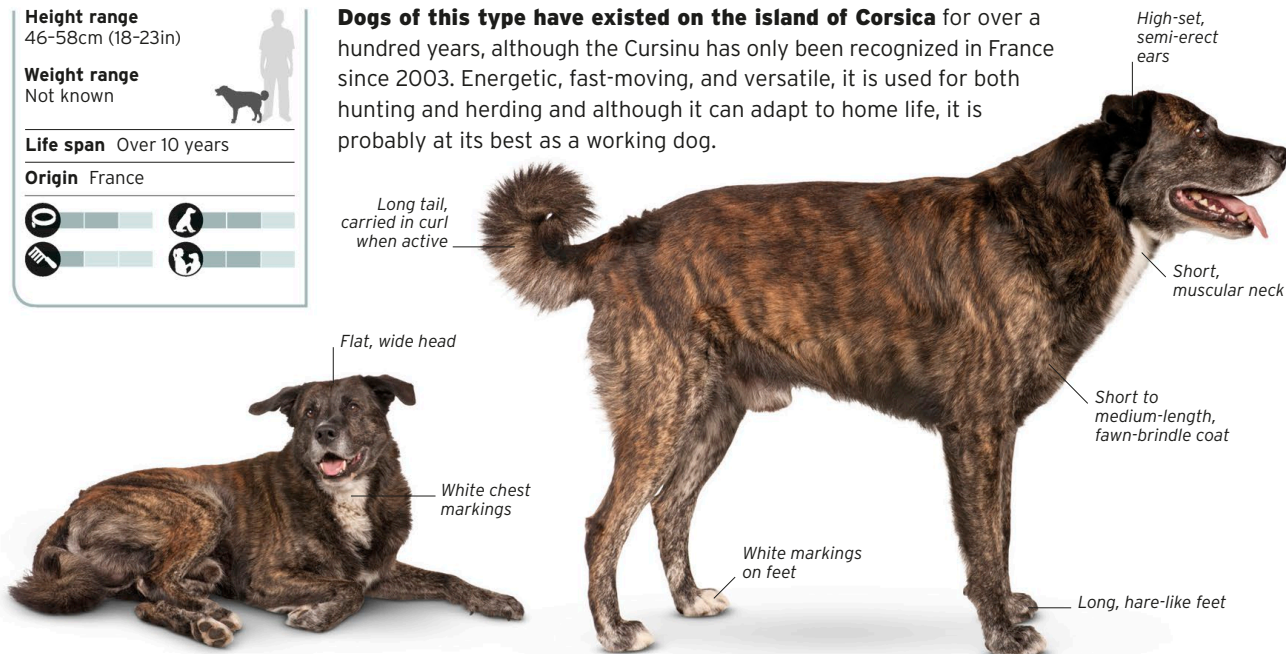
Weight range
Not known

Life span Over 10 years

Origin France



Dogs of this type have existed on the island of Corsica for over a hundred years, although the Corsinu has only been recognized in France since 2003. Energetic, fast-moving, and versatile, it is used for both hunting and herding and although it can adapt to home life, it is probably at its best as a working dog.



ROMANIAN SHEPHERD DOGS

THESE WATCHFUL AND COURAGEOUS DOGS NEED SPACE AND FREEDOM TO RUN

FCI

Height range
59-78cm (23-31in)

Weight range
35-70kg (77-154lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Romania



Other colours



Bucovina only may appear as white, white-beige, black, or ashen-grey and may have patches of colour.

In the mountainous Carpathian region of Romania, shepherds rely on large, robust dogs to guard their flocks in all weathers. Regional breeding has resulted in several distinct types: the Carpatin, the Bucovina, and the Mioritic. All are better suited to outdoor rather than indoor life, and none is widely known as a companion dog. With strong watchdog instincts, Romanian Shepherd Dogs are highly territorial and suspicious of strangers. They need plenty of physical and mental activity, as well as early socialization and firm training.

Coat longer than other Romanian Shepherd Dogs

White coat with light fawn and grey markings

Mioritic

Blaze extends to muzzle

Black nose

Carpatin

Rough, slightly wavy hair

Wolf-grey coat

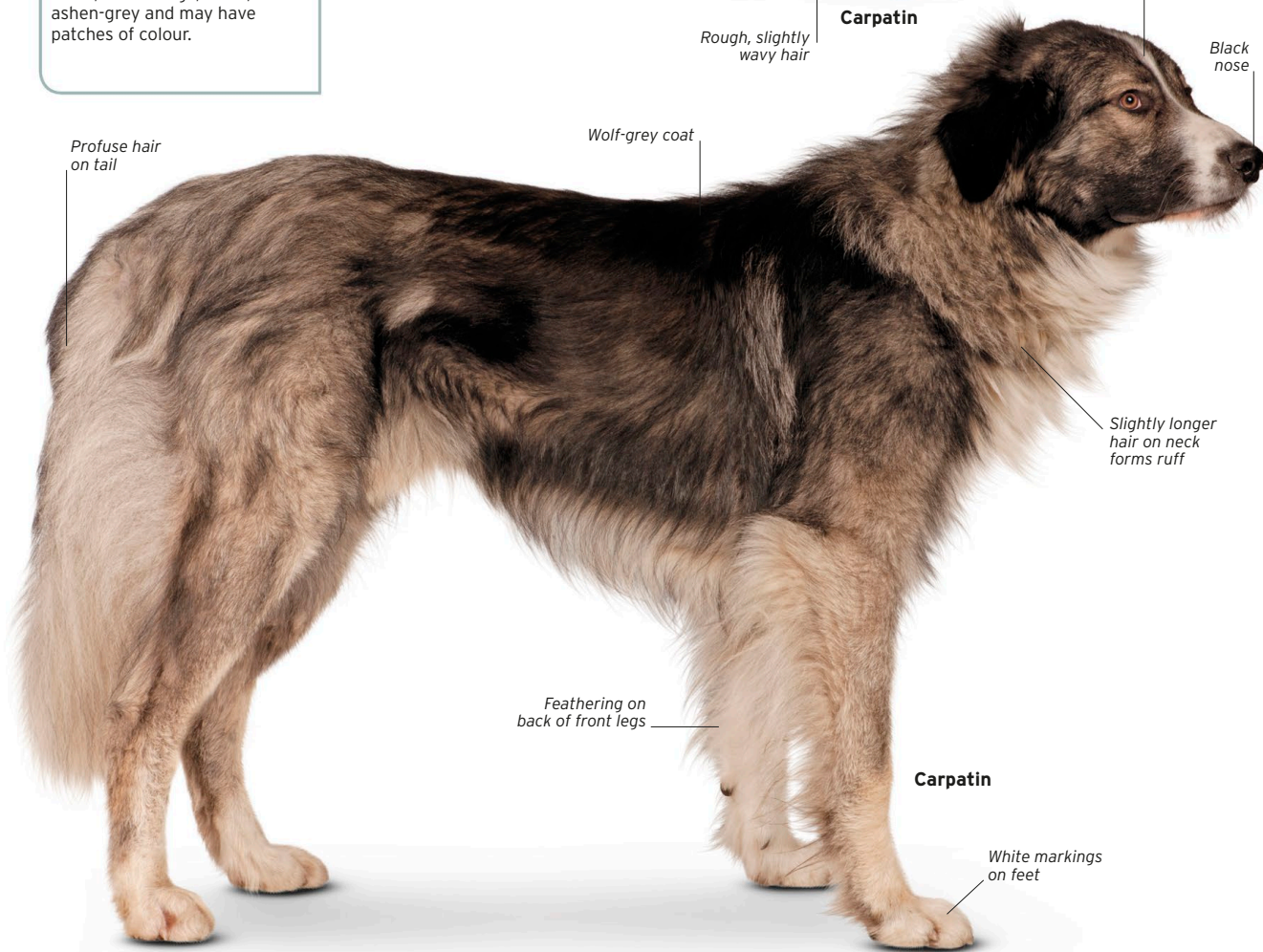
Slightly longer hair on neck forms ruff

Carpatin

White markings on feet

Feathering on back of front legs

Profuse hair on tail





APPENZELL CATTLE DOG

THIS VERSATILE DOG IS WILLING TO WORK BUT ALSO ENJOYS FAMILY LIFE

FCI

Height range
50–56cm (20–22in)

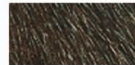
Weight range
22–32kg (49–71lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin Switzerland



Other colours



Havana brown



Bred for herding and guarding on Alpine farms, the Appenzell Cattle Dog has also taken well to urban life. The breed has a firm following in Switzerland but is not yet widely known elsewhere. Keen, alert, and full of energy, Appenzells are at their best when kept occupied and interested.



Small, almond-shaped eyes

White feet

Tail carried in tight curl

Drop ears, raised forward when alert

White blaze extends to sides of muzzle

Reddish brown markings on face

White chest

Dense, flat, shiny, tricolour coat



ENTLEBUCHER MOUNTAIN DOG

SMART IN APPEARANCE, THIS FAMILY DOG IS FULL OF HIGH SPIRITS

KC

Height range
42–50cm (17–20in)

Weight range
21–28kg (46–62lb)

Life span 11–15 years

Origin Switzerland



The smallest of several long-established Swiss mountain dogs, this cattle-droving breed from the Entlebuch Valley is gaining popularity as a house dog. Bouncing with high spirits, the Entlebucher Mountain Dog is confident and well-behaved within the family, but has strong protective instincts and is inclined to be wary around strangers.



Reddish brown markings above eyes

Slightly curved, long tail

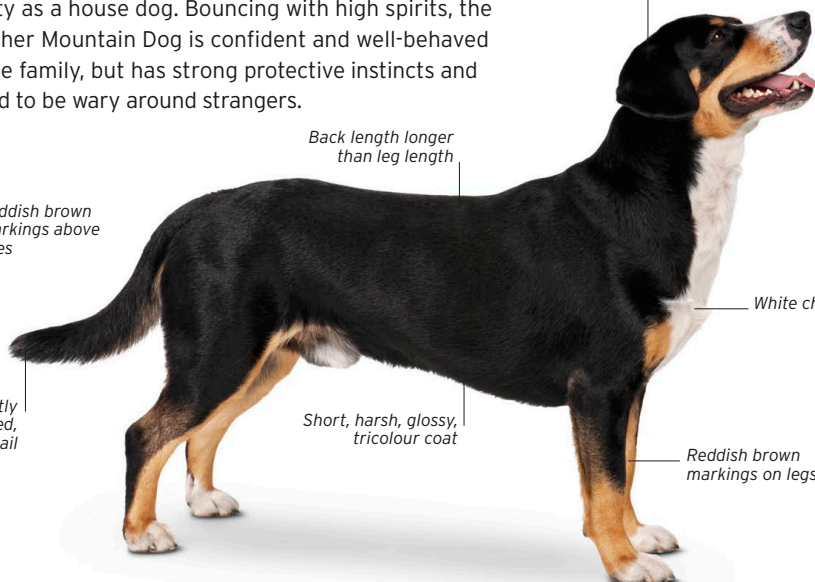
Back length longer than leg length

High-set, drop ears

White chest

Reddish brown markings on legs

Short, harsh, glossy, tricolour coat



BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG

A BEAUTIFULLY MARKED BREED WITH AN ATTRACTIVE PERSONALITY AND KIND NATURE

KC

Height range
58-70cm (23-28in)

Weight range
32-54kg (71-120lb)

Life span Under 10 years

Origin Switzerland



This lovely dog takes its name from the Swiss canton of Berne, where it traditionally worked as a haulage dog for basket-weavers. It is attractive not just in looks but also in temperament, and has become deservedly popular as a family dog. Although large and strong, the Bernese Mountain Dog is highly trainable and has gentle ways that are easy to live with. Generally, the breed is affectionate and reliable with children. The eye-catching tricolour coat needs plenty of grooming to maintain its silky texture and characteristic soft sheen.

Triangular, drop ears

White blaze on head

Broad head with well-defined stop

Long, bushy jet-black tail

Long, silky, slightly wavy, tricolour coat

Broad, deep chest with white markings

Reddish brown markings extend down to feet





GREAT SWISS MOUNTAIN DOG

THIS LARGE, POWERFUL, AND KIND DOG IS GOOD WITH CHILDREN AND OTHER PETS

KC

Height range
60-72cm (24-28in)

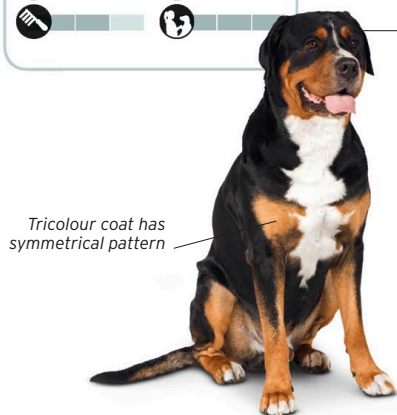
Weight range
36-59kg (79-130lb)

Life span 8-11 years

Origin Switzerland



Bred in the Swiss Alps, this huge, strong, striking dog was once used to haul wagons loaded with milk, cheese, and other produce. It was also used for cattle-herding and guard duties. A true working dog, the Great Swiss Mountain Dog has an agreeable temperament that makes it a sociable family companion for those with room to spare.



WHITE SWISS SHEPHERD DOG

THIS FAMILY-FRIENDLY DOG LIKES CHILDREN BUT CAN BE WARY OF STRANGERS

KC

Height range
53-66cm (21-26in)

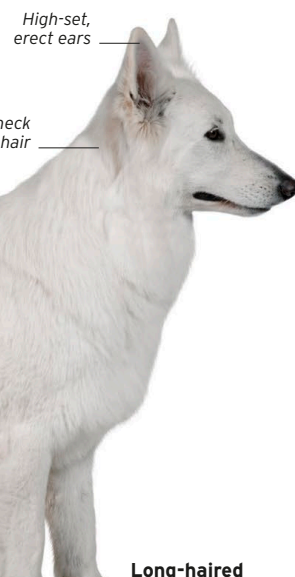
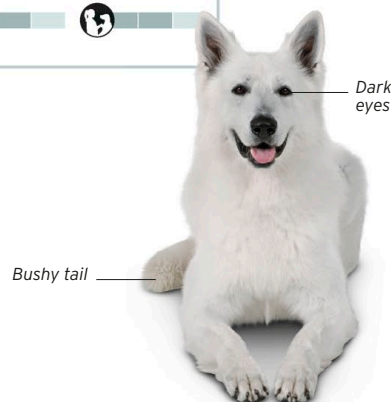
Weight range
25-40kg (55-88lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Switzerland



Pure white shepherd dogs were first brought into Switzerland from North America in the 1970s. Developed over the next two decades, it was recognized in Switzerland as a breed in 1991. Good-tempered and intelligent, it is suitable for both work and companionship. There are two coat types: medium-haired and long-haired.



TURKISH KANGAL DOG

A LOYAL AND INTELLIGENT DOG THAT CAN ADAPT WELL TO FAMILY LIFE

KC

Height range
71-81cm (28-32in)

Weight range
41-64kg (90-141lb)



Life span 12-15 years

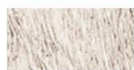
Origin Turkey



Other colours



Cream



Steel Grey

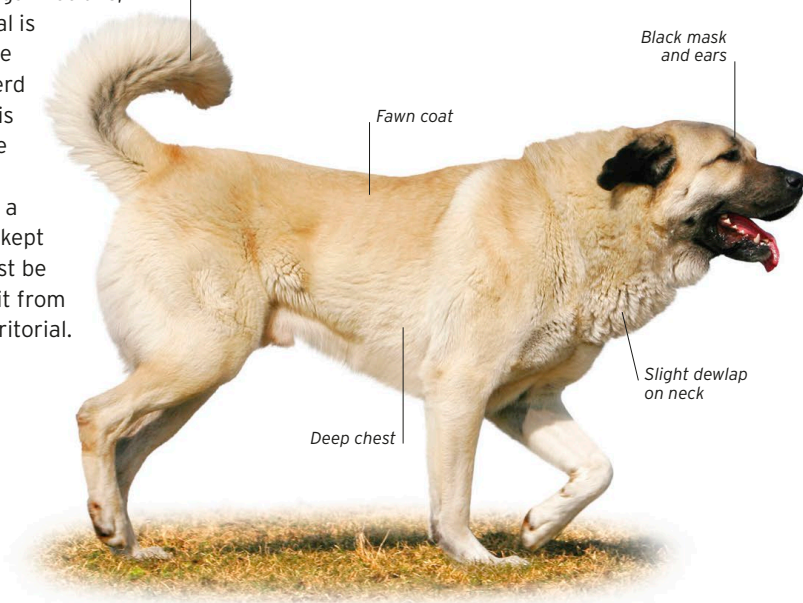


All shades
of fawn

Considered a separate breed

by some breed organizations, the Turkish Kangal is combined with the Anatolian Shepherd Dog by others. It is a large and gentle dog that was originally bred as a flock guardian. If kept as a pet, care must be taken to prevent it from becoming too territorial.

Tail carried over back when alert



Black mask and ears

Fawn coat

Deep chest

Slight dewlap on neck

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG

THIS PROTECTIVE AND LOYAL DOG NEEDS SUPERVISION WITH CHILDREN AND STRANGERS

KC

Height range
71-81cm (28-32in)

Weight range
41-64kg (90-141lb)



Life span 12-15 years

Origin Turkey



Other colours



Any colour

After a long history as a livestock-guardian, this hardy and powerful breed is still used in Turkey as a working dog. Bred for its courage and independence of spirit, the Anatolian Shepherd Dog respects the authority of a firm and loving owner. If kept as a companion dog, training and socializing should begin early.

Slight furrow down head

Mane of thicker hair around shoulders

Long tail curls up at tip

Fawn coat of various shades

Dark face mask

Throat has dewlap



AKBASH

THIS HIGHLY PROTECTIVE DOG NEEDS AN EXPERIENCED OWNER

Height range
69-79cm (27-31in)

Weight range
34-59kg (75-130lb)

Life span 10-11 years

Origin Turkey



A powerful Turkish breed developed for guarding flocks, Akbash-type dogs have probably been around for several thousands of years. Used on ranches in North America as a livestock and property guard, the Akbash is best suited to a working life and needs skilled handling to avoid behaviour problems. There are two coat types: long-haired and medium-haired.

Triangular,
drop ears

Shorter
hair on face

Weatherproof,
coarse, white coat

Long-haired

Heavily
feathered
tail

Biscuit-
coloured
shading

Feathering on
back of legs



CENTRAL ASIAN SHEPHERD DOG

NOT AN IDEAL FAMILY DOG, THIS BREED NEEDS A PATIENT AND STRONG-WILLED OWNER

FCI

Height range
65-78cm (26-31in)

Weight range
40-79kg (88-174lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Central Asian Republics/
Russia



Other colours



Variety of
colours

The nomadic herdsmen of Central Asia - the regions now known as Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan - have used dogs of this type to protect their flocks for hundreds of years. Once bred selectively in the former USSR, this rare breed needs early socialization. There are two coat types: short-haired and long-haired.

Moderate stop

Drop ears

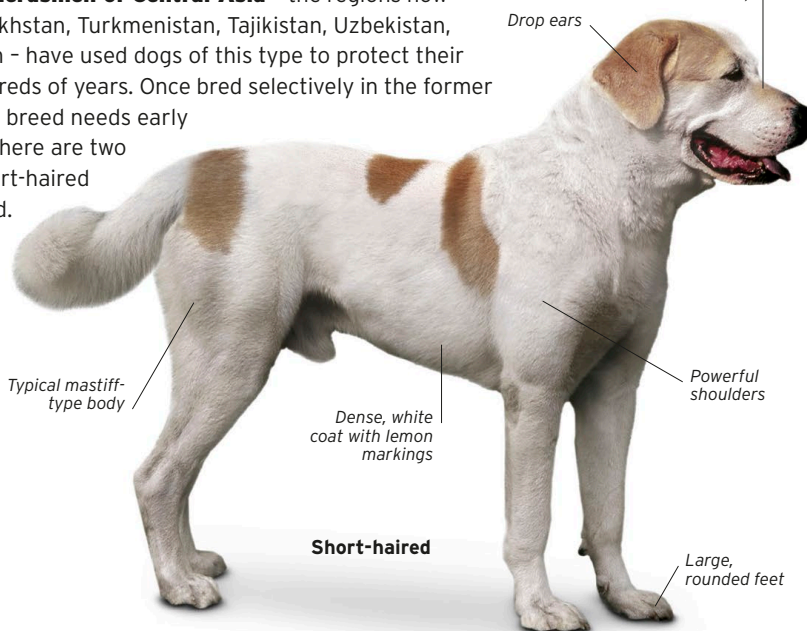
Powerful
shoulders

Typical mastiff-
type body

Dense, white
coat with lemon
markings

Short-haired

Large,
rounded feet



CAUCASIAN SHEPHERD DOG

THIS FIERCELY PROTECTIVE DOG DOES NOT MAKE AN IDEAL PET

FCI

Height range
67-75cm (26-30in)

Weight range
45-70kg (99-154lb)

Life span 10-11 years

Origin Russia

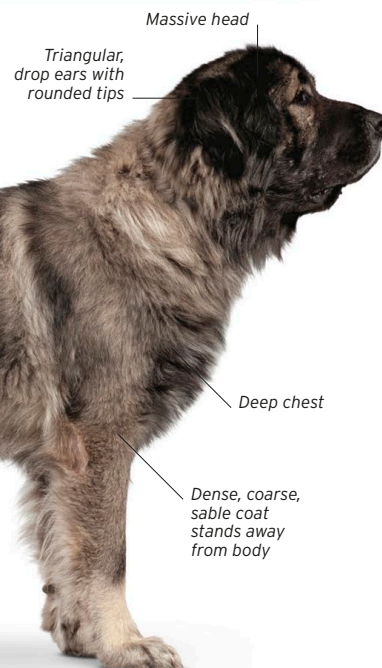


Other colours



Variety of colours

Developed from various large dogs, this shepherd dog was once used to guard flocks in the Caucasian regions. In the 1920s, selective breeding of this dog began in the former USSR and continued later in Germany. An excellent watchdog, it needs careful handling if it is to be a good companion.



Heavily feathered tail

Darker muzzle

Puppy

Feet thickly insulated with white hair

LEONBERGER

THIS EXCELLENT FAMILY DOG IS GOOD-TEMPERED, CALM, AND FRIENDLY

KC

Height range
72-80cm (28-31in)

Weight range
45-77kg (99-170lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Sandy

Red

May have white markings.

Named after the Bavarian town of Leonberg, the Leonberger was developed in the mid-19th century as a result of cross-breeding between the St. Bernard (see p.72) and the Newfoundland (see p.74). After the two World Wars, Leonbergers had almost disappeared but the breed has recovered well and gained wide popularity for its splendid looks and friendly nature.

Feathered, high-set ears

Black tips to some hair

Mane on neck and chest

Thick, fairly long, lion-gold coat

Slightly tucked-up belly

Feathered forelegs

Black mask

Broad chest

Feathered tail, lighter on underside



ST. BERNARD

ALMOST UNRIVALLED FOR SIZE, THIS KINDLY GIANT HAS A DELIGHTFUL TEMPERAMENT

KC

Height range
70-75cm (28-30in)

Weight range
59-81kg (130-180lb)

Life span 8-10 years

Origin Switzerland



Other colours



Brindle

Originally crossbred from mastiff-type dogs by the monks of St. Bernard's Hospice in the Swiss Alps, this breed's sometimes exaggerated reputation as a mountain rescue dog extends worldwide. Affectionate and utterly trustworthy, the St. Bernard has many virtues.

It is calm-natured, taking life at a moderate pace.

The St. Bernard is comparatively rare as a house dog due to its colossal size, and the amount of space needed to accommodate its sheer bulk can hardly be over-estimated; food bills are another major consideration. There are two coat types: smooth and rough.

Massive head with wide skull



Typical black shading

White markings on face



Slightly pendulous flaps

Characteristic white markings on legs

White collar

Broad, straight back

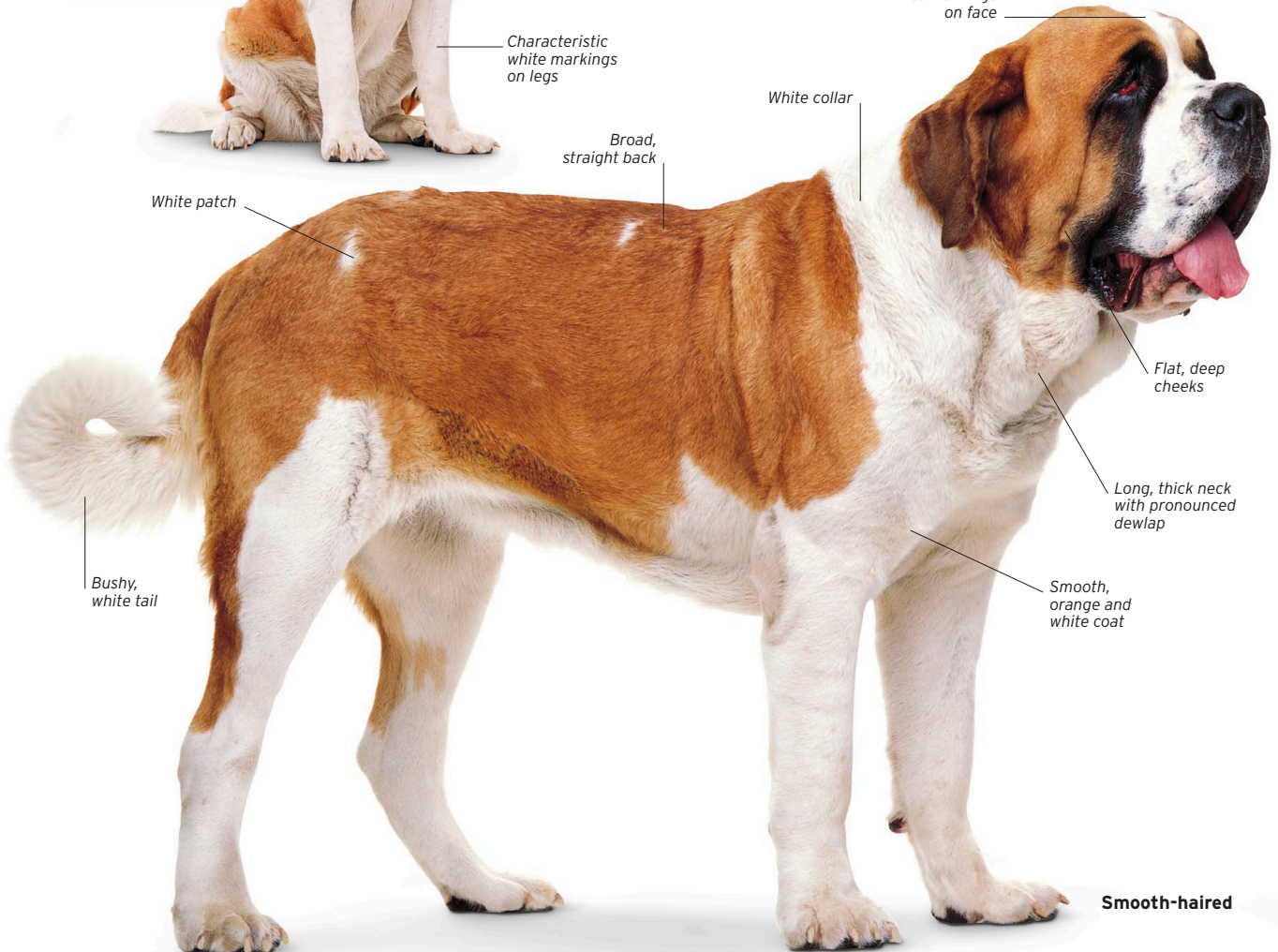
White patch

Flat, deep cheeks

Long, thick neck with pronounced dewlap

Smooth, orange and white coat

Bushy, white tail



Smooth-haired

TATRA SHEPHERD DOG

ALTHOUGH CALM WITH THE FAMILY, THIS DOG DOES NOT TAKE KINDLY TO STRANGERS

FCI

Height range
60-70cm (24-28in)

Weight range
36-59kg (79-130lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Poland



Still used for protecting and herding flocks in the high Tatra mountains of Poland, this huge and handsome dog takes its duties just as seriously when guarding home and household. Usually gentle and well-mannered with those it knows, the Tatra Shepherd Dog is a force to be reckoned with if it perceives a threat. Firm and fair handling by an experienced owner, and a watchful eye for potential aggression, are essential if this breed is to be kept as a companion. The dog's extremely thick coat sheds heavily and requires frequent grooming.



Massively built body

Black nose
with wide
nostrils

Triangular drop ears
with rounded tips

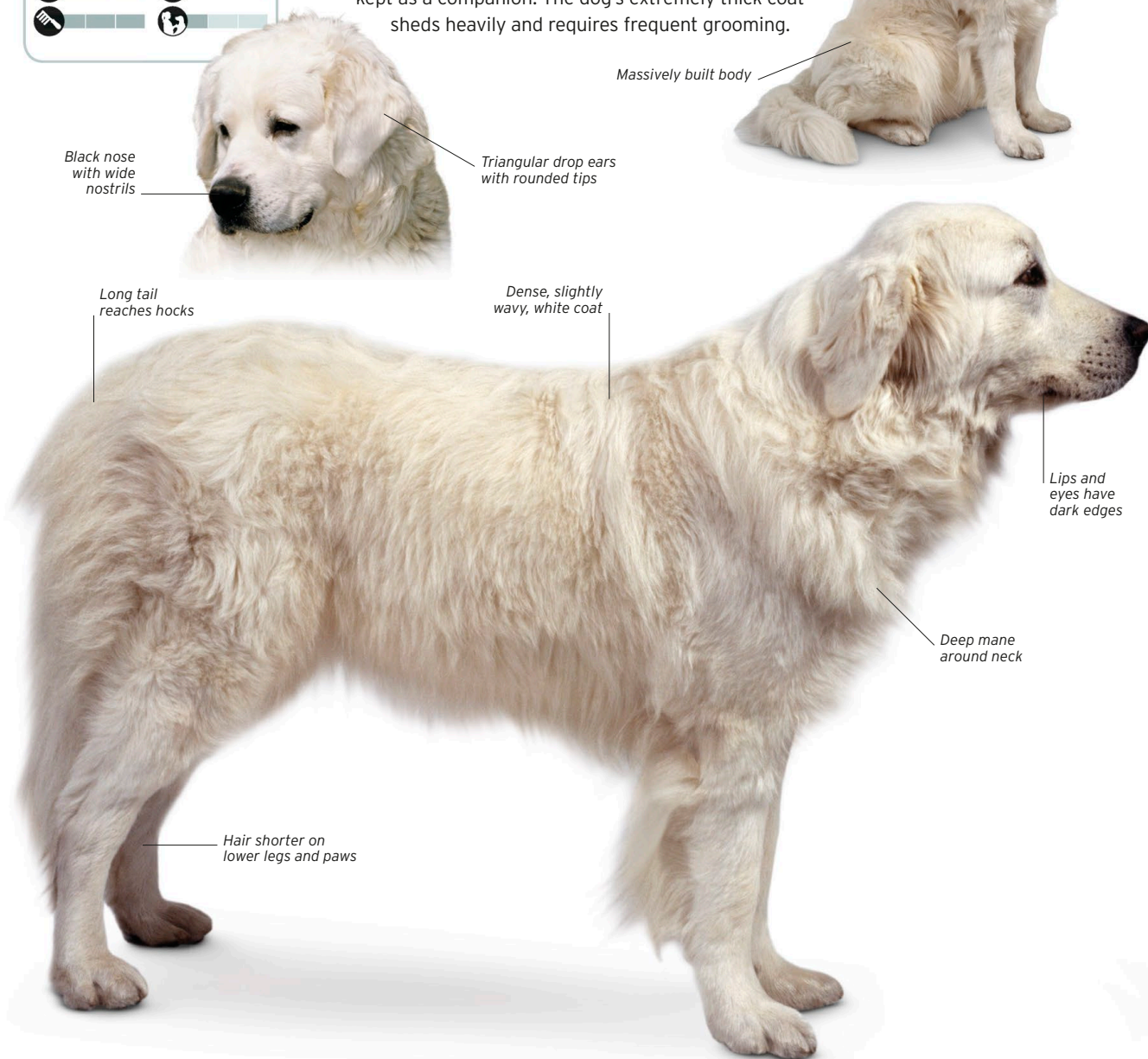
Long tail
reaches hocks

Dense, slightly
wavy, white coat

Lips and
eyes have
dark edges

Deep mane
around neck

Hair shorter on
lower legs and paws





NEWFOUNDLAND

A COLOSSAL BUT GENTLE AND FRIENDLY DOG WITH A LOVE OF SWIMMING

KC

Height range
66-71cm (26-28in)

Weight range
50-69kg (110-152lb)

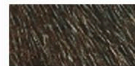


Life span 9-11 years

Origin Canada



Other colours



Dark brown

Small, white
markings
on chest



Although the Newfoundland is associated with the Canadian province of the same name, the dog's true origins are uncertain. Historically used by fishermen to retrieve nets, today it is sometimes used for sea rescues. The breed has a protective nature and is renowned for being gentle with children. Its large size rules this dog out as a pet for a small home.

Bushy
tail



Massive head

Dense, coarse,
slightly oily,
black coat

Feathered
forelegs

Large feet

LANDSEER

A BLACK AND WHITE NEWFOUNDLAND MADE FAMOUS BY AN ARTIST

FCI

Height range
66-71cm (26-28in)

Weight range
50-69kg (110-152lb)



Life span 9-11 years

Origin Canada



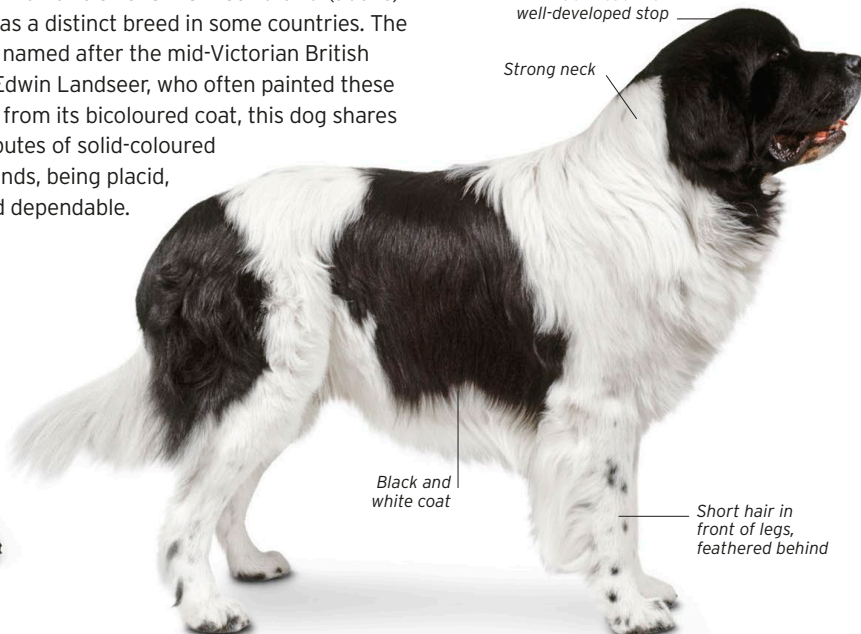
This colour variant of the Newfoundland (above) is regarded as a distinct breed in some countries. The Landseer is named after the mid-Victorian British painter Sir Edwin Landseer, who often painted these dogs. Apart from its bicoloured coat, this dog shares all the attributes of solid-coloured Newfoundlands, being placid, friendly, and dependable.

Distinctive,
black saddle



Black head with
well-developed stop

Strong neck



Black and
white coat

Short hair in
front of legs,
feathered behind

PYRENEAN MOUNTAIN DOG

THIS GIANT-SIZED DOG IS SATISFIED WITH MODERATE EXERCISE AND LOVES FAMILY LIFE

KC

Height range
65-70cm (26-28in)

Weight range
40-50kg (88-110lb)

Life span 9-11 years

Origin France



Other colours



Pure white



One of the most imposing of all dogs, this breed comes from the French Pyrenees, where its traditional role was as a guarder of flocks. Thoroughly assimilated into modern family life, the Pyrenean Mountain Dog is calm-natured and unaggressive, reliable in the home, and good with children.

Despite the dog's huge size and strength, it does not need an excessive amount of exercise and can be quite content with a gentle stroll. However, owners should be prepared to put their energies into grooming to keep the dog's thick coat looking its best.

Tan patches on head



Smallish, triangular ears

Heavy mane around neck and shoulders

Dark amber-coloured eyes with black rims

Dense, wavy, white coat

Plumed tail

Tan patch on rump

Double dewclaws on hind legs, hidden by hair





PYRENEAN MASTIFF

A GENERALLY GOOD-NATURED DOG WITH A NOBLE ATTITUDE, BUT SUSPICIOUS OF STRANGERS

KC

Height range
72-81cm (28-32in)

Weight range
54-70kg (120-154lb)

Life span 10 years

Origin Spain



A native of Spain, the Pyrenean Mastiff was originally kept for guarding mountain flocks. Large and courageous enough to take on a bear or a wolf, this breed is now often used as a house guard. Intelligent and calm, with the right training it can also be a good companion dog.

Dense, bristly textured, white coat

Small, almond-shaped eyes

Well-defined face mask

Double dewlap

Long, plumed tail

Irregular patch same colour as face mask

TIBETAN KYI APSO

A RARE MOUNTAIN DOG, POSSESSIVE OF HOME AND FAMILY

Height range
56-71cm (22-28in)

Weight range
31-38kg (68-84lb)

Life span 7-10 years

Origin Tibet



Other colours



Any colour

Only a handful of Kyi Apsos have appeared outside Tibet and the breed is elusive, even in its own country. Traditionally, this dog is a guard of flocks and homes. The Tibetan Kyi Apso has a characteristic springy gait, and is agile and capable of rapid bursts of speed.

Low-set, pendant ears

Tail carried high in a curl

Neck broad relative to body

Bearded face

Strong hind quarters

Dense, wiry, black coat

TIBETAN MASTIFF

ONE OF THE SMALLER MASTIFFS, THIS DOG MAY TAKE TIME TO TRAIN AND SOCIALIZE

KC

Height range
61-66cm (24-26in)

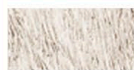
Weight range
36-100kg (80-220lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Tibet



Other colours



Slate-grey

Gold

Black and slate-grey dogs may have tan markings.

With a history of guarding livestock in the Himalayas, the Tibetan Mastiff has strong protective instincts. In its native country, it should be approached with caution, but in the West, selective breeding has greatly reduced its aggressive traits. It is now an acceptable house dog and a good companion – although not overtly affectionate – but requires patience to train.



Short-haired, drop ears

Bushy tail carried curled over back

Dense, straight, black coat

Coat forms mane around neck and shoulders

Feathering between toes

Tan markings above eyes



TORNJAK

FRIENDLY AND OBEDIENT, BUT NEEDS TO BE WELL SOCIALIZED AS A PUPPY

FCI

Height range
58-72cm (23-28in)

Weight range
35-45kg (77-99lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Bosnia and Herzegovina/Croatia



Other colours



Usually bi-coloured with white dominating.

Also known as the Bosnian and Herzegovinian-Croatian Shepherd Dog, the Tornjak has only recently been seen outside its native countries. Shepherd dogs like these have defended flocks from predators in the Dinarides for centuries, but selective breeding did not start until 1978. A large, powerful dog, the Tornjak is intelligent and easy to train, but needs an experienced dog owner and plenty of space to exercise.



Dark, almond-shaped eyes

White coat with black patches

Tail well covered with long hair

Strong lower leg



SLOVAKIAN CHUVACH

THIS TOUGH AND FEARLESS DOG MAKES AN EXCELLENT HOUSE DOG GIVEN THE RIGHT TRAINING

FCI

Height range
59-70cm (23-28in)

Weight range
31-44kg (68-97lb)

Life span 11-13 years

Origin Slovakia



Originally a shepherd's guard dog from the Slovakian Alps, the Slovakian Chuvach has been developed successfully into a good house dog. This large, powerful breed retains the exceptional alertness and watchfulness that made it a superb defender of farms and livestock. Tactful training is needed to achieve the best results with this breed.

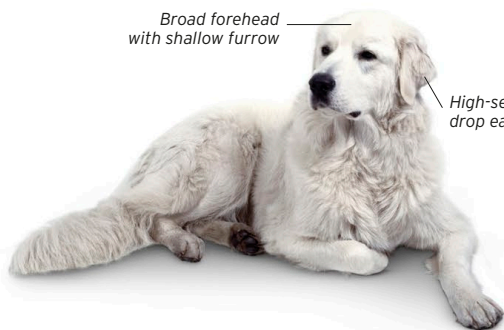
Short hair on face

Profusely feathered, low-set tail

Broad forehead with shallow furrow

High-set, drop ears

Slightly wavy, white coat



HUNGARIAN KUVASZ

CAN BE AFFECTIONATE, BUT THIS DOG MAY TURN AGGRESSIVE WHEN DEFENDING

KC

Height range
66-75cm (26-30in)

Weight range
32-52kg (71-115lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Hungary



Probably the oldest and best known of Hungary's breeds, the Hungarian Kuvasz was once used as a shepherd's guard dog. The breed's naturally protective instincts may lead to aggressiveness, and this dog has the potential to become a liability in inexperienced hands. It takes firm training to make the Hungarian Kuvasz an acceptable house dog.

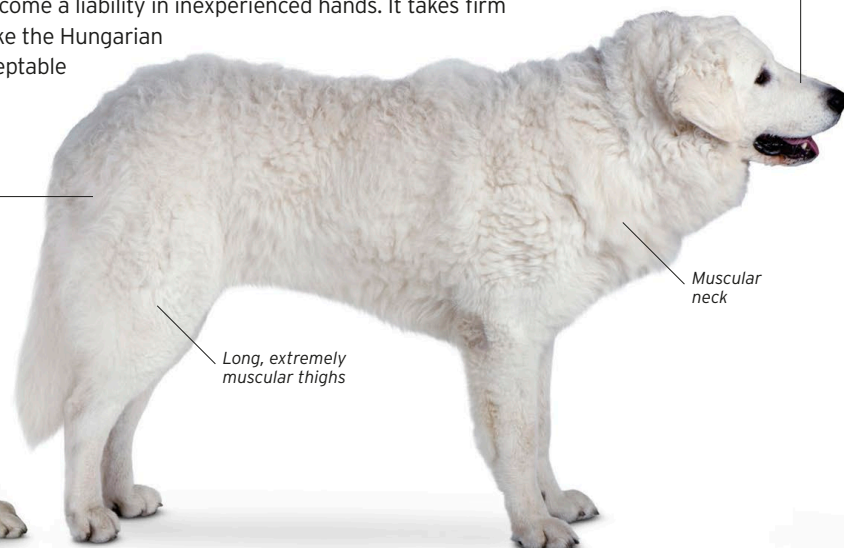
Broad head with minimal stop

Coarse, wavy, white coat

Triangular, drop ears with rounded tips

Long, extremely muscular thighs

Muscular neck



HOVAWART

THIS VERY HARDY, FAITHFUL COMPANION MAY TRY TO DOMINATE OTHER DOGS

KC

Height range
58-70cm (23-28in)

Weight range
28-45kg (62-99lb)

Life span 10-14 years

Origin Germany



Little known as a companion dog but growing in popularity, the Hovawart has a very long history - its forerunners are thought to have been used as farm dogs in the 13th century. The modern breed was developed in Germany in the first half of the 20th century. The Hovawart is very hardy, ready to go outdoors whatever the weather, and is a friendly and faithful house dog within a family. Although it has a strong-willed personality, the Hovawart is not difficult to train but may need careful handling in the presence of other dogs.



Black and gold coat



Medium-length, blonde coat

Bushy tail, may show a few white hairs

Triangular, drop ears



Skull and muzzle equal in length

Dense, black coat

Feathering on forelegs may be very long

Oval feet with arched toes

BEAUCERON

THIS ACTIVE DOG LOVES WORK BUT NEEDS CAREFUL SOCIALIZATION

KC

Height range
63-70cm (25-28in)

Weight range
29-39kg (65-85lb)



Life span 10-15 years

Origin France



Other colours



Grey, black,
and tan

May have a few
white chest hairs.

A herding and guard dog from the flatlands of the Beauce region in Central France, the Beauceron is an excellent worker and, in the right situation, a gentle family companion. This big, strong dog can be intolerant of other dogs; early training is needed to minimize potential problems.



MAJORCA SHEPHERD DOG

MUCH VALUED IN ITS NATIVE COUNTRY, THIS BREED IS LITTLE KNOWN ELSEWHERE

FCI

Height range
62-73cm (24-29in)

Weight range
35-40kg (77-88lb)

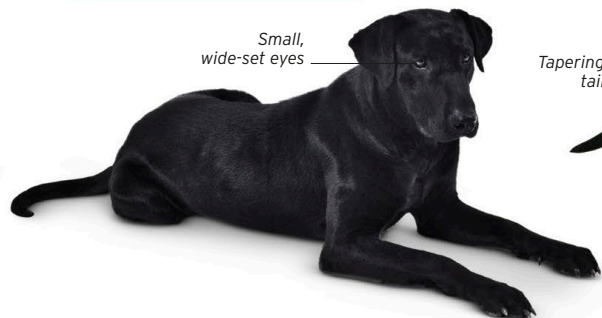


Life span 11-13 years

Origin Spain



Comparatively rare worldwide, the Majorca Shepherd Dog is regarded with pride in Majorca, where it was once widely used as a shepherd dog, and is now popular as a show dog. Although usually willing to obey, this breed has strong herding instincts and can be defensive with strangers and other dogs.



Tapering
tail



ROTTWEILER

A BIG AND BURLY DOG SUITED TO FIRM AND RESPONSIBLE OWNERS

KC

Height range
58-69cm (23-27in)

Weight range
38-59kg (84-130lb)

Life span 10-11 years

Origin Germany



Once used in southern Germany as a cattle dog, the Rottweiler has acquired an unfortunate image as a vicious guard dog and an intimidating status symbol. However, despite the breed's great strength, impressive swagger, and easily aroused protective responses, the Rottweiler is not naturally ill-tempered. With thoughtful training from a firm and experienced owner, who is alert to potential triggers of aggression, this dog makes a calm and obedient companion. Rottweilers are more agile than their size and sturdy build might suggest, and appreciate plenty of vigorous exercise.

*Tan markings
clearly defined
on head*



*Broad head with
well-defined stop*

*Small,
drop ears*

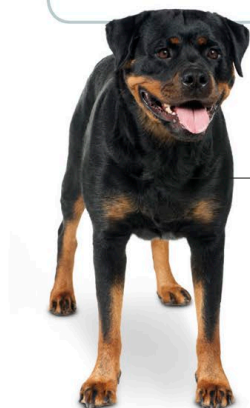
*Broad,
deep chest*

*Deep muzzle
with firm flews*

*Short, smooth,
shiny, black
and tan coat*

*Tan chest
markings*

*Tan markings
on legs*





SHAR PEI

A GENERALLY FRIENDLY TEMPERAMENT IS HIDDEN BEHIND THIS DOG'S SCOWLING FACE

KC

Height range
46-51cm (18-20in)

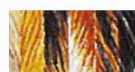
Weight range
18-25kg (40-55lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin China



Other colours



Variety of colours



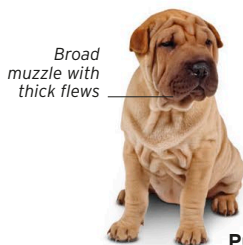
The early uses of this native Chinese breed included herding and guarding livestock, hunting, and fighting. However, the Shar Pei's amiable nature and relatively compact size make it suitable as a pet for a town or country home. The dog's distinctive appearance has huge popular appeal and, at least for a while, owning a Shar Pei was a fashion statement. Some breeders sought to increase the Shar Pei's wrinkly looks by producing dogs with excessively loose and folded facial skin. However, this resulted in eye problems, and the practice is now largely discredited.



Square, sturdily built body



Loose skin on back and legs wrinkles when dog is seated



Broad muzzle with thick flews

Small, high-set, button ears

Puppy

Back dips slightly behind withers

Tail carried high, and curved over

Wrinkles on forehead give frowning expression

Wrinkled skin over shoulders and neck

Short, velvety, fawn coat



TAIWAN DOG

THIS BREED NEEDS WIDE OPEN SPACES AND IS INCLINED TO CHASE SMALL ANIMALS

FCI

Height range
43–53cm (17–21in)

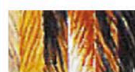
Weight range
12–18kg (26–40lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Taiwan



Other colours



Variety of colours

The Taiwan Dog, formerly known as the Formosan Mountain Dog, is something of a rarity, even in its native country. It is believed to have descended from the semi-wild dogs once used for hunting in the interior of Taiwan. The breed makes an intelligent family dog, but its hunting instincts need to be kept in check.

Strong, slender legs

Sickle-shaped, high-set tail, profusely covered in hair

Erect ears

Short, hard, brindle coat

Black nose

Tucked-up belly

MALLORCA MASTIFF

THIS SUPERB WATCHDOG COMBINES COURAGE WITH A CALM TEMPERAMENT

FCI

Height range
52–58cm (20–23in)

Weight range
30–38kg (66–84lb)

Life span 10–12 years

Origin Spain



Other colours



Black

The Mallorca Mastiff, also known as the Ca de Bou, has a background that includes fighting and bull-baiting. A powerful breed, it has the typical mastiff-type build and watchful nature. When handled firmly but quietly, this dog socializes well, but it is probably better suited to life as a guard dog rather than as a family pet.

Large, square head

Thick, tapering tail

Body length exceeds leg length

High-set, rose ears

Black mask

Strong neck with slight dewlap

Short, fawn coat

White markings on feet

Brindle coat

Lower jaw slightly longer than upper (undershot)

PRESA CANARIO

LARGE, POWERFUL, AND VERY STRONG-WILLED, THIS DOG IS NOT FOR NOVICE OWNERS

FCI

Height range
56-66cm (22-26in)

Weight range
40-65kg (88-143lb)



Life span 9-11 years

Origin Spain



Other colours

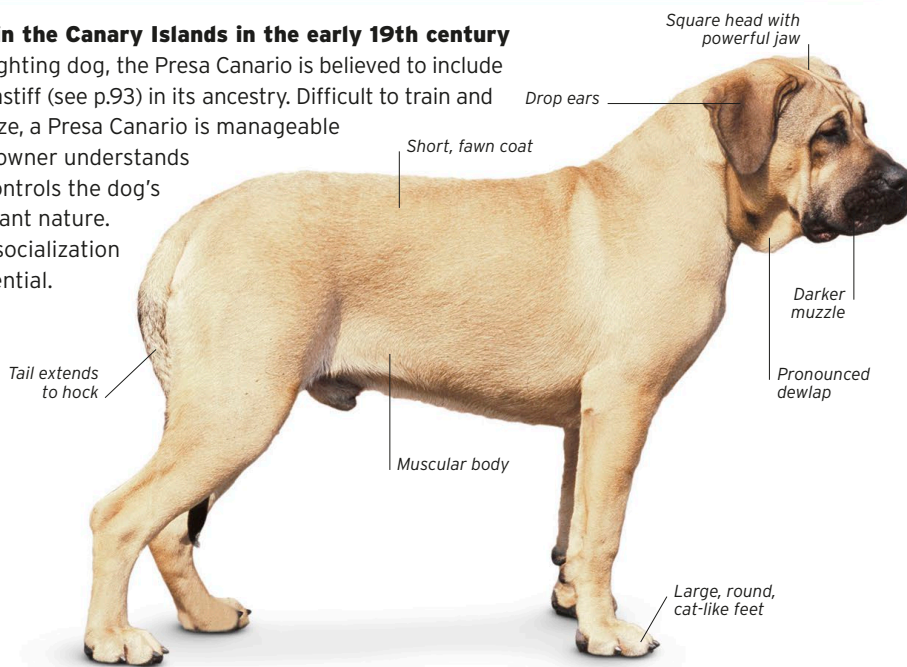


Brindle

May have white markings.

Bred in the Canary Islands in the early 19th century

as a fighting dog, the Presa Canario is believed to include the Mastiff (see p.93) in its ancestry. Difficult to train and socialize, a Presa Canario is manageable if the owner understands and controls the dog's dominant nature. Early socialization is essential.



DOGO ARGENTINO

BRED FOR HUNTING, THIS IS A GOOD-NATURED DOG IF SOCIALIZED WELL

FCI

Height range
60-68cm (24-27in)

Weight range
36-45kg (79-99lb)

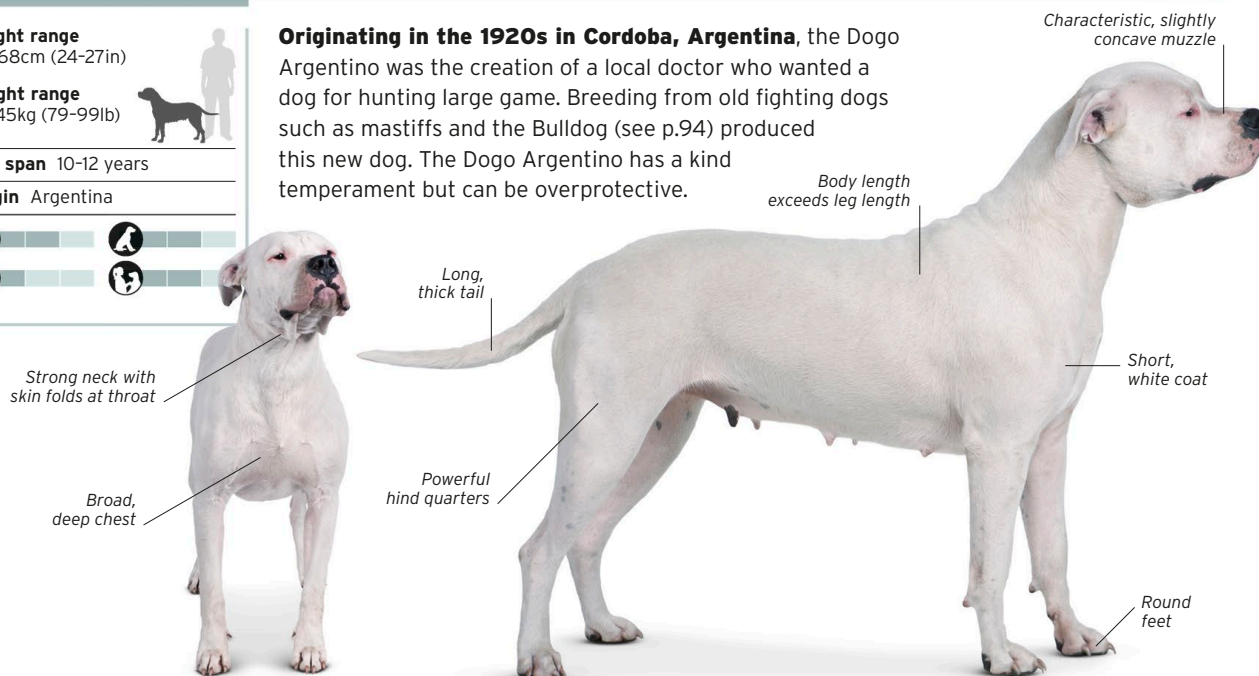


Life span 10-12 years

Origin Argentina



Originating in the 1920s in Cordoba, Argentina, the Dogo Argentino was the creation of a local doctor who wanted a dog for hunting large game. Breeding from old fighting dogs such as mastiffs and the Bulldog (see p.94) produced this new dog. The Dogo Argentino has a kind temperament but can be overprotective.



FILA BRASILEIRO

THIS COURAGEOUS AND SELF-CONFIDENT DOG CAN BE WARY OF STRANGERS

FCI

Height range
60-75cm (24-30in)

Weight range
Over 40kg (Over 88lb)

Life span 9-11 years

Origin Brazil



Other colours



Any solid colour

Bred to guard large estates and livestock, the Fila Brasileiro does not fear intruders of any kind. Huge but beautifully proportioned, this dog exudes confidence and determination. Although the Fila Brasileiro is kind and quiet within a family, the average owner may find the breed's hunting and protective instincts difficult to manage.

Well-developed eyebrows

Large, drop ears

Broad chest with white markings

Forelegs more heavily boned than hind legs

White markings on feet

Massive, broad head

Short, smooth, brindle coat

Loose, thick skin forms dewlaps on throat

URUGUAYAN CIMARRON

THIS INTELLIGENT AND AGILE DOG NEEDS EARLY SOCIALIZING BUT MAKES A GOOD GUARD DOG

FCI

Height range
55-61cm (22-24in)

Weight range
33-45kg (73-99lb)

Life span 10-13 years

Origin Uruguay



Other colours



Fawn

Fawn coats may have black shading.

The ancestors of this breed were brought into Uruguay by Spanish and Portuguese colonists and crossed with local dogs. Bred by farmers in the remote area of Cerro Largo, the Uruguayan Cimarron was used for guarding and herding. Like many working breeds, it needs an experienced owner if kept as a companion.

Triangular ears with rounded tips

Dark muzzle

Deep, broad chest

Oval feet

Muscular, well-defined hind quarters

Strong, powerful jaws

White chest markings

Close-fitting, short-haired, brindle coat

Rounded, cat-like feet

Thick tail reaches hocks



ALAPAHA BLUE BLOOD BULLDOG

IF GIVEN REGULAR EXERCISE, THIS IS A GOOD DOG IN THE HOME BUT NEEDS CAREFUL TRAINING

Height range
46-61cm (18-24in)

Weight range
25-41kg (55-90lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin USA



Other colours



White

Dogs may have patches of any colour.



Bulldog-type dogs were once commonly used as guards

in the plantations of South Georgia. By the early 19th century such dogs were almost extinct, but dedicated breeding over the next 200 years regenerated the type and produced the Alapaha Blue Blood Bulldog. This dog is still rare and not widely known outside the United States. Muscular and intrepid, an Alapaha Blue Blood Bulldog has strong protective instincts, but it is easy to train to be a well-behaved and affectionate companion. Energetic outdoors, this dog is happiest when given plenty of exercise.



Short muzzle with well-defined stop



Broad, flat head

Wide-set, triangular, drop ears

Blue eyes

Black patch

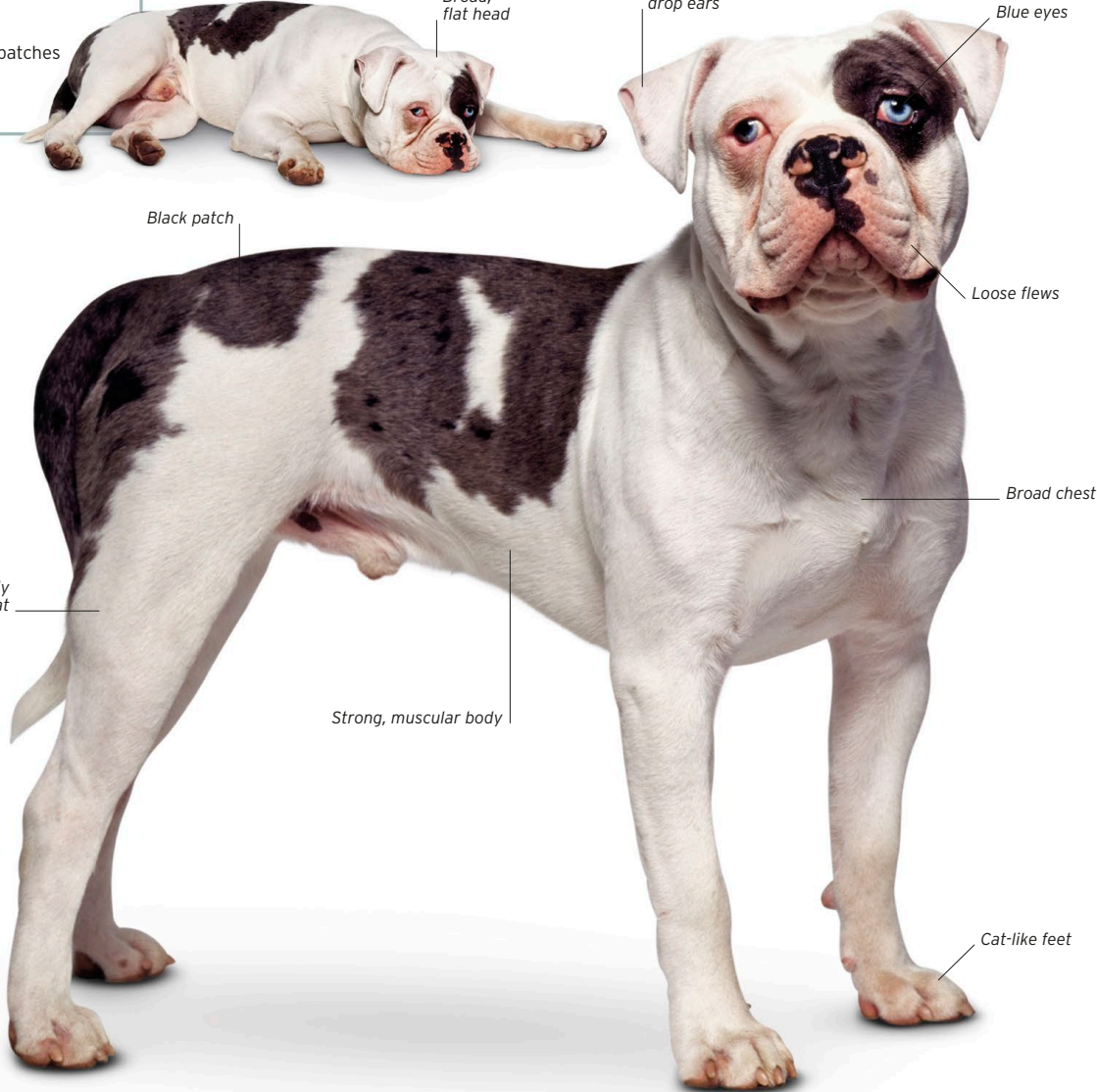
Loose flews

Broad chest

Predominantly white coat

Strong, muscular body

Cat-like feet



BOERBOEL

THIS DOG LOVES FAMILY BUT NOT STRANGERS AND REQUIRES RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP

AKC

Height range
55-69cm (22-27in)

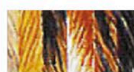
Weight range
68-91kg (150-200lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin South Africa



Other colours



Variety of colours

May have darker face mask.

The Boerboel was developed from the large, mastiff-type dogs brought by settlers to the Cape area of South Africa from the 17th century onwards. Affectionate with family and friends, the Boerboel is a formidable guard dog of huge size and strength. An experienced owner and early socialization are very important.

Thick tail tapers slightly to tip

Powerful hind legs

Characteristic massive, square head

Brow slightly wrinkled

Drop ears hang close to head

Darker tip to muzzle

Strong, muscular neck

Short, sleek, fawn coat

SPANISH MASTIFF

A HEAVYWEIGHT DEFENDER OF HOME AND FAMILY, THIS TERRITORIAL MASTIFF NEEDS EXPERT HANDLING

FCI

Height range
72-80cm (28-31in)

Weight range
52-100kg (115-221lb)

Life span 10-11 years

Origin Spain



Other colours



Any colour

Once used for guarding livestock and homes in Spain, the Spanish Mastiff still carries out its traditional duties. The breed is also popular in its native country as a companion dog. Kind and loyal within the family, this breed can be aggressive with strangers and other dogs.

Almond-shaped eyes, small in proportion to head

Loose-fitting skin

Double dewlap

Fawn coat with some sabling

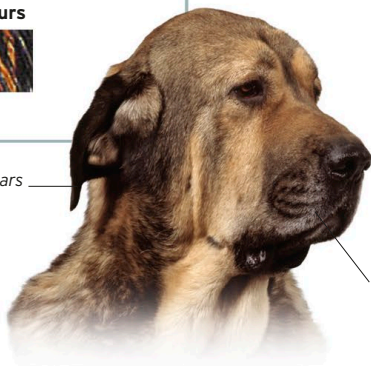
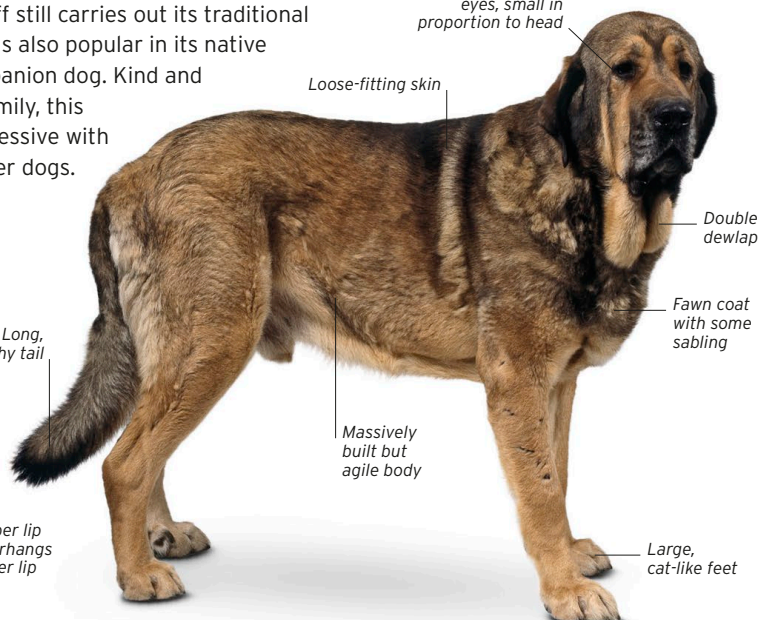
Massively built but agile body

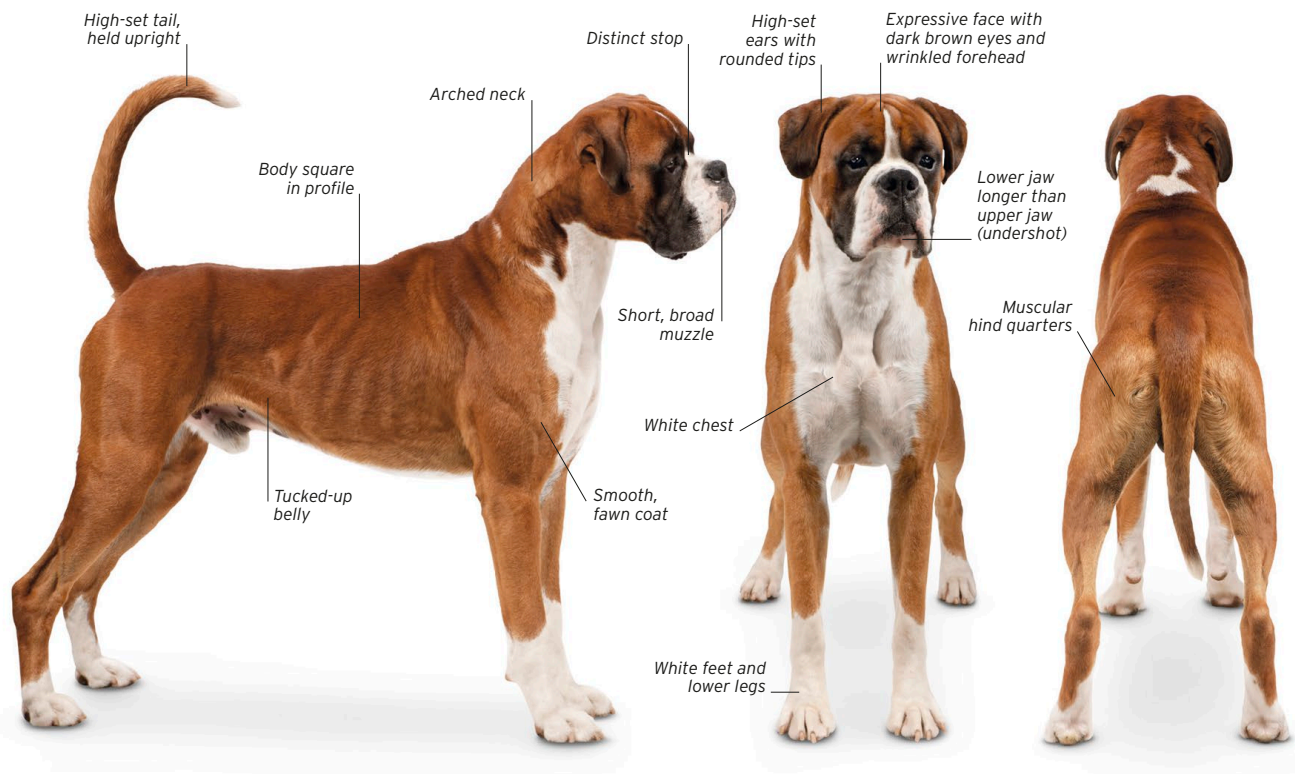
Large, cat-like feet

Long, bushy tail

Upper lip overhangs lower lip

Drop ears





BOXER

THIS CLEVER, LOYAL, EXUBERANT, AND FUN-LOVING DOG IS IDEAL FOR AN ENERGETIC OWNER

KC

Height range
53–63cm (21–25in)

Weight range
25–32kg (55–71lb)

Life span 10–14 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Black brindle

White markings should not exceed a third of the coat colour.

Once a Boxer-owner, always a Boxer-owner – this German breed is so big on personality that few who live with it ever look at another type of dog. The Boxer in its modern form was developed in the 19th century and its ancestry is thought to include mastiff-type dogs such as the Bulldog (see p.94) and the Great Dane (see p.95). Powerful and athletic, it was bred primarily for fighting and bull-baiting, but was also used for farm work, haulage, and for hunting and holding down large game such as wild boar. Because of its endurance and courage, the breed is used today as a police and military search-and-rescue dog and for guard work.

The Boxer's history, its proud, upstanding attitude, and forward-thrusting jaw give the impression of an intimidating dog, and it can certainly be protective of home and family, but it makes a wonderful companion. It is

loyal, affectionate, endearingly attention-seeking, and a boisterous but tolerant friend for children. This energetic breed suits fit, active owners as it retains its high spirits and playfulness into late maturity. Almost any sort of fun keeps a Boxer happy but, ideally, it requires a good two-hour walk every day with plenty of scope for romping around in the open. At home, given its stamina and curiosity, a Boxer enjoys a large garden where it has space to roam and interesting corners to explore.

This highly intelligent dog can be a handful to train but is obedient provided it receives calm and consistent commands and clear leadership. With early socializing, a Boxer is likely to get on well with any other pets in the family, although out on walks its hunting instincts may be aroused if there are birds or small animals to chase.



ST. MIGUEL CATTLE DOG

DEFENSIVE WITH STRANGERS, THIS GUARD DOG NEEDS AN OUTDOOR WORKING LIFE

FCI

Height range
48-60cm (19-24in)

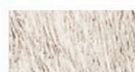
Weight range
20-35kg (44-77lb)

Life span About 15 years

Origin Portugal



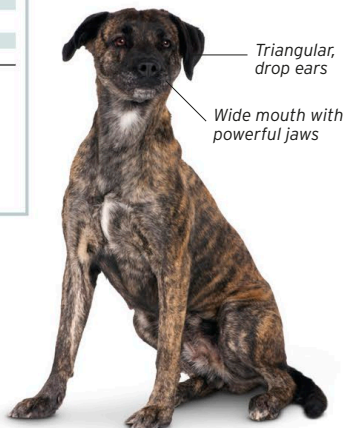
Other colours



Grey brindle



Also known as the Azores Cattle Dog, this robust cattle-herder and guard dog originally came from the Azorean island of São Miguel. The breed is quiet and obedient with a trusted owner but needs careful handling and early socialization where children or strangers are concerned.



Triangular, drop ears

Wide mouth with powerful jaws



Short, smooth, fawn-brindle coat

Thick, slightly curved, high-set tail

White marking on chest

Oval feet

ITALIAN CORSO DOG

THIS POWERFUL BUT GRACEFUL DOG NEEDS AN EXPERIENCED HANDLER

FCI

Height range
60-68cm (24-27in)

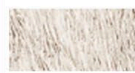
Weight range
40-50kg (88-110lb)

Life span 10-11 years

Origin Italy

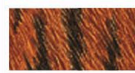


Other colours



Grey

Stag-red

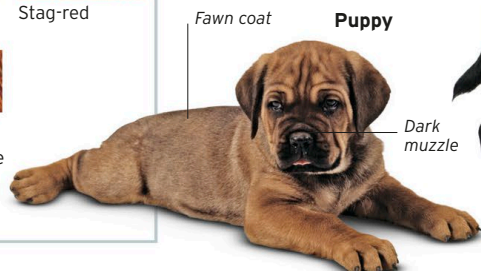


Brindle

May have white markings.



Descended from Roman fighting dogs, the Italian Corso is now used mainly for guarding and tracking. More graceful in build than many types of mastiff, this is nonetheless an extremely strong and robust breed. It can make a good house dog, but experienced and responsible ownership is essential.



Fawn coat

Puppy

Dark muzzle



Typical mastiff-shaped head

Short, glossy, black coat

Loose hanging flaps

Powerful body

NEAPOLITAN MASTIFF

THIS CANINE HEAVYWEIGHT MAKES A LOYAL COMPANION FOR A RESPONSIBLE OWNER

KC

Height range
60-75cm (24-30in)

Weight range
50-70kg (110-154lb)

Life span Up to 10 years

Origin Italy



Other colours



Variety of colours

Deep muzzle with pendulous flews

Said to have descended from the Molossus fighting dogs used in the Roman amphitheatre, the Neapolitan Mastiff has an intimidating appearance: huge, heavy-headed, and with a stern expression. The breed has mainly been used as a guard dog and by the police and armed forces. It needs a confident and capable owner.

Large head with loose-fitting skin

Tail thick at base, tapers to tip

Ears set well apart on broad skull

Moderate dewlap

Short, grey coat with hard texture

White patch on tip of toe

DOGUE DE BORDEAUX

THIS NON-AGGRESSIVE GUARD DOG IS MORE AGILE THAN ITS SIZE SUGGESTS

KC

Height range
58-68cm (23-27in)

Weight range
45-50kg (99-110lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin France



This old French breed was once used for hunting and fighting. The Dogue de Bordeaux's instincts make it a natural guard dog but, lacking aggression, it is easier to train and socialize than some mastiff types. Experienced handling is still necessary, however, if this powerful and athletic dog is to fit comfortably into a family home.

Head furrowed with wrinkles

Muscular, loose-skinned neck

Thick tail carried low at rest

Brown nose

Dewlap from throat to chest

Short, fine-haired, soft, fawn coat

Heavily muscled legs

BROHOLMER

THIS LARGE MOLOSSUS DOG IS BOTH STRONG AND CALM

FCI

Height range
70-75cm (28-30in)

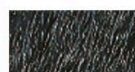
Weight range
40-70kg (88-154lb)

Life span 6-11 years

Origin Denmark



Other colours



Black



Historically a hunting dog, and later a farm guard dog, the Broholmer is now almost exclusively kept at home. The breed had all but disappeared by the mid-20th century but was revived and “reconstructed” by enthusiasts, though it is rarely seen outside its native Denmark.

Large, heavy, broad head

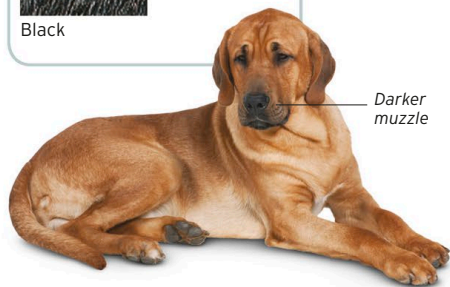
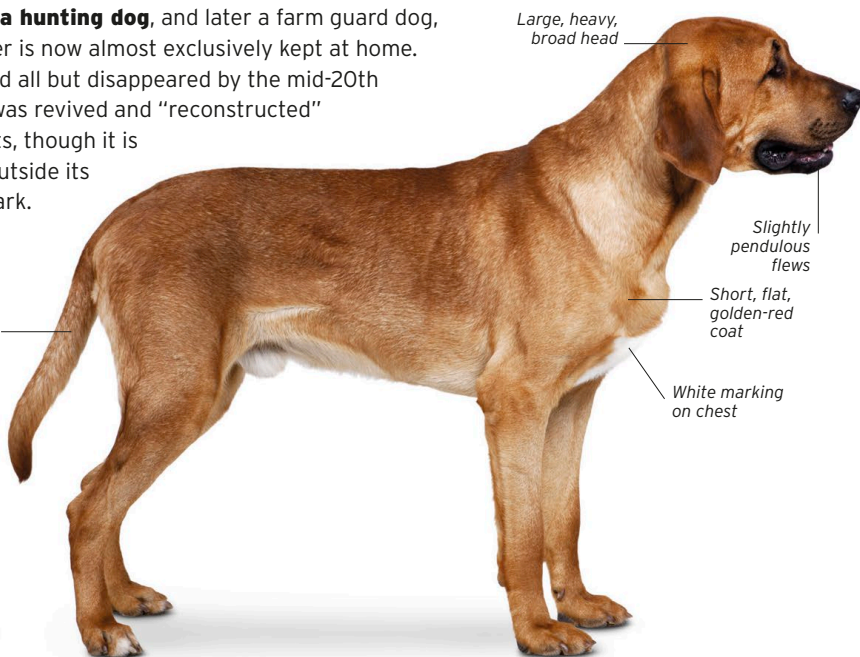
Slightly pendulous flaps

Short, flat, golden-red coat

White marking on chest

Low-set, broad tail

Darker muzzle



BULLMASTIFF

HIGH SPIRITS AND A CHEERFUL TEMPERAMENT UNDERLIE THIS IMPOSING DOG

KC

Height range
61-69cm (24-27in)

Weight range
41-59kg (90-130lb)

Life span Under 10 years

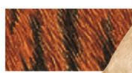
Origin UK



Other colours



Red



Brindle



A cross between the Old English Mastiff and the Bulldog (see p.94), the Bullmastiff was developed to be a gamekeeper's guard dog. With a more reliable temperament than many other mastiff types, this breed makes an intelligent and faithful house dog. The Bullmastiff's square and solid frame houses a lively spirit and boundless energy.

Dark ears set high and wide apart

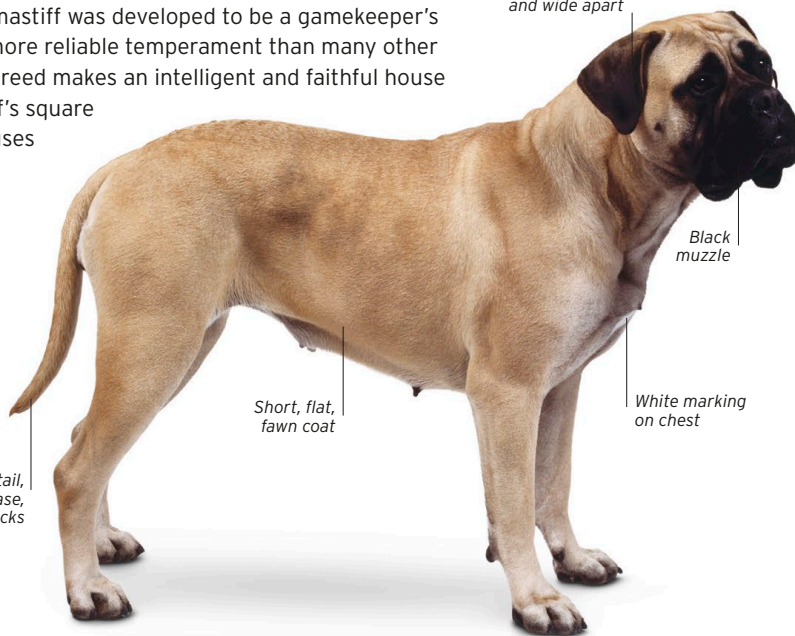
Black muzzle

White marking on chest

Short, flat, fawn coat

High-set tail, broad at base, tapers to hocks

Thick, muscular neck



MASTIFF

THIS CALM, AFFECTIONATE DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF HUMAN COMPANY

KC

Height range
70–77cm (28–30in)

Weight range
79–86kg (175–190lb)



Life span Under 10 years

Origin UK



Other colours

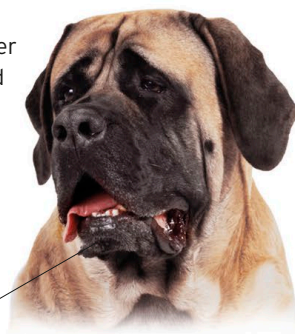


Apricot

Black brindle

May have areas of white on body, chest, and feet.

With a history of guarding, fighting, and even bear-baiting, the Mastiff is surprisingly even-tempered and easy to get on with. Sheer size is probably the most serious drawback to housing, feeding, and exercising this enormous breed. A Mastiff likes company, preferably human, and is ready to offer loyalty and affection. It is intelligent and trainable but needs an owner with both the experience and physical strength to exert firm control and ensure that its guarding instinct does not get out of hand.



Wide-set, small eyes

Forehead wrinkles when alert

Pendulous flews



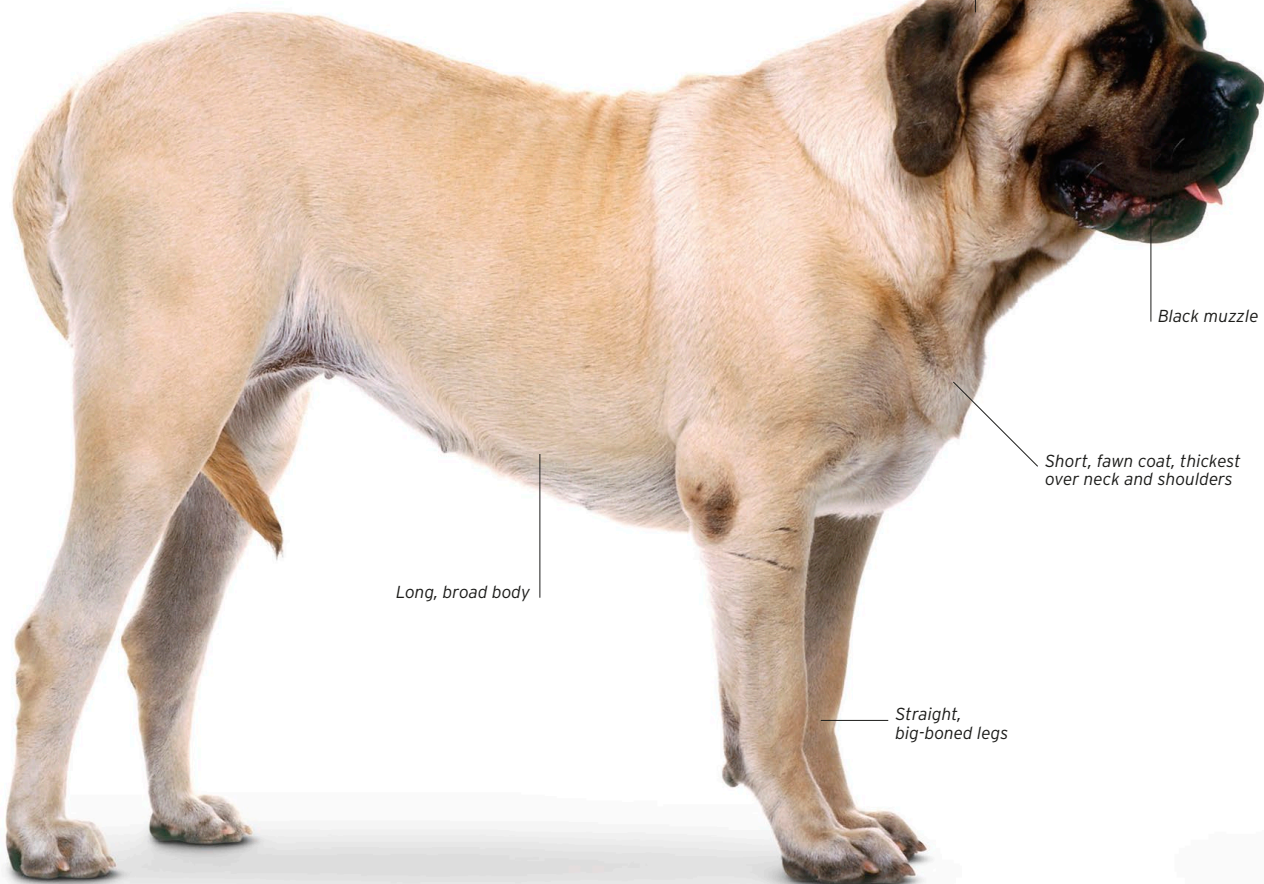
Small, flat, black ears, set high on head

Black muzzle

Short, fawn coat, thickest over neck and shoulders

Long, broad body

Straight, big-boned legs



BULLDOG

FULL OF CHARACTER, THIS DOG IS A SYMBOL OF COURAGE, DETERMINATION, AND TENACITY

KC

Height range
38-40cm (15-16in)

Weight range
23-25kg (51-55lb)



Life span Under 10 years

Origin UK

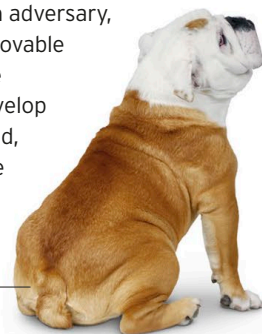


Other colours



Variety of colours

Once used for bull-baiting, and legendary for its refusal to let go of an adversary, the Bulldog has acquired a mellower reputation as a good-natured and lovable companion. The dog does have a stubborn streak as well as a protective instinct, and these traits need handling with tact, though they rarely develop into aggression. With a squat and massively muscled body, wrinkled head, and upturned nose, this breed has character rather than beauty. Despite its waddling gait, the Bulldog needs sufficient exercise to avoid it gaining too much weight.



Smooth, fawn coat

Broad, round, deep chest

Lower jaw longer than upper jaw (overshot)

Thick, short forelegs set wide apart

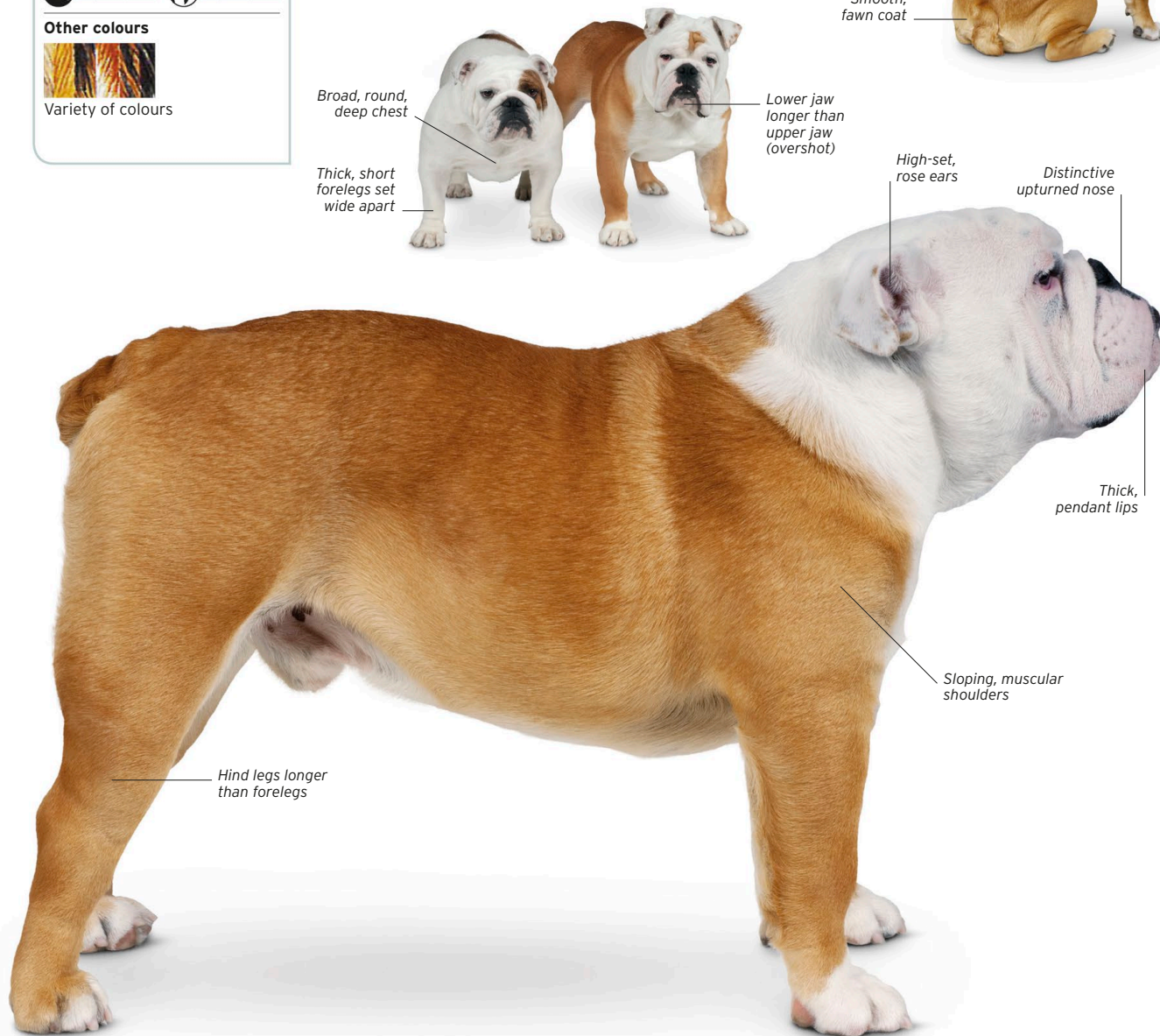
High-set, rose ears

Distinctive upturned nose

Thick, pendant lips

Sloping, muscular shoulders

Hind legs longer than forelegs



GREAT DANE

GENTLE AND EASY TO MAINTAIN, THIS DOG TAKES UP A LOT OF ROOM

KC

Height range
71-76cm (28-30in)

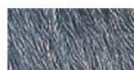
Weight range
46-54kg (101-119lb)

Life span Under 10 years

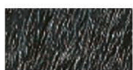
Origin Germany



Other colours



Blue



Black



Brindle



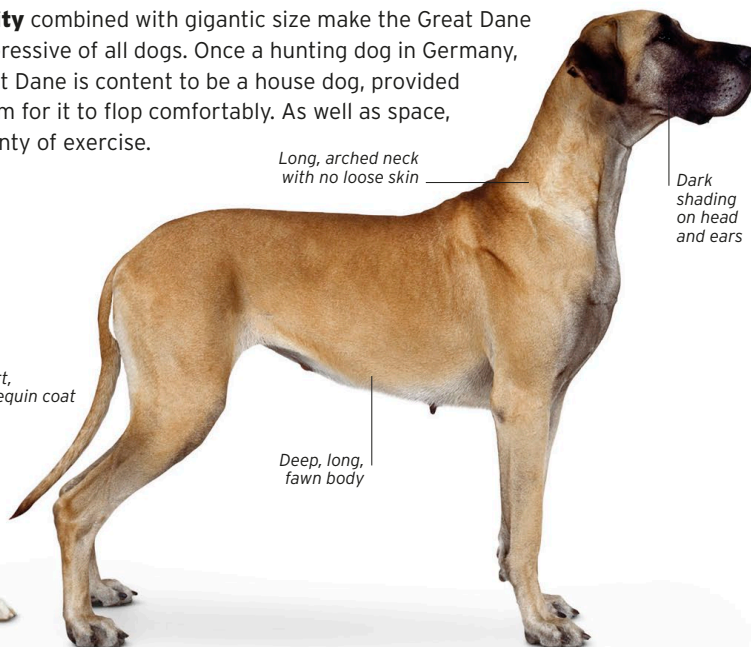
Elegance and dignity combined with gigantic size make the Great Dane one of the most impressive of all dogs. Once a hunting dog in Germany, the easy-going Great Dane is content to be a house dog, provided there is enough room for it to flop comfortably. As well as space, the breed needs plenty of exercise.

Long, arched neck with no loose skin

Dark shading on head and ears

Short, harlequin coat

Deep, long, fawn body



TOSA

FORMERLY BRED AS A FIGHTING DOG, THIS BREED NEEDS AN EXPERIENCED HANDLER

FCI

Height range
55-60cm (22-24in)

Weight range
37-90kg (82-198lb)

Life span Over 10 years

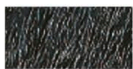
Origin Japan



Other colours



Fawn



Black



Brindle



The Tosa was developed from progressive crossbreeding between Japanese fighting dogs and Western breeds such as Mastiff (see p.93), the Bulldog (opposite), and Great Dane (above). Very large, strongly built, and possessing a latent fighting instinct, the Tosa is considered to be a dog that should only be owned by expert handlers.

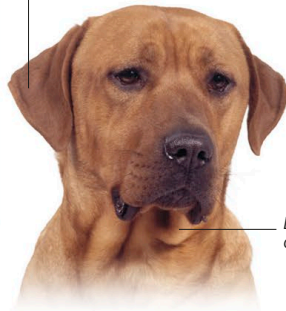
Short, red coat

Smallish, high-set ears

Thick, tapering tail

Small, white marking

Dewlap on neck



PULLING TOGETHER

A team of Siberian Huskies ploughs effortlessly through deep snow. With an experienced handler, these hardy and tireless dogs work superbly together.



SPITZ-TYPE DOGS

A team of huskies pulling a sled over icy wastelands epitomizes the type of dog known as a Spitz. In fact, this group has diverse uses, including herding, hunting, and guarding; many smaller types are kept solely as pets. Descent from wolves is apparent in many spitz dogs: the shape of the head, the typical wolf colouring, and an alert expression.



The smiling-faced Samoyed
originated in Siberia

Many of the modern spitz breeds seen today originated in northern Arctic regions, though a number of them, including the Chow Chow and Akita, were developed in East Asia. The history of the spitz group remains unclear, but it is currently thought that they originated in Asia, some migrating alongside tribal movements into Africa and others across the Bering Strait to North America.

Breeds such as the Greenland Dog and Siberian Husky were used most famously for sled-hauling by the polar explorers of the 19th and early 20th centuries. These tough dogs worked in appalling weather conditions, often on a diet of poor food, and frequently ended up being eaten themselves when their owners ran out of rations. Such spitz-type sled dogs were also once widely used by North American hunters and fur-trappers. Today, the sled-hauling spitz breeds are popular for endurance

racing and with tourists who want to try their hand at dog-driving. Other spitz dogs have been bred for hunting large game, such as wolf and bear, and for herding reindeer. The Akita, originally from Japan, was developed as a fighter and bear-hunter and now often works as a guard dog. Among the small, non-working spitz dogs are the Pomeranian, selectively bred down in size from a larger type of dog, and the newly created Alaskan Klee Kai, a miniature husky.

Spitz dogs, both large and small, have the characteristics of animals bred specifically for living in extremely cold climates. Typically, they have a very thick double coat, which varies in length and density according to the origin of a breed. Other features for preventing heat loss in low temperatures are pointed, densely-furred ears, and well-furred feet. An attractive addition to many breeds is

the distinctive “spitz” tail that curls upwards over the back.

As house dogs, most spitz breeds are happy with family life, but they are not the easiest of dogs to train. Without sufficient exercise and amusement they can resort to disruptive behaviour such as digging holes and barking.

SMALLEST SPITZ

The tiny Pomeranian is the smallest of the spitz-type breeds. Although it was bred as a pet, this dog has a strong character and is full of indomitable spitz spirit.



EX-FIGHTER

The burly Akita was once a fighting dog in its native Japan.



CANADIAN ESKIMO DOG

THIS FRIENDLY DOG NEEDS A FIRM HAND BUT IS HAPPY BELONGING TO A HUMAN "PACK"

KC

Height range
50-70cm (20-28in)

Weight range
18-40kg (40-88lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Canada

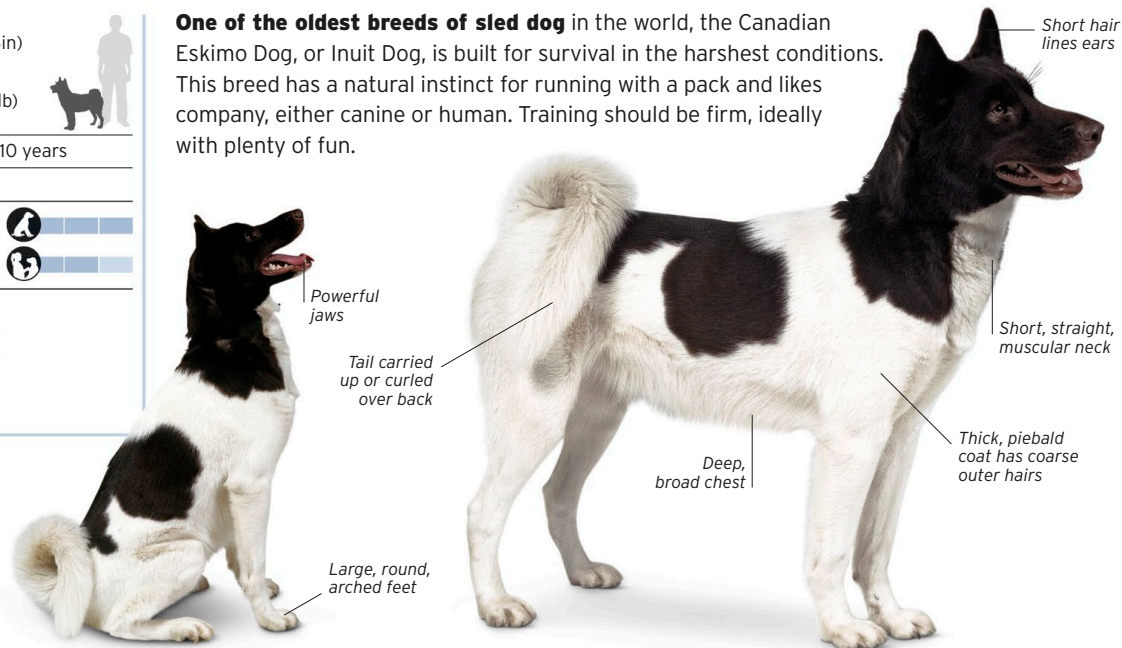


Other colours



Any colour

One of the oldest breeds of sled dog in the world, the Canadian Eskimo Dog, or Inuit Dog, is built for survival in the harshest conditions. This breed has a natural instinct for running with a pack and likes company, either canine or human. Training should be firm, ideally with plenty of fun.



GREENLAND DOG

THIS DOG HAS GREAT STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE AND LOVES OUTDOOR ACTION

KC

Height range
51-68cm (20-27in)

Weight range
27-48kg (60-106lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Greenland



Other colours



Any colour

The classic sled dog of polar expeditions, the Greenland Dog was used by Arctic peoples for hunting and transport long before European and American explorers discovered its worth. Powerful, strong-willed, and stubborn, though generally happy-natured, this dog needs patient training and does best in the hands of an expert.



SIBERIAN HUSKY

THIS VERSATILE AND SOCIABLE DOG FINDS CHASING SMALL ANIMALS IRRESISTIBLE

KC

Height range
51-60cm (20-24in)

Weight range
16-27kg (35-60lb)



Life span Over 10 years

Origin Siberia



Other colours



Any colour

Long used as a sled dog by the indigenous peoples of eastern Siberia, the Siberian Husky has great endurance, an appetite for work, and resistance to extreme cold. The breed is still popular in the Arctic, particularly in sports such as dogsled racing. Siberian Huskies make peaceable and lovable companions but need vigorous exercise to burn off some of their energy.

They have a strong pack instinct, and are unlikely to be happy living in isolation. A Siberian Husky tends to see small animals as natural prey, so caution is needed if other pets are kept.

Triangular, erect,
high-set ears



Long,
bushy tail

Slightly
sloping croup

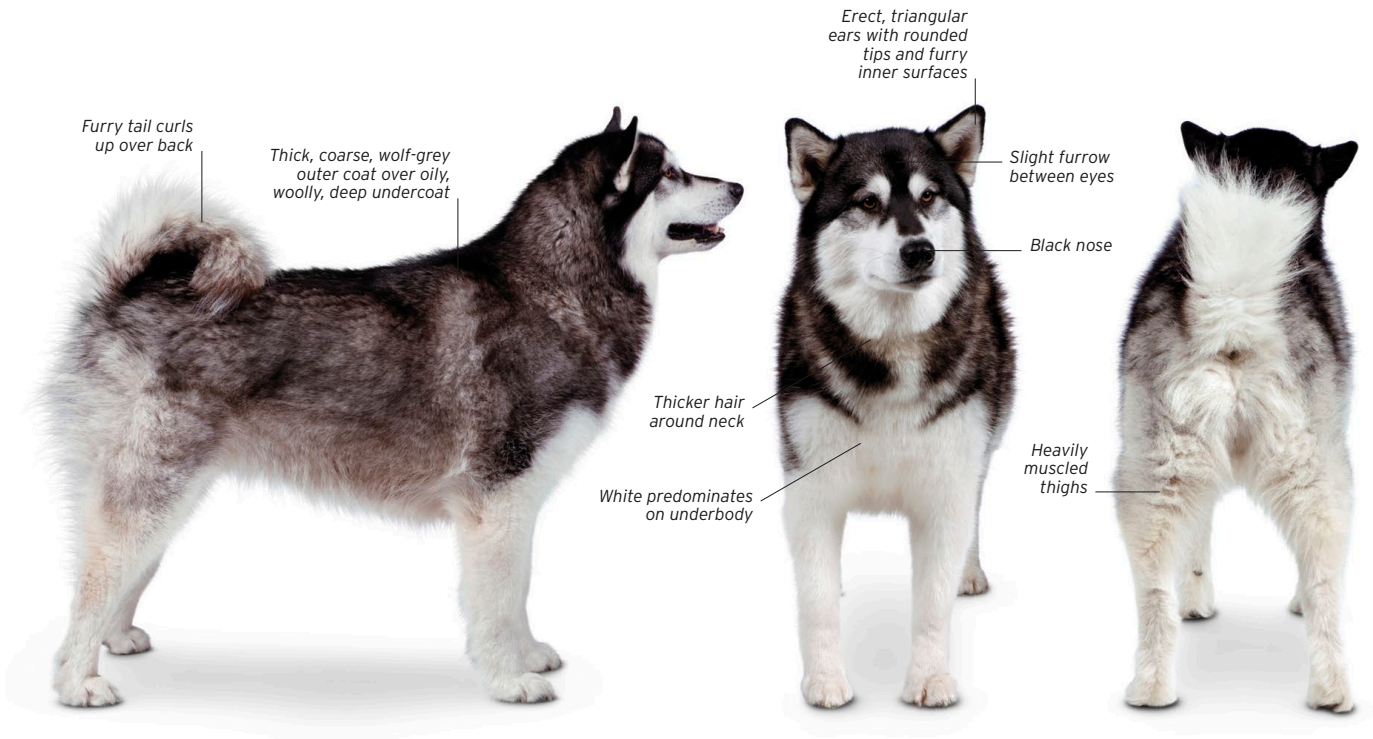
Arched neck

Fox-like head

Thick,
medium-length,
wolf-grey coat

Powerful,
muscular thighs





ALASKAN MALAMUTE

A LARGE, SLED-PULLING DOG THAT CAN ADAPT WELL TO FAMILY LIFE

KC

Height range
58-71cm (23-28in)

Weight range
38-56kg (84-123lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours

All dogs have white underparts.



The wolf-like Alaskan Malamute is named after the Native American Mahlemut people, who bred these dogs to pull heavy loads and travel great distances across the snow when sleds were the only mode of transport. Today, it is still used to haul freight in remote North American locations, and successfully takes part in sled-racing competitions. Also used on polar expeditions, this breed has staggering amounts of stamina, strength, and tenacity combined with highly tuned senses of direction and smell.

For all its toughness, the Alaskan Malamute is a friendly dog, at least towards people, which means that it cannot be relied on as a guard dog. It likes children but is too big and boisterous to be left alone with a small child. The Alaskan Malamute, especially the male, tends to be intolerant of strange dogs, and without thorough socializing can quickly

become aggressive. The breed also has a strong chasing instinct and can disappear far and fast in pursuit of small animals that it sees as prey. Owners should be cautious about where and when to exercise this dog off the lead. A quick learner, the Alaskan Malamute has a strong will, so needs firm handling and training in good habits right from the start.

The Alaskan Malamute settles well into domestic life as long as it has at least two hours of exercise each day and a garden to roam in. A bored dog, with energy to spare, can be destructive if left at home without supervision. Although its thick coat sheds in spring, there is a risk of overheating if the dog is over-exercised in hot weather, so it needs access to shade. The hardy Alaskan Malamute is happy to sleep outdoors, provided it has a companion.



ALASKAN KLEE KAI

THIS ENERGETIC MINI HUSKY IS CONFIDENT WITH OWNERS BUT WARY OF STRANGERS

Height range
Toy:
Up to 33cm (Up to 13in)
Miniature:
33-38cm (13-15in)
Standard:
38-44cm (15-17in)

Weight range
Toy:
Up to 4kg (Up to 9lb)
Miniature:
4-7kg (9-15lb)
Standard:
7-10kg (15-22lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin USA



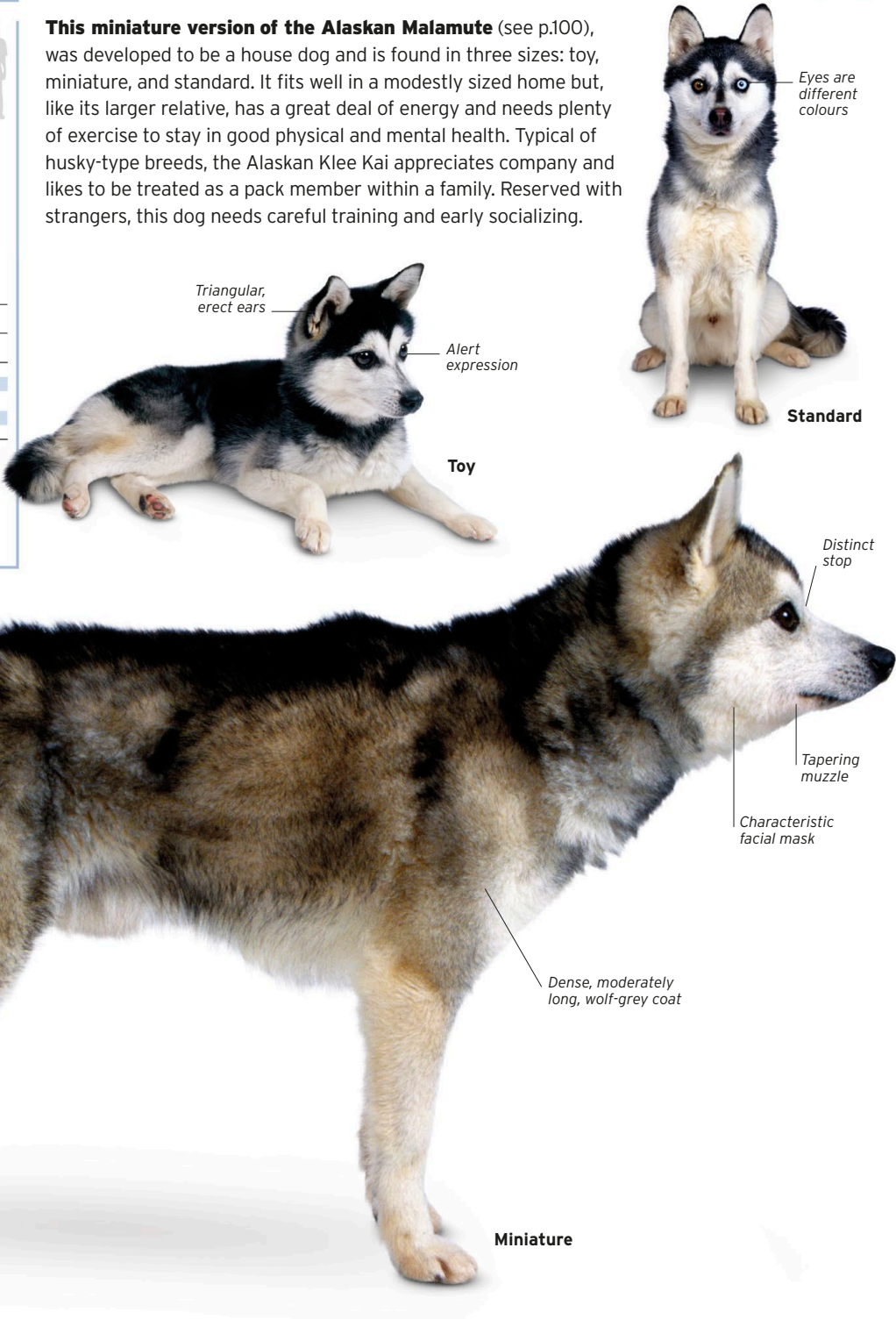


Other colours

Any colour



This miniature version of the Alaskan Malamute (see p.100), was developed to be a house dog and is found in three sizes: toy, miniature, and standard. It fits well in a modestly sized home but, like its larger relative, has a great deal of energy and needs plenty of exercise to stay in good physical and mental health. Typical of husky-type breeds, the Alaskan Klee Kai appreciates company and likes to be treated as a pack member within a family. Reserved with strangers, this dog needs careful training and early socializing.



CHINOOK

ALWAYS WILLING TO WORK OR PLAY, THIS DOG IS GOOD WITH CHILDREN

AKC

Height range
55-66cm (22-26in)

Weight range
23-41kg (51-90lb)

Life span 10-15 years

Origin USA



Developed as a sled dog at the beginning of the 20th century in the USA, the Chinook is the result of various crosses between mastiffs, the Greenland Dog (see p.98), and shepherd dogs. Active but gentle-natured, this is a fun-loving breed and makes an excellent all-round family dog.

Wide, slightly arched, head

V-shaped ears, slightly darker than body

Medium-length, sandy coat

Well-defined thigh muscles

Ruff of longer hair around neck

Deep, broad chest

Strong, well-muscled forelegs

Oval feet with webbed toes

KARELIAN BEAR DOG

THIS BOLD, ASSERTIVE BREED IS NOT AGGRESSIVE WITH PEOPLE BUT MAY RESENT OTHER DOGS

FCI

Height range
52-57cm (20-22in)

Weight range
20-23kg (44-51lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Finland



Developed in Finland, this fearless hunting dog was bred to challenge big game, particularly bear and elk. The Karelian Bear Dog has a strong fighting instinct, which does not turn into aggression against people but may cause trouble with other dogs. This breed is unlikely to settle well into domestic life.

Straight, harsh-textured, black and white outer coat

Straight nose bridge

High-set tail curled over back

Well-defined white markings are common

Slightly tucked-up belly

Thicker hair on neck

Strong-boned legs

WEST SIBERIAN LAIKA

AN INTELLIGENT AND ALERT DOG WITH A KEEN NOSE AND STRONG HUNTING INSTINCT

FCI

Height range
51-62cm (20-24in)

Weight range
18-22kg (40-49lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Russia



Other colours



Variety of colours



Bred for hunting in the forests of Siberia, this handsome dog is very popular in its native country. The breed is strong and confident, and eager to follow game, either large or small. Although the West Siberian Laika has a steady temperament, its readiness to hunt makes it unsuitable as a house dog for most families.

High-set ears held erect

Sable coat on neck and shoulders forms longer collar

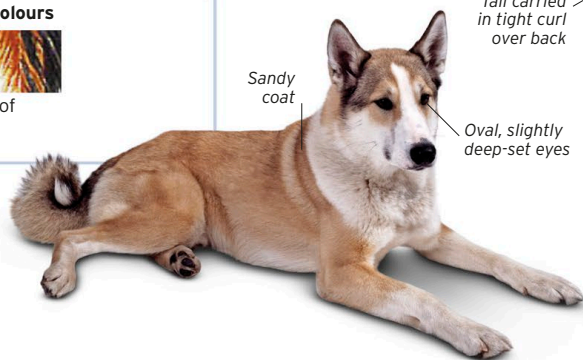
Tail carried in tight curl over back

Sandy coat

Oval, slightly deep-set eyes

Long, muscular upper forelegs

Feet with hair between toes



EAST SIBERIAN LAIKA

BORN TO HUNT, THIS DOG IS CALM AND EASY-GOING WITH PEOPLE

FCI

Height range
53-64cm (21-25in)

Weight range
18-23kg (40-51lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Russia



Other colours



White



Karamis



Piebald



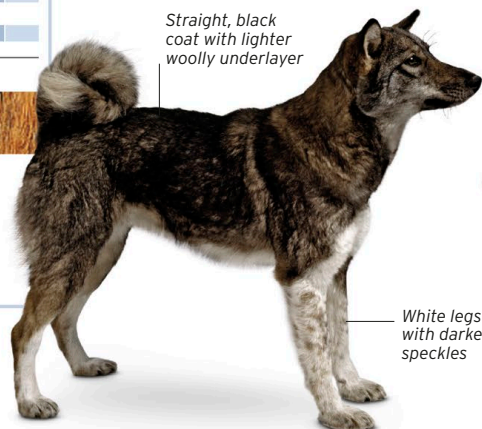
The popularity of this Russian hunting dog is widespread in its own country and also reaches into Scandinavia. Bred for work, the East Siberian Laika is tough, active, and confident. Although it has a strong instinct for following big game, it is controllable, steady-tempered, and friendly with people.

V-shaped, erect ears, thickly lined with hair

Broad head

Straight, black coat with lighter woolly underlayer

White legs with darker speckles



RUSSIAN-EUROPEAN LAIKA

A STRONG AND WORKMAN-LIKE BREED, NOT SUITED TO FAMILY LIFE

FCI

Height range
48–58cm (19–23in)

Weight range
20–23kg (44–51lb)

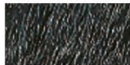


Life span 10–12 years

Origin Russia



Other colours



White

Black

This Laika was only acknowledged as a distinct breed in the early 1940s. Strong but lean-limbed, the Russian-European Laika has been used mainly for hunting in Russia's northern forests. A steady worker, this dog is excellent when used for its traditional purpose but does not adapt well to a domestic lifestyle.



Narrow, triangular head

Black nose

Hair on hind legs forms "breeches"

Well-muscled, slender legs



Tail carried over back

Harsh-textured, black coat with white markings

FINNISH SPITZ

BRISK AND JAUNTY, THIS DOG ENJOYS FAMILY FUN AND IS USUALLY PATIENT WITH CHILDREN

KC

Height range
39–50cm (15–20in)

Weight range
14–16kg (31–35lb)



Life span 12–15 years

Origin Finland



Finland's national dog was bred for hunting small game and is still used for sport in Scandinavia. With its pert, fox-like appearance, luxuriant coat, and enthusiasm for play, the Finnish Spitz makes an appealing family pet. The breed has a tendency to bark a great deal; this should be discouraged at an early age.

Small, pointed ears

Reddish brown coat with sparsely distributed black hair

Bushy tail

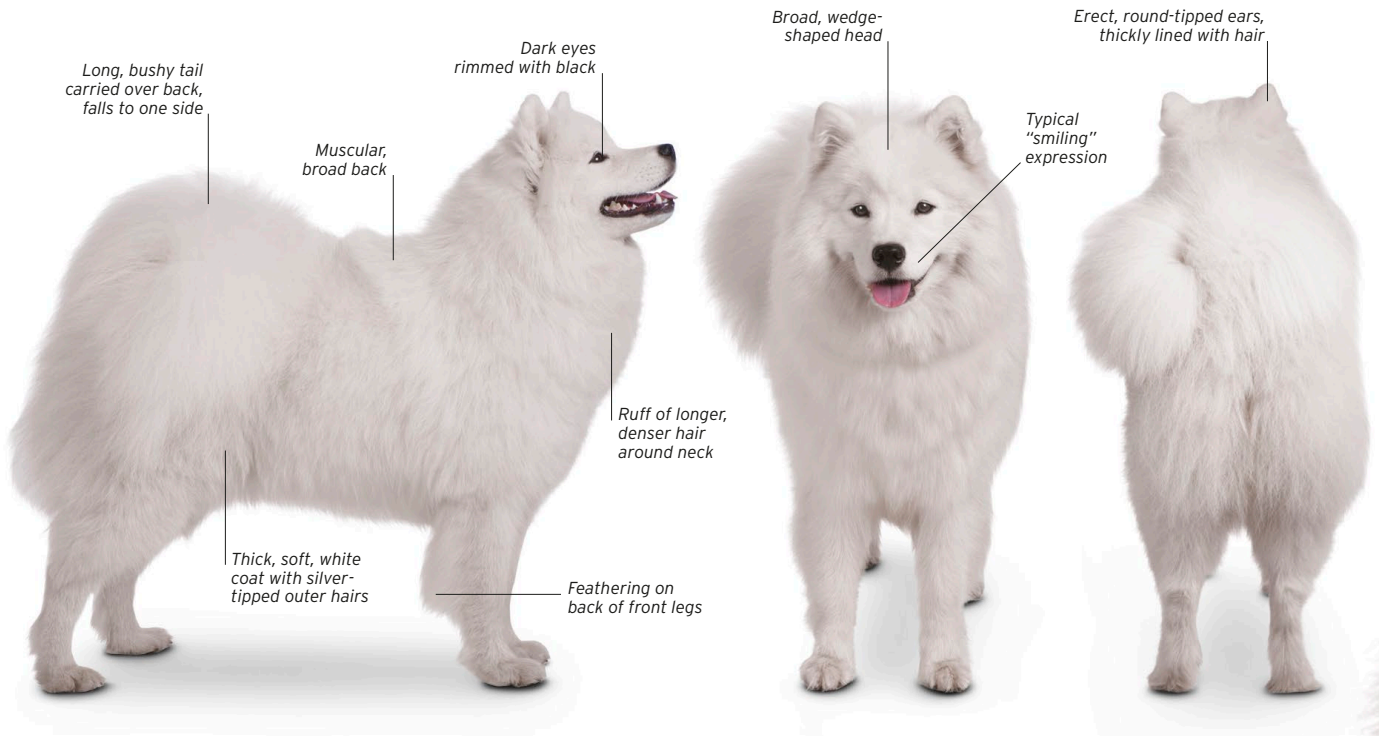
Lighter-coloured underparts

Outer corners of eyes tilt upwards

Fox-like head with narrow muzzle



Square, strong body



SAMOYED

THIS STRIKINGLY ATTRACTIVE DOG MAKES AN EXCELLENT FAMILY PET

KC

Height range
46–56cm (18–22in)

Weight range
16–30kg (35–66lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Russia



Developed centuries ago by the nomadic Samoyed people of Siberia, this beautiful dog was used for herding and guarding reindeer and for sled-hauling. This tough, outdoor worker was also very much a family dog, taking its place in its owner's tent and enjoying human companionship. These dogs were brought to England in the 1800s and were first seen in the United States around a decade later. Numerous myths and unsubstantiated stories link the Samoyeds to the polar expeditions of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but it appears likely that this breed was included among sled teams taken to the Antarctic during the heyday of polar exploration.

The modern Samoyed retains the sociable and easy-going temperament that made it so valued as part of a nomadic family. Behind the "smiling" expression characteristic of the breed is an affectionate nature and a desire

to be friends with everyone. However, the Samoyed retains the watchdog instincts for which it was bred. Although never aggressive, it will bark at anything that arouses its suspicion. This dog craves company and likes to be kept occupied mentally and physically. Intelligent and spirited, a bored or lonely Samoyed will resort to mischief – whether it is digging holes or finding a way to escape through a fence. The breed responds well to thoughtful handling, but training requires patience and persistence on the part of its owner.

Daily grooming is essential to keep the Samoyed's magnificent, stand-out coat in order and maintain its distinctive silvery sheen. Seasonal shedding of the undercoat can be very heavy but, except in very warm conditions, normally occurs only once a year.



FINNISH LAPPHUND

THIS FRIENDLY AND LOYAL DOG, WITH SOME HERDING INSTINCTS, IS QUICK TO LEARN

KC

Height range
44-49cm (17-19in)

Weight range
15-24kg (33-53lb)

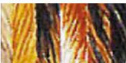
Life span 12-15 years

Origin Finland





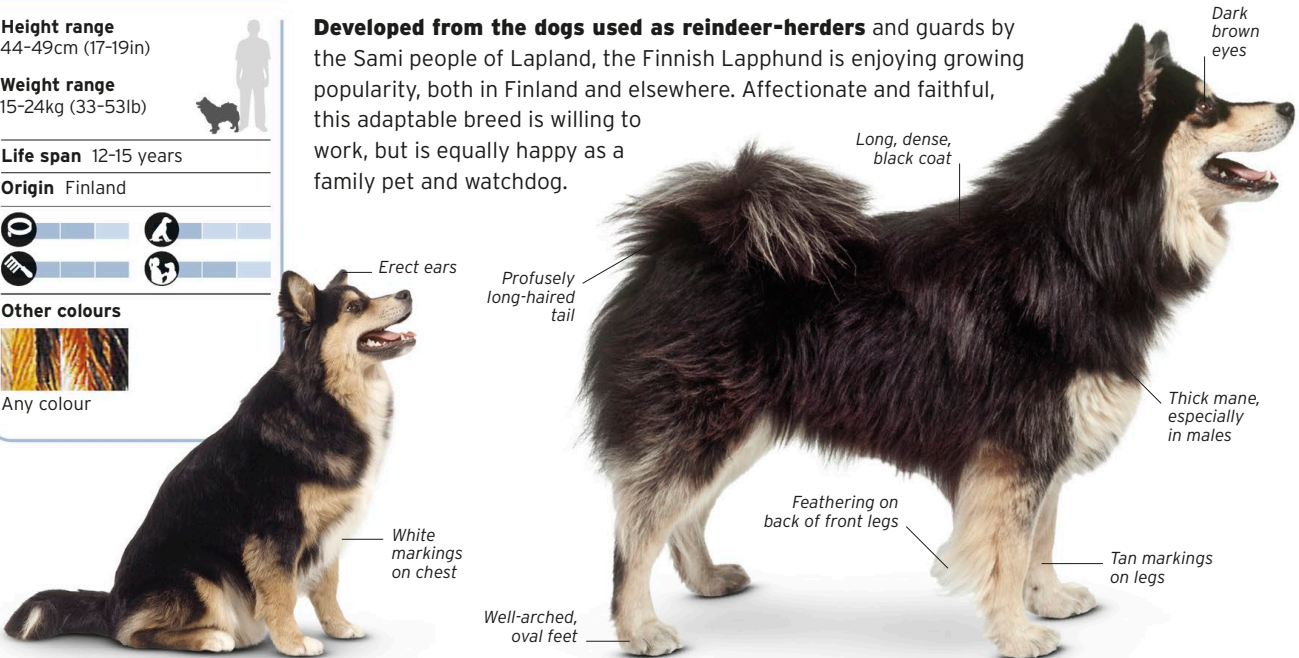
Other colours



Any colour



Developed from the dogs used as reindeer-herders and guards by the Sami people of Lapland, the Finnish Lapphund is enjoying growing popularity, both in Finland and elsewhere. Affectionate and faithful, this adaptable breed is willing to work, but is equally happy as a family pet and watchdog.



LAPPONIAN HERDER

BRED FOR HERDING, THIS DOG HAS A DOCILE TEMPERAMENT AND PLENTY OF ENERGY

FCI

Height range
46-51cm (18-20in)

Weight range
Up to 30kg (up to 66lb)

Life span 11-12 years

Origin Finland







Originally bred from Finnish Lapphunds (above), German Shepherd Dogs (see p.35), and working collies, this dog was recognized as a separate breed in the 1960s. The Lapponian Herder, or Lapinporokoira, is still kept for work by reindeer-hunters, and sometimes as a house dog. This breed has a calm and friendly nature.



SWEDISH LAPPHUND

FRIENDLY BUT NEEDING FIRM CONTROL, THIS DOG CAN BE NOISY AND RESTLESS IF LEFT ALONE

KC

Height range
40–51cm (16–20in)

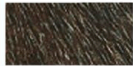
Weight range
19–21kg (42–46lb)

Life span 9–15 years

Origin Sweden



Other colours



Brown



Black and brown

May have white mark on chest, feet, and tip of tail.



Similar to the Finnish Lapphund (opposite) in all but colour, the Swedish Lapphund was once used as a reindeer-herder by the nomadic Sami people. This breed is popular in Sweden as a house dog but remains uncommon elsewhere. It enjoys company and tends to bark if left alone for long periods of time.



Wedge-shaped head

Dark brown eyes

Shorter hair on face



Erect ears, set well apart

Moderate stop

Long-haired, bushy tail, curled over back

Dense, black coat stands out from body

Compact, oval feet

SWEDISH ELKHOUND

THIS POWERFUL AND AGILE DOG IS NOT SUITABLE FOR AN URBAN LIFESTYLE

FCI

Height range
52–65cm (20–26in)

Weight range
Up to 30kg (up to 66lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin Sweden



Developed in Sweden's northern forest regions, this large upstanding dog, also known as the Jämthund, was once kept for hunting elk, bear, and lynx. Popular with Sweden's military forces, this breed is the country's national dog. Although good with families, the Swedish Elkhound needs careful handling when around other dogs or pets.



Brown eyes with keen expression

High-set, erect ears lined with thick hair

Characteristic lighter markings

Thickly coated tail, carried in a curl



Wolf-like head

Strong neck

Longer hair on chest

Dense, dark grey topcoat

Belly moderately tucked up

Cream undercoat

Strong, oval feet

NORWEGIAN ELKHOUND

THIS CALM DOG IS GOOD WITH CHILDREN, BUT MAY BARK AT STRANGERS

KC

Height range
49–52cm (19–20in)

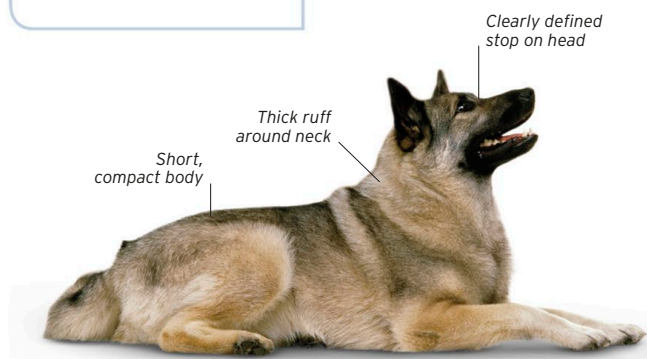
Weight range
20–23kg (44–51lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin Norway



Believed to have existed in Scandinavia for many hundreds of years, the Norwegian Elkhound was once used for tracking game, and is sturdy enough for sled hauling. Impervious to cold and wet weather, this dog likes to be outdoors. The breed has a strong hunting instinct and needs patient training.



Short, compact body

Thick ruff around neck

Clearly defined stop on head



Tightly curled tail carried high

Black-tipped hairs on outer, grey coat

Black muzzle

BLACK NORWEGIAN ELKHOUND

THIS DOG FORMS STRONG FAMILY BONDS, BUT MAY BE A LITTLE STUBBORN TO TRAIN

FCI

Height range
43–49cm (17–19in)

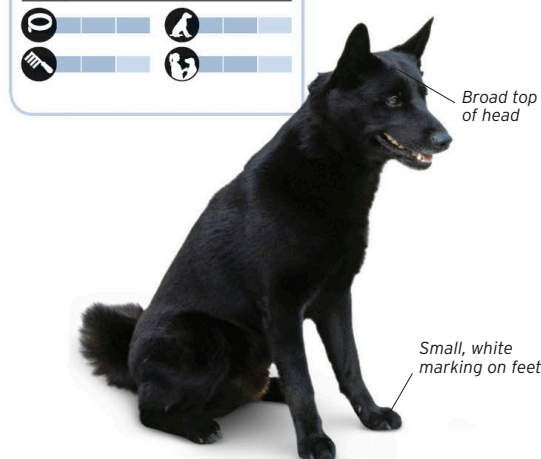
Weight range
18–27kg (40–60lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin Norway



This breed is a smaller, rarer version of the grey-coated Norwegian Elkhound (above). Originally bred for tracking game, it is versatile enough to be a sled dog, herder, watchdog, or family companion. It tends to bark readily but can be taught to stop on command.



Broad top of head

Small, white marking on feet



Pointed ears with wide base

Short, thick tail curls over back

Solid black, weatherproof coat

Muzzle tapering but not pointed

HOKKAIDO DOG

FEARLESS YET GENTLE AT HOME, THIS DOG NEEDS SUPERVISION WITH OTHER ANIMALS

FCI

Height range
46-52cm (18-20in)

Weight range
20-30kg (44-66lb)

Life span 11-13 years

Origin Japan



Other colours



Variety of colours



Dogs of this type were brought to the Japanese island of Hokkaido by the migrating Ainu people (Ainu Dog is the breed's alternative name). Although medium-sized, the Hokkaido Dog was bold and tough enough to hunt bears. Careful training and socializing can make this dog a good companion and home guardian.



Smallish, dark, triangular eyes

Thick tail curled over back

Harsh, straight, sesame-coloured coat



Strong, straight back

Muscular neck

SHIKOKU

THIS BREED RESPONDS READILY TO AFFECTION, BUT SHOULD NOT BE TRUSTED WITH SMALL PETS

FCI

Height range
46-52cm (18-20in)

Weight range
16-26kg (35-57lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Japan



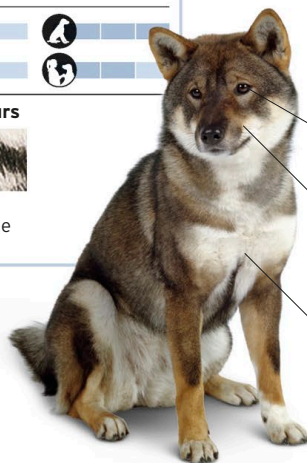
Other colours



Sesame and black sesame



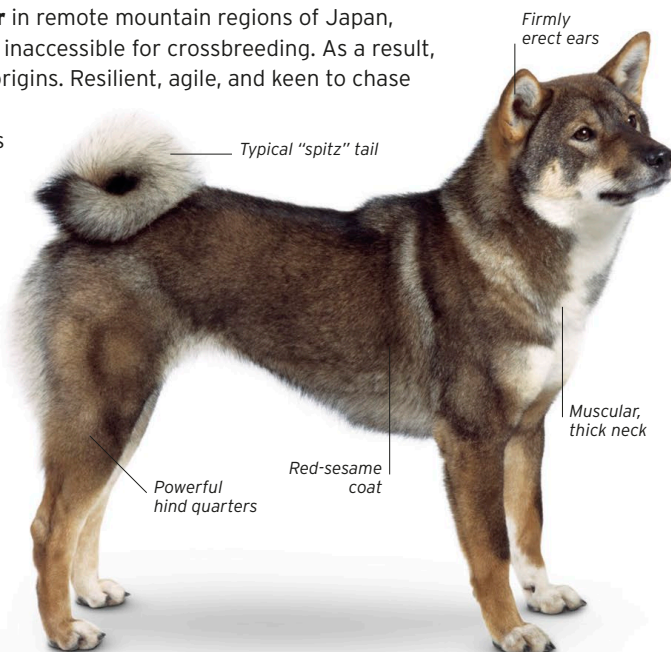
Once used as a boar-hunter in remote mountain regions of Japan, the Shikoku remained largely inaccessible for crossbreeding. As a result, this breed is very true to its origins. Resilient, agile, and keen to chase other animals, the Shikoku is challenging to train but forms a close bond with people it loves and trusts.



Dark eyes have keen expression

Moderately long, wedge-shaped muzzle

Deep chest



Typical "spitz" tail

Firmly erect ears

Red-sesame coat

Powerful hind quarters

Muscular, thick neck

AKITA

THIS DOG HAS A VARIABLE TEMPERAMENT AND REQUIRES EXPERIENCED HANDLING

KC

Height range
61-71cm (24-28in)

Weight range
32-59kg (71-130lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Japan



Other colours



Any colour

Merle not permitted.

This breed was first developed in 19th-century Japan as a fighting dog, before breeders in the USA took an interest. Also known as the American Akita, this handsome dog has a quiet dignity but tends to be domineering with other dogs. Without an experienced owner to set the rules at a young age, it may become wayward or aggressive.

Triangular,
erect ears

Black
overlay

Black
face mask

Deep,
wide chest

Thick, bushy tail
curls over back

Well-developed,
muscular hind
quarters

Harsh, fawn
outer coat stands
away from body

White chest markings
extend down to legs

AKITA INU

A DOG THAT NEEDS EARLY TRAINING TO CONTROL DOMINATING BEHAVIOUR

KC

Height range
58-70cm (23-28in)

Weight range
35-55kg (77-120lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Japan



Other colours



White

Brindle



Sesame

Smaller than the Akita, it is thought that the Japanese Akita Inu originated from northern Japanese hunting dogs. Once considered a type of Akita, it was recognized as a distinct breed in the 1990s. The Japanese Akita Inu can be territorial and protective so needs to be well trained and socialized from puppyhood.

Triangular ears
with rounded tips

White (urajiro)
markings

Distinctive
red-fawn coat

Relatively small,
dark brown eyes

Thick, muscular
neck

Round feet
with thick pads

CHOW CHOW

THIS DOG IS LOYAL TO ITS OWNER BUT STANDOFFISH WITH STRANGERS

KC

Height range
46-56cm (18-22in)

Weight range
21-32kg (46-71lb)



Life span 8-12 years

Origin China



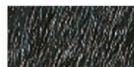
Other colours



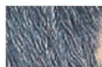
Cream



Gold



Black



Blue

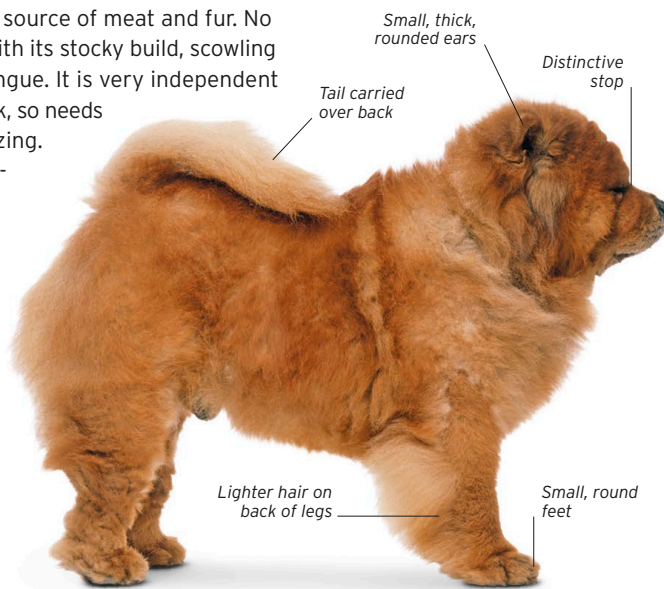
Dogs like the Chow Chow have been known in China

for around 2,000 years. It was used for guarding and hunting, and may have been a source of meat and fur. No other dog looks quite like it, with its stocky build, scowling face, and unique blue-black tongue. It is very independent and may have a stubborn streak, so needs firm training and early socializing. There are two varieties: rough-coated and smooth-coated.

Rough-coated



Profuse, red coat stands out from body



Small, thick, rounded ears

Distinctive stop

Tail carried over back

Lighter hair on back of legs

Small, round feet

THAI BANGKAEW DOG

A DOG THAT IS EAGER TO PLEASE ITS FAMILY BUT CAN BE ALOOF WITH STRANGERS

Height range
41-55cm (16-22in)

Weight range
16-22kg (35-50lb)



Life span 12-14 years

Origin Thailand



Other colours



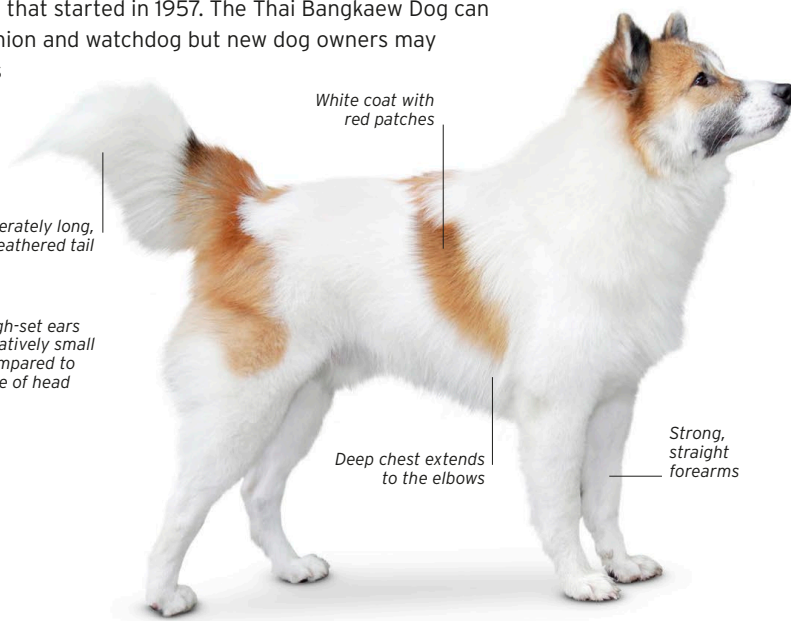
Variety of colours

White with well-defined coloured patches.

This breed is named after the village in Thailand where it is said to have originated. However, the pure bred dogs seen today are all descendants of selective breeding that started in 1957. The Thai Bangkaew Dog can be a devoted companion and watchdog but new dog owners may find its stubbornness too challenging.



High-set ears relatively small compared to size of head



White coat with red patches

Moderately long, well-feathered tail

Deep chest extends to the elbows

Strong, straight forearms



KOREAN JINDO

THIS INDEPENDENT DOG HAS A STRONG HUNTING INSTINCT AND NEEDS EARLY SOCIALIZING

KC

Height range
46-53cm (18-21in)

Weight range
9-23kg (20-51lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Korea

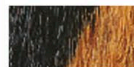


Other colours



White

Red



Black and tan



Named after the Korean island of Jindo where it originated, the breed is popular in Korea but something of a rarity elsewhere. Used to hunt game, both large and small, the Korean Jindo's keen instinct for chasing other animals may be difficult to curb.

Erect, pointed ears, lined with dense hairs

Longer coat on backs of thighs

Stiff, fawn hairs stand away from body

Tucked-up belly

Thicker hair on neck

Rounded, cat-like feet



JAPANESE SHIBA INU

THIS KEEN, PERKY, FAST-MOVING DOG HAS A STRONG URGE TO HUNT

KC

Height range
37-40cm (15-16in)

Weight range
7-11kg (15-24lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Japan



Other colours



White

Black and tan

Red dogs may have a black overlay (red sesame).



Japan's smallest hunting dog, the Japanese Shiba Inu is a "national treasure" and has been known in its native country for hundreds of years. Bold and lively, the Japanese Shiba Inu makes a happy family dog. However, it can be unreliable with other pets, if not socialized early on, and needs to have its hunting instinct controlled outdoors.

Longer-haired tail carried in high curl

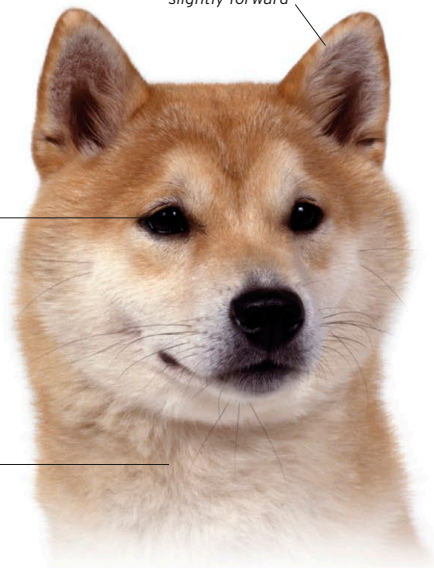
Dark brown eyes are keen and alert

Small, triangular ears incline slightly forward

Whitish under-markings

Coarse-haired, red coat

Rounded, cat-like feet



KAI

THIS ONE-MAN DOG IS GOOD AT GUARDING BUT IS BEST KEPT ON A LEAD OUTDOORS

FCI

Height range
48-53cm (19-21in)

Weight range
11-25kg (24-55lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Japan



Other colours



Range of red
brindles



One of the oldest and purest of Japan's native dog breeds, the Kai was given the status of "national treasure" in 1934. An active and athletic hunter, used to running in packs, this dog may settle reasonably well into being a home companion but is not recommended for a novice owner.



Erect ears incline slightly forward

Head broad with well-defined stop and tapering muzzle



High-set tail carried curved over back

Strong, thick neck

Black coat changes from solid colour to brindle as dog matures

KISHU

THIS NATURAL HUNTER IS GOOD WITH OTHER DOGS BUT CAN BE SELF-WILLED

FCI

Height range
46-52cm (18-20in)

Weight range
13-27kg (29-60lb)

Life span 11-13 years

Origin Japan



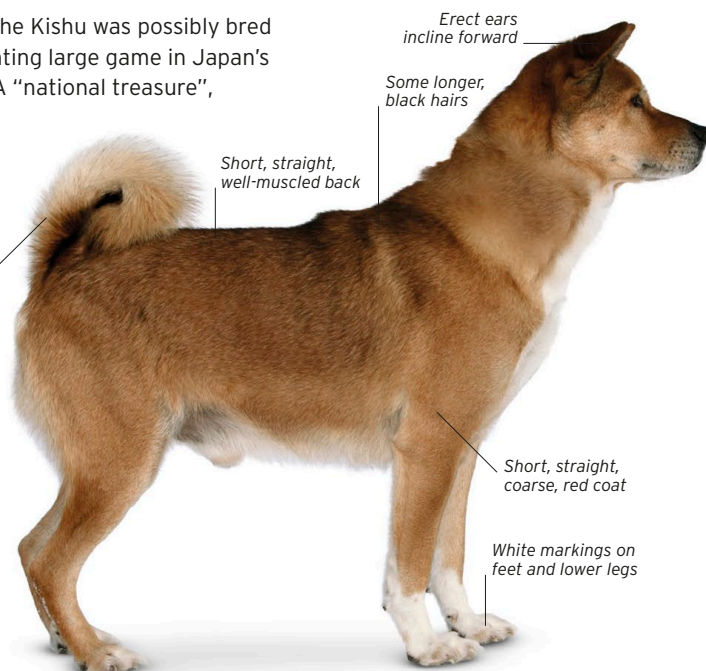
Now rare but much prized, the Kishu was possibly bred hundreds of years ago for hunting large game in Japan's mountainous Kyushu region. A "national treasure", this dog is quiet and faithful but can be a handful as a companion because of its strong instinct to chase.



Dense, white coat

Dark brown eyes

Thick, fringed tail carried in curl over back



Erect ears incline forward

Some longer, black hairs

Short, straight, well-muscled back

Short, straight, coarse, red coat

White markings on feet and lower legs

JAPANESE SPITZ

SUITABLE FOR SMALL HOMES, THIS SOCIABLE AND CONFIDENT SPITZ LOVES EXERCISE

KC

Height range
30–37cm (12–15in)

Weight range
5–10kg (11–22lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Japan



Although the Japanese Spitz looks like a miniature version of the Samoyed (see p.106), there is no evidence that the two have a common descent. The breed was developed in Japan, and the popularity of this bright and energetic little dog has spread worldwide. Persistent barking is characteristic but can be controlled with training.

Strong, muscular, heavily furred hind quarters

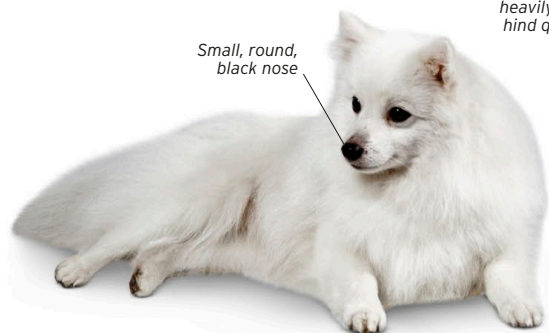
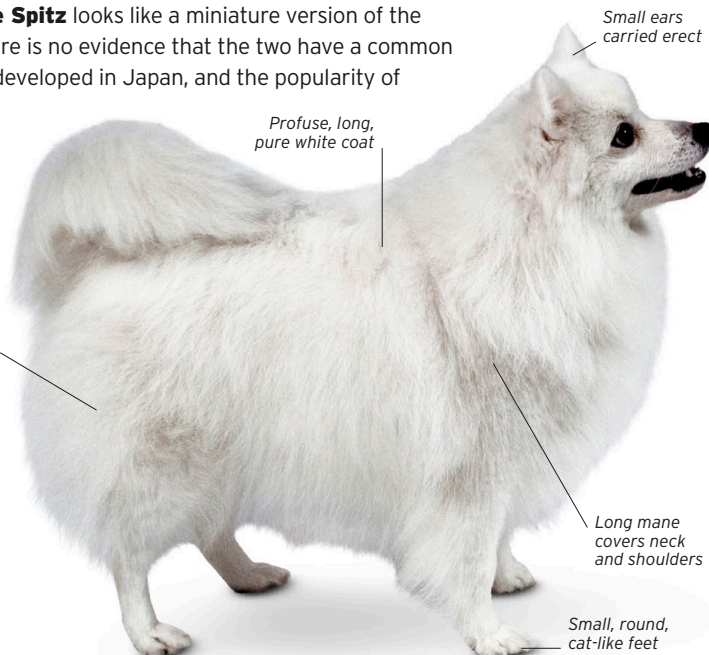
Profuse, long, pure white coat

Small ears carried erect

Long mane covers neck and shoulders

Small, round, cat-like feet

Small, round, black nose



EURASIER

THIS FAMILY-LOVING DOG IS A LITTLE RESERVED WITH STRANGERS BUT NOT EASILY PROVOKED

KC

Height range
48–60cm (19–24in)

Weight range
18–32kg (40–71lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Germany



A modern and still rare breed, the Eurasier was created in Germany in the 1960s from crossing the Russian Samoyed (see p.106), Chow Chow (see p.113), and German Wolfspitz (see p.118). A good companion dog, it is even-tempered and calm but watchful. It readily forms close family bonds.

Triangular, erect ears

Harsh-textured, topcoat

Straight, strong back

Collar of longer hair

Fawn coat with black hairs

Other colours



Any colour

Coat should not be all white, liver, or with white patches.

Dark face mask



ITALIAN VOLPINO

SMALL BUT INTREPID, THIS ALERT DOG HAS A BRIGHT AND PLAYFUL PERSONALITY

FCI

Height range
25–30cm (10–12in)

Weight range
4–5kg (9–11lb)

Life span Up to 16 years

Origin Italy



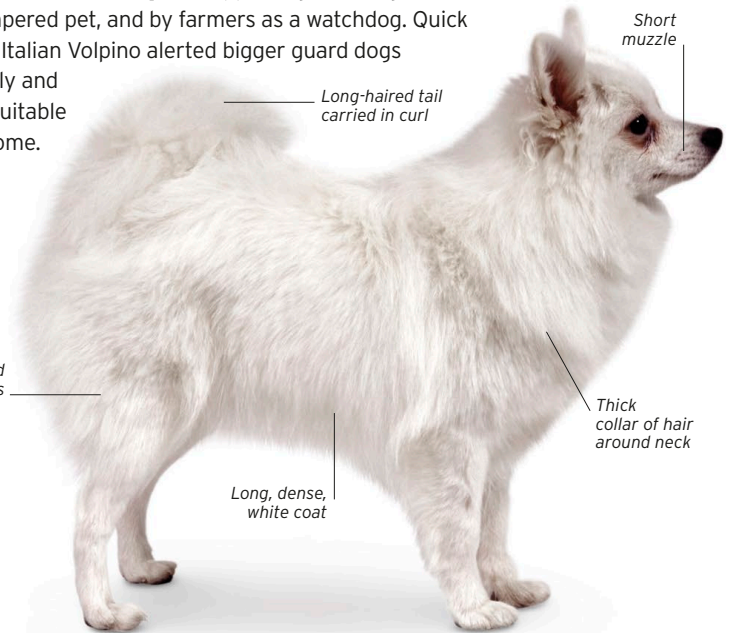
Other colours



Red



A favourite in Italy for over a century, this appealing little dog was kept by nobility as a pampered pet, and by farmers as a watchdog. Quick to bark at strangers, the Italian Volpino alerted bigger guard dogs to potential trouble. Lively and fun-loving, the breed is suitable for almost any type of home.



Short muzzle

Long-haired tail carried in curl

Thick collar of hair around neck

Long, dense, white coat

Well-feathered hind quarters

Round eyes

SCHIPPERKE

THIS SHARP, INQUISITIVE DOG IS PROTECTIVE DESPITE ITS SMALL SIZE

KC

Height range
25–33cm (10–13in)

Weight range
6–8kg (13–18lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Belgium



Other Colours



Variety of colours



Sometimes called the Belgian Barge Dog, this breed was once used by Flemish river-boatmen to guard their barges and keep down rat populations. In the house, the Schipperke has lost none of its watchful instincts and is wary of strangers. A dog with a lively and likeable personality, it is an entertaining companion.



Wedge-shaped, fox-like head

Small, triangular ears

Dense, black coat

Tail naturally very short

Long "culottes" on back of thighs

Thickset body

Distinctive mane and cape around neck and shoulders



KEESHOND

THIS NON-AGGRESSIVE WATCHDOG IS EASY TO TRAIN, AFFECTIONATE, AND SOCIABLE

KC

Height range
43-46cm (17-18in)

Weight range
15-20kg (33-44lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin The Netherlands



The Keeshond was used in the 18th century by the river-boatmen and farmers of Holland as a watchdog. Not aggressive, this intelligent and outgoing breed has an amiable nature that makes it a much-loved companion dog. The Keeshond is willing to learn, and mixes well with people and other pets.

Characteristic "spectacle" markings around eyes

Long, thick ruff around neck

Grey and black coat

Hair forms dense "breeches" on backs of thighs

Well-defined shoulder markings

High-set tail curls over back

Shorter cream-coloured hair on lower legs and feet



GERMAN WOLFSPITZ

INTELLIGENT AND QUICK TO LEARN, THIS GOOD WATCHDOG IS EXCELLENT WITH FAMILIES

Height range
43-55cm (17-22in)

Weight range
27-32kg (60-71lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Germany



The German Wolfspitz is one of the oldest-known European dogs. It has given rise to the Keeshond (above) and in some countries the two are not regarded as separate types. Highly trainable, it is eager to be a part of family life. Suspicious of strangers, this dog barks readily but is not aggressive.

Bushy tail

Short, straight back

Small, triangular, erect ears

Long, grey and black topcoat

Fox-like head with bright expression

Thick mane over neck and shoulders

Small, cat-like feet



GERMAN SPITZ

A BUSTLING AND HAPPY DOG, WITH GOOD WATCH INSTINCTS, AND SUITABLE FOR ANY HOME

KC

Height range

Klein:
23-29cm (9-11in)

Mittel:
30-38cm (12-15in)

Gross:
42-50cm (17-20in)

Weight range

Klein:
8-10kg (18-22lb)

Mittel:
11-12kg (24-26lb)

Gross:
17-18kg (37-40lb)

Life span 14-15 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Variety of colours

There are three sizes of the German Spitz - Klein (small) and Mittel (standard) are both recognized by KC, and Gross (giant) is recognized by FCI. They all are descendants of the herding dogs once used by nomadic tribes of the Arctic.

German Spitzes need patient training because they have an independent spirit that can turn into wilfulness without firm leadership. Once their place in the family has been established, these cheerful and affectionate dogs are excellent companions for owners of all ages. Thorough and regular grooming sessions are needed to prevent the immensely thick coat from becoming matted.

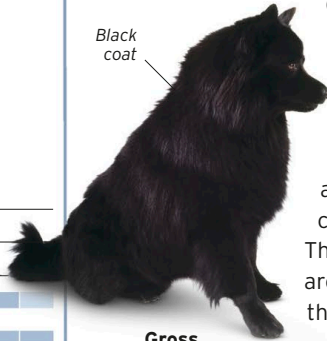
White coat



Klein

Wolf-sable coat

Black coat



Gross

Short hair on face

Moderately broad head

Compact, square body

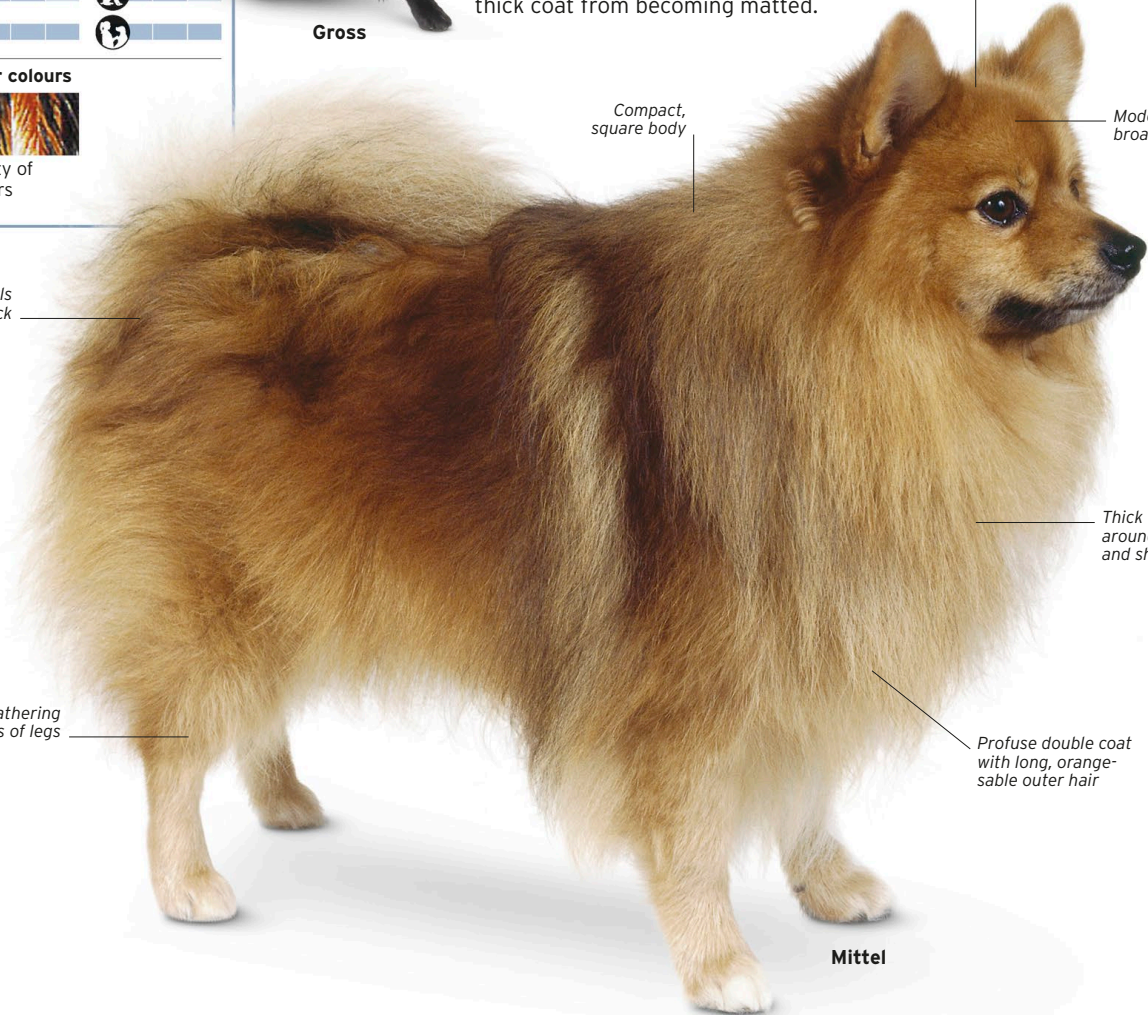
Thick frill around neck and shoulders

Profuse double coat with long, orange-sable outer hair

Mittel

Tail curls over back

Long feathering on backs of legs





ICELANDIC SHEEPDOG

A SMART, CHEERFUL, VOCAL, AND COMPANIONABLE DOG

FCI

Height range
42-46cm (17-18in)

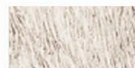
Weight range
9-14kg (20-31lb)

Life span 12-15 years

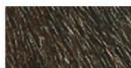
Origin Iceland



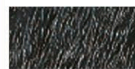
Other colours



Grey



Chocolate brown



Black

Tan and grey dogs may have black masks.



Also called the Friaar Dog, this hardy, muscular breed was brought to Iceland by early settlers. Its agility over rugged terrain and shallow water plus its keen barking make it perfect for herding livestock. As a pet, it requires plenty of exercise. There are two coat types: long-haired and short-haired.

Typical spitz tail curls over back

White markings on face

Smallish, rectangular, powerful body

Erect ears slightly rounded at tip

Black pigmented lips

Thick, waterproof tan coat with white markings

Long-haired

NORWEGIAN LUNDEHUND

THIS ACROBATIC, PROTECTIVE HUNTER HAS AN INDEPENDENT STREAK

FCI

Height range
32-38cm (13-15in)

Weight range
6-7kg (13-15lb)

Life span 12 years

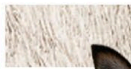
Origin Norway



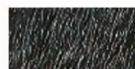
Other colours



White



Grey



Black

Black and grey coats have white markings; white coat has dark markings.



Also called the Norwegian Puffin Dog, this amazingly agile dog can tilt its head back over its shoulder and splay its forelegs out sideways. Once used as a puffin-hunter, these traits, as well as an extra toe on each foot, enabled the dog to reach precarious nests. As a pet, it needs plenty of training and exercise.

Wedge-shaped head

Triangular, erect ears

Very pronounced stop

Black tips to some of the hairs

Dense, reddish brown coat sheds quite heavily

Six toes on each foot

NORDIC SPITZ

THIS LIVELY, LOVING, LONG-LIVED DOG HAS NO DOG ODOUR

FCI

Height range
42–45cm (17–18in)

Weight range
8–15kg (18–33lb)

Life span 15–20 years

Origin Sweden



This small, light spitz is Sweden's national dog, though it is little known outside its native country. Its local name, Norbottenspets, means "spitz from the county of Bothnia". It was once used to hunt squirrels and, more recently, game birds. A bright-eyed, bushy-tailed dog, the Nordic Spitz is not difficult to train as a house pet, but requires regular, energetic exercise.

Fox-like head with typical tan markings

Compact body

Well-defined tan patch on hind quarters

Short, straight, white coat



Erect, black ears



NORWEGIAN BUHUND

THIS WORKING FARM DOG NEEDS AN ENERGETIC, OUTDOOR-LOVING OWNER

KC

Height range
41–46cm (16–18in)

Weight range
12–18kg (26–40lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin Norway



This medium-sized, agile farm dog was once used to guard against bears and wolves. Today, the breed thrives when it has plenty of exercise and constant training. A keen barker that moults heavily twice a year, this may not be the ideal dog for a house-proud owner.

Pronounced stop

Long, thick, harsh, wheaten topcoat with soft, woolly undercoat

Tightly curled tail carried over back

Triangular, erect ears

Longer hair on top of hind leg

Black coat

White hairs on chest

Other colours



Red

Coat may be wolf-sable. Red, wheaten, and wolf-sable coats may have a black mask, ears, and tip to tail.



PAPILLON

THIS DAINTY AND DELIGHTFUL DOG IS A LIVELY AND INTELLIGENT COMPANION

KC

Height range
20-28cm (8-11in)

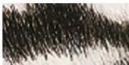
Weight range
2-5kg (5-11lb)

Life span 14 years

Origin France/Belgium



Other colours



Black and white



White

White coats may have any colour patches except liver.



Also known as the Continental Toy Spaniel, this little dog makes a charming companion. Often portrayed in European court paintings (the breed was a particular favourite of Marie Antoinette), the Papillon has eye-catching “butterfly-wing” ears and distinctive facial markings. A drop-eared variety is known as the Phalène (French for “moth”). These dogs love human companionship and enjoy plenty of play and exercise. They require early socializing with other dogs and strangers. The long, fine, silky coat needs daily grooming to prevent mats forming.



Long-fringed, “butterfly-wing” ears



Drop ears

Phalène



Long, plumed tail falls over back

Full, soft, tricolour coat

Fine, pointed muzzle on rounded head

Elongated hare-like feet

POMERANIAN

AN AFFECTIONATE MINIATURE BREED THAT IS BRAVE AND PROTECTIVE DESPITE ITS SMALL SIZE

KC

Height range
22-28cm (9-11in)

Weight range
2-3kg (5-7lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Any solid colour

Should be free from black or white shading.



Smallest of the German spitz-type

dogs (see p.119), the Pomeranian was selectively bred down to "toy" size during the 19th century. Intelligent and attention-seeking, the Pomeranian readily returns affection and will become devoted to its owner. Amazingly fast for their size, these dogs should be supervised if running loose. The thick coat is not difficult to groom.

Heavily plumed tail carried over back

Smooth-haired, fox-like face

Longer hair on hind quarters

Abundant frill around neck, shoulders, and chest



Soft, fluffy, orange coat

AMERICAN ESKIMO DOG

ULTRA-BRIGHT, OBEDIENT, AND FUN-LOVING, THIS DOG ENJOYS WORK AND PLAY

AKC

Height range
Toy:
23-30cm (9-12in)

Miniature:
30-38cm (12-15in)

Standard:
Over 38-48cm (Over 15-19in)

Weight range
Toy:
3-5kg (6-10lb)

Miniature:
5-9kg (10-20lb)

Standard:
11-16kg (24-35lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin USA



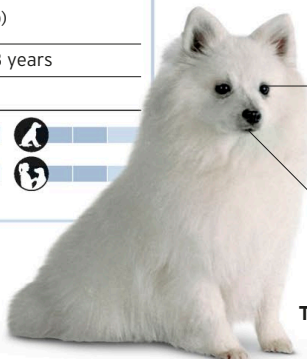
Despite its name, this is not a true Eskimo breed, but was developed in Germany and probably brought to the USA by German settlers in the 19th century. Once seen performing tricks in travelling circuses, the American Eskimo Dog is a fast learner and eager to please. The breed comes in three sizes: toy, miniature, and standard.

Triangular, erect, slightly blunt-tipped ears

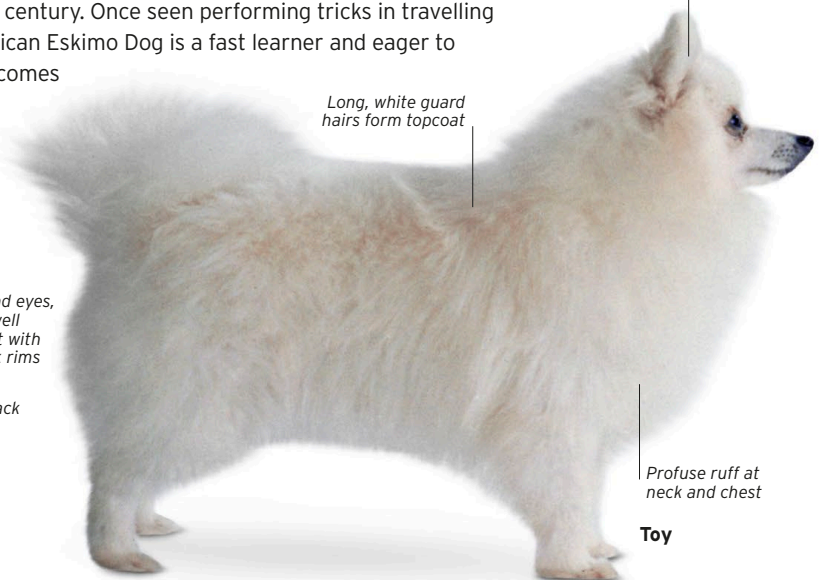
Long, white guard hairs form topcoat

Round eyes, set well apart with black rims

Jet-black lips



Toy



Profuse ruff at neck and chest

Toy

**HIGH SPEED**

On the racetrack, Greyhounds have been recorded as reaching top speeds of around 45 mph (72 kph). They are one of the fastest living animals.

SIGHT HOUNDS

Canine speed merchants, the sight hounds – or gazehounds as they are sometimes called – are hunting dogs that locate and follow their prey primarily by using their keen eyesight. Streamlined, lightly framed, but powerful, a sight hound in pursuit of quarry moves fast and turns with great flexibility. Many dogs in this group were bred to hunt specific prey.



Dogs like these Irish Wolfhounds were used for hunting in Roman times

As shown by archaeological evidence, lean, leggy dogs have been hunting alongside humans for thousands of years, but the early development of modern sight hounds is not entirely clear. It is likely that many crosses involving a diversity of other breeds, including terriers, went into the creation of classic sight hounds such as the Greyhound and the Whippet.

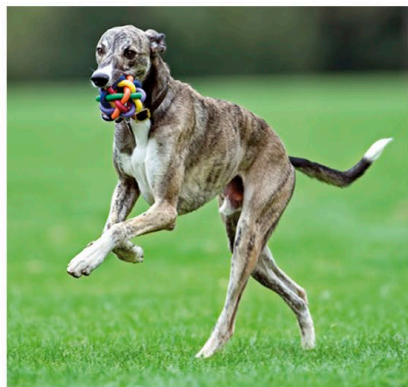
Most sight hounds are easily recognizable as a type. Selective breeding has developed characteristics designed to promote speed: strong, supple backs and an athletic build enable the body to stretch out at full gallop; long-striding, elastic limbs, and powerful hind quarters to provide impulsion. Another characteristic is a long, narrow head that either lacks a pronounced stop or, as in the case of

the Borzoi, has no stop at all. Typically in a sight hound bred to hunt and snap up small prey, the head is carried low when the dog runs at full stretch. Another common feature of sight hounds is a deep chest accommodating a larger than usual heart and allowing for good lung capacity. Short or fine silky coats tend to be the norm among this group of dogs; only the Afghan Hound is very long-haired.

Graceful and aristocratic, sight hounds during their history have been the favoured hunting dogs of the wealthy and well born. Greyhounds, or at least coursing dogs very similar to the modern breed, were kept by the pharaohs of ancient Egypt. Salukis were, and occasionally still are, used by sheikhs for hunting gazelle in the desert. In pre-Soviet Russia the spectacular Borzoi was the dog of choice for

the nobility and even royalty, specifically bred for running down and killing wolves.

Today, sight hounds are used for racing and coursing and are very often kept as pets. Usually non-aggressive, although sometimes a little aloof, sight hounds make attractive family dogs but need handling with caution when out of doors and may be best exercised on a lead. Their instinct to chase small animals can be strong enough to override all obedience training. A sight hound chasing after what it perceives to be prey is almost impossible to stop.



HOME LIFE

Many former racing Greyhounds settle down well as family companions. Their desire to chase can be channelled into play.

ARISTOCRAT

The long-nosed Borzoi looks purely decorative, but this dog was once used in Russia for hunting and could bring down a fully grown wolf.





GREYHOUND

THE SWIFTEST OF ALL DOGS, BUT DOCILE AND GENTLE AT HOME

KC

Height range
69-76cm (27-30in)

Weight range
27-30kg (60-66lb)

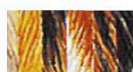


Life span 11-12 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Any colour

Capable of reaching 45mph (72km/h) in short bursts, the sleek and powerful Greyhound is purpose-built for running. Although the modern Greyhound was developed in the UK, the breed's earliest ancestors may have been the similar-looking dogs depicted in Egyptian tombs dating back some 4,000 years BCE. Originally bred to hunt hare, today these dogs are raced for sport. As a pet, the Greyhound needs only moderate daily exercise, and is happy lounging around at home the rest of the time.



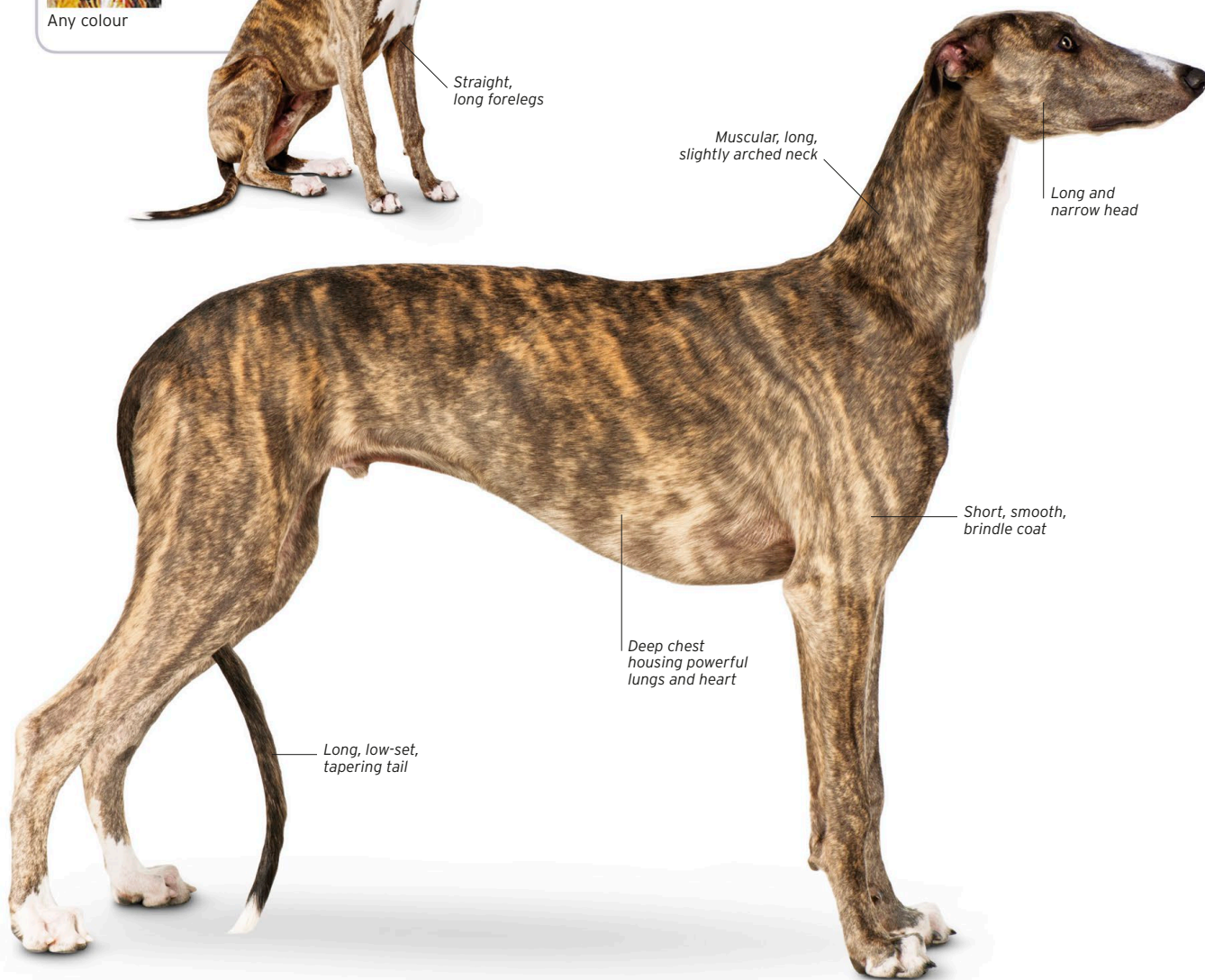
Small rose ears, fine in texture



Straight, long forelegs

Muscular, long, slightly arched neck

Long and narrow head



Short, smooth, brindle coat

Deep chest housing powerful lungs and heart

Long, low-set, tapering tail

ITALIAN GREYHOUND

THIS MINIATURE, SATIN-SKINNED GREYHOUND ENJOYS CREATURE COMFORTS

KC

Height range
32-38cm (13-15in)

Weight range
4-5kg (9-11lb)

Life span 14 years

Origin Italy



Other colours



Variety of colours

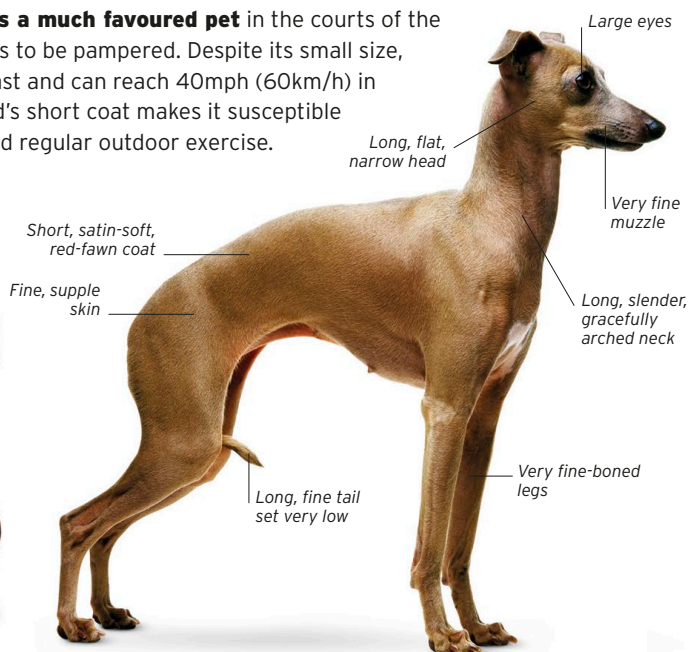
Black and blue with tan markings, and brindle not permitted.



This mini-greyhound was a much favoured pet in the courts of the Renaissance, and still loves to be pampered. Despite its small size, the Italian Greyhound is fast and can reach 40mph (60km/h) in a sudden chase. The breed's short coat makes it susceptible to the cold but it does need regular outdoor exercise.



Adult and Puppies



Rose ears placed well back

Short, satin-soft, red-fawn coat

Fine, supple skin

Long, fine tail set very low

Large eyes
Long, flat, narrow head
Very fine muzzle

Long, slender, gracefully arched neck

Very fine-boned legs

HUNGARIAN GREYHOUND

THIS VIGILANT HOUSE DOG IS PACKED WITH SPEED AND STAMINA

FCI

Height range
62-70cm (24-28in)

Weight range
25-40kg (55-88lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Hungary



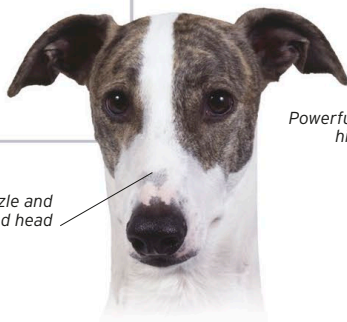
Other colours



Any colour



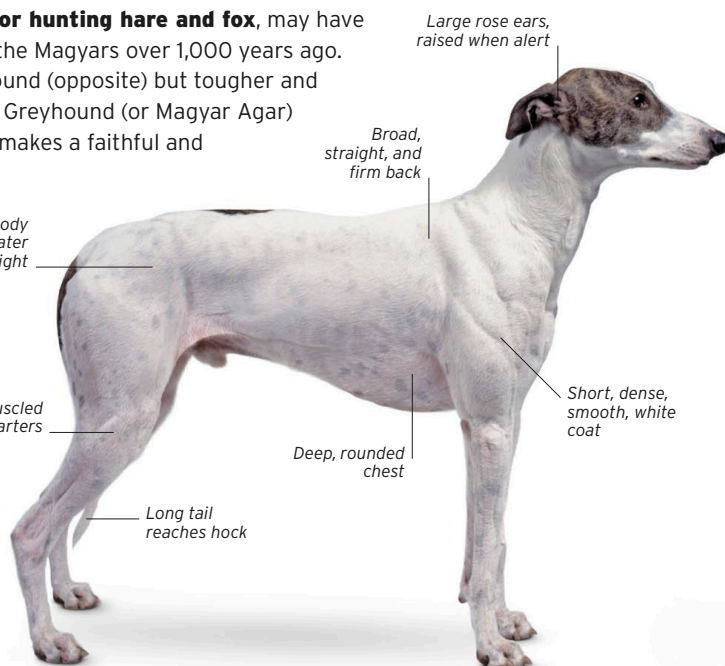
This dog, once used for hunting hare and fox, may have entered Hungary with the Magyars over 1,000 years ago. Not as fast as a Greyhound (opposite) but tougher and tireless, the Hungarian Greyhound (or Magyar Agar) needs a regular run. It makes a faithful and protective companion.



Elongated muzzle and wedge-shaped head

Length of body slightly greater than height

Powerfully muscled hind quarters



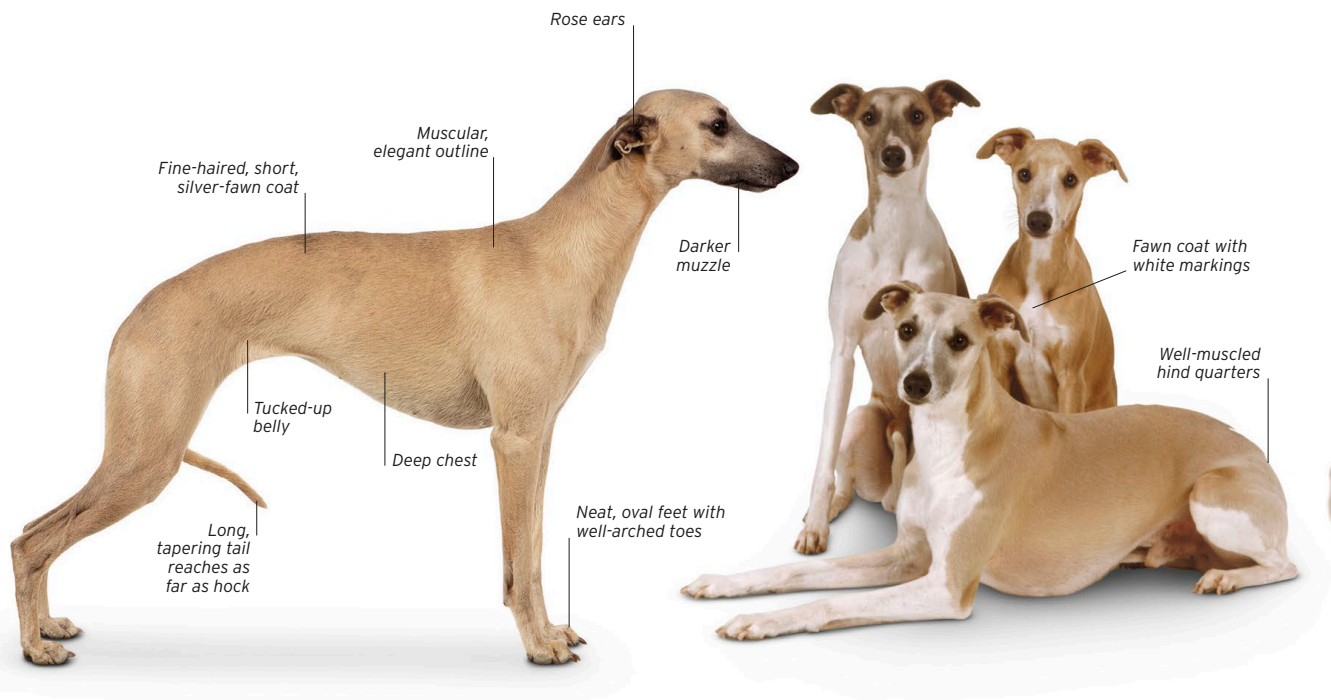
Large rose ears, raised when alert

Broad, straight, and firm back

Deep, rounded chest

Long tail reaches hock

Short, dense, smooth, white coat



WHIPPET

THE ULTIMATE SPRINTER, THIS DOG IS CALM, SWEET-NATURED, AND ADORING AT HOME

KC

Height range
44–51cm (17–20in)

Weight range
11–18kg (24–40lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Any colour

Merle not permitted.

The fastest domesticated animal for its weight, the Whippet is capable of speeds of up to 35mph (56kph). It has impressive powers of acceleration, and can twist and turn at speed with dexterity. This elegant little dog was developed in the north of England in the late 19th century by crossing the Greyhound (see p.126) with various terriers. Originally bred for hunting hare, rabbit, and other small game, the Whippet soon became popular as an affordable sporting dog. Whippet racing, held wherever there was enough space for dogs to sprint a couple of hundred metres, became a regular fixture for working men of mill and mining towns. Today, it is still used for racing, as well as lure coursing and agility trials, but is mostly kept as a pet.

Quiet, docile, and affectionate, the Whippet behaves well in the house and is gentle with children. A sensitive breed, it needs tactful

handling and is easily distressed by rough play or harsh commands. With its delicate skin and short, fine hair, the Whippet needs to wear a coat in cold weather. Its own coat is almost odour-free, without a “doggy” smell even when wet. Puppies with long coats are occasionally born but are not officially recognized.

The Whippet has abundant energy and should be given regular exercise and, in safe areas, plenty of opportunity to run free. It is generally good with other dogs but has a strong hunting instinct and chases cats and small animals if given the chance. A Whippet will tolerate, or at least ignore, a household cat if the two are raised together, but it should not be left unsupervised with other family pets such as rabbits or guinea pigs. This breed is wary with strangers, so it makes a reasonable watchdog. Towards its owners, the Whippet shows unswerving loyalty.





BORZOI

THIS NOBLE RUSSIAN HOUND COMBINES SPEED, ELEGANCE, AND A CERTAIN NONCHALANCE

KC

Height range
68-74cm (27-29in)

Weight range
27-48kg (60-106lb)

Life span 11-13 years

Origin Russia



Other colours



Variety of colours



This large, frilly-haired, almost feline dog is arguably the most aristocratic of sight hounds. Once known as the Russian Wolfhound, it was bred to hunt wolves for tsars and nobles; often over 100 of these dogs would chase wolves through the snowbound tundra. Outside Russia the Borzoi has been bred for many years for companionship. Today, the dog is happy in a regular home environment but needs plenty of long walks and runs. It also requires a routine of brushing and bathing to keep its long, wavy coat lustrous.



Silky, long, white coat, with red marks



Distinctive roman nose

Short, smooth coat on head

Slightly arched back

Narrow, refined head with imperceptible stop

Profuse frill on neck

Short hair on front of legs

Long-haired, low-set tail

Hare-shaped feet with well-padded toes



SALUKI

THIS SLIM-FRAMED, SLEEK, GAZELLE-HUNTER IS LOYAL AND COURAGEOUS

KC

Height range
58-71cm (23-28in)

Weight range
16-29kg (35-65lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Persia



Other colours



Variety of colours

Pendant ears with long, silky, golden hair

Feathered coat

Reputed to be one of the few breeds that were mummified with the pharaohs of the Sumerian Empire, the Saluki (named after an ancient city) is esteemed in the Middle East for its swiftness over sand and is used for hunting with falcons. It is not an especially demonstrative or tactile pet and may seem somewhat aloof. There are two coat types: smooth and feathered.

Long, slender, supple neck

Smooth, soft, silky coat
Long, narrow head

Slight feathering on back of legs

Deep, narrow chest

Black coat with tan markings

Feathered coat

POLISH GREYHOUND

THIS POWERFUL CHASER IS A FAST BUT FAMILY-FRIENDLY HOUND

FCI

Height range
68-80cm (27-31in)

Weight range
65-85kg (143-187lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Poland



Other colours



All colours

Possibly a mix of the Greyhound (see p.126) and the Borzoi (opposite) in origin, the Polish Greyhound is stronger and sturdier than other sight hounds. It is bred to hunt bustard (a large, crane-like bird) and wolves, and is a popular track racer. The Polish Greyhound requires firm training, plenty of exercise, and regular brushing.

Long, powerful, muscular neck

Long tail, strong at base

White mark on chest

Black and tan coat

White tail tip

White blaze on head

Short, sable coat



IRISH WOLFHOUND

A LOYAL, DIGNIFIED, AND DOCILE HOUND, THIS GENTLE GIANT IS THE WORLD'S TALLEST BREED

KC

Height range
71-86cm (28-34in)

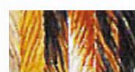
Weight range
48-68kg (105-150lb)

Life span 8-10 years

Origin Ireland



Other colours



Variety of colours

This seriously large and heavy dog can reach well over 1.8m (6ft) tall when standing on its hind legs. Once used to hunt wolves by Irish chieftains and kings, it later served as an army dog and is the Regimental Mascot of the Irish Guards. It makes a gentle companion and guard dog.

Dark, oval, full eyes

Small rose ears

Strong, muscular, and well-arched neck

Rough, harsh, steel-grey hair

Long head with tapering muzzle

Hair especially wiry and long over eyes and under jaw

Deep chest

Very strong, curved nails

DEERHOUND

THIS FAST, FEARLESS, FRIENDLY DOG HAS A ROMANTIC SCOTTISH PAST

KC

Height range
71-76cm (28-30in)

Weight range
37-46kg (82-101lb)

Life span 10-11 years

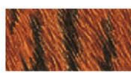
Origin UK



Other colours



Red-fawn or sandy-red



Black brindle

Once the preserve of Scottish stag-hunting nobility, this shaggier version of the Irish Wolfhound (above) is now as much at home in a cosy sitting room as by a baronial log fire. It is lazy and companionable indoors so long as it has a strenuous walk every day and garden space to roam in.

Small, rose ears

Pointed muzzle

Long, strong neck

Coat softer on head and chest

Silky haired, lighter-coloured moustache and beard

Harsh, thick, wiry, dark blue-grey coat

Long tail, thick at base, carried low

White toes

AFGHAN HOUND

GLAMOROUS, ALOOF, AND HIGH-MAINTENANCE, THIS BREED IS THE SUPERMODEL OF DOGS

KC

Height range
63–74cm (25–29in)

Weight range
23–29kg (51–64lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin Afghanistan



Other colours



Any colour



The glossiest and most elegant of dogs, the exact origin of the breed is unknown but it is thought to have been brought along trade routes to Afghanistan, where tribal chieftains used it to track deer, wild goats, and snow leopards. The Afghan Hound's long, luxurious coat protected it from the extreme climate of its original mountain home. In the 1930s Marx Brother "Zeppo" brought the breed to the USA; and it has since been popular with celebrities.

However, this independent and lively companion is also at home in sports and obedience events.

Dark eyes, almost triangular-looking, slanting slightly upwards



Abundant top knot

Pendant ears covered with long, silky hair

Long muzzle and skull

Long, silky, gold coat has fine texture except along short, close saddle

Tail is relatively bare, carried in a ring and raised when moving

Feet strong and covered with thick, long hair





RAMPUR GREYHOUND

A SPEEDY, POWERFUL HUNTING DOG THAT IS NOT SUITABLE FOR URBAN LIFE

Height range
56-75cm (22-30in)

Weight range
27-30kg (59-66lb)

Life span 8-10 years

Origin India



Other colours



Any colour



Now rare, the Rampur Greyhound was once the favourite sporting companion of Indian princes. Used mainly to hunt jackal and deer, this powerful dog was also capable of bringing down wild boar. The breed's origins are uncertain, but may include crosses between the English Greyhound and native Indian breeds chosen for their strength and tenacity.



SLOUGHI

THIS ELEGANT AND RACY DOG BONDS WITH FAMILY MEMBERS BUT IS ALOOF WITH STRANGERS

KC

Height range
61-72cm (24-28in)

Weight range
20-27kg (44-60lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin North Africa



Long established in North Africa, where it is much prized as a hunting dog, the Sloughi has only recently become known in Europe and the USA. This quiet-natured breed is a pleasant companion and likes home life. A Sloughi needs early socializing with other household pets as its urge to chase small animals is strong.



SPANISH GREYHOUND

BRED TO HUNT, THIS GENTLE BUT UNDEMONSTRATIVE DOG CAN ADAPT TO HOME LIFE

FCI

Height range
58-72cm (23-28in)

Weight range
20-30kg (44-66lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Spain



Other colours



Any colour



Thought to be a descendant of dogs that came into the Iberian Peninsula with the Celts, around 500BC, the Spanish Greyhound is a fast-footed hunter. Once kept only by royalty, the breed became widely popular for coursing and racing. Spanish Greyhounds are not hard to train as house dogs but have high exercise requirements. There are two coat varieties: smooth-haired and wire-haired.

Very shallow stop

Long, straight back

Sandy coloured coat

Compact, well-muscled body

Long tail ending in a fine point

Wire-haired

Lean, long head

Almond-shaped eyes

Wire-coated variety may have moustache and beard

AZAWAKH

CAPABLE OF ASTONISHING SPEED, THIS SMALL-GAME HUNTER CAN BE KEPT AS A PET

KC

Height range
60-74cm (24-29in)

Weight range
15-25kg (33-55lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Mali



This long-legged hound comes from the desert areas of the southern Sahara. The Azawakh is used by nomadic tribes for hunting, guarding, and as a companion dog. It has an exceptionally fine skin, beneath which the muscular, rangy frame is clearly apparent. With kind, firm handling and a daily run, the Azawakh settles well as a house pet.

Head is narrow and chiselled

Neck long, fine, muscular, and slightly arched

Short, fawn coat

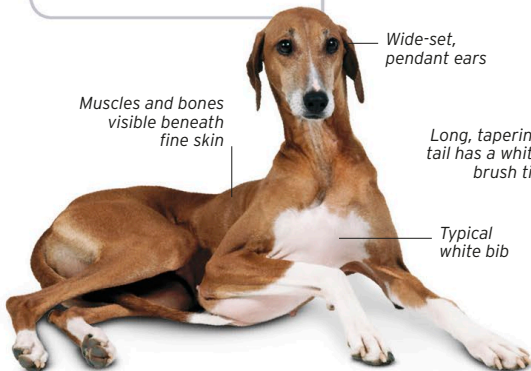
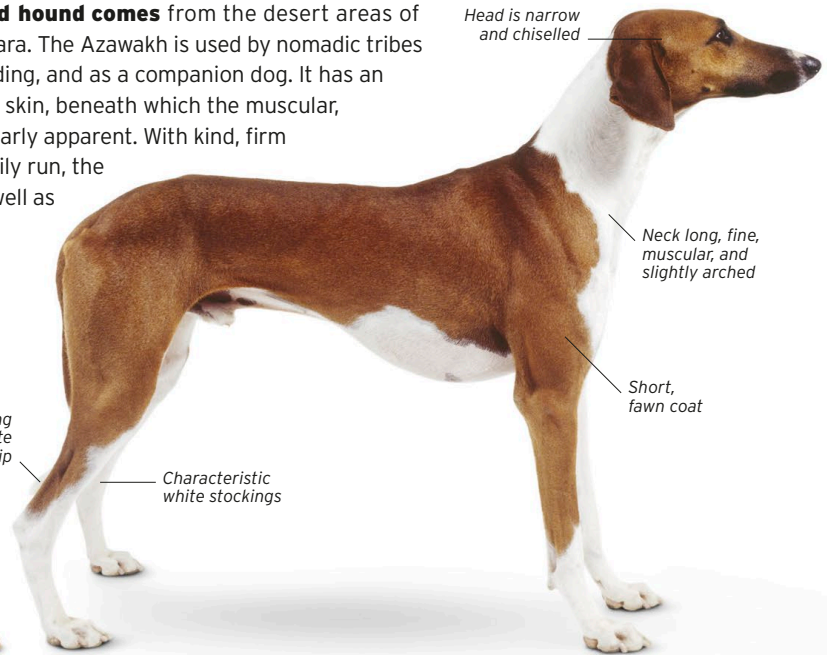
Characteristic white stockings

Long, tapering tail has a white brush tip

Typical white bib

Wide-set, pendant ears

Muscles and bones visible beneath fine skin





PACK HUNTING

Fox-hunting with pack hounds was once a familiar rural sight. The modern alternative is drag-hunting - where hounds follow an artificial scent.

SCENT HOUNDS

A keen sense of smell is an essential part of being a dog. The sharpest noses belong to the scent hounds, which track prey more by following scent than by using their eyes as the sight hounds do (see pp.124-25). These dogs, some of which hunt in packs, have a natural ability to pick up a trail, even if it is days old, and will follow it single-mindedly.



The Otterhound is one of the rarest scent hound breeds

It is not known exactly when certain dogs were first recognized for their exceptional ability to hunt by scent. The origins of the modern scent hound possibly date back to the mastiff-type dogs of the ancient world, brought into Europe by traders from the region that is now Syria. By the Middle Ages hunting with packs of scent hounds was a widespread and popular sport, the quarry including fox, hare, deer, and wild boar. Pack-hunting arrived in North America in the 17th century with English settlers who brought their own foxhounds with them.

Scent hounds come in all sizes, but typically have substantial muzzles packed with odour-detecting sensors, loose, moist lips that also aid scent detection, and long, pendant ears. Bred for staying power rather than speed, they are strong-bodied, especially in the forequarters. The breeds of scent

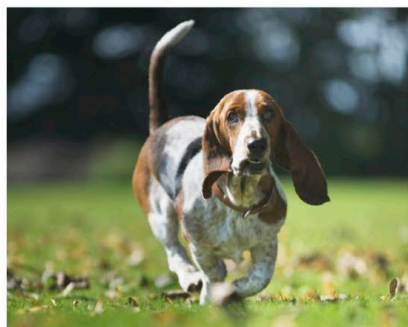
hound known today were selectively developed not only according to the size of prey that they followed but to the countryside that the hunts covered. The English Foxhound, for example, is comparatively fleet and lightly built for leading a mounted hunt over mostly open terrain. Similar in general appearance but much smaller, the Beagle hunted hare, sometimes in thick undergrowth, with followers on foot. Some short-legged dogs were bred to follow or dig out quarry below ground. The best known of these small scent hounds is the Dachshund, an agile little dog, adept at getting in and out of tight spots. The Otterhound, which hunted its quarry in rivers and streams, sometimes swimming for much of the time, has a water-repellent coat and more extensive webbing between its toes than most dogs.

Hunting with a pack of hounds is currently banned in England, Wales, and Scotland, and so the future of some pack hounds, such as the

English Foxhound or Harrier is uncertain. Although usually gregarious and good with other dogs, pack hounds rarely make satisfactory house pets. They need space, are often vocal, and their eagerness to follow any scent trail can make them difficult to train.

AMERICAN COONHOUND

This Bluetick Coonhound is a typical example of the large, handsome coonhounds popular in the United States for hunting and trials.



EVER POPULAR

Long-eared and low-slung, the Basset Hound was once much admired for its hunting ability and is now loved for its appearance alone.



BRUNO JURA HOUND

THIS MOUNTAIN HUNTING DOG IS SWEET-TEMPERED BUT NOT OFTEN SEEN AS A COMPANION

Height range
45–57cm (18–22in)

Weight range
16–20kg (35–44lb)

Life span 10–11 years

Origin Switzerland



One of two similar breeds of hound developed in the Swiss Jura mountain region, this is one of four laufhunds (see p.176) that probably descended from older, heavier French breeds. Used mainly for hare-hunting, it has a powerful nose and great strength and agility when working on steep terrain. Restless and ever on the go, this breed does not enjoy indoor confinement.

Domed head smaller than in St. Hubert Jura Hound (below)

Eyes dark in colour

Strong muzzle

Long, large ears set well back and low

Black blanket on tan coat

Rounded feet with strong nails and tough pads

Tapering tail, curves slightly upwards

Thick, short coat

ST. HUBERT JURA HOUND

ROBUST, AGILE, AND SKILLED AT TRACKING, THIS DOG IS BEST KEPT FOR OUTDOOR WORK

Height range
45–58cm (18–23in)

Weight range
15–20kg (33–44lb)

Life span 10–11 years

Origin Switzerland



Sharing a common history with the Bruno Jura Hound (above) and closely resembling it, the St. Hubert Jura Hound is distinguished by its larger size and smoother coat. A keen tracker, the St. Hubert Jura Hound bays loudly when following a scent. It has great stamina for hunting hare, foxes, or deer.

Massive, domed head

Back straight, broad, and muscular

Loose upper lip covers lower lip

Smooth, short, tan coat with black blanket

Forelegs straight and strong

Dark hazel to brown eyes

Large, pendant ears

BLOODHOUND

GENTLE AND SOCIABLE DESPITE ITS SIZE, THIS DOG HAS A DEEP BELLING VOICE

KC

Height range
58-69cm (23-27in)

Weight range
36-50kg (79-110lb)

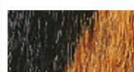


Life span 10-12 years

Origin Belgium



Other colours



Black and tan

Liver and tan

Originally developed in Belgium by the monks of the Abbaye de Saint-Hubert, the Bloodhound (known in Belgium as the St. Hubert Hound) may have been among the dogs brought to England with William the Conqueror in 1066. Massive, wrinkly, and droopy-eared, this is the classic sleuthhound of detective stories. The Bloodhound is renowned for its superlative tracking abilities over varied terrain and can pick up a scent that is several days old. Good-natured and mild-mannered, this dog is also an excellent family companion for those with room to spare.



Long, thick, tapering tail



Very long, pendant ears

Deep-set eyes give solemn expression

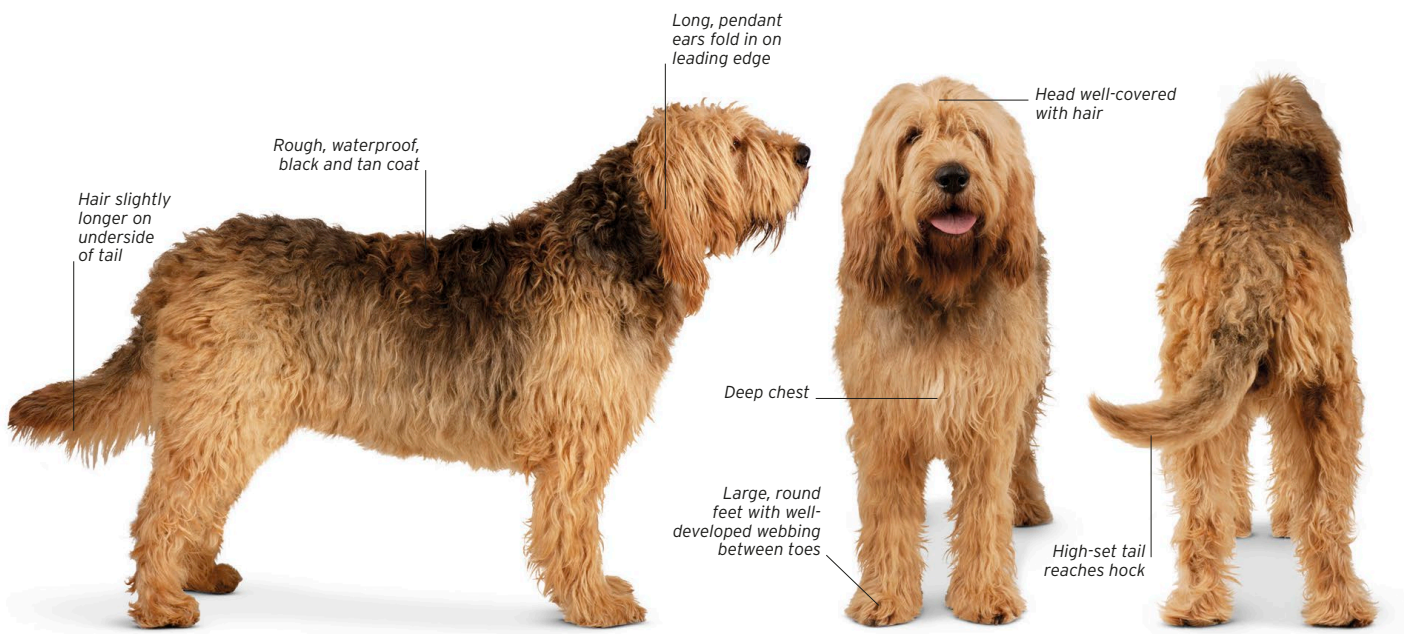
Smooth, short, weatherproof, shaded red coat

Heavy, loose upper lip

Pronounced dewlap

Lower ears curl inwards





OTTERHOUND

EASY-GOING AND AFFECTIONATE, THIS DOG HAS RETAINED A STRONG HUNTING INSTINCT

KC

Height range
61-69cm (24-27in)

Weight range
30-52kg (66-115lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin UK

Other Colours

Any hound colour



As its name suggests, this shaggy-coated hound was once used for hunting otters. Though its exact origins are uncertain, dogs of a similar type, working in packs, were known in England from about the 18th century, and there are records of otter-hunting with pack hounds as far back as the 12th century. When otters became a protected species, and otter-hunting was banned in the UK in 1978, the number of Otterhounds declined sharply. The breed is now considered rare, with fewer than 60 puppies being registered by the Kennel Club each year. Small numbers of Otterhounds are found in other countries, including the USA, Canada, and New Zealand.

The Otterhound is a strong, energetic dog that, given sufficient exercise, readily adapts to life in the home. It is intelligent and good-natured but, as is the case with many former pack hounds, can be difficult to train. Being large and boisterous, the breed is not recommended for small homes

or families with elderly members or young children, as there is a risk of them being knocked over. The Otterhound is best suited to owners who enjoy outdoor activities and have a large garden or access to open spaces where the dog can run safely. Bred for hunting in water, this hound loves swimming and will splash around happily in streams for hours, if given the opportunity.

The Otterhound's dense, coarse coat is slightly oily, and therefore water-repellent. Regular grooming is usually enough to keep the long topcoat free from tangles; in wet weather mud tends to collect but can be brushed out easily when dry. The dog's longer facial hair may need washing occasionally.





GRIFFON NIVERNAIS

TOUGH AND INDEPENDENT, THIS DOG CAN BE NOISY AND NEEDS A FIRM OWNER

FCI

Height range
53–62cm (21–24in)

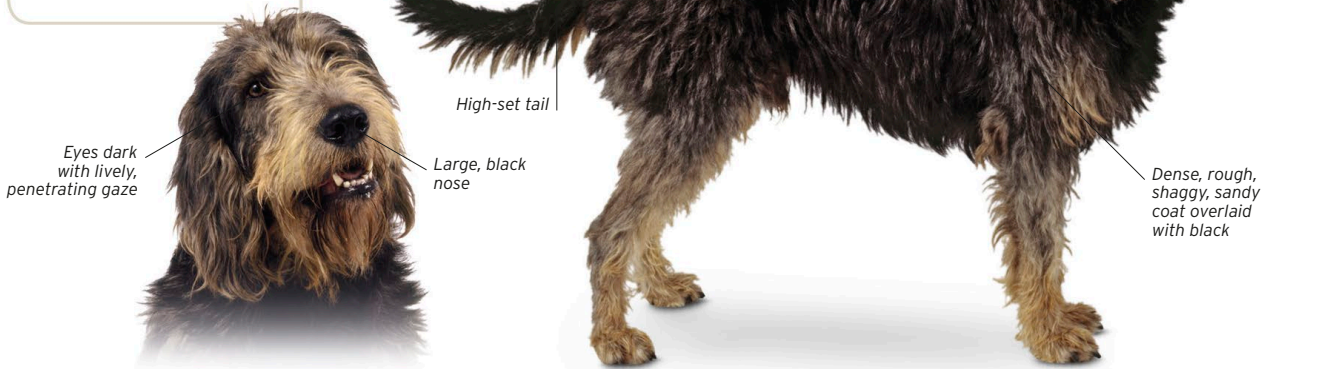
Weight range
23–25kg (51–55lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin France



One of the oldest French sporting dogs, this breed has bloodlines that include the Otterhound (see p.140) and the English Foxhound (see p.158). Used for tracking wild boar, the Griffon Nivernais has great endurance. It may work individually but usually hunts in a pack. The rough, tousled coat provides protection against thick vegetation.



Eyes dark with lively, penetrating gaze

Large, black nose

High-set tail

Dense, rough, shaggy, sandy coat overlaid with black

GRAND GRIFFON VENDEEN

THIS WELL-PROPORTIONED, PASSIONATE HUNTER IS INTELLIGENT AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY

FCI

Height range
60–68cm (24–27in)

Weight range
30–35kg (66–77lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin France



There are four varieties of Griffon Vendéen and this one, as its name implies, is the largest; it is also the longest established. The Grand Griffon Vendéen is used for hunting deer and wild boar, and usually works as a pack hound. This attractive dog has a beautiful musical voice and an appealing personality.

Narrow ears, covered in fine hair, and inward turning

Eyebrows pronounced, but not covering eyes

Long, feathered tail

Front of muzzle has square appearance

Coarse, bushy, white and orange coat

Other colours



Fawn



Black and tan



Black and white



Tricolour

Fawn dogs can have black overlay.



GRAND BASSET GRIFFON VENDEEN

THIS SHORT-LEGGED BREED IS A DEDICATED WORKING HUNTER

KC

Height range
39–44cm (15–17in)

Weight range
18–20kg (40–44lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin France

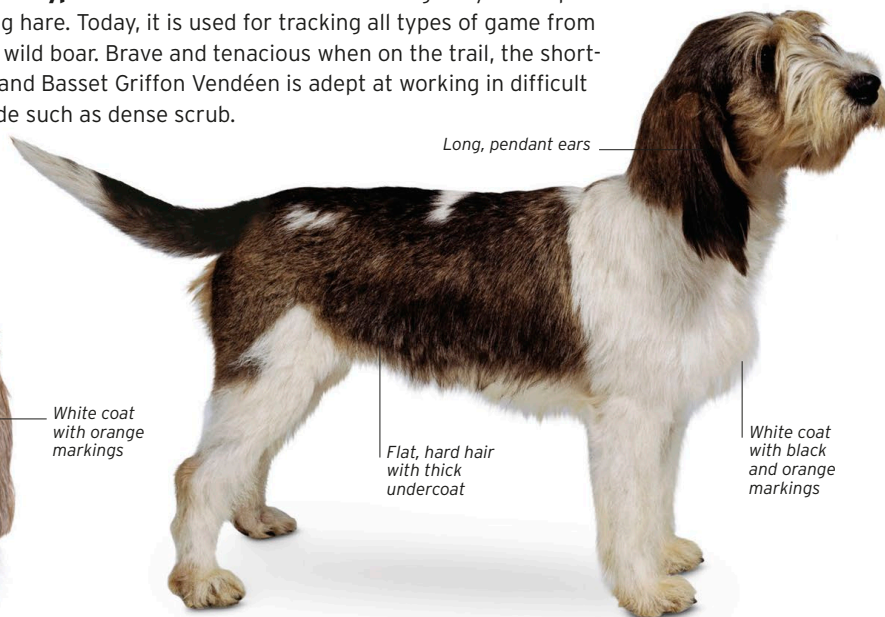


This basset-type Griffon Vendéen hound was originally developed for hunting hare. Today, it is used for tracking all types of game from rabbits to wild boar. Brave and tenacious when on the trail, the short-legged Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen is adept at working in difficult countryside such as dense scrub.



Long, broad, drop ears

White coat with orange markings



Long, pendant ears

Flat, hard hair with thick undercoat

White coat with black and orange markings

PETIT BASSET GRIFFON VENDEEN

ENERGETIC AND OUTGOING, THIS FAMILY DOG IS CHEERFUL, CONFIDENT, AND CURIOUS

KC

Height range
33–38cm (13–15in)

Weight range
11–19kg (24–42lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



Smallest of the Griffon Vendéen breeds, the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen is an alert, active, and vigorous hound, capable of a long day's hunting. Short legs, a body twice the dog's height, and a thick, rough coat make this breed ideal for work in dense, brambly undergrowth. Full of restless energy, like all hounds, the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen is a family dog for people who enjoy spending time outdoors.



Coat rough, thick, and coarse

Long eyebrows, beard, and moustache



Back straight from withers to croup

Pendant ears turned inwards

White coat with dark markings

BRIQUET GRIFFON VENDEEN

SHAGGY AND COARSE-HAIRED, THIS IS A HAPPY-GO-LUCKY SCENT HOUND

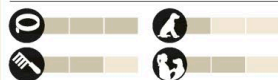
FCI

Height range
48–55cm (19–22in)

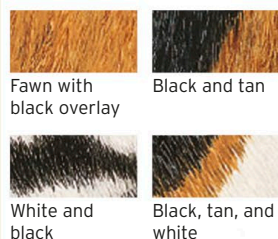
Weight range
16–24kg (35–53lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin France



Other colours



Briquet means “medium sized” – an apt description for this well-proportioned hound. A handsome and determined chaser of wild boar and roe deer, it is a scaled-down version of the Grand Griffon Vendéen (see p.142), from which it was bred. This hound hunts in a pack but can adapt to urban life if introduced to it early on.

Long, pendant ears set below eye level

Bushy eyebrows noticeable but not covering the eye

Brown nose

Long, white and orange hair

BASSET HOUND

THIS LOW-SLUNG, FLOPPY-EARED DOG IS GENTLE-NATURED AND A SUPERB TRACKER

KC

Height range
33–38cm (13–15in)

Weight range
18–27kg (40–60lb)

Life span 10–13 years

Origin France



Other colours



Any recognized hound colour.

Equally happy by the fireside or on the moors, the Basset Hound was bred by French monks to hunt in heavy cover. Unlike its depiction as a buffoon in some cartoons, this consummate sniffer dog is very intelligent and extremely tenacious. As a family pet, the Basset Hound is placid and affectionate.

Eyes soft, sad-looking, and slightly sunken

Broad and level back

Long, deep body – heaviest-boned of all dogs for its height

Dark nose with large, wide-open nostrils

Short, tricolour coat

Body low but allows free movement over all types of terrain

BASSET ARTESIEN NORMAND

THIS SHORT-LEGGED, DETERMINED HUNTING DOG IS A LIVELY, DEVOTED FAMILY PET

FCI

Height range
30–36cm (12–14in)

Weight range
15–20kg (33–44lb)

Life span 13–15 years

Origin France



Other colours



Tan and white

Large, black nose

This low-slung, long-bodied dog from the Artois and Normandy regions of France, is renowned for searching, tracking, flushing out, and pursuing hare, rabbit, and deer – either individually or in small packs. This elegant hound has a very deep bark, perhaps surprising for its size. Like many hounds, it requires experienced training.

Muzzle same length as skull

Long, low-set ears

Close, short, smooth, tricolour coat

High-set, tapering tail

BASSET FAUVE DE BRETAGNE

AN AGILE, COMPACT FAMILY DOG WITH AN EASY-GOING, CHEERFUL DISPOSITION

KC

Height range
32–38cm (13–15in)

Weight range
16–18kg (35–40lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



Ears covered in shorter, darker hair than on body

This versatile and nimble hound has the same qualities as the breed from which it is derived: the Griffon Fauve de Bretagne (see p.146). It is courageous and has a well-developed sense of smell, which makes it ideal for tracking, and search and rescue. Although wiry, a weekly brush and comb is all that its coat requires.

Slightly tapering muzzle with brown nose

Tail medium length and set high

White spot on broad chest

Gold-wheaten coat



GRIFFON FAUVE DE BRETAGNE

THIS HARDY, WIRY RABBIT-CHASER IS AN EASY-GOING FAMILY DOG WHEN OFF DUTY

KC

Height range
48-56cm (19-22in)

Weight range
18-22kg (40-49lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin France



One of the oldest French hounds, with ancestors dating back to the 1500s, the Griffon Fauve de Bretagne was bred in Brittany to guard against wolves. Today, it is a versatile hunter and lively housedog. Its short-legged cousin is the Basset Fauve de Bretagne (see p.145).



Broad chest

Black nose

Tail carried in a sickle shape



Dark brown eyes

Low-set ears curl in on front edge

Wiry, very rough, red-wheaten coat

Compact feet

ISTRIAN WIRE-HAIRED HOUND

THIS TOUGH BUT GENTLE HOUND IS SUITED TO HUNTING FOX AND HARE IN MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN

FCI

Height range
46-58cm (18-23in)

Weight range
16-24kg (35-53lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Croatia

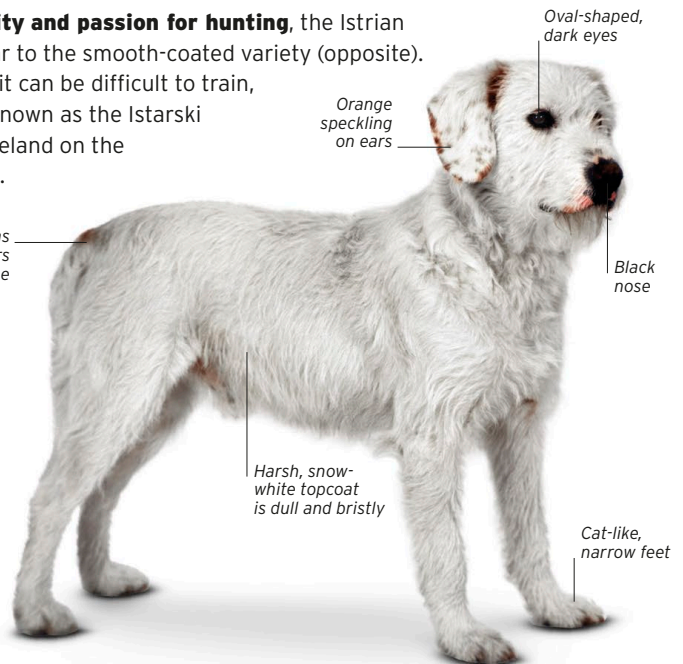


With its boundless tenacity and passion for hunting, the Istrian Wire-haired Hound is similar to the smooth-coated variety (opposite). Due to its stubborn nature it can be difficult to train, so is not an ideal pet. It is known as the Istarski Oštrodlaki Gonic in its homeland on the Istrian peninsula of Croatia.



Broad, deep chest extends to elbows

Tail has orange hairs at base



Oval-shaped, dark eyes

Orange speckling on ears

Black nose

Harsh, snow-white topcoat is dull and bristly

Cat-like, narrow feet

ISTRIAN SMOOTH-COATED HOUND

RESEMBLING A LONG-LEGGED FOXHOUND, THIS IS THE OLDEST OF THE BALKAN HOUNDS

FCI

Height range
44–56cm (17–22in)

Weight range
14–20kg (31–44lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Croatia



Originally bred for hunting hare and fox in the vast open terrain of Istria, the handsome and well-built Istarski Kratkodlaki Gonic, as it is known in its native land, displays a stunning snow-white coat. It is kept across the Istrian peninsula as a working dog but also makes a contented housedog in a rural household.

Long, narrow, pear-shaped head

Orange markings on broad, level back

Large, dark eyes

Short, smooth, snow-white coat

Orange markings on face extend to include ear

Broad, thin, drop ears

Black nose

STYRIAN COARSE-HAIRED MOUNTAIN HOUND

THIS RARE WORKING DOG IS IDEAL FOR HIGH ALTITUDE AND HUNTING ON ROUGH TERRAIN

FCI

Height range
45–53cm (18–21in)

Weight range
15–18kg (33–40lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Austria



This medium-sized dog has the agility to twist and turn on difficult, steep terrain, having developed its hunting skills in the mountains of Austria and Slovenia. It can make a calm and good-natured pet. It is also known as the Peintingen Hound after its 18th-century developer, who crossed a Hanoverian Scent Hound (see p.178) with an Istrian Wire-haired Hound (opposite).

Moderate stop

Broad back

Darker-coloured drop ears covered with fine hair

Expressive, brown eyes

Black nose

Rough, coarse, fawn coat

Other colours



Red

May have white marking on chest.



AUSTRIAN BLACK AND TAN HOUND

SUPPLE AND TIRELESS, THIS DOG IS SUITED TO TRACKING PREY ACROSS MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN

FCI

Height range
48–56cm (19–22in)

Weight range
15–23kg (33–51lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin Austria



Sometimes known as the Brandlbracke, the Austrian Black and Tan Hound has descended from the Celtic Hound. Popular locally, it was bred to seek out hare and track down wounded animals with its highly tuned senses of smell and direction. It works eagerly and has a calm temperament.



SPANISH HOUND

A STRONG-WILLED HUNTING DOG OF NOBLE ANCESTRY

FCI

Height range
48–57cm (19–22in)

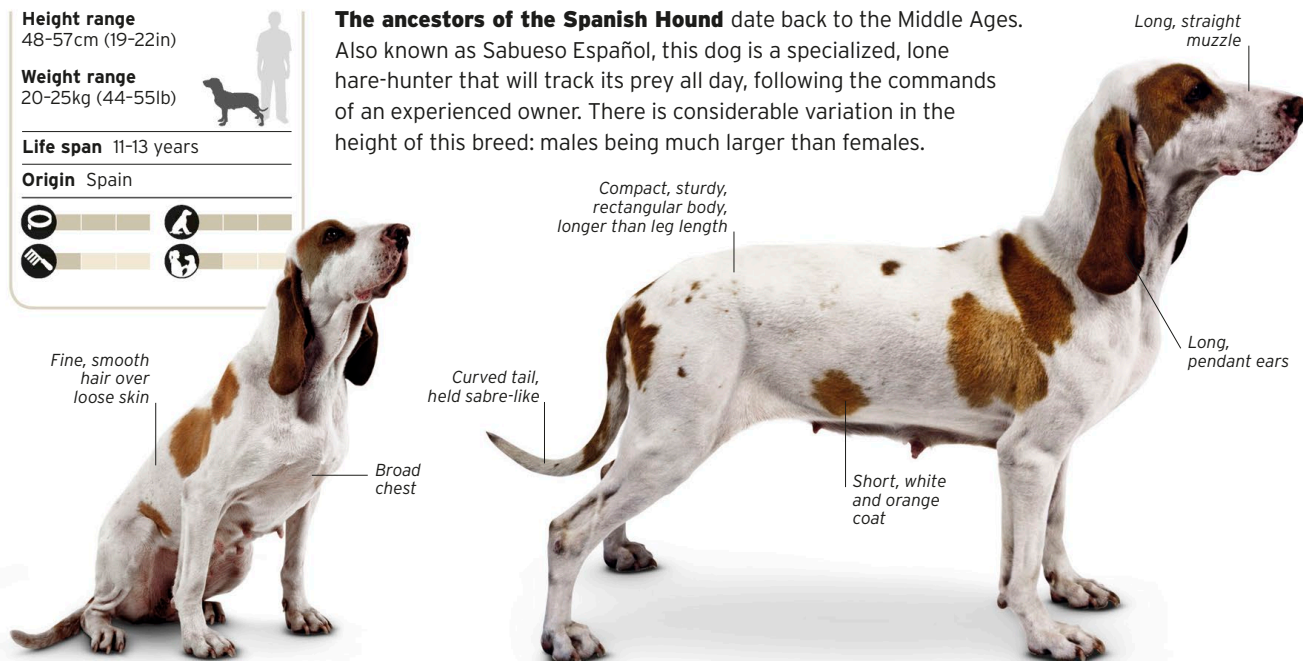
Weight range
20–25kg (44–55lb)

Life span 11–13 years

Origin Spain



The ancestors of the Spanish Hound date back to the Middle Ages. Also known as Sabueso Español, this dog is a specialized, lone hare-hunter that will track its prey all day, following the commands of an experienced owner. There is considerable variation in the height of this breed: males being much larger than females.



SEGUGIO ITALIANO

THIS INTELLIGENT AND SWEET-NATURED HOUND MAKES A GOOD ACTIVE COMPANION

KC

Height range
48-59cm (19-23in)

Weight range
18-28kg (40-62lb)

Life span 10-14 years

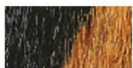
Origin Italy



Other colours



Wheaten



Black and tan



Originally bred as a boar-hunter, this Italian hound is today more often used to track hare and rabbits. It is a fast sprinter and has the stamina for running long distances. Usually calm and quiet, when at work the Segugio Italiano emits an excited and distinctive, high-pitched bark. It is good with children and other dogs provided it is well trained, has access to open spaces, and is exercised regularly. Generally cautious, even a well-trained dog is likely to take off if it spots a rabbit. There are two coat varieties: wire-haired and short-haired.

Large, dark, oval eyes

Back arches towards croup

Black nose

Smooth, red coat

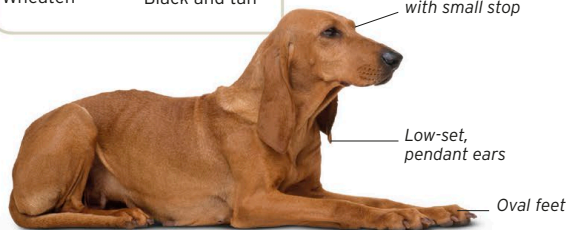
White tip to tail

Short-haired

Elongated head with small stop

Low-set, pendant ears

Oval feet



SEGUGIO MAREMMANO

A WORKING DOG MORE SUITED TO HUNTING THAN BEING A PET

Height range
46-53cm (18-21in)

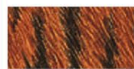
Weight range
13-23kg (29-51lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Italy



Other colours



Brindle

White markings permitted.



A scent hound specialized for hunting wild boar either alone or in packs, the Segugio Maremmano is not well known outside Italy. Primarily a working dog, it can be either smooth- or rough-haired and where permitted the tail is docked to just under one half of its length.

Dark, slightly oval eyes

Tail with sabre-shaped carriage

Muzzle slightly shorter than skull

Body line rises gently from chest to abdomen

Black and tan coat

Triangular ears lie flat against head

Dark tan coat with white markings



HARRIER

THIS SUPREMELY ACTIVE AND EAGER HOUND IS AN ENTHUSIASTIC EXPLORER AND TRACKER

FCI

Height range
48–55cm (19–22in)

Weight range
19–27kg (42–60lb)

Life span 10–12 years

Origin UK



Once popular for pack hunting, this handsome, classically proportioned hound was probably developed as a smaller version of the English Foxhound (see p.158). Originally used to hunt hare with foot followers, Harriers later hunted foxes with mounted followers. Today, the dog makes a great outdoor companion and agility competitor.

Long muzzle more pointed than square

Short, dense, hard, white coat with black and tan markings

Long tail set high, carried upright, and slightly curved

Feet have thick pads for working on rough terrain

V-shaped, pendant ears

Prominent black nose



BEAGLE HARRIER

A GOOD COMPANION DOG WITH A VERY CALM TEMPERAMENT, BUT KEEN TO FOLLOW SCENT

FCI

Height range
46–50cm (18–20in)

Weight range
19–21kg (42–46lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin France



Larger than a Beagle (see p.152) but smaller than a Harrier (above), this attractive little hound is thought to have both these breeds in its ancestry, although it may not be the result of a direct cross. Beagle Harriers are not often seen outside France, where they have been used for hunting small game since the late 1800s. This dog has a pleasant temperament and makes a good family pet.

Square, compact body

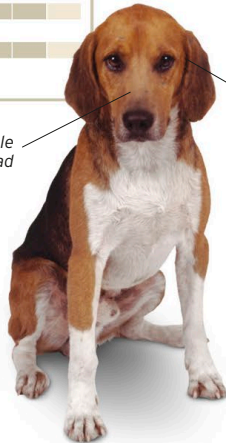
Eyes have eager and intelligent expression

Narrow muzzle on broad head

Tricolour coat

Deep, broad chest

Rounded, cat-like feet



ANGLO-FRANCAIS DE PETITE VENERIE

THIS WORKING PACKHOUND IS NOT SUITED TO AN URBAN LIFESTYLE

FCI

Height range
48–56cm (19–22in)

Weight range
16–20kg (35–44lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin France



Other colours



Tan and white



Also known as the Petit Anglo-Français, this hound was developed in France and is the result of cross-breeding between English and French scent hounds, a few hundred years ago. The breed is now rare and mostly seen in Continental Europe, where it is still used for small game hunting (to which its name, Petite Vénérie, alludes).

Large, brown eyes

High-set, thin tail

Low-set, pendant ears

Short, dense, glossy, tricolour coat

PORCELAINE

THIS INSTINCTIVE HUNTER IS TRAINABLE AS A HOUSE DOG BUT NEEDS AN ACTIVE LIFE

FCI

Height range
53–58cm (21–23in)

Weight range
25–28kg (55–62lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin France



Possibly the oldest of the French pack hounds, with origins in the Franche-Comte on the French-Swiss border, this breed is named for the distinctive glaze-like sheen of its beautiful white coat. It is used primarily for hunting deer and wild boar. If kept as a pet, this hound needs plenty of exercise and tactful training.

Long, lean, finely chiselled head

Well-developed black nose

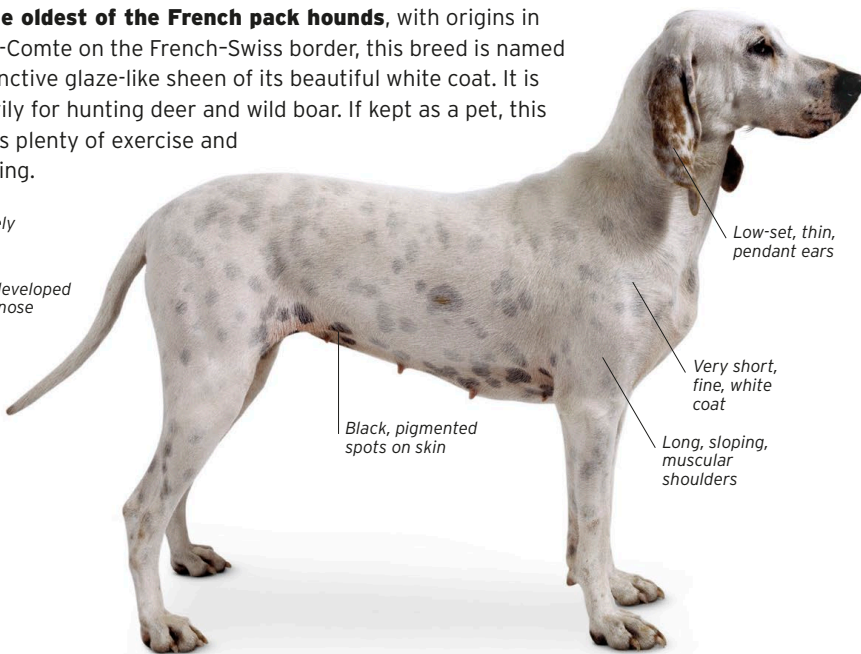
Low-set, thin, pendant ears

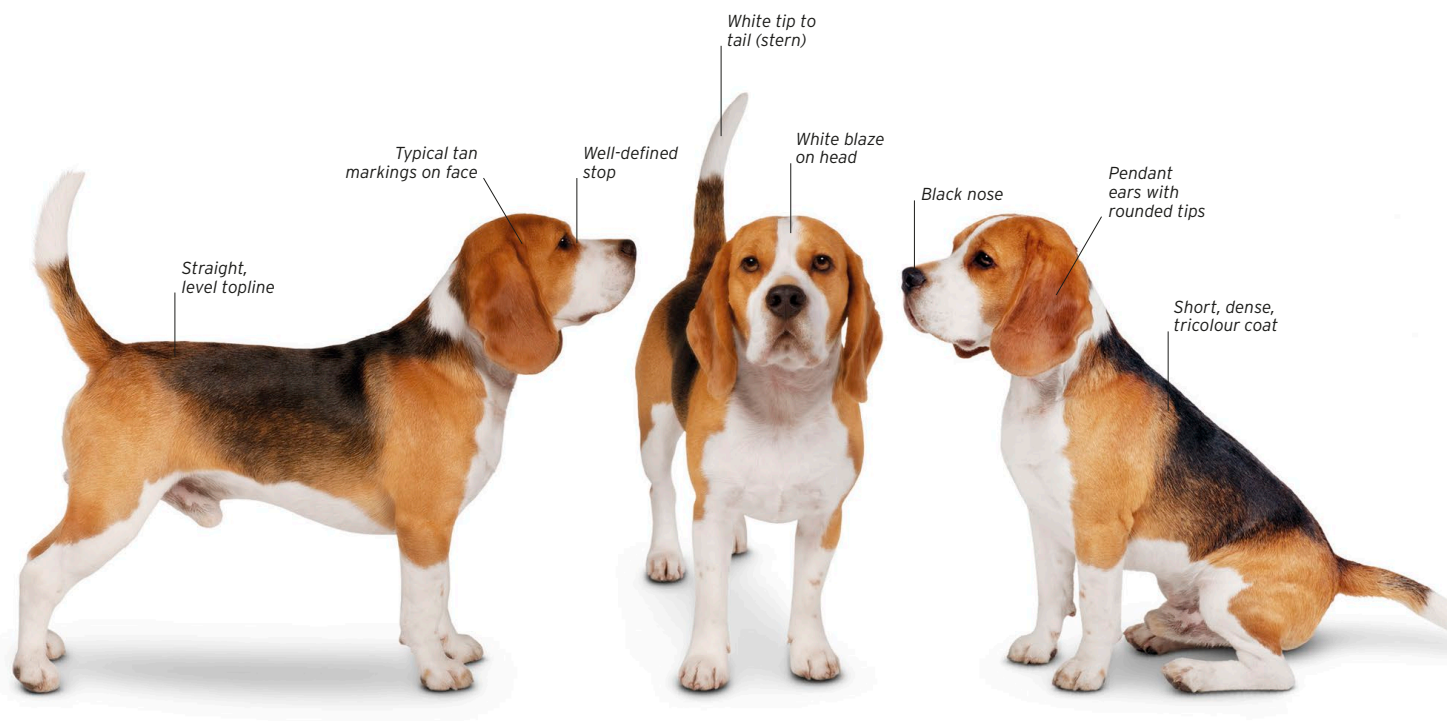
Very short, fine, white coat

Long, sloping, muscular shoulders

Black, pigmented spots on skin

Highly characteristic orange ticking on ears





BEAGLE

ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR SCENT HOUNDS, THIS DOG IS ACTIVE, HAPPY-GO-LUCKY, AND AMIABLE

KC

Height range
33–40cm (13–16in)

Weight range
9–11kg (20–24lb)

Life span 13 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Variety of colours



A sturdy, compact dog with a merry disposition, the Beagle looks rather like an English Foxhound (see p.158) in miniature. The Beagle's origins are unclear, but it appears to have a long history, possibly being developed from other English scent hounds such as the Harrier (see p.150). In England, from the 16th century onwards, packs of small beagle-type hounds were kept to hunt hare and rabbit, but it was not until the 1870s that a standard for the modern Beagle was recognized. Since then the breed has remained remarkably popular, at first for hunting and now as a companion dog. This versatile hound has also been used by law enforcement agencies to sniff out drugs, explosives, and other illegal items.

The Beagle's friendly and tolerant nature makes it an excellent pet, provided it has plenty of company and exercise – it does not easily tolerate long periods of solitude,

which may lead to behavioural problems. A typical scent hound, this dog is highly active and has a strong instinct for following a trail. Left alone in an inadequately fenced garden, or allowed to run off the lead, a Beagle can disappear swiftly and stay away for hours. The breed has a loud bark and can be noisy, which may irritate neighbours if the barking becomes excessive. Fortunately, Beagles are relatively easy to train, and do best with an owner who combines fondness with firmness and clear leadership. This breed is good with children old enough to understand how to handle a dog, but cannot be considered safe with small family pets.

In the United States two sizes are recognized, based on the height of the dog at the withers: those under 33cm (13in) and those between 33cm (13in) and 38cm (15in).





SCHILLERSTOVARE

THIS RARE, TIRELESS TRACKER HUNTS SOLO AND IS THE SWIFTEST SWEDISH HOUND

FCI

Height range
49–61cm (19–24in)

Weight range
15–25kg (33–55lb)

Life span 10–14 years

Origin Sweden



A rare breed, the Schillerstovare is much prized for its hunting speed and stamina, especially over snow. This dog's thick coat insulates it well from its native climate. It tracks alone, rather than in a pack, and emits a deep-throated bay to pinpoint the position of its prey – hare or fox. The breed is named after its breeder, farmer Per Schiller.

Medium-sized muzzle well proportioned to head

Strong, long neck

Short, glossy, tan coat with thick undercoat

Well-cut black blanket "saddles" back, neck, sides of trunk, and top of tail

High-set, drop ears narrow towards the tip

Black nose

HAMILTONSTOVARE

SWEDEN'S MOST POPULAR FOXHOUND IS VERY LOYAL AND A GOOD COMPANION AND PROTECTOR

KC

Height range
46–60cm (18–24in)

Weight range
23–27kg (51–60lb)

Life span 10–13 years

Origin Sweden



Developed by Count Adolf Patrick Hamilton, a founder of the Swedish Kennel Club, this handsome, easy-going hound loves to roam fields and flush out small game. The Hamiltonstovare is a mix of English Foxhound (see p.158) stock (it has also been called the Swedish Foxhound) and Holstein Hound, Hanovarian Haidbrake, and Courlander Hound.

White blaze on face

Dense, strong, close-lying coat

Short, dense, soft undercoat

Tricolour coat with no one colour dominating

White "socks" on lower legs and feet

SMALANDSSTOVARE

THIS ROBUST ALL-WEATHER HUNTER AND WORKER FORMS A STRONG BOND WITH ITS OWNER

FCI

Height range
42–53cm (17–21in)

Weight range
15–20kg (33–44lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Sweden



This Swedish Hound, also known as the Småland Hound, is thought to date back to the 16th century and takes its name from the dense forest of Småland in southern Sweden where it was used to hunt fox and hare. It has a distinctive black coat with tan markings similar to that of a Rottweiler (see p.81).

High-set, medium-length ears with rounded tips

Thick, shiny, black and tan coat

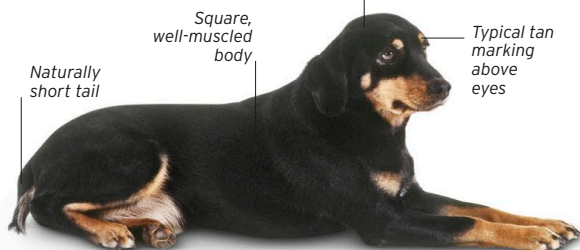
Small, white markings on toes

Head shorter and more wedge-shaped than most hounds

Typical tan marking above eyes

Square, well-muscled body

Naturally short tail



HALDEN HOUND

THIS NORWEGIAN FOXHOUND IS A RELATIVELY RARE HUNTING AND FAMILY DOG

FCI

Height range
50–65cm (20–26in)

Weight range
23–29kg (51–64lb)

Life span 10–12 years

Origin Norway



The largest of the four stovare breeds, this hound loves a speedy chase over snowy open spaces. Like other Norwegian dogs bred as hunting companions, the Halden Hound is not widely known outside its native land. It was developed in Halden in the southeast, by crossing an English Foxhound (see p.158) with a local “beagle”.

Tan shading on head

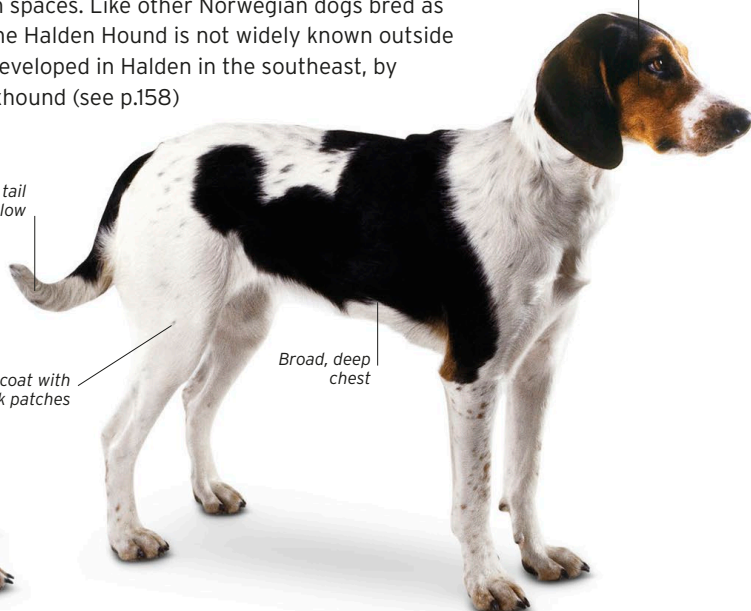
Thick tail carried low

Broad, deep chest

White coat with black patches

Eyes dark brown

Drop ears lie close to head





NORWEGIAN HOUND

A BEAUTIFULLY COATED HARE-HUNTER AND FIRST-CLASS FAMILY HOUND

FCI

Height range
47-55cm (19-22in)

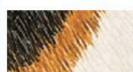
Weight range
16-23kg (35-51lb)

Life span 11-14 years

Origin Norway



Other colours



Tricolour

Blue
marbled
back

Trusting, friendly, and easy to handle when not hunting, the Norwegian Hound, or Dunker, is designed to track hare in snow in temperatures as low as -15°C (-59°F). Originally named after Captain Wilhelm Dunker, this hound was bred from other Norwegian and Russian hare-hounds in the early 1800s.

Gently sloping stop

Drop ears with
rounded tips

Large, dark,
expressive eyes

Black nose

Tapering
tail reaches
below hock

Straight, hard,
dense, blue marbled
coat with pale fawn
and white markings

White chest
and shoulders

White socks

FINNISH HOUND

A CALM AND FRIENDLY DOG AT HOME AND AN ENERGETIC AND TIRELESS TRACKER ON THE MOVE

FCI

Height range
52-61cm (20-24in)

Weight range
21-25kg (46-55lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Finland



By far Finland's most popular hunting dog, this hound is bred to drive hare and fox in the country's snowy forests. It hunts with unfailing eagerness, but at home it is an easy-going and manageable pet. Although generally placid, the Finnish Hound can sometimes be shy of strangers.

White blaze on head

Back edge
of ear turns
outwards

Well-
developed,
black nose

Dark brown
eyes

Close-lying,
straight, dense,
tricolour coat

HYGEN HOUND

A BRIGHT HUNTING DOG, LIVELY COMPANION, AND RELIABLE HOUSE WATCHDOG

FCI

Height range
47-58cm (19-23in)

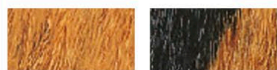
Weight range
20-25kg (44-55lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Norway



Other colours



Yellow-red
Black and tan
Yellow-red coats have black shading.

A more lightweight dog than the Norwegian Hound (opposite), this breed from Ringerike and Romerike in eastern Norway is purpose built for the snowy Arctic expanses and has the stamina to bound through them tirelessly. Quite compact like the Smålandsstövare (see p.155), this is a quick-thinking hunter that loves long walks.

Head and snout shorter and wider than Norwegian Hound (opposite)



AMERICAN FOXHOUND

BRED FOR SPEED AND DISTANCE, THIS DOG NEEDS AN ENERGETIC OWNER

FCI

Height range
53-64cm (21-25in)

Weight range
18-30kg (40-66lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Any colour

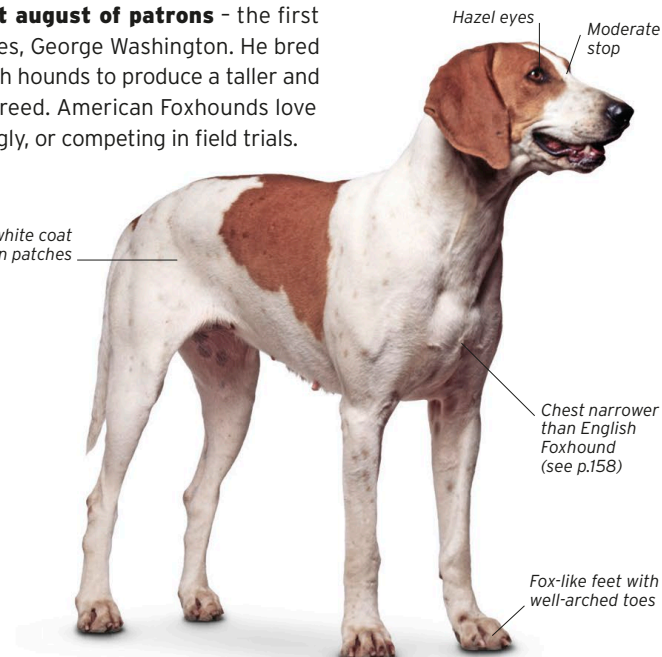
These dogs have the most august of patrons - the first president of the United States, George Washington. He bred them from French and English hounds to produce a taller and more athletic, stand-alone breed. American Foxhounds love running in packs, hunting singly, or competing in field trials.

Hazel eyes
Moderate stop



Close, hard, white coat with tan patches

Straight, square-cut muzzle





ENGLISH FOXHOUND

A GOOD-NATURED, ACTIVE DOG WITH A SUNNY APPROACH TO LIFE

KC

Height range
58-64cm (23-25in)

Weight range
25-34kg (55-75lb)



Life span 10-11 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Variety of colours
Any recognized hound colour.

The ancestry of the English Foxhound goes back centuries. By the 1800s more than 200 packs of foxhounds were kept in England for hunting foxes over a variety of terrain. An active, bold, and passionate hunter, this hound is highly responsive to training but can also be stubborn and self-willed, especially when on the scent. Historically kennelled in packs rather than kept as house dogs, the English Foxhound nevertheless makes a good companion, is very friendly towards people, and is excellent with children. Would-be owners should be aware that these hounds can retain their playfulness, liveliness, and stamina into old age.

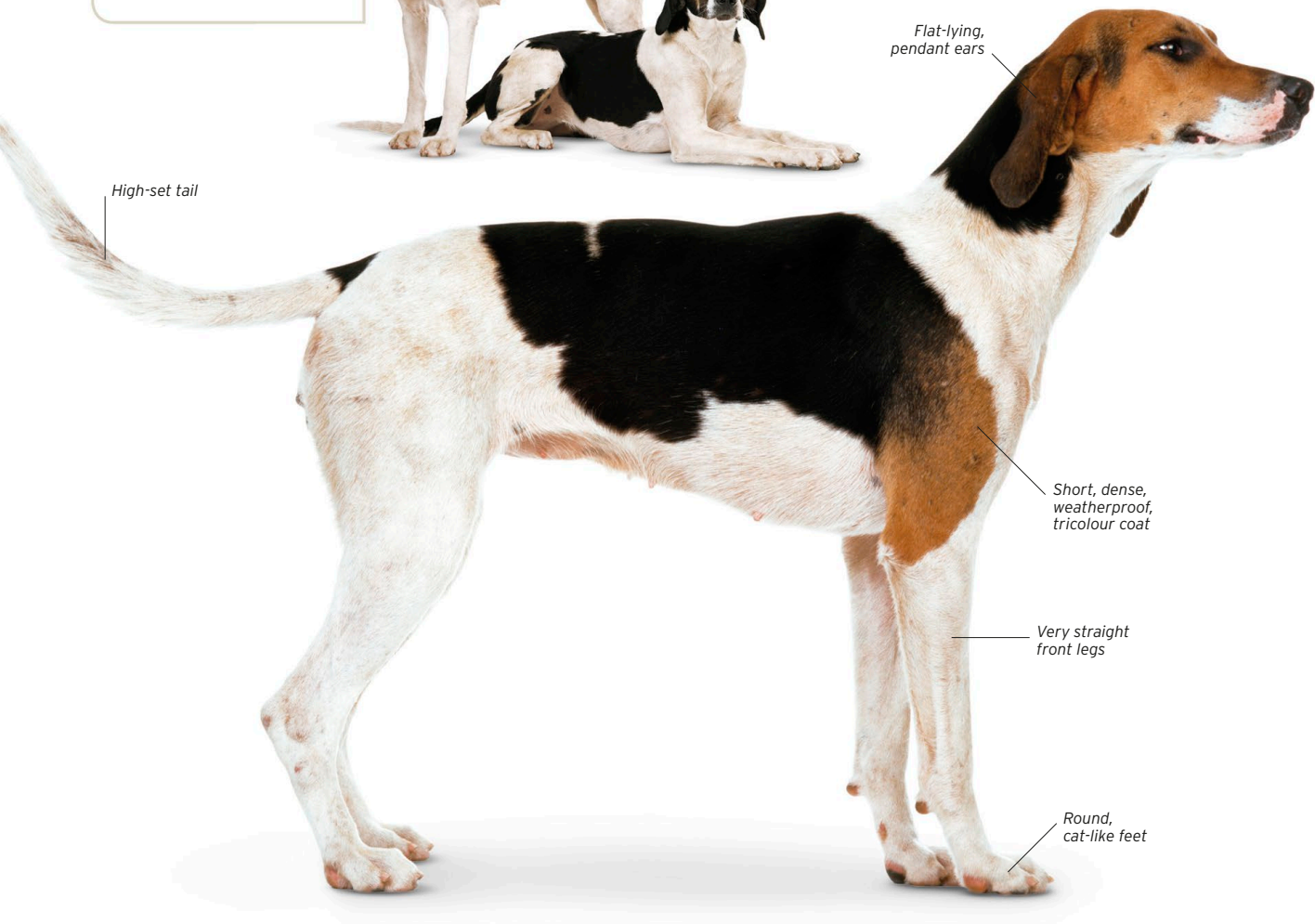


Large eyes with friendly expression



Back broad and level with a slight rise over strong loins

Black nose



Flat-lying, pendant ears

Short, dense, weatherproof, tricolour coat

Very straight front legs

Round, cat-like feet

High-set tail

CATAHOULA LEOPARD DOG

THIS SKILFUL, STRONG-WILLED HUNTER IS SUITED TO AN EXPERIENCED OWNER

Height range
51-66cm (20-26in)

Weight range
23-41kg (51-90lb)

Life span 10-14 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours



This striking-looking Louisiana herding dog and hunter of wild boar and raccoon is a mix of Spanish colonial greyhound, mastiff, and native Red Wolf. It can work well in swamps, forests, and more open terrain. Named after a parish in its home state, the Catahoula Leopard Dog is an alert watchdog, wary of strangers, but calm and dedicated to its household.



Eyes may be different colours

Spotted pattern gives rise to "leopard" name



Short, tight, blue-merle coat

White marking on chest

PLOTT HOUND

RUTHLESS AND DETERMINED WHEN HUNTING, THIS HOUND IS RESPONSIVE AND ALERT AT HOME

AKC

Height range
51-64cm (20-25in)

Weight range
18-27kg (40-60lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin USA



This powerful, brindled hound is used for hunting raccoon, though it also hunts big cats, bear, coyote, and wild boar. It is one of only a few breeds with acknowledged American origin. The original Plott Hound was bred in the 1750s in the Smokey Mountains by the Plott family, using boar-hunting Hanoverian Hounds brought over from Germany.

Prominent brown or hazel eyes

Broad, soft ears set moderately high



Neck and topline long, lean, and muscular

Powerfully built body for speed and stamina

Brindle coat

Compact feet with white toes





BLACK AND TAN COONHOUND

MAINLY USED FOR HUNTING, THIS DOG IS CALM AND FRIENDLY IN THE HOME

KC

Height range
58-69cm (23-27in)

Weight range
23-34kg (51-75lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin USA



This big hunting dog probably descends from the Bloodhound (see p.139) and a now-extinct old English breed called the Talbot Hound. Tough and powerful, the Black and Tan Coonhound is a superb tracker of raccoon, opossum, and even cougar, baying loudly when it has chased its quarry up a tree.



Rich tan on muzzle



Ear low and set well back

Well-developed flews

Tail set slightly below level of back

Coal-black coat

REDBONE COONHOUND

THIS DOG NEEDS A LOT OF EXERCISE AND MAY FIND CHASING IRRESISTIBLE

AKC

Height range
53-69cm (21-27in)

Weight range
21-32kg (46-71lb)

Life span 11-12 years

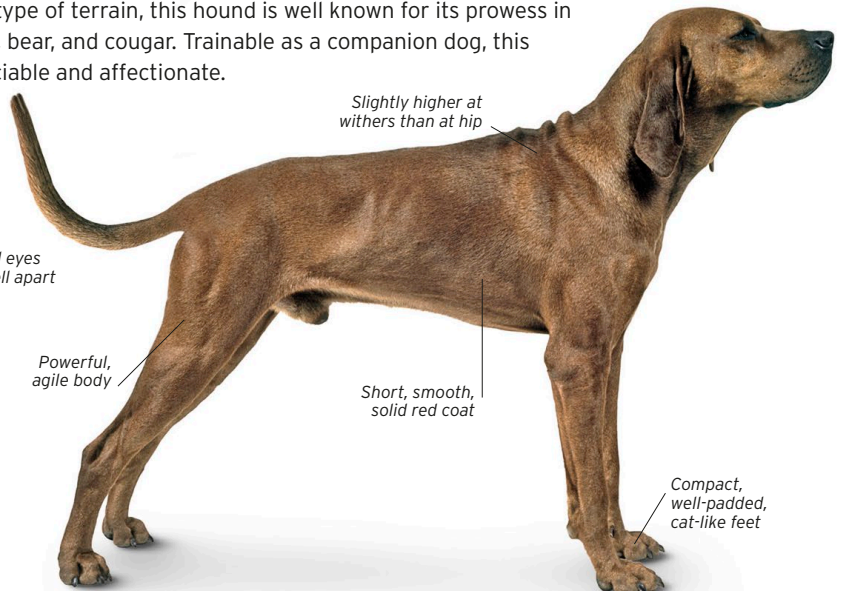
Origin USA



Bred in the southern states of the USA, the handsome, glossy-coated Redbone Coonhound has been a popular hunting dog for over a century. Fast and agile over almost any type of terrain, this hound is well known for its prowess in tracking raccoon, bear, and cougar. Trainable as a companion dog, this coonhound is sociable and affectionate.



Round eyes set well apart



Slightly higher at withers than at hip

Powerful, agile body

Short, smooth, solid red coat

Compact, well-padded, cat-like feet

BLUETICK COONHOUND

THIS ENERGETIC WORKING BREED NEEDS SUPERVISION OUTDOORS

AKC

Height range
53-69cm (21-27in)

Weight range
20-36kg (44-79lb)

Life span 11-12 years

Origin USA



A breakaway breed, originally regarded as the English Coonhound, the Bluetick Coonhound has had its devoted followers since the 1940s. Although mainly used to track raccoon and opossum, this hound also hunts deer and bear. Happiest when working, the Bluetick Coonhound has proved to be highly successful at obedience and agility trials.

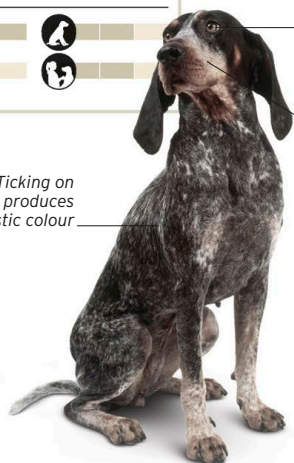
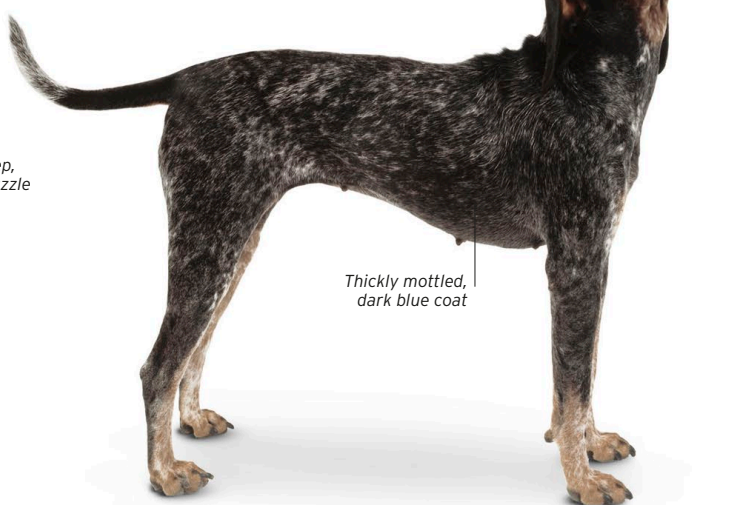
Large nose

Clear, keen eyes

Long, deep, broad muzzle

Ticking on coat produces characteristic colour

Thickly mottled, dark blue coat



TREEING WALKER COONHOUND

THIS POPULAR COONHOUND MAKES AN EXCELLENT COMPANION WHEN SOCIALIZED

AKC

Height range
51-68cm (20-27in)

Weight range
23-32kg (51-71lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin USA



This fast and efficient raccoon-hunter has been recognized as a distinct breed since the 1940s. In the USA this breed is much admired for its outstanding abilities in coonhound competitions. It is a dog that appreciates a friendly home environment and loves people.

Black saddle

Large, bright, brown eyes

Long, narrow muzzle

Muscular shoulders and neck

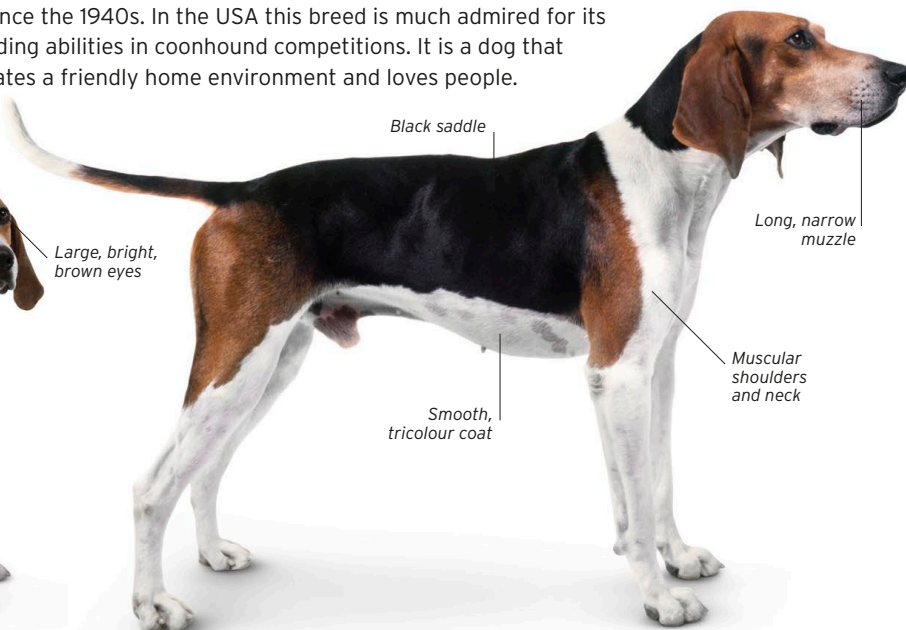
Smooth, tricolour coat

Other colours



White

White coats have tan or black spots.





AMERICAN ENGLISH COONHOUND

THIS AMERICAN-BRED HUNTER IS FULL OF ATHLETIC POISE AND PACE

AKC

Height range
58-66cm (23-26in)

Weight range
21-41kg (46-90lb)

Life span 10-11 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Red and white



White and black

May also have a blue and white ticked coat.

This energetic and intelligent dog evolved from English Foxhounds (see p.158) that were brought to the New World. It was bred to adapt to rougher terrain, hunting fox by day and raccoon by night. It shows an effortless trot and never appears to get tired. Quite similar to the Treeing Walker Coonhound (see p.161), it can adopt both the "cold nose" trail (straddling an old track for hours to locate the animal that left it) or follow a scent fast in pursuit of a fresh, active trail. As a pet, it needs firm handling but in return will be a devoted companion and good guard dog.

Tricolour coat with ticking

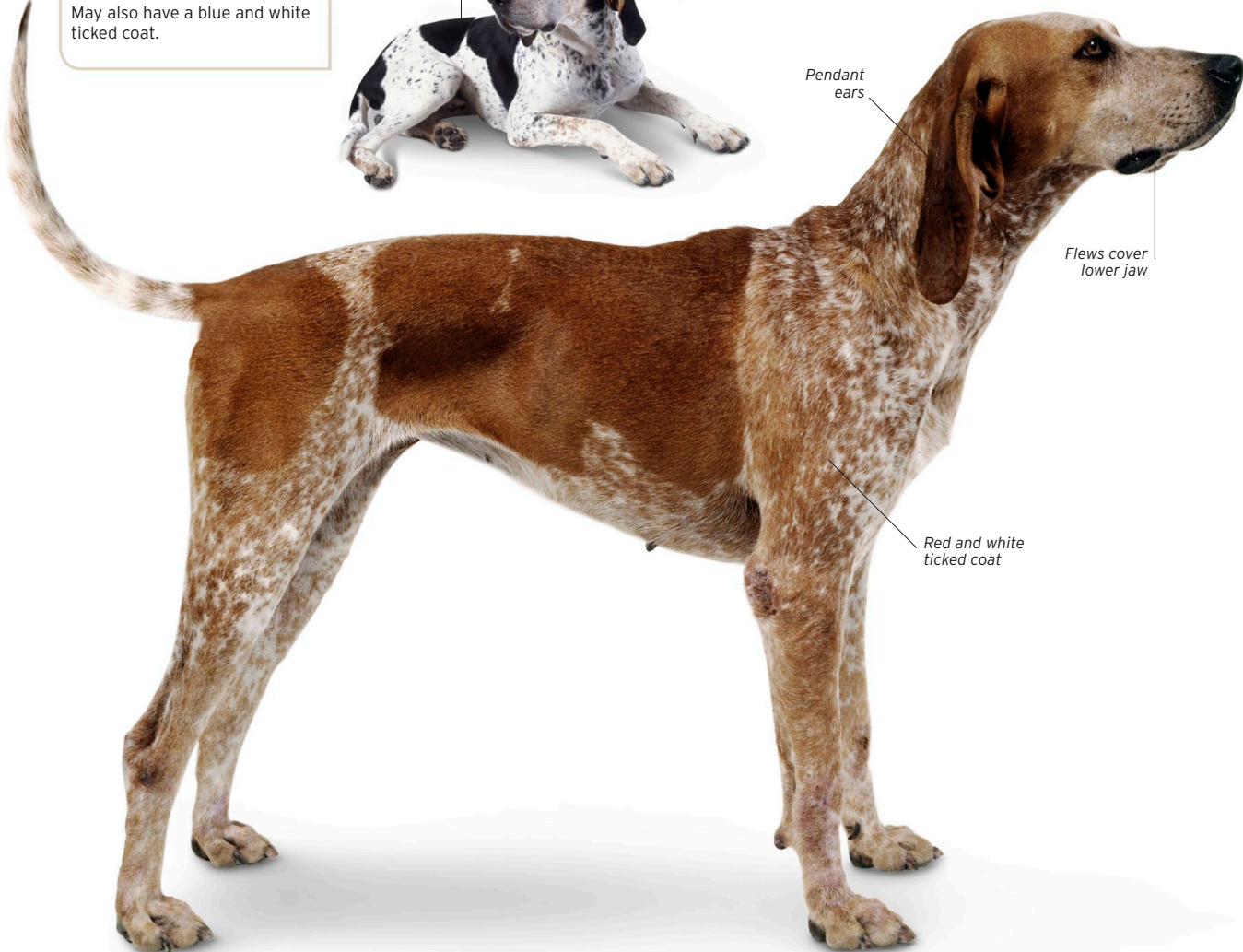
Kind, hound-like expression

Muscular, reasonably long neck

Pendant ears

Flews cover lower jaw

Red and white ticked coat



ARTOIS HOUND

THIS FRIENDLY, LIKEABLE FRENCH HOUND MAKES A WELL-BEHAVED HUNTING COMPANION

FCI

Height range
53–58cm (21–23in)

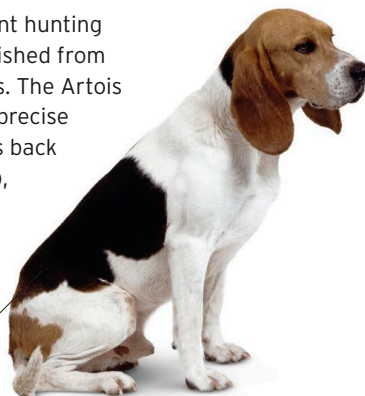
Weight range
28–30kg (62–66lb)

Life span 12–14 years

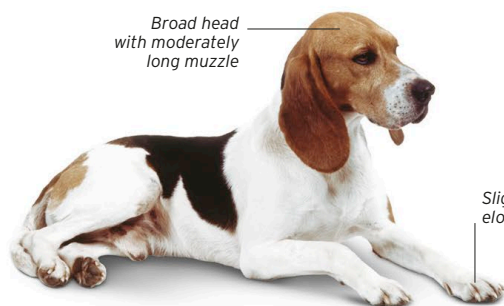
Origin France



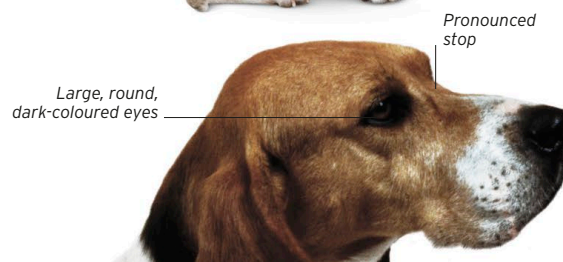
The sometimes precocious Artois Hound is an excellent hunting companion that needs lots of exercise. It can be distinguished from other French scent hounds by its flat, open, pendant ears. The Artois Hound has a strong directional sense, a very keen nose, precise pointing, speed on the move, and drive. Its ancestry goes back to the Great Artois Hound (and back to the Saint Hubert), while some English blood also modified the breed. In the early 1990s this robust and courageous hunter of hare, deer, and boar was brought back from near extinction, although it is still rare.



Black saddle



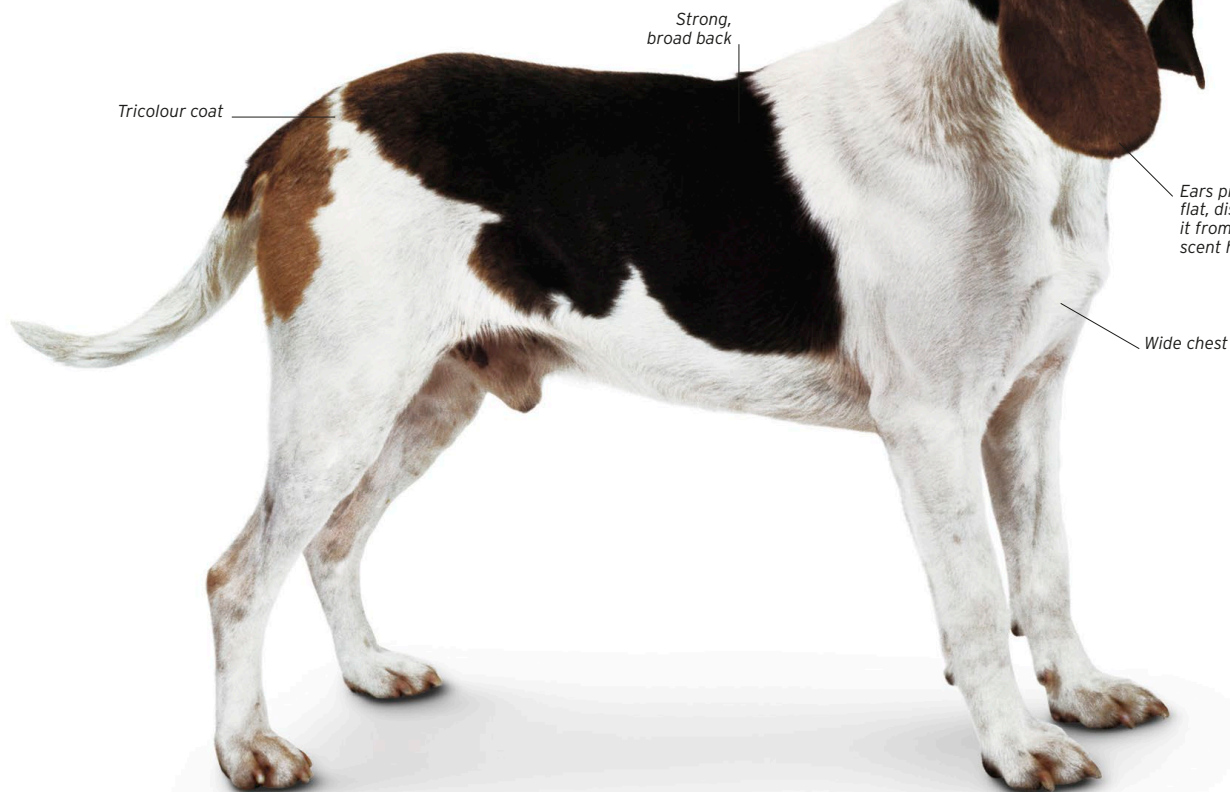
Broad head
with moderately
long muzzle



Pronounced
stop

Large, round,
dark-coloured eyes

Slightly
elongated feet



Tricolour coat

Strong,
broad back

Ears practically
flat, distinguishing
it from other French
scent hounds

Wide chest



ARIEGEOIS

AN ELEGANT DOG, THIS IS THE SMALLEST OF THE HOUNDS FROM THE SOUTH OF FRANCE

FCI

Height range
50-58cm (20-23in)

Weight range
25-27kg (55-60lb)

Life span 10-14 years

Origin France



A relative newcomer - France officially recognized it in 1912 - this dog is also called the Ariege Hound, after the dry, rocky region it comes from on France's border with Spain. Its forebears include the Grand Gascon-Saintongeois (opposite), the Grand Bleu de Gascogne (opposite), and local medium-sized hounds. The Ariégeois excels as a hare-hunter but is also known for its friendly nature.

Pale tan spot over eye



Low-set, soft, pendant ears

Brown eyes with gentle expression

Smaller and more finely boned than Grand Bleu de Gascogne (opposite)



Black mottling

Tail extends to hocks

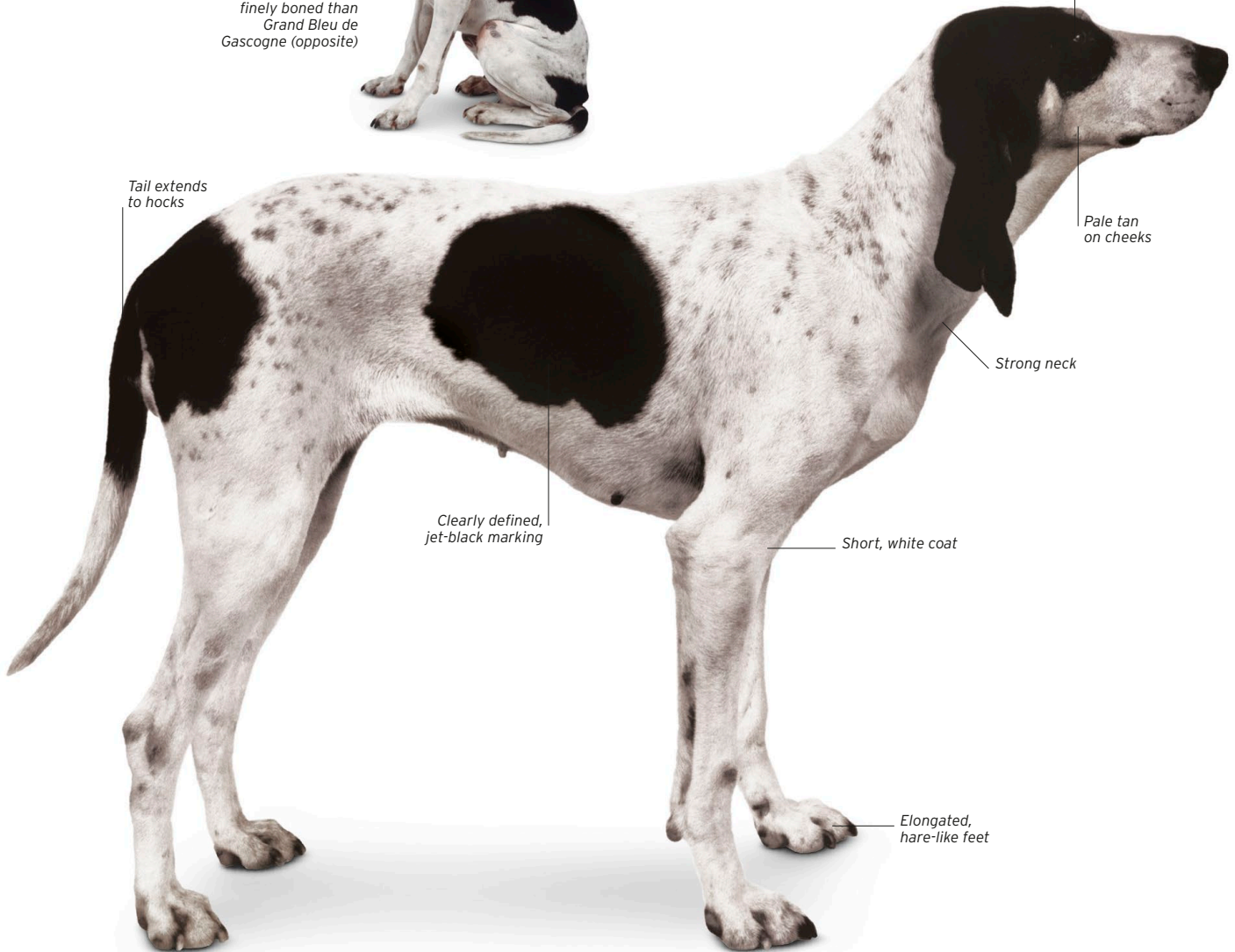
Pale tan on cheeks

Strong neck

Clearly defined, jet-black marking

Short, white coat

Elongated, hare-like feet



GASCON-SAINTONGEOIS

THIS ROE-DEER PACKHOUND HAS AN AMIABLE TEMPERAMENT

FCI

Height range

Petit:
53–62cm (21–24in)

Grand:
62–72cm (24–28in)

Weight range

Petit:
24–25kg (53–55lb)

Grand:
30–32kg (66–71lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



This rare breed, from the Gascony area of France, is also known as the Virelade Hound after the Baron de Virelade who crossed the Saintongeois with the Grand Bleu de Gascogne (below), and the Ariègeois (opposite). It is a high-stamina hunter, with a fine-tuned sense of smell. There are two sizes: Petit and Grand.

Occiput (back part of head) very pronounced

Black patches cover ears and surround eyes

Oval eyes with black rims

Well-developed flews

White coat with sparse, black speckling

Traces of tan on cheek

Long, thin, pendant ears

Grand

GRAND BLEU DE GASCOGNE

A LARGE WORKING HOUND WITH GREAT STAMINA AND TENACITY

KC

Height range

60–70cm (24–28in)

Weight range

36–55kg (80–120lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



This large trail hound has a powerful voice, is solidly built, and is recognizable by the dark mottling on its white skin, which creates a shimmering blue colour. Unsuitable for city living, it needs plenty of exercise. Originally used to hunt wolves, its quarry today is hare. Its scenting skills are highly developed and it is single-minded when on a trail.

Well-developed stop

Tan markings on face

Black marks cover ears and surround eyes

Well-developed flews

Black patch

Low-set, pendant ears curl inwards

Strong, smooth, weather-resistant, slate-blue coat

Long, oval-shaped foot



PETIT BLEU DE GASCOGNE

THIS KEEN-NOSED HOUND IS READY TO FOLLOW SCENT BUT IS EASILY BORED

FCI

Height range
50-58cm (20-23in)

Weight range
40-48kg (88-106lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin France



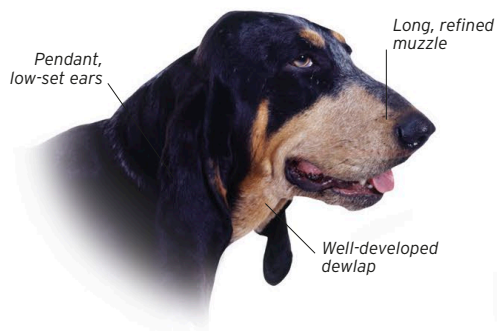
Bred down in size from the Grand Bleu de Gascogne (see p.165), the Petit Bleu de Gascogne was developed for hunting hare but is also used to pursue larger game. With a fine nose and a musical voice, this hound works well either as an individual or in a pack. If kept as a companion, it needs a firm hand and a lot of exercise.

Dark chestnut eyes

Black patch

Short, slate-blue coat

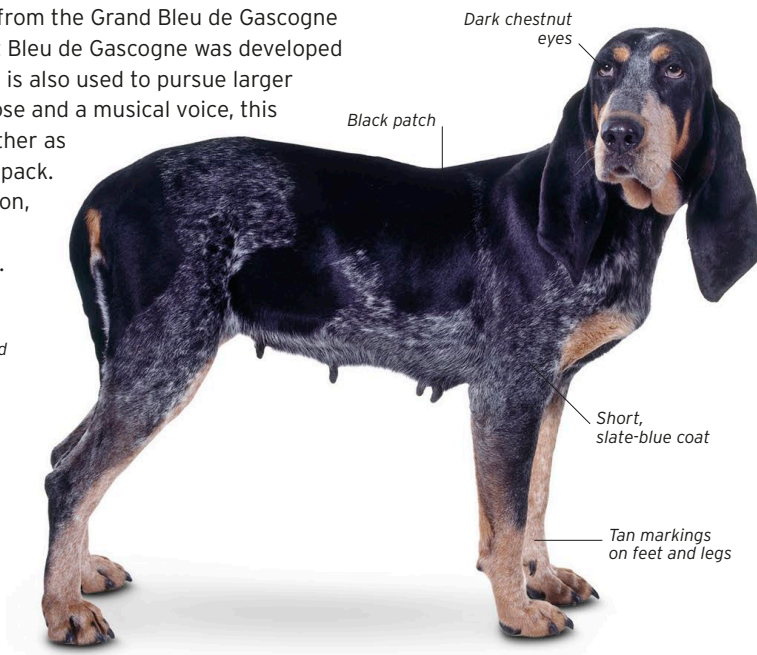
Tan markings on feet and legs



Pendant, low-set ears

Long, refined muzzle

Well-developed dewlap



BLUE GASCONY GRIFFON

THIS ALL-WEATHER HUNTER IS TIRELESS AND FULL OF SPIRIT

FCI

Height range
48-57cm (19-22in)

Weight range
17-18kg (37-40lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin France



A cross between the Petit Bleu de Gascogne (above) and wire-coated hounds, this dog has a coarse, shaggy coat that allows it to work in harsh conditions. A comparatively rare breed, it was specifically developed to hunt deer, fox, and rabbit. It has stamina rather than great speed and a remarkably efficient nose.



Tan markings on muzzle

Long, wiry eyebrows

Long, pendant ears

Coat denser and longer on shoulders



Harsh, shaggy, slate-blue coat

Long tail tapers to thin point

BASSET BLEU DE GASCOGNE

THIS ELEGANT BASSET HOUND HAS A DELIGHTFUL TEMPERAMENT BUT CAN BE STRONG-WILLED

KC

Height range
30-38cm (12-15in)

Weight range
16-20kg (35-44lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin France



In 12th-century France blue hounds of this type were used to hunt wolves, deer, and boar. The modern breed of Basset Bleu de Gascogne was established in the 20th century and is not as widely known as some other Gascony hounds. A low-slung dog, it is not fast moving but makes up for lack of speed with great determination, tracking quarry for hours once on the scent. This hound is an enthusiastic outdoor companion as well as a fine household pet but, like many hounds, takes patience to train and socialize.

Long muzzle with
black nose and
wide nostrils



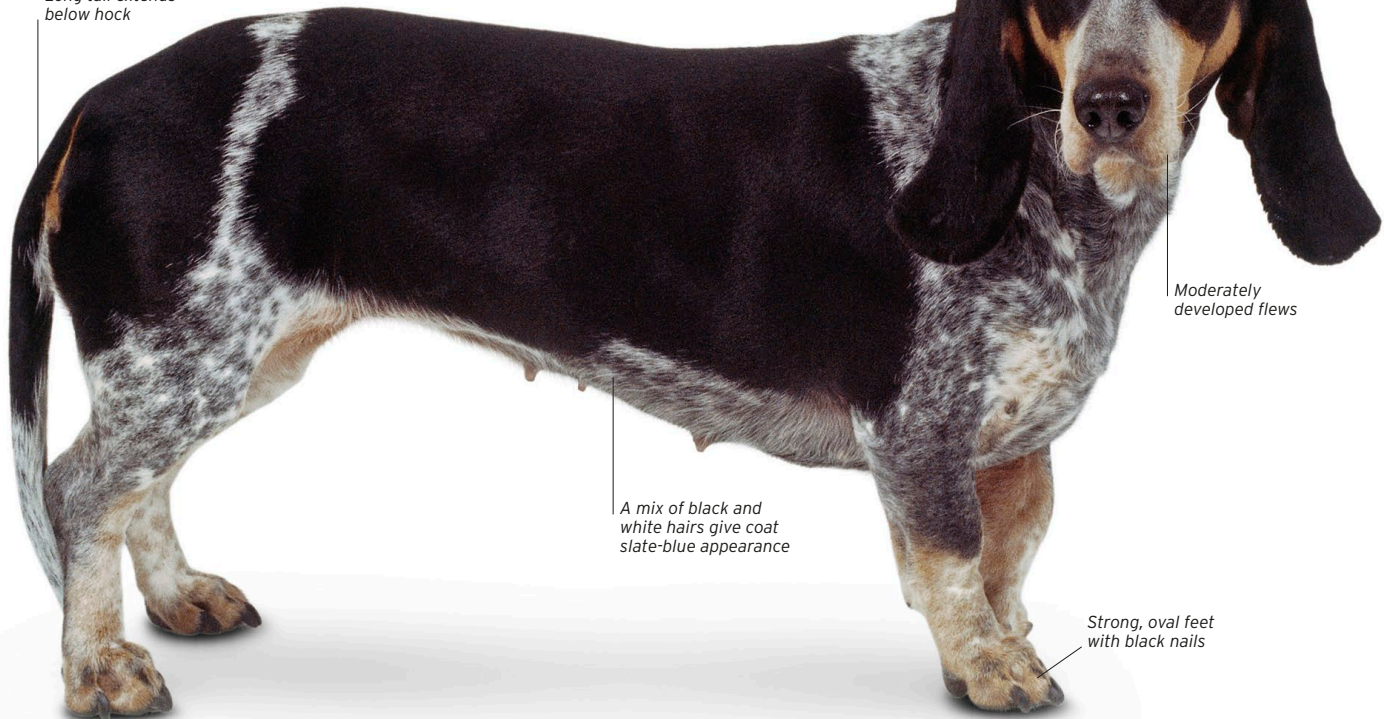
Long,
pendant ears



Short, dense coat with clearly
defined, black saddle

Tan spot above
each oval eye

Long tail extends
below hock



Moderately
developed flews

A mix of black and
white hairs give coat
slate-blue appearance

Strong, oval feet
with black nails



POITEVIN

A REAL BOUNDER THROUGH THE THICKETS, THIS HOUND IS BRAVE AND BIG-HEARTED

FCI

Height range
62-72cm (24-28in)

Weight range
60-66kg (132-146lb)

Life span 11-12 years

Origin France



Other colours



White and orange

Wolf-coloured hair also often occurs.

This big, courageous hound is adept at fast and furious pack hunting over rough ground, and once hunted the wolves that used to roam the province of Poitou below Vendée and Brittany in western France. Today, after several infusions of "new blood", this powerfully muscled breed shows great prowess and stamina in pursuing wild boar and deer in packs, and can hunt all day. It is a very hard worker that will follow its quarry through water and bays a lot. It is the longest-serving of the French pack hounds.



Muzzle narrows towards nose

Large, brown eyes

Long, narrow head

Saddle of black hair over back

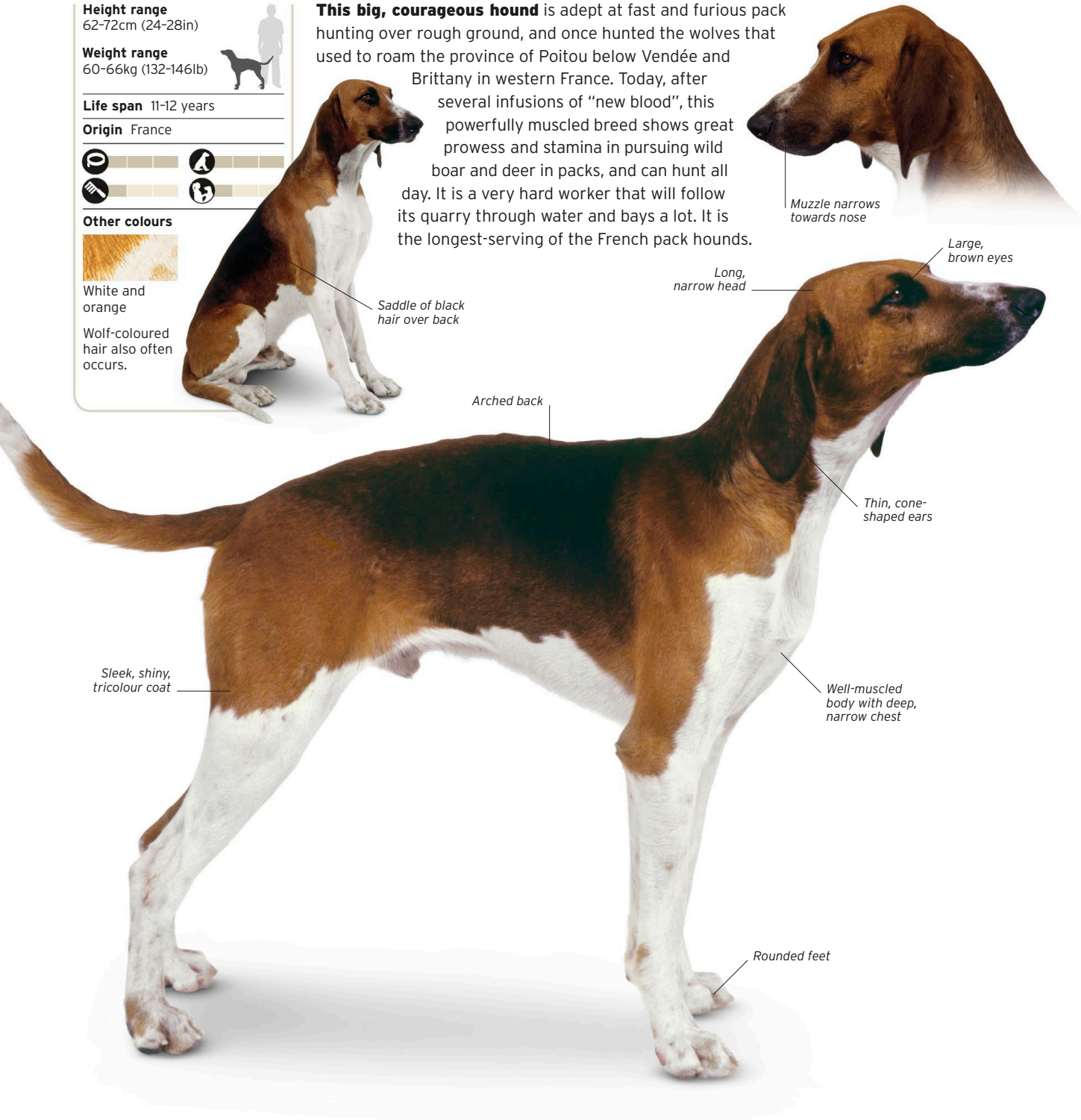
Arched back

Thin, cone-shaped ears

Sleek, shiny, tricolour coat

Well-muscled body with deep, narrow chest

Rounded feet



BILLY

A SUPERB HUNTING DOG AND EASY-GOING FAMILY PET

FCI

Height range
58-70 cm (23-28in)

Weight range
25-33kg (55-73lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin France



A sleek, attractive breed built for speed, the Billy has remained relatively obscure even in its native France. Its forebears are the now extinct Montemboeuf, Ceris, and Larye breeds. Its quirky name comes from Château de Billy in Poitou where Gaston Hublot du Rivault bred this instinctive deer hunter in the late 1800s.

Clearly defined stop

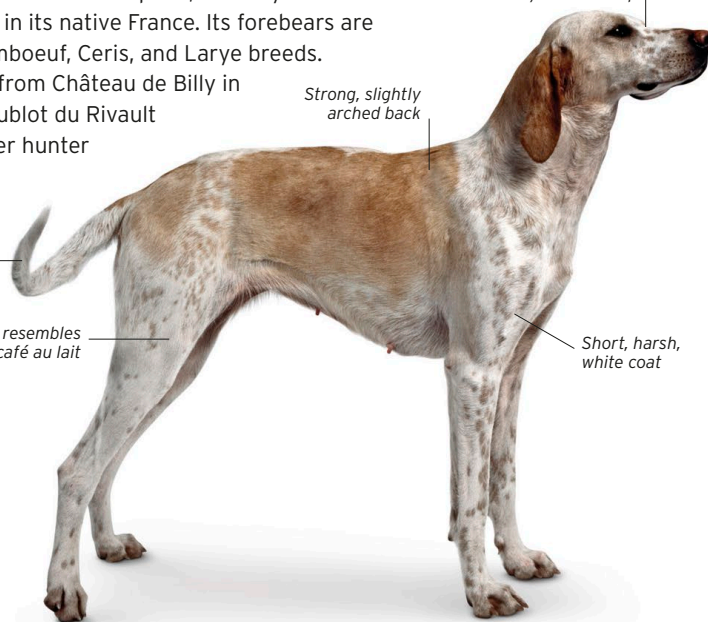
Strong, slightly arched back

Long, strong tail

Mottling resembles café au lait

Short, harsh, white coat

Slightly arched forehead



FRENCH TRICOLOUR HOUND

THE YOUNGEST OF THE FRENCH HOUNDS, AND SIMILAR TO THE POITEVIN IN LOOKS AND ABILITY

FCI

Height range
60-72cm (24-28in)

Weight range
34-35kg (75-77lb)

Life span 11-12 years

Origin France



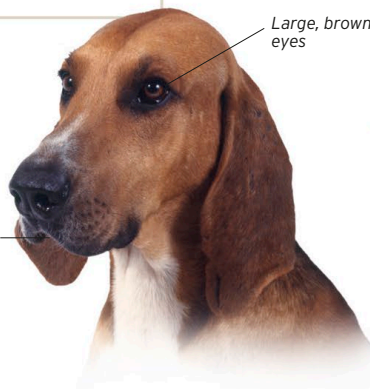
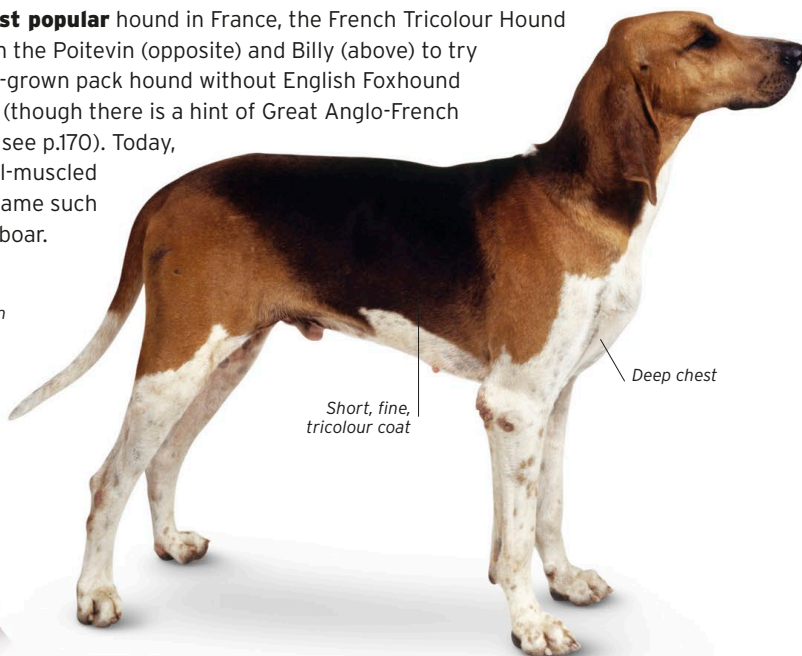
Perhaps the most popular hound in France, the French Tricolour Hound was blended from the Poitevin (opposite) and Billy (above) to try to create a home-grown pack hound without English Foxhound (see p.158) blood (though there is a hint of Great Anglo-French Tricolour Hound, see p.170). Today, these strong, well-muscled pack dogs hunt game such as deer and wild boar.

Large, brown eyes

Deep chest

Short, fine, tricolour coat

Lips squarer and more substantial than in the Poitevin (opposite)



GREAT ANGLO-FRENCH TRICOLOUR HOUND

THIS HOUND IS HAPPIEST WHEN HUNTING IN A PACK

FCI

Height range
60-70cm (24-28in)

Weight range
30-35kg (66-77lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin France



Like several French scent hounds, the name says what it is: a tricoloured dog with cross-Channel connections - the "Great" refers to the game it hunts, such as red deer, not the dog's size. Its coat and character come from the tricoloured Poitevin (see p.168), and the powerful muscles and stamina from the English Foxhound (see p.158).

Broad,
pendant ears

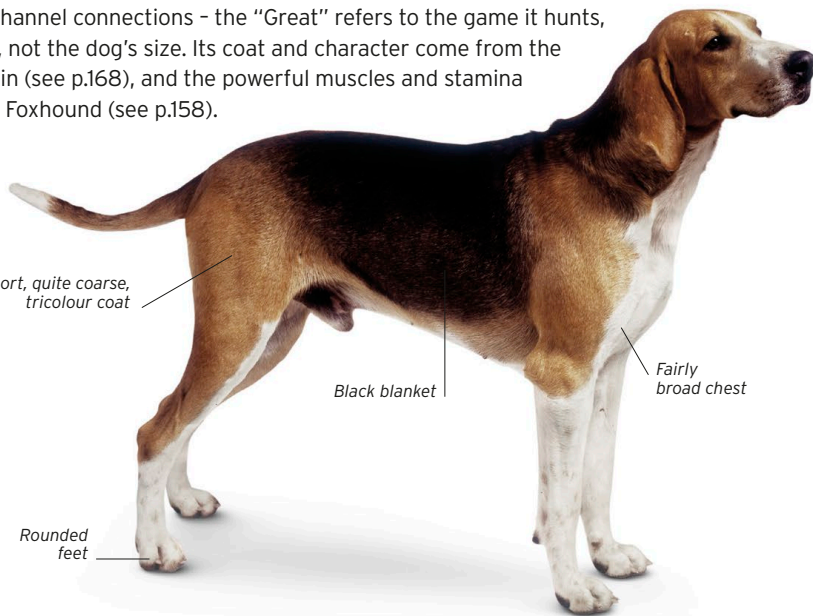


Short, quite coarse,
tricolour coat

Black blanket

Fairly
broad chest

Rounded
feet



GREAT ANGLO-FRENCH WHITE AND BLACK HOUND

A BIG, ENERGETIC DOG USED FOR LARGE GAME HUNTING

FCI

Height range
62-72cm (24-28in)

Weight range
30-35kg (66-77lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin France



This Anglo-French scent hound is one of three colour-based varieties recognized as separate breeds. It originated in the 1800s from a mix of Bleu de Gascogne and Gascon Saintongeois hounds crossed with English Foxhound (see p.158). Most live in kennels in France, and are used to hunt deer in packs. Very few of these powerful, sturdy hunters are kept as domestic pets.

Deep-set,
brown eyes

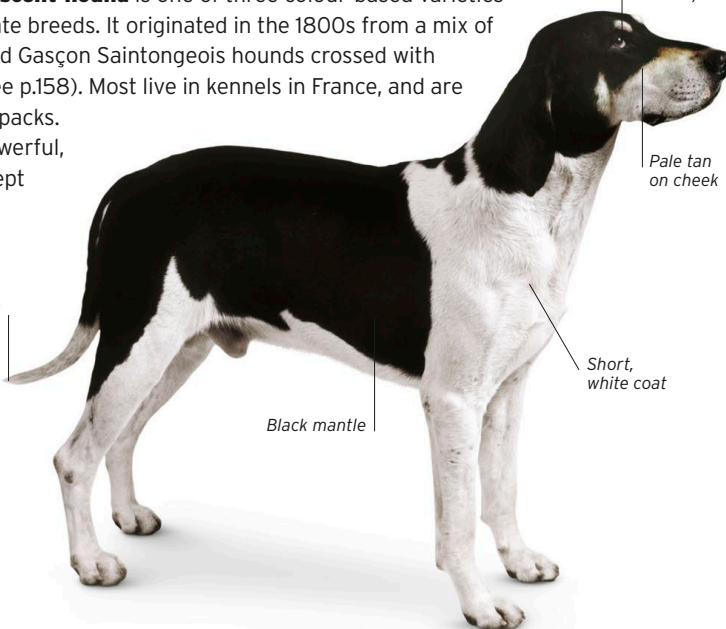
Pale tan
on cheek

Pale tan marking
above eyes

Long tail ends
in sharp point

Short,
white coat

Black mantle



FRENCH WHITE AND BLACK HOUND

A SWIFT-FOOTED, STAMINA-PACKED HUNTER THAT GIVES ENDLESS CHASE

FCI

Height range
62-72cm (24-28in)

Weight range
26-30kg (57-66lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin France



There is a growing population of these big, powerful dogs in France, and it is perhaps not surprising given that this handsome breed is highly regarded for hunting roe deer in packs. It is a friendly dog but more likely to form a close relationship with its master in kennels than an owner in a modern house. It may have links with the famous Hound of Saintonge, whose own origins are uncertain but which was bred to hunt wolves. The modern French White and Black Hound is a mix of Bleu de Gascogne and Gasçon Saintongeais hounds.



Black mantle

Tan marking above eyes

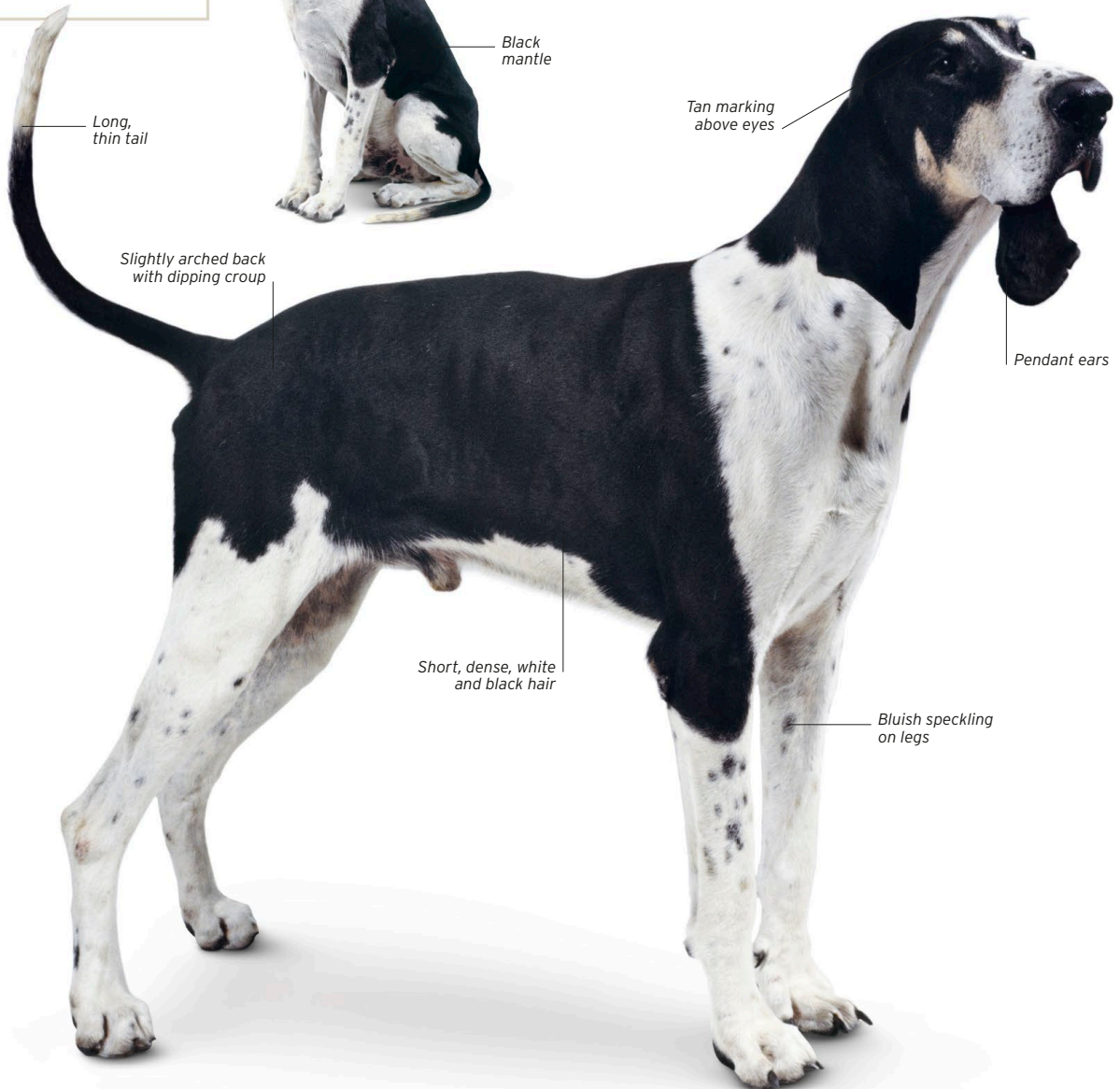
Long, thin tail

Slightly arched back with dipping croup

Pendant ears

Short, dense, white and black hair

Bluish speckling on legs



GREAT ANGLO-FRENCH WHITE AND ORANGE HOUND

BRED TO LIVE AND WORK IN A PACK, THIS HOUND IS NOT A GOOD CHOICE FOR APARTMENT LIFE

FCI

Height range
60-70cm (24-28in)

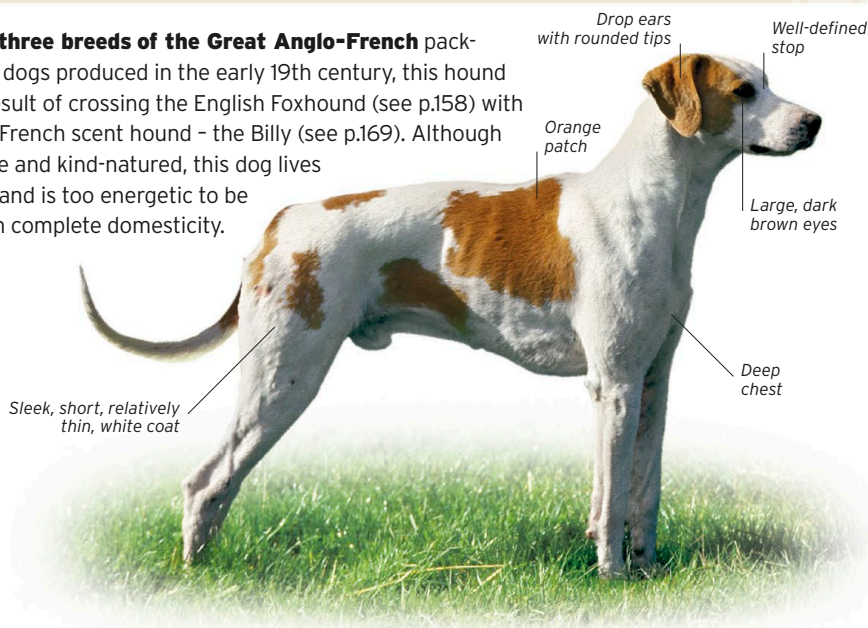
Weight range
34-35kg (75-77lb)

Life span 10 years

Origin France



One of three breeds of the Great Anglo-French pack-hunting dogs produced in the early 19th century, this hound is the result of crossing the English Foxhound (see p.158) with a large, French scent hound - the Billy (see p.169). Although trainable and kind-natured, this dog lives to hunt and is too energetic to be happy in complete domesticity.



FRENCH WHITE AND ORANGE HOUND

THIS BREED REQUIRES STRENUOUS EXERCISE BUT MAY SETTLE IN A SPACIOUS HOME

FCI

Height range
62-70cm (24-28in)

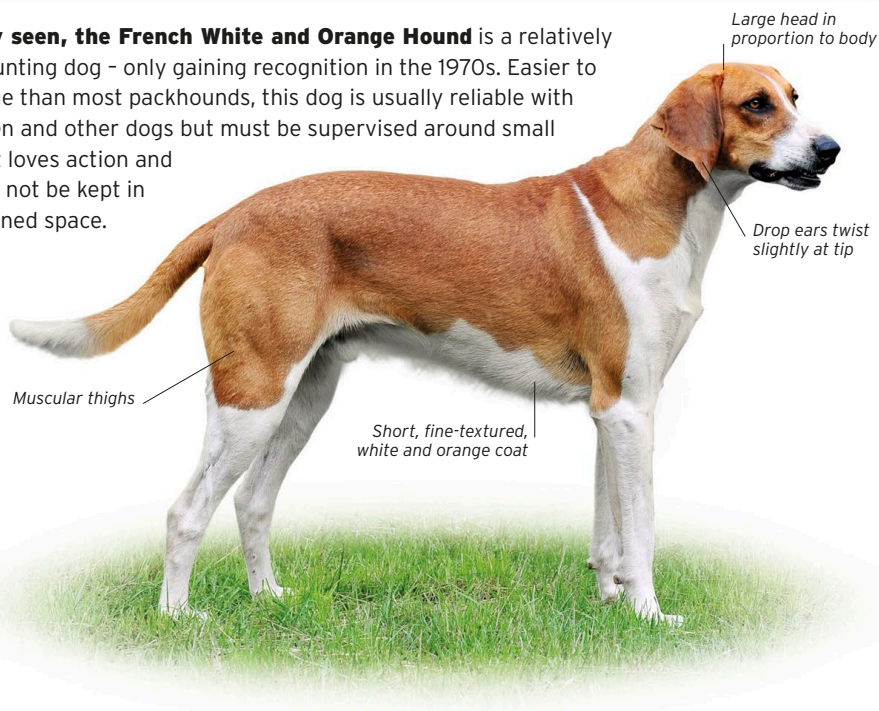
Weight range
27-32kg (60-71lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin France



Rarely seen, the French White and Orange Hound is a relatively new hunting dog - only gaining recognition in the 1970s. Easier to manage than most packhounds, this dog is usually reliable with children and other dogs but must be supervised around small pets. It loves action and should not be kept in a confined space.



WESTPHALIAN DACHSBRACKE

THIS ENERGETIC DOG HAS AN EVEN TEMPERAMENT BUT NEEDS FIRM TRAINING

FCI

Height range
30-38cm (12-15in)

Weight range
15-18kg (33-40lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Germany



A short-legged version of the German Hound (see p.175), this sturdy little dog was bred to hunt small game in areas too thickly overgrown for larger dogs to penetrate. Playful and cheerily good-natured, the Westphalian Dachsbracke makes a delightful companion and is well suited to family life.



Puppy

White blaze extends down muzzle

Body length greater than leg length

White tip to tail

Black mantle

Bridge of nose slightly arched

White collar and chest

Smooth, red coat



ALPINE DACHSBRACKE

THIS FRIENDLY DOG IS HAPPY TO BE OUT ALL DAY IN ALL WEATHERS

FCI

Height range
34-42cm (13-17in)

Weight range
12-22kg (26-49lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Austria



Hunting dogs very similar in appearance to the Alpine Dachsbracke existed hundreds of years ago and may have been the predecessors of this small hound. In the 1930s the modern breed was recognized as one of Austria's top scent hounds. Sturdy and tireless, and bred to hunt, the Alpine Dachsbracke is not an ideal house dog.

Other colours



Vieräugl (black and tan)

Slightly arched head with definite furrow

Drop ears with well-rounded tips

White markings on chest

Longer hairs on underside of tail

Dense, dark deer-red coat, interspersed with black hairs

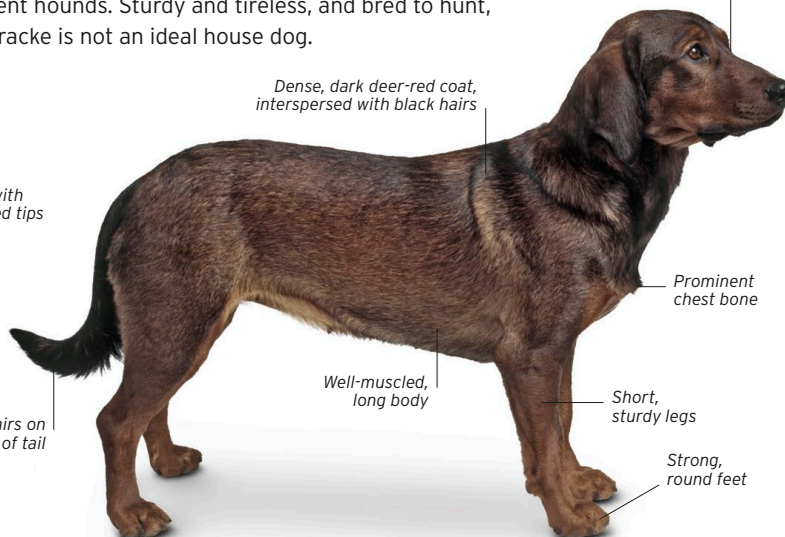
Well-defined stop

Prominent chest bone

Well-muscled, long body

Short, sturdy legs

Strong, round feet



DACHSHUND

INQUISITIVE, BRAVE, AND LOYAL, THIS DOG IS POPULAR AS A COMPANION AND WATCHDOG

FCI

Height range

Miniature:
13-15cm (5-6in)

Standard:
20-23cm (8-9in)

Weight range

Miniature:
4-5kg (9-11lb)

Standard:
9-12kg (20-26lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Variety of
colours



Despite their small size, Dachshunds need plenty of exercise and mental stimulation to maintain their cheerful and loving temperament. Strong-willed, they tend to ignore commands when on the scent of prey. Dachshunds will bark protectively at unexpected visitors but are good with older children. There are three coat types: smooth-haired, long-haired, and wire-haired. The long-haired varieties need daily grooming. Two sizes are recognized by the KC, miniature and standard; but three sizes, based on chest circumference, are recognized by the FCI.

Black and tan
coat, coarse
to touch

Forefeet bigger and
broader than hind feet

Wire-haired



Smooth, red coat

Smooth-haired

Shiny, black
and tan coat

Hair shorter
on head

Very
shallow stop

Pendant,
feathered ears

Body much longer
than leg length

Long, silky,
shaded red coat

Long-haired



GERMAN HOUND

USUALLY GOOD WITH CHILDREN AND OTHER DOGS, THIS HOUND PREFERS OUTDOOR LIFE

FCI

Height range
40–53cm (16–21in)

Weight range
16–18kg (35–40lb)

Life span 10–12 years

Origin Germany



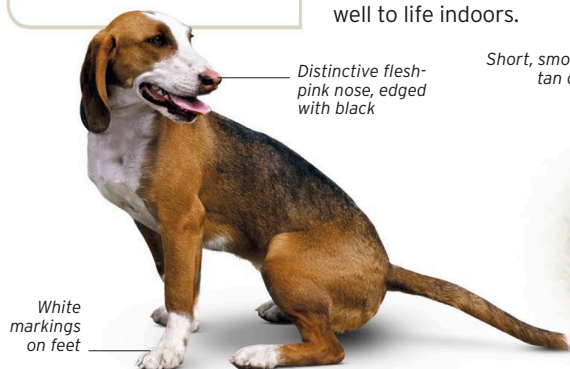
For centuries numerous hunting dogs of the type known as brackes existed in Germany. Today the German Hound, or Deutsche Bracke, is one of the few to survive. This hound, bred by combining several bracke varieties, is still used mainly for hunting. Although good-natured, the German Hound does not adapt well to life indoors.

White blaze on head

Slightly arched back with black blanket

Broad, pendant ears

White chest markings



Distinctive flesh-pink nose, edged with black

Short, smooth, tan coat



DREVER

THIS SPORTING DOG IS RARELY KEPT SOLELY FOR COMPANIONSHIP

FCI

Height range
30–38cm (12–15in)

Weight range
14–16kg (31–35lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin Sweden



Other colours



Variety of colours

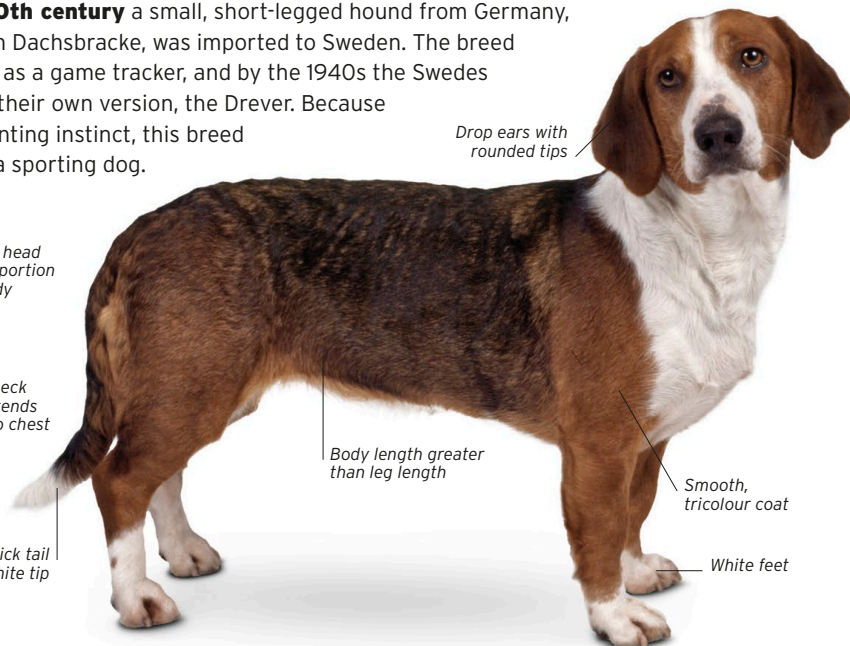
In the early 20th century a small, short-legged hound from Germany, the Westphalian Dachsbracke, was imported to Sweden. The breed proved popular as a game tracker, and by the 1940s the Swedes had developed their own version, the Drever. Because of its strong hunting instinct, this breed is best kept as a sporting dog.

Drop ears with rounded tips

Large head in proportion to body

White neck hair extends down to chest

Long, thick tail with white tip



Body length greater than leg length

Smooth, tricolour coat

White feet

SCHWEIZER LAUFHUND

A NOBLE-HEADED, KEEN AND LEAN HOUND WITH ROMAN ROOTS

FCI

Height range
47-59cm (19-23in)

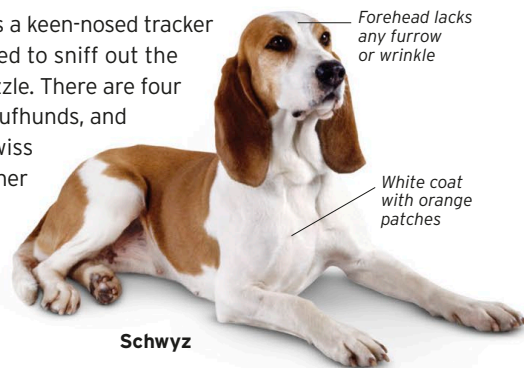
Weight range
15-20kg (33-44lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Switzerland



This breed, also known as the Swiss Hound, is a keen-nosed tracker that moves easily across Alpine terrain. It is bred to sniff out the track of hare, fox, and roe deer with its long muzzle. There are four distinct varieties - Bernese, Lucerne, Schwyz Laufhunds, and the Bruno Jura (p.138) - each named after a Swiss canton and identified by its coat colours. (A further variety, the Thurgovia, has died out.) The fine sculpted head and well-proportioned body lends the Schweizer Laufhund an air of nobility. At home they are relaxed and quite docile.



Forehead lacks any furrow or wrinkle

White coat with orange patches

Schwyz

Blue coat, a result of a combination of white and black hairs

Light to dark tan markings on cheeks



Lucerne

Pendant ears set below eye level

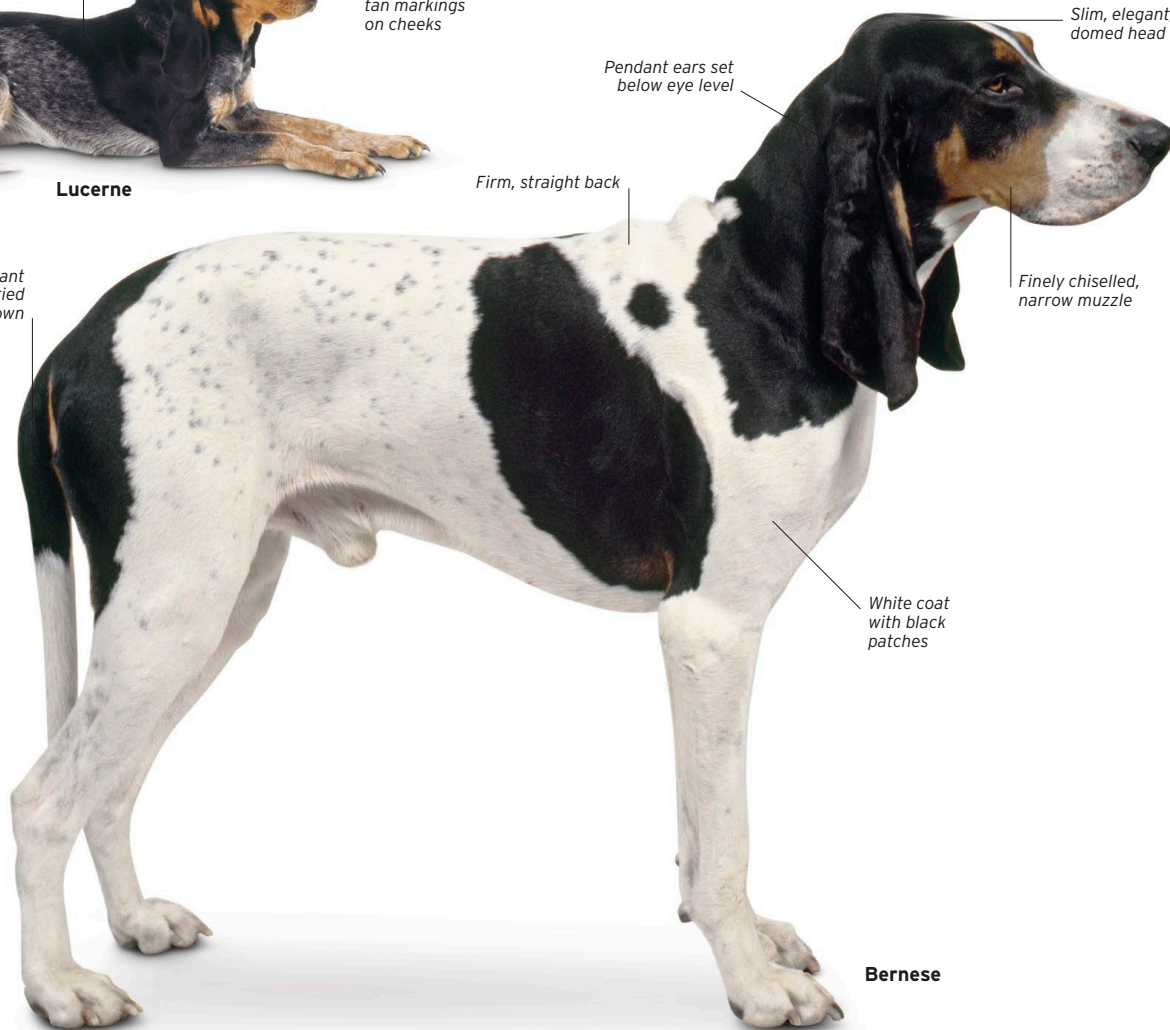
Firm, straight back

Slim, elegant, domed head

Finely chiselled, narrow muzzle

Elegant tail carried hanging down

White coat with black patches



Bernese

SCHWEIZER NEIDERLAUFHUND

A SMALLER, SHORTER-LEGGED, HIGHLY VOCAL SWISS HOUND

FCI

Height range
33–43cm (13–17in)

Weight range
8–15kg (18–33lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin Switzerland



This reduced version of the Schweizer Laufhund (opposite) was bred specifically to make the most of the Swiss cantons' high-mountain game reserves. Being slower than the Schweizer Laufhund, it can track big game more efficiently than its larger cousin (which is too fleet of foot in an enclosed area). This short-barrelled, stocky version has a great nose for game such as wild boar, badger, and bear. The Bernese Neiderlaufhund comes in a smooth-haired and a rarer rough-coated version with a small beard. The other Neiderlaufhunds are the Schwyz, Jura, and Luzerne Niederlaufhund.

Harsh, dense,
white coat
with black and
tan markings

Soft
undercoat

**Bernese
rough-coated**

White coat with
orange patches

Friendly,
alert facial
expression

Schwyz

Tan marking
over eyes

Lucerne

Long tail
carried
down when
active

Long,
pendant ears

White coat
with black and
tan patches

Bernese

BAVARIAN MOUNTAIN HOUND

AMENABLE TO TRAINING, THIS HOUND NEEDS PLENTY OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL ACTIVITY

KC

Height range
44-52cm (17-20in)

Weight range
25-35kg (55-77lb)

Life span 10 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



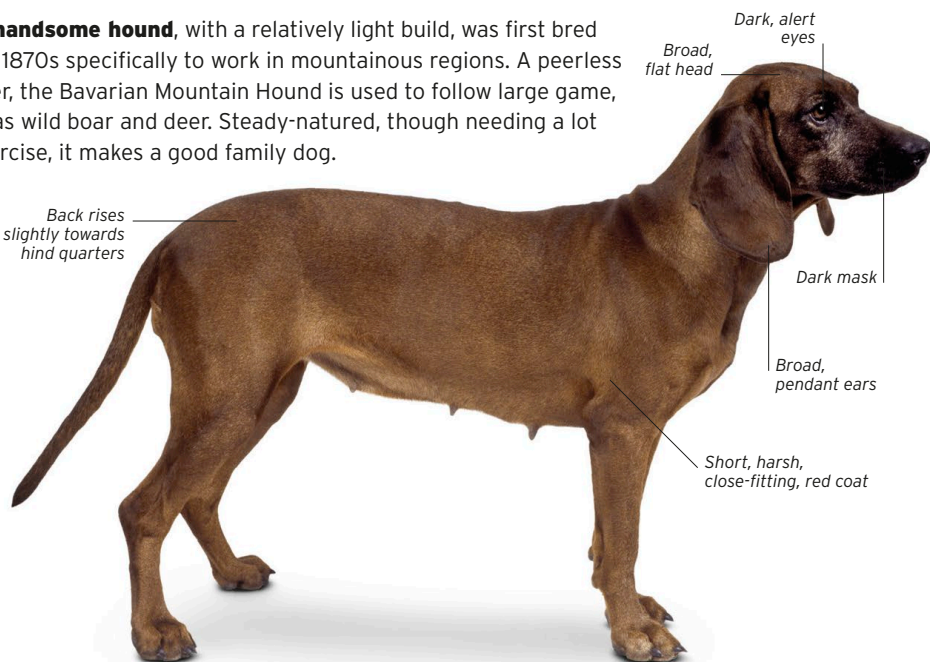
Fawn to biscuit

Coat may be brindled and may have a small, light-coloured patch on chest.



This handsome hound, with a relatively light build, was first bred in the 1870s specifically to work in mountainous regions. A peerless tracker, the Bavarian Mountain Hound is used to follow large game, such as wild boar and deer. Steady-natured, though needing a lot of exercise, it makes a good family dog.

Back rises slightly towards hind quarters



Broad, flat head

Dark, alert eyes

Dark mask

Broad, pendant ears

Short, harsh, close-fitting, red coat

HANOVERIAN SCENT HOUND

BRED FOR STRENUOUS WORK, THIS SUPERB TRACKING DOG IS NOT A GOOD HOUSE DOG

FCI

Height range
48-55cm (19-22in)

Weight range
25-40kg (55-88lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Germany



A classic big game tracker, dogs of this type have been well established since the Middle Ages, when they were taken hunting on leads. The modern breed, little changed in appearance, is still used for tracking wounded game. Intensely loyal to a trusted handler, this dog is cautious with strangers.

Strong, long back

Strongly defined stop

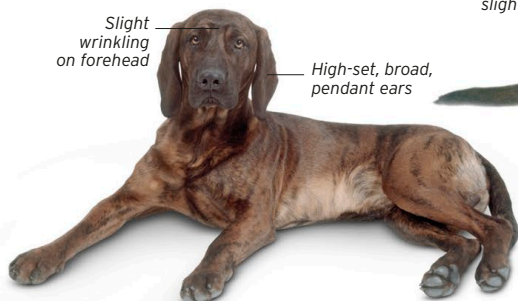
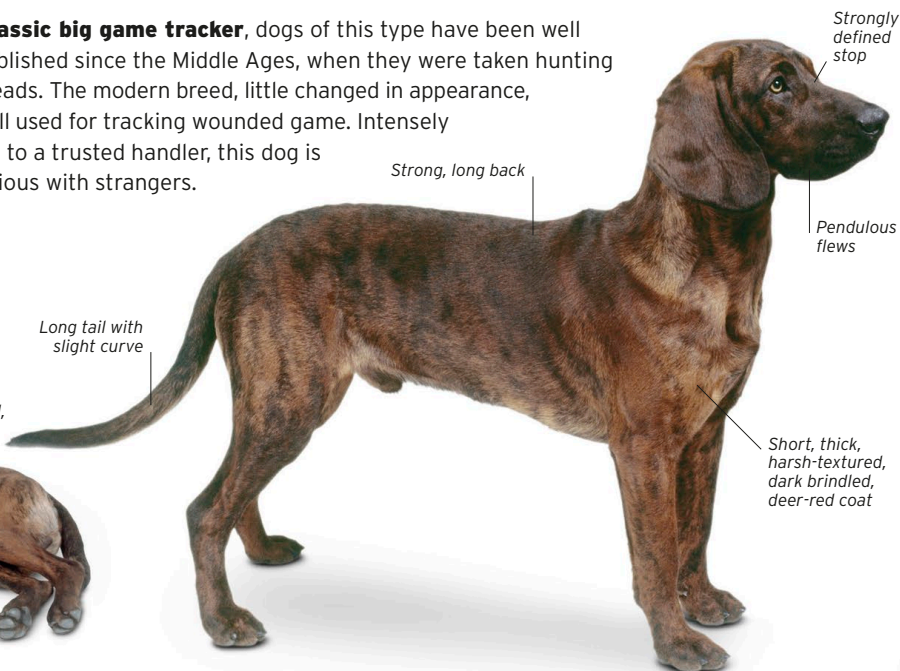
Pendulous flews

Long tail with slight curve

Slight wrinkling on forehead

High-set, broad, pendant ears

Short, thick, harsh-textured, dark brindled, deer-red coat



DOBERMANN

THIS LOYAL AND OBEDIENT FAMILY DOG COMBINES STRENGTH WITH GRACE

Height range
65-69cm (26-27in)

Weight range
30-40kg (66-88lb)

Life span 13 years

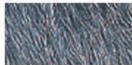
Origin Germany



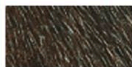
Other colours



Isabella



Blue



Brown



Reportedly created around 1860 by a German tax official called Louis Dobermann, this dog is the result of a number of crossings thought to include the German Shepherd Dog (see p.35), the Rottweiler (see p.81), the Greyhound (see p.126), and the Weimaraner (see p.246). From these, the Doberman inherited a collection of admirable traits, including guarding and tracking abilities, intelligence, endurance, speed, and good looks. Widely used for police and security work, this breed is also popular as a town or country house dog. Dobermanns love being part of family life - the more active the better.

Typical
rust-red
markings



KC

Almond-shaped eyes

Flat-topped,
long head

Back slopes gently
down towards croup

Smooth, short,
black and tan
coat

Compact, cat-like feet



BLACK FOREST HOUND

A MOUNTAIN HUNTING DOG WITH AN EXCEPTIONAL SENSE OF SMELL AND DIRECTION

FCI

Height range
40–50cm (16–20in)

Weight range
15–20kg (33–44lb)

Life span 11–12 years

Origin Slovakia



The Black Forest Hound, or Slovenský Kopov, originated in the foothills and snowy mountain forests of central Eastern Europe. It is used to hunt boar, deer, and other game in small packs or alone. Local hunters like the breed because it can follow a scent for hours through dense thickets, protected by its coarse coat.

Eyelids
always black

Slightly
tapered,
black nose

Black coat with
tan markings

Oval-shaped feet
with well-arched toes



Drop ears with
rounded tips

Tan spots
above eyes

Tan-coloured
muzzle



POLISH HOUND

THIS LITHE AND PERSISTENT DOG HAS A FRIENDLY CHARACTER

FCI

Height range
55–65cm (22–26in)

Weight range
20–32kg (44–71lb)

Life span 11–12 years

Origin Poland



Evolving from a heavier bracke and lighter scent hound, this rare breed emerged as a large game hunter in Poland's thick mountainous forests. The ancestors of this hound hunted in packs for Polish nobility during the Middle Ages. The Polish Hound displays superb tracking abilities regardless of how fast it is running.

Tip of
ears twist

Short, fawn
coat



Moderately
pronounced
dewlap

Black saddle



TRANSYLVANIAN HOUND

MEDIUM-SIZED AND SHORT-HAIRED, THIS IS A RARE HUNGARIAN HUNTING DOG

FCI

Height range
55-65cm (22-26in)

Weight range
25-35kg (55-77lb)

Life span 10-13 years

Origin Hungary



Also known as the Hungarian Hound, or Erdélyi Kopó, this hardy hunting dog was once the preserve of Hungarian kings and princes. Then, as now, its keen sense of direction, and hardiness in heavy, snowbound Carpathian forests and climate extremes made it the large game hunter of choice. However, it remains an extremely rare breed.



Black lips

Tan spots above dark brown eyes



Coarse, short, black coat

Drop ears widen and then taper to a rounded tip

Clearly defined tan markings

POSAVAZ HOUND

THIS VERY HARDY SCENT HOUND HAS BEEN BRED TO HUNT HARE AND FOX

FCI

Height range
46-58cm (18-23in)

Weight range
16-24kg (35-53lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Former Yugoslavia



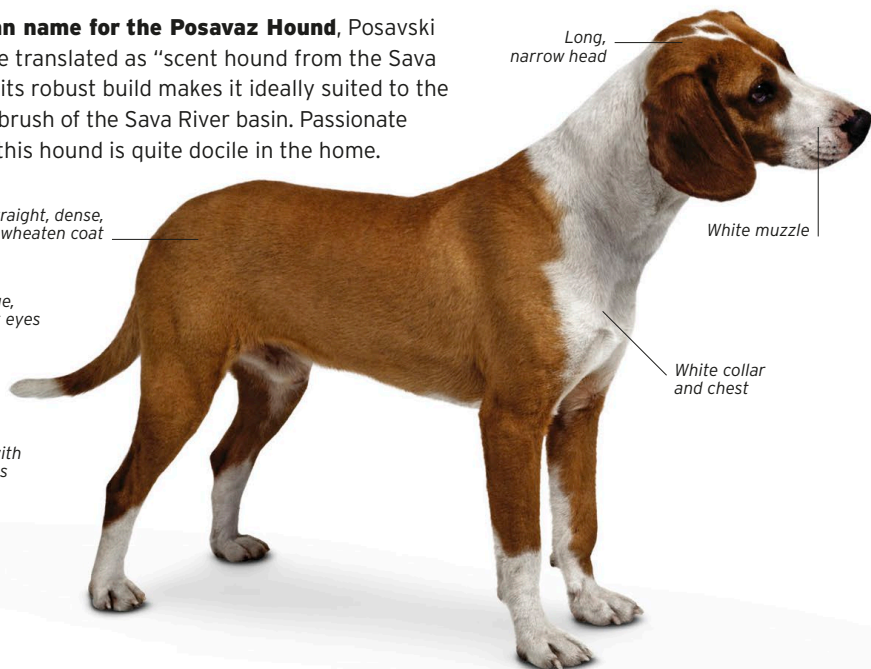
The Croatian name for the Posavaz Hound, Posavski Gonic, can be translated as "scent hound from the Sava Valley", and its robust build makes it ideally suited to the dense underbrush of the Sava River basin. Passionate in the hunt, this hound is quite docile in the home.



Flat, thin, drop ears with rounded tips

Large, dark eyes

Straight, dense, reddish wheaten coat



Long, narrow head

White muzzle

White collar and chest



BOSNIAN ROUGH-COATED HOUND

AN IMPLACABLE HUNTER ON THE TRAIL BUT QUIET AND GENTLE AT HOME

FCI

Height range
45-56cm (18-22in)

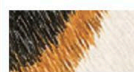
Weight range
16-25kg (35-55lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Bosnia and Herzegovina



Other colours



Tricolour



Formerly known as the Illyrian Hound, this breed has been a huntsman's companion since the 19th century. A hardy, solidly built dog, it has a thick, coarse-haired coat that enables it to work in bitterly cold weather and through thick undergrowth.

Large, oval, chestnut-brown eyes

Dark red, drop ears

Blackish area on back extends from neck to tail

Long, wiry, bicolour coat has thick undercoat

Reddish yellow hair on chest and legs

Cat-like front feet

MONTENEGRIN MOUNTAIN HOUND

THIS CLASSIC BALKAN SCENT HOUND MAKES A GOOD COMPANION DOG

FCI

Height range
44-53cm (17-21in)

Weight range
20-25kg (44-55lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Serbia



Also known as the Serbian Mountain Hound, this rare dog from the Planina region of Serbia has a calm, gentle nature that is appreciated by non-hunting owners. Nevertheless, it remains a superb hound for hunting fox and hare, or even larger animals such as deer and wild boar.

Tan markings on face

Long, pendant ears

Tail carried sabre fashion

Moderately developed flews

Tan markings on chest

Glossy, black and tan coat - rough to the touch

SERBIAN TRICOLOURED HOUND

A LOYAL, DEPENDABLE WORKER AND LOVING COMPANION

FCI

Height range
44-55cm (17-22in)

Weight range
20-25kg (44-55lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin Serbia



Once regarded as a variety of the Montenegrin Mountain Hound (opposite), this rare breed has striking white markings that distinguish it from its relative. Used to hunt fox and hare, or occasionally larger game, it also makes a gentle and devoted family dog.

Pendant ears

Short, abundant, gleaming, deep red coat

White tip to tail

Black mantle

White legs

White hair on chest reaches to end of breastbone

SERBIAN HOUND

HAPPIEST IN COMPANY, THIS HOUND NEEDS PLENTY OF OUTDOOR ACTION

FCI

Height range
44-56cm (17-22in)

Weight range
20-25kg (44-55lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Serbia



This pack-hunting dog with a booming voice tracks game of all sizes from rabbit to elk and boar. Away from the hunt, it is sweet-natured and makes a good companion for an active family, especially if there are other dogs around. The Serbian Hound is also a fine watchdog.

Black markings on either side of temples

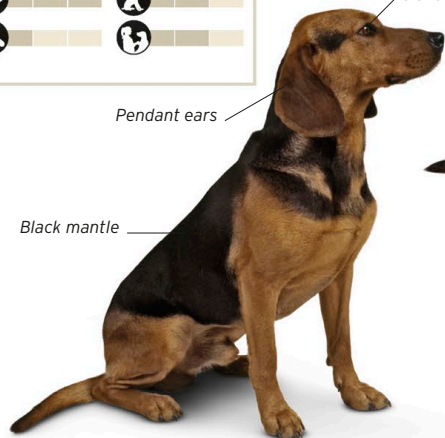
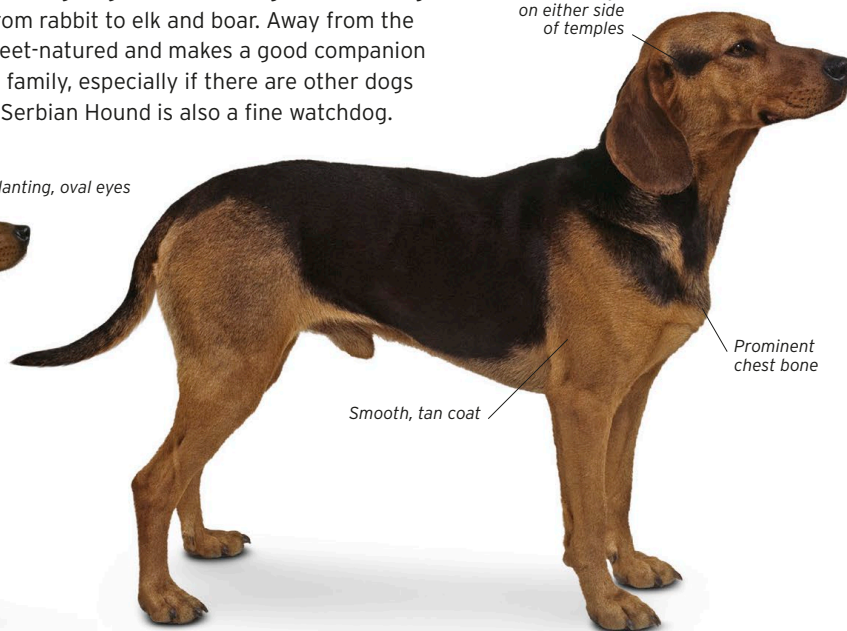
Slanting, oval eyes

Pendant ears

Black mantle

Smooth, tan coat

Prominent chest bone





HELLENIC HOUND

THIS FAST AND POWERFUL HOUND HAS A STRONG CHARACTER AND A GREAT NOSE FOR SCENT

FCI

Height range
45–55cm (18–22in)

Weight range
17–20kg (37–44lb)

Life span 11 years

Origin Greece



Descended from the traditional scent hounds of ancient Greece, the Hellenic Hound has a musical hunting voice that carries over long distances. Once used to hunt boar and hare, if trained with care, the breed can be a pleasant companion, but without plenty of space to run in can develop bad behaviour.



Drop ears with rounded tips

Typical hound-shaped head

Tan markings on face

Tail tapers to pointed tip



Back long in proportion to height

Shallow stop

Graceful, powerful neck

Short, smooth, black and tan coat

MOUNTAIN CUR

THIS TOUGH AND COURAGEOUS DOG IS A NATURAL HUNTER BUT RESPONDS WELL TO TRAINING

Height range
41–66cm (16–26in)

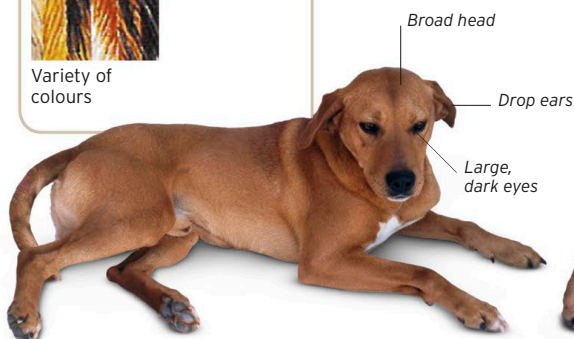
Weight range
18–27kg (40–60lb)

Life span 12–16 years

Origin USA



Originating in North America when early settlers from Europe crossed their hunting dogs with native dogs, the Mountain Cur was first recognized in the 1950s. It is still used for hunting racoon and larger game such as bears. Mountain Curs are not indoor dogs, but with the right training they make good companions.



Broad head

Drop ears

Large, dark eyes



Muscular back

Short, dense, red coat

Strong, muscular neck

White markings on chest

White tips on toes

Other colours



Variety of colours

RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK

BOISTEROUS AND HIGHLY STRUNG, THIS DOG NEEDS AN ENERGETIC OWNER

KC

Height range
61-69cm (24-27in)

Weight range
29-41kg (64-90lb)

Life span 10-12 years

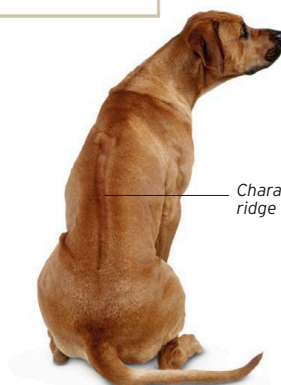
Origin Zimbabwe



The distinctive ridge of hair along this dog's back, growing in the opposite direction to the rest of the coat, instantly identifies it. Native to Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia), the breed may have descended from dogs brought to southern Africa by European settlers. Because the Rhodesian Ridgeback was once used in packs to hunt lions, it is sometimes known as the African Lion Hound. Despite the breed's fierce image, it is kind-natured and affectionate, and is a good family companion for experienced owners. This dog needs to be kept occupied, as it may develop behavioural problems if bored or under-exercised.



Long tail tapers from base

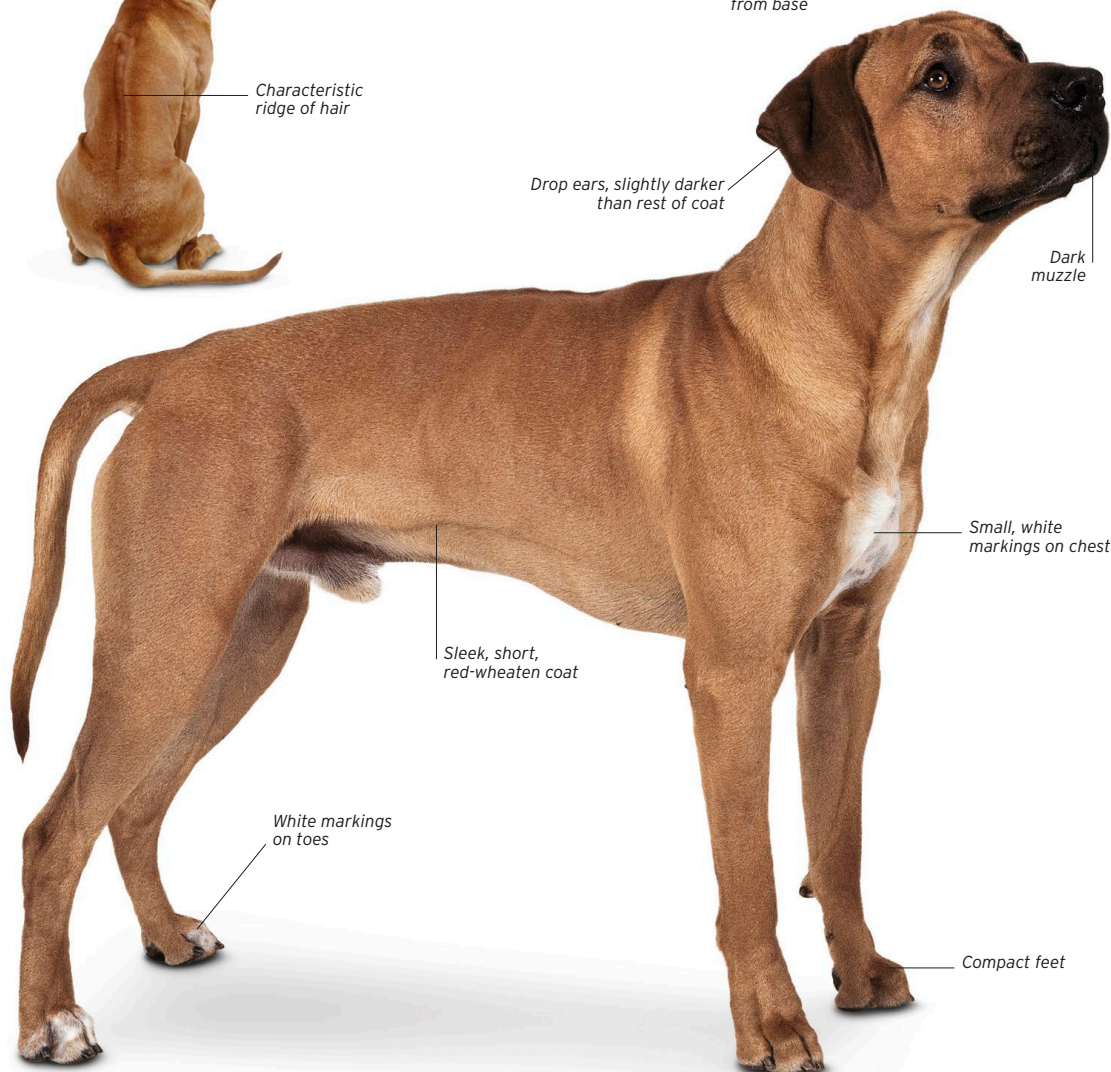


Black nose

Characteristic ridge of hair

Drop ears, slightly darker than rest of coat

Dark muzzle



Small, white markings on chest

Sleek, short, red-wheaten coat

White markings on toes

Compact feet

DIGGING INSTINCT

Intent on his task, this Airedale Terrier is doing what comes naturally - excavating a hole. Most terriers are inveterate diggers and tunnellers.



TERRIERS

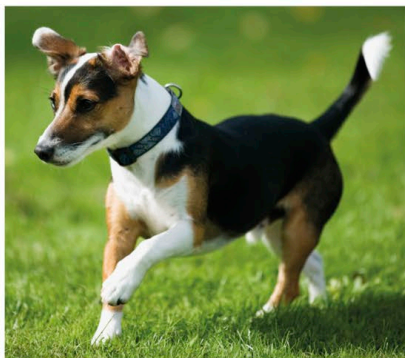
Tough, fearless, self-confident, energetic – a terrier can claim all of these descriptions, and more. The terrier group takes its name from the Latin word *terra* (earth), referring to the original use of various types of small dog as hunters of underground-dwelling vermin, such as rats. However, some modern terriers are large dogs, bred for different purposes.



Once a fighting dog, the Bull Terrier is now a family favourite

Many breeds of terrier originated in the UK, where they were traditionally regarded as hunting dogs for the working man. Some are named after the regions they first came from: Norwich Terrier, Yorkshire Terrier, and Lakeland Terrier. Others are known by the types of animal they used to hunt: for example, Fox Terrier and Rat Terrier.

Terriers are by nature quick to react and show great persistence when on the track of quarry. They possess independent, some would say wilful, characters and are ready to stand their ground against larger dogs. The dogs developed for hunting below ground, including the much-loved Jack Russell and Cairn Terriers, are small, sturdy, and short-legged. Terriers with longer legs, such as the Irish Terrier and the beautiful Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier, were once used for hunting above



ground and also as guard dogs for protecting flocks. The largest terriers of all include the Airedale Terrier, originally bred for hunting otter, and the impressively built Russian Black Terrier, which was specifically developed for military use and guard duties.

In the 19th century, a different type of terrier became popular. Crosses between terriers and bulldogs produced such dogs as the Bull Terrier, the Staffordshire Bull Terrier, and the American Pit Bull Terrier, breeds intended for the vicious and now illegal sports of pit-fighting and bull-baiting. With their broad heads and powerful jaws, these dogs suggest a close affinity with mastiffs and are, in fact, likely to be related to that group.

Most types of terrier are today kept as pets. Intelligent and usually friendly and affectionate, they make excellent companions and watchdogs. Because of their inherent traits, terriers need to be trained and socialized early to prevent problems

LIVELY COMPANION

The sparky Jack Russell is among the best known of various small working terrier breeds now enjoying popularity as pets.

with other dogs and pets. Hunting-type terriers also love to dig and can wreak havoc in a garden if unsupervised. The modern breeds of those dogs historically used for fighting are now largely free from aggression and, when properly trained by an experienced owner, are usually trustworthy with families.

MIXED HISTORY

Terriers have highly variable origins. This Miniature Pinscher has Whippets in its ancestry.





WEST HIGHLAND WHITE TERRIER

A CHEEKY AND CHEERFUL CHARACTER, THIS TERRIER CAN BE BOSSY WITH OTHER DOGS

KC

Height range
25-28cm (10-11in)

Weight range
7-10kg (15-22lb)

Life span 9-15 years

Origin UK



One of the best loved of all small terriers, the “Westie” was developed in Scotland in the 19th century from Cairn Terriers (opposite). This hardy little dog’s original role was to hunt fox, badger, and vermin such as rats. Today, West Highland White Terriers are suitable town or country pets for all types of home. They have boundless energy and are always ready for walks or to play with children. Early social training is recommended for this breed, as they have large egos for their size and can be overbearing with other dogs.

Compact,
sturdy body



Small, sharply
pointed, erect ears

Profuse hair
on head

Dark, bright
eyes beneath
heavy eyebrows

Short, straight
tail held upright

Thick, white
coat may need
occasional
trimming

Short legs

Forefeet larger
than hind feet



CAIRN TERRIER

THIS LIVELY DOG IS IDEAL WITH CHILDREN BUT MAY CHASE OTHER PETS

KC

Height range
28–31cm (11–12in)

Weight range
6–8kg (13–18lb)

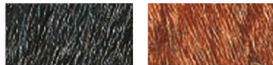


Life span 9–15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Near black Red
Coat may be brindled.

Originating in the Western Isles of Scotland, the Cairn Terrier was bred for hunting vermin. Amusing and full of character, this sturdy terrier is small enough for apartment life and energetic enough for romping round a large country home; it fits in anywhere. The Cairn Terrier's urge to chase anything that moves should be discouraged early on.

Dark ears with shorter hair

Harsh, coarse, wheaten coat

Shaggy eyebrows overhang dark, hazel eyes



Forefeet larger than hind feet

Grey coat

Cream coat



SCOTTISH TERRIER

THIS SMALL DOG HAS GREAT DIGNITY AND IS ALERT AND READY TO BE PROTECTIVE

KC

Height range
25–28cm (10–11in)

Weight range
9–11kg (20–24lb)



Life span 9–15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Wheaten
Coat may be brindled.

This breed was first named in the late 19th century, but dogs of this type existed in the Scottish Highlands much earlier. Powerful and agile, despite their short stature, “Scotties” were bred as vermin-hunters like the West Highland White Terrier (opposite) and Cairn Terrier (above). Affectionate and watchful, the Scottish Terrier is a good home companion.

Bushy eyebrows

Harsh, wiry, black coat, needs regular grooming and clipping

Long head

Pointed, erect ears

Long, dense beard

Body thickset, but not heavy





CESKY TERRIER

TOUGH, FEARLESS, AND SOMETIMES WILFUL, THIS DOG NEEDS PATIENT TRAINING

KC

Height range
25-32cm (10-13in)

Weight range
6-10kg (13-22lb)



Life span 12-14 years

Origin Czech Republic



Other colours



Liver

Can have yellow, grey, or white markings on the beard and cheeks, neck, chest, belly, and limbs, sometimes with white collar or a white tip to the tail.

A 20th-century breed developed for burrowing work, this dog is also known as the Czech or Bohemian Terrier. It is still used as a working dog, and its natural wariness of strangers makes it a useful watchdog. For a terrier, this dog has a relatively relaxed, playful character and it is sometimes simply kept as a companion. However, the breed retains some terrier stubbornness and an inclination to snap, so needs consistent training from an early age. The typical clip of the coat is short on the body, leaving long curtains of hair on the face, legs, and belly.



Yellow-white colour of lower leg and feet matches beard

Hair left long on front of head



Triangular, drop ears

Slightly wavy, grey-blue coat has silky sheen

Tail carried low at rest



Long hair forms beard

Forefeet are larger than hind feet

SEALYHAM TERRIER

THIS POWERFUL, INTELLIGENT, AND SPIRITED DOG IS AN ATTRACTIVE BUT CHALLENGING BREED

KC

Height range
25-30cm (10-12in)

Weight range
8-9kg (18-20lb)

Life span 14 years

Origin UK



Originally bred in Wales to tackle badgers and otters, this breed has no working role today but is kept as a pet. Their territorial nature makes Sealyham Terriers good watchdogs but they can be aggressive towards other dogs, and an innate stubbornness means that persistence in training is required. The show clip is distinctive, but requires regular maintenance.

Medium-sized, dark, round eyes

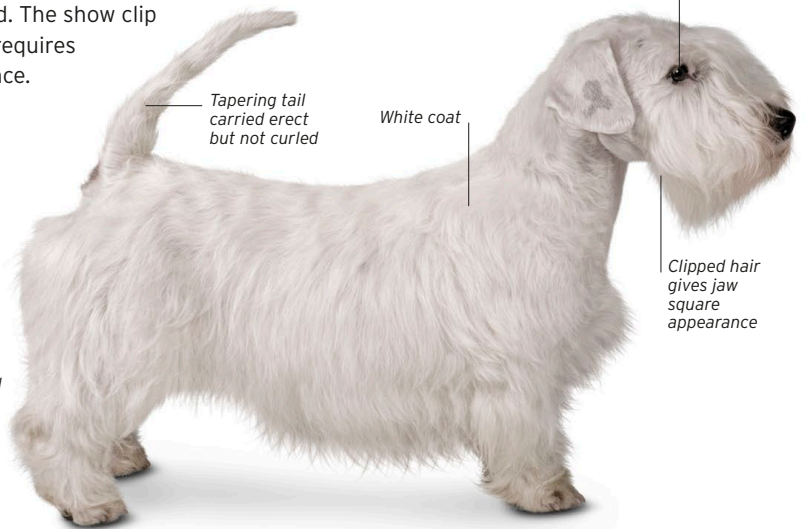
Tapering tail carried erect but not curled

White coat

Clipped hair gives jaw square appearance

Small, drop ears

Chest is broad and deep between short legs



NORFOLK TERRIER

THIS STURDY, CHEERFUL DOG IS HAPPY IN A TOWN OR COUNTRY HOME

KC

Height range
22-25cm (9-10in)

Weight range
5-6kg (11-13lb)

Life span 14-15 years

Origin UK



This small terrier was bred from various rat-catching dogs, and is an energetic hunter. Because ratters work in packs, this breed is more sociable with other dogs than most terriers, but cannot be trusted with other pets. It makes a good guard dog or companion for families with older children.

Strong, blunt muzzle

Straight tail

Drop ears

Compact, short body

Oval eyes with keen, alert expression

Other colours



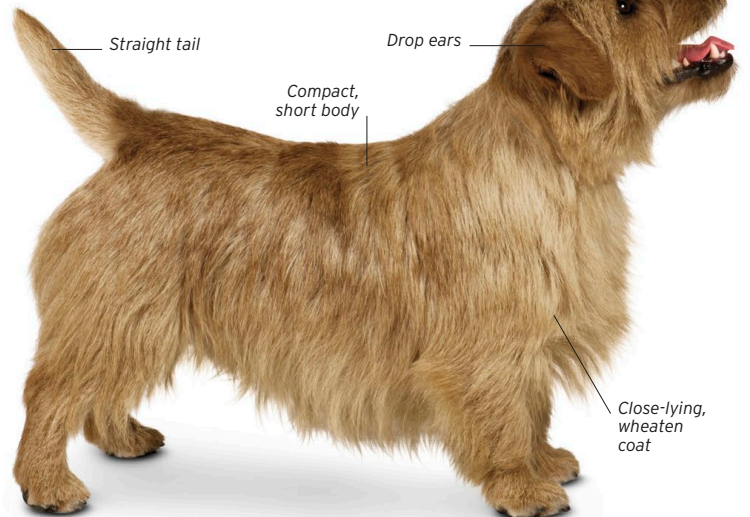
Red

Black and tan

Coat may be grizzled.

Small, round feet

Close-lying, wheaten coat





YORKSHIRE TERRIER

THIS DOG'S CUTE LOOKS AND DIMINUTIVE SIZE BELIE A FEISTY TEMPERAMENT

KC

Height range
20-23cm (8-9in)

Weight range
Up to 3kg (Up to 7lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin UK



Oblivious to its tiny toy stature, the Yorkshire Terrier has the bravery, energy, and confidence that might be expected of a dog several times its size. An intelligent dog, it responds well to obedience training. However, it is inclined to take advantage of owners who let it get away with behaviour that would be unacceptable in a larger dog and can become yappy, snappy, and demanding. With proper handling, this terrier displays its natural character: sweet, affectionate, loyal, and spirited.

The Yorkshire Terrier was developed to catch the rats and mice that infested the woollen mills and mine shafts in the north of England. It was gradually miniaturized through breeding from the smallest individuals, and over time became a fashion accessory that was carried around by its lady owner. However, such pampering is at odds with the Yorkshire Terrier's dynamic nature and it is much happier when allowed to walk for at least half an hour each day. The long,

glossy show coat is wrapped around folded papers and secured with elastic bands to protect it outside the show ring. It is very time-consuming to maintain but the dogs generally love the extra attention.

CLIPPED COAT

Owners who do not intend to show their dogs usually clip the coat short every few months.

Puppy







BIEWER TERRIER

A FRIENDLY DOG WITH A LARGER THAN LIFE PERSONALITY

Height range
18–28cm (7–11in)

Weight range
2–4kg (4–8lb)

Life span 16 years

Origin Germany



Despite its small size, the Biewer Terrier enjoys long walks and is a loyal and entertaining companion. It is a colour variant of the Yorkshire Terrier that first appeared in Germany in 1984 when a blue, white, and gold puppy appeared in a litter produced from a cross between two normally coloured Yorkshire Terriers. Imported to the US in 2003, the dog's popularity increased, and it has become popular in other countries too.

Black lips, nose,
and eye rims

Tail has
long plume

Long, silky blue,
white and gold coat



AUSTRALIAN SILKY TERRIER

THIS AFFECTIONATE AND SOCIABLE BREED NEEDS FIRM LEADERSHIP

KC

Height range
Up to 23cm (Up to 9in)

Weight range
Up to 4kg (Up to 9lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin Australia



This attractive dog was produced from crosses between the Yorkshire Terrier (see p.192) and the Australian Terrier (see opposite) in the late 19th century. A typical terrier, the Australian Silky Terrier has a fondness for digging holes, and its instinct to chase may put other small pets at risk. Regular grooming is needed to keep this dog's long coat tangle-free.

Lighter-coloured
topknot falls over eyes

Long, silky, grey-blue
and tan coat

Upturned,
high-set tail

V-shaped,
erect ears

Hair parts down
centre of back

Small, cat-like
feet hidden by
long, tan hair



AUSTRALIAN TERRIER

THIS JOYFUL DOG IS GOOD WITH FAMILIES BUT BARKS AT STRANGERS

KC

Height range
Up to 26cm (Up to 10in)

Weight range
Up to 7kg (Up to 15lb)

Life span 15 years

Origin Australia



Other colours



Blue with tan



This terrier is likely to have been the result of crosses between various terriers, including the Cairn Terrier (see p.189), the Yorkshire Terrier (see p.192), and the Dandie Dinmont Terrier (see p.217), which were brought to Australia by British settlers in the 19th century. Diminutive yet spirited, the “Aussie” is an excellent house dog but is best exercised on a lead because of a strong instinct to chase.

Hair forms soft topknot on top of head

Distinct stop

Shorter hair on muzzle

Straight back

Slight feathering on forelegs

Harsh, straight, dense, red coat

Shorter hair on lower legs

Erect ears

PARSON RUSSELL TERRIER

THIS ENERGETIC DOG, WITH A STRONG HUNTING INSTINCT, NEEDS FIRM HANDLING

KC

Height range
33-36cm (13-14in)

Weight range
6-8kg (13-18lb)

Life span 15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



White

May have black markings.



Created in England in the 19th century by the Reverend John Russell, this long-legged strain of the Jack Russell Terrier (see also p.196) is intelligent, high-spirited, and restless, and needs a loving home where fun is a priority. Behavioural problems, such as excessive barking or snappiness, may occur if it is under-exercised or left alone for long periods. There are smooth-haired and rough-haired varieties; both have a harsh texture.

Eyebrows of longer hairs

V-shaped, button ears

High-set, white tail with tan base

Short, rough, white coat

Longer legs than Jack Russell Terrier

Tan markings mostly occur on head

Fairly deep-set, dark eyes

Rough-haired

JACK RUSSELL TERRIER

THIS ACTIVE DOG IS A FEISTY BUNDLE OF ENERGY

KC

Height range
25–30cm (10–12in)

Weight range
5–6kg (11–13lb)

Life span 13–14 years

Origin UK



Other colours



White with black



Bouncy and bold, this working terrier is named after the Reverend John Russell, who bred them in the 1800s to flush out foxes. Today, this breed makes an excellent rat-catcher and an affectionate and exuberant companion. It has shorter legs than its more squarely built cousin, the Parson Russell Terrier (see p.195). There are two coat types: smooth-haired and wire-haired.

Small, dark, expressive eyes

Smooth-haired

Black lips

White coat with black and tan markings

Tail upright when active

Body length exceeds leg length

Flat top to head

Black nose

Wire-haired

Predominantly white coat with tan markings

Round feet

GLEN OF IMAAL TERRIER

A RUTHLESS AND BRAVE HUNTER, THIS TERRIER IS GENTLE AND LOYAL WITH THE FAMILY

KC

Height range
36cm (14in)

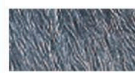
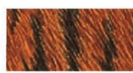
Weight range
16–17kg (35–37lb)

Life span 13–14 years

Origin Ireland



Other colours



Blue

Brindle



This sturdy little dog is more active than its size suggests. It comes from County Wicklow and was used in badger trials until these events were banned in the late 1960s. Now the Glen of Imaal Terrier makes a sensitive, devoted pet as long as it has a calm and firm owner.

Broad, slightly domed head with well-developed stop

Harsh, medium-length, wheaten coat has soft undercoat

Shorter-haired, small, semi-erect ears

Round, brown eyes

Short legs

Strong, compact feet

NORWICH TERRIER

A PLUCKY AND FRIENDLY FAMILY PET WITH AN ENDEARING PERSONALITY

KC

Height range
25-26cm (10in)

Weight range
5-6kg (10-12lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Wheaten

Red

Red coats may be interspersed with black hairs (grizzled).



One of the smallest working terriers, the Norwich Terrier, like its cousin the Norfolk Terrier (see p.191), strikes a happy balance between courage and gentleness. With its easy-going nature, it is good with children but will bark at strangers. Like all ratting terriers, it is playful and loves to chase.

Erect ears differentiate the Norwich Terrier from the Norfolk Terrier (see p.191)

Short, compact back with black shading

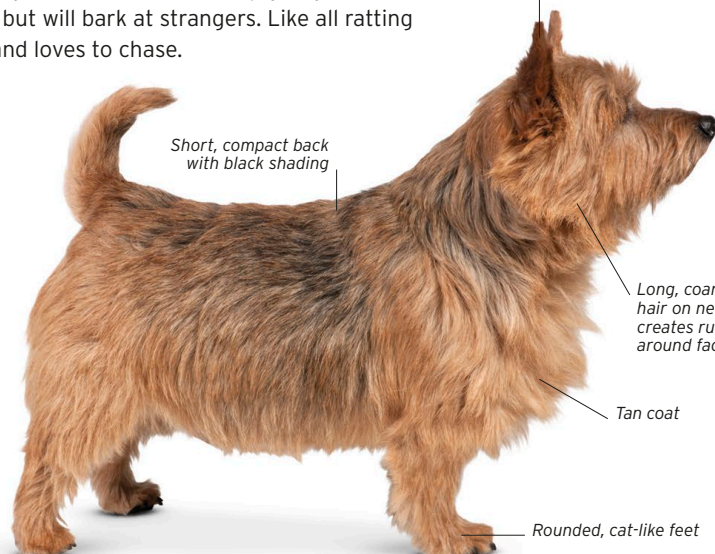
Long, coarse hair on neck creates ruff around face

Tan coat

Rounded, cat-like feet

Dark, bright, oval-shaped eyes

Short, straight, strong forelegs



BOSTON TERRIER

A HIGHLY INTELLIGENT, DETERMINED, FRIENDLY, AND ALERT COMPANION DOG

KC

Height range
38-43cm (15-17in)

Weight range
5-11kg (11-24lb)

Life span 13 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Brindle

Brindle coats have white markings.



Dubbed "the American Gentleman" for its quirky yet dapper looks and docile nature, the Boston Terrier makes a good house pet for town or country. This mix of bulldog and several terrier types has lost its ratting instincts and enjoys human company. It has a boisterous streak and needs regular exercise.

Square head with flat top

Erect, pointed ears

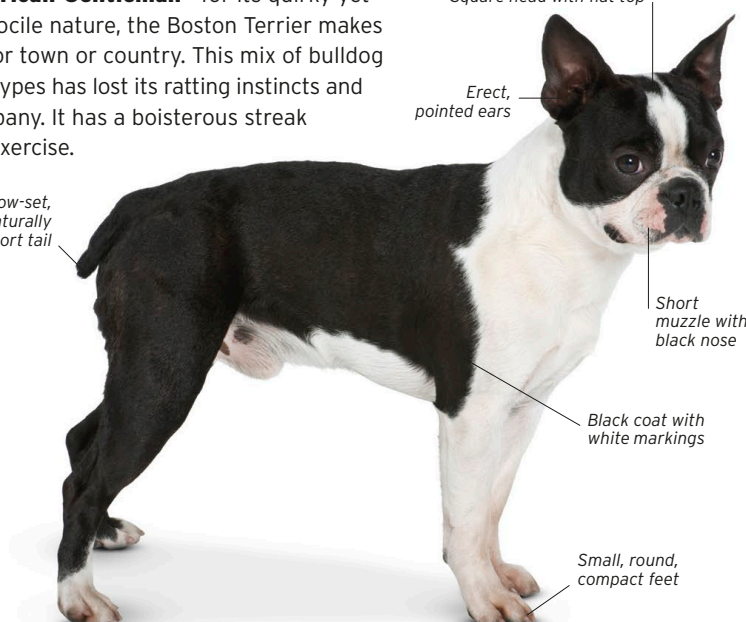
Short muzzle with black nose

Low-set, naturally short tail

Wide-set, round, dark eyes

Black coat with white markings

Small, round, compact feet





BULL TERRIER

A FORMIDABLE-LOOKING DOG, BUT KIND AND WELL BEHAVED WITH THE RIGHT OWNER

KC

Height range
53–56cm (21–22in)

Weight range
23–32kg (51–71lb)

Life span 10–12 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Variety of colours



Largely the result of cross-breeding between the Bulldog (see p.94) and terriers of various types, the Bull Terrier was developed for pit-fighting in 19th-century England. A failure at vicious sports, this dog achieved greater success as a pet. The modern breed is normally good-natured and does well with a firm owner.

Thin, close-set, erect ears

Narrow, dark eyes

White tip to tail

Distinctive, long, oval head

Convex profile

Hind legs short from hock to foot

Wide chest

Brindle coat with white markings

MINIATURE BULL TERRIER

THIS SMALL AND STRONG DOG LOVES FUN AND BOISTEROUS GAMES

KC

Height range
Up to 36cm (Up to 14in)

Weight range
11–15kg (24–33lb)

Life span 10–12 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Variety of colours



This scaled-down version of the Bull Terrier (above) had almost disappeared by the 1920s. The breed was revived in the following decades, though it is still uncommon. Like its larger relative, the Miniature Bull Terrier needs early training and socializing to ensure it is a good family pet.

Typical oval head

Incomplete white collar

Short, harsh, glossy, black coat

Round feet

White blaze on forehead

AIREDALE TERRIER

THE LARGEST OF ALL TERRIERS, THIS IS A GOOD FAMILY DOG BUT MAY BE BOISTEROUS

KC

Height range
56-61cm (22-24in)

Weight range
18-29kg (40-64lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin UK



Justly known as the “King of Terriers”, the Airedale Terrier is big, square, and strong. Originating in the valley of the Aire River in Yorkshire, this breed was first developed in the mid-19th century by local hunters who wanted a robust terrier for catching vermin and larger game such as otters. The breed’s subsequent uses have included guarding and military work, but it is also a popular companion. Friendly, intelligent, and full of character, this dog, like many terriers, loves the thrill of the chase and can get up to mischief when bored.



Long, flat head



Wiry, wavy, rich tan coat

Level back

Dark grizzle saddle

Drop ears

Bearded muzzle

Tail carried high when alert



RUSSIAN BLACK TERRIER

THIS BIG, TOUGH, AND VERY PROTECTIVE DOG IS USUALLY FRIENDLY AND MANAGEABLE

KC

Height range
66-77cm (26-30in)

Weight range
38-65kg (83-143lb)



Life span 10-14 years

Origin Russia



First developed in the 1940s, this massively built and hardy terrier was the special creation of the Soviet Army in the former USSR. The breeders' aim was to produce a large dog suitable for military work and able to withstand the severe cold of Russian winters. Among many breeds used in its development were the

Giant Schnauzer (see p.41), the Rottweiler (see p.81), and the Airedale Terrier (see p.199).

Still relatively uncommon, the Russian Black Terrier is becoming more widely recognized outside its native land. Formidable in size and appearance, the breed is not naturally aggressive and with responsible handling is a friendly and well-adjusted house dog.



Dense beard and whiskers on muzzle

High-set tail,
may curve
over back



Large, compact feet
covered with hair

Drop ears with
shorter hair



Wavy, black coat

Long thighs

Square,
muscular body

IRISH TERRIER

THIS TERRIER IS WELL-MANNERED IN THE HOUSE BUT NEEDS FIRM CONTROL AROUND OTHER DOGS

KC

Height range
46-48cm (18-19in)

Weight range
11-12kg (24-26lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin Ireland



Other colours



Wheaten



This handsome breed emerged in County Cork in Ireland and is believed to have a long history, though its earliest ancestry is unknown. The Irish Terrier has a delightful temperament and can be trusted with children, but outside the home it is inclined to be belligerent towards other dogs.



V-shaped, button ears

Small, white mark on chest



Small, dark eyes with bushy eyebrows

Long head, narrow between ears

Bearded muzzle

Harsh, wiry, red coat

Deep chest

WELSH TERRIER

THIS SMART, NEAT DOG IS HIGH-SPIRITED BUT EASY TO TRAIN

KC

Height range
Up to 39cm (up to 15in)

Weight range
9-10kg (20-22lb)

Life span 9-15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Black grizzle and tan



Once used in packs for hunting foxes, badgers, and otters, the Welsh Terrier was recognized as a breed in the 1880s, and this medium-sized terrier has gained attention as a show dog. Although lively and energetic, the Welsh Terrier is easier to manage than many other terriers and is a good house dog.



Head flat between ears

Small, round, cat-like feet



Small, dark eyes

High-set, small, button ears

Tail held upright

Wiry, black and tan coat

Square, compact body

Long thighs

GERMAN HUNTING TERRIER

THIS TIRELESS, FEARLESS, INDEPENDENT DOG ENJOYS A WORKING LIFE

FCI

Height range
33–40cm (13–16in)

Weight range
8–10kg (18–22lb)

Life span 13–15 years

Origin Germany



This classic hunter is the result of Welsh and English terriers being crossed by four Bavarian dog breeders. The German Hunting Terrier is happy to sleep outdoors by night and hunt all day, above or below ground and across all types of terrain, and even water. It needs plenty of exercise and clear leadership. There are two coat types – rough-coated and smooth-coated.



Triangular, button ears

Smooth-coated



Small, oval, dark eyes

Straight, long back

Strong neck

Rough, wiry, black and tan coat

Tan markings on chest

Rough-coated

Forefeet often broader than hind feet

KERRY BLUE TERRIER

A LIVELY, PLAYFUL, AND BOISTEROUS DOG WITH A BIG HEART

KC

Height range
46–48cm (18–19in)

Weight range
15–17kg (33–37lb)

Life span 14 years

Origin Ireland



The national dog of Ireland is born black, but its coat colour gradually changes to blue before the age of two. A versatile farm and guard dog, the Kerry Blue Terrier is intelligent and makes an affectionate and biddable pet as long as it is well trained and handled firmly.



Long, lean head

Dark eyes with keen expression

Blue coat

Beard covers strong jaw and black nose



Neck runs into sloping shoulders

Soft, wavy, luxuriant coat

Deep chest

SOFT-COATED WHEATEN TERRIER

THIS HAPPY-GO-LUCKY, AFFECTIONATE DOG MAKES A FAITHFUL FAMILY FRIEND

KC

Height range
46-49cm (18-19in)

Weight range
16-21kg (35-46lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin Ireland

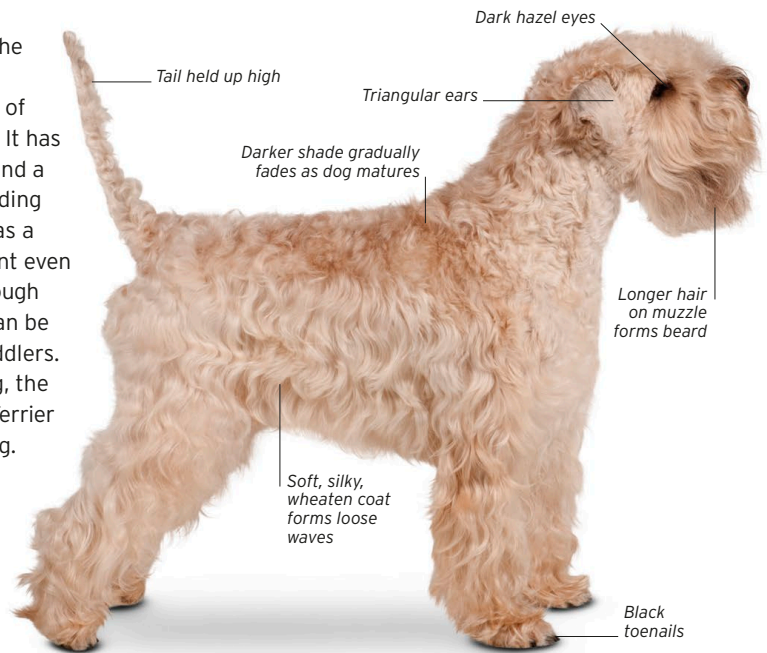


Similar to the other Irish terrier breeds, the Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier is probably one of the oldest Irish breeds. It has been used as a ratter and a guard dog, and for herding livestock. The breed has a puppy-like temperament even into adulthood, so although good with children, it can be too boisterous with toddlers. A highly intelligent dog, the Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier responds well to training.



Topknot falls over eyes

Large, black nose



Tail held up high

Triangular ears

Darker shade gradually fades as dog matures

Soft, silky, wheaten coat forms loose waves

Longer hair on muzzle forms beard

Black toenails

DUTCH SMOUSHOND

AN EASY TO LOOK AFTER, ADAPTABLE, INTELLIGENT, AND COMPANIONABLE DOG

FCI

Height range
35-42cm (14-17in)

Weight range
9-10kg (20-22lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin The Netherlands



This former "coachman's dog" is strong enough to follow a horse and carriage and is also a keen rat-catcher. During the 1970s this breed almost became extinct; it is still rare but is now regaining popularity. This dog makes a good watchdog, gets on well with children, and will even accept the family cat. It needs plenty of exercise.

Forelock falls forward giving a dishevelled appearance



Darker drop ears covered in shorter hair

Thin, black-rimmed lips

Unkempt, coarse, wiry, yellow coat, with weatherproof undercoat



Legs slightly less hairy than body

Cat-like feet with black nails

BEDLINGTON TERRIER

LOOKS DECEIVE IN THIS KEEN, SWIFT, AND TENACIOUS BREED

KC

Height range
40-43cm (16-17in)

Weight range
8-10kg (18-22lb)



Life span 14-15 years

Origin UK





Other colours



Sandy Liver

All colours may have tan markings.

The typical terrier spirit lies beneath the sheep-like coat of the Bedlington Terrier. It was bred from the Whippet (see p.128) and other terriers to hunt hare and rabbits above ground. Its sight hound blood has given it not only great speed but a more tolerant temper than some terriers, and it is now kept as a companion. The Bedlington Terrier needs to be sufficiently occupied to avoid behavioural problems developing. If given enough activity, it is an affectionate and dynamic companion. It has a unique show clip.



Show clip leaves tassels on ear tips

Thin, velvety, drop ears

Relatively small eyes

Hair left longer on head

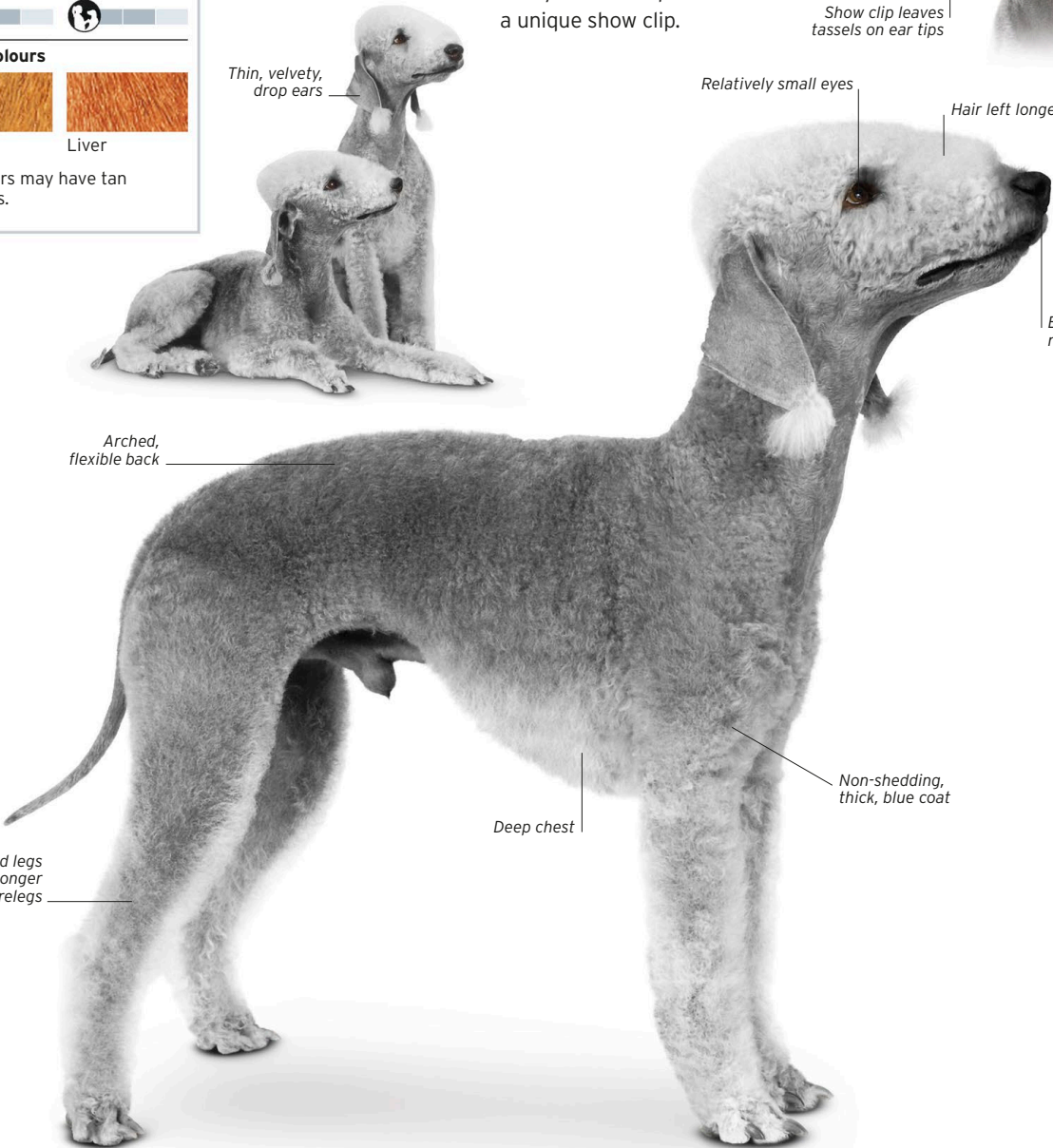
Black nose

Arched, flexible back

Non-shedding, thick, blue coat

Deep chest

Hind legs appear longer than forelegs



BORDER TERRIER

AN ENERGETIC AND CHEERFUL TERRIER WITH A RELAXED PERSONALITY

KC

Height range
25-28cm (10-11in)

Weight range
5-7kg (11-15lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Wheaten

Blue and tan



Originally used for hunting foxes and rats, the Border Terrier still excels in trials but is also a highly popular pet. Its temperament, which is unusually cooperative for a terrier, makes it more tolerant of small children and other dogs. The protective wiry coat is easily stripped in summer.



LAKELAND TERRIER

THIS ROBUST AND CHEERFUL DOG IS BEST SUITED TO AN EXPERIENCED OWNER

KC

Height range
33-37cm (13-15in)

Weight range
7-8kg (15-18lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin UK



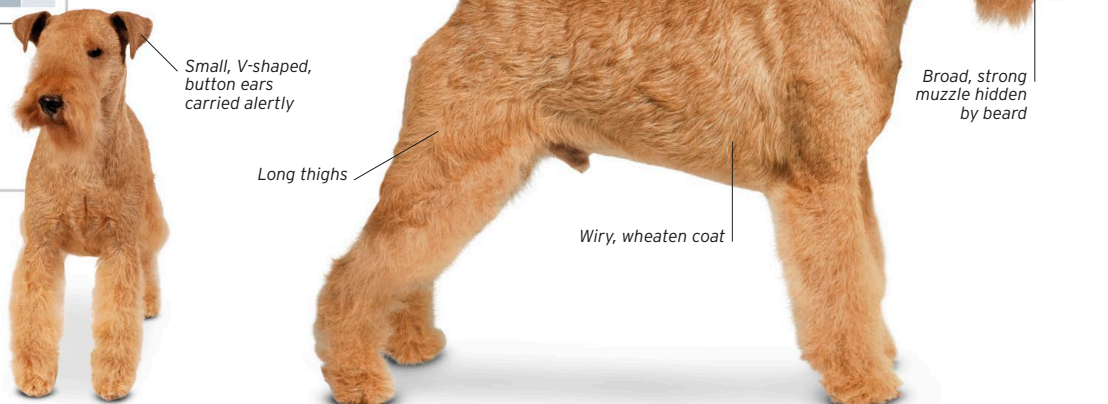
Other colours

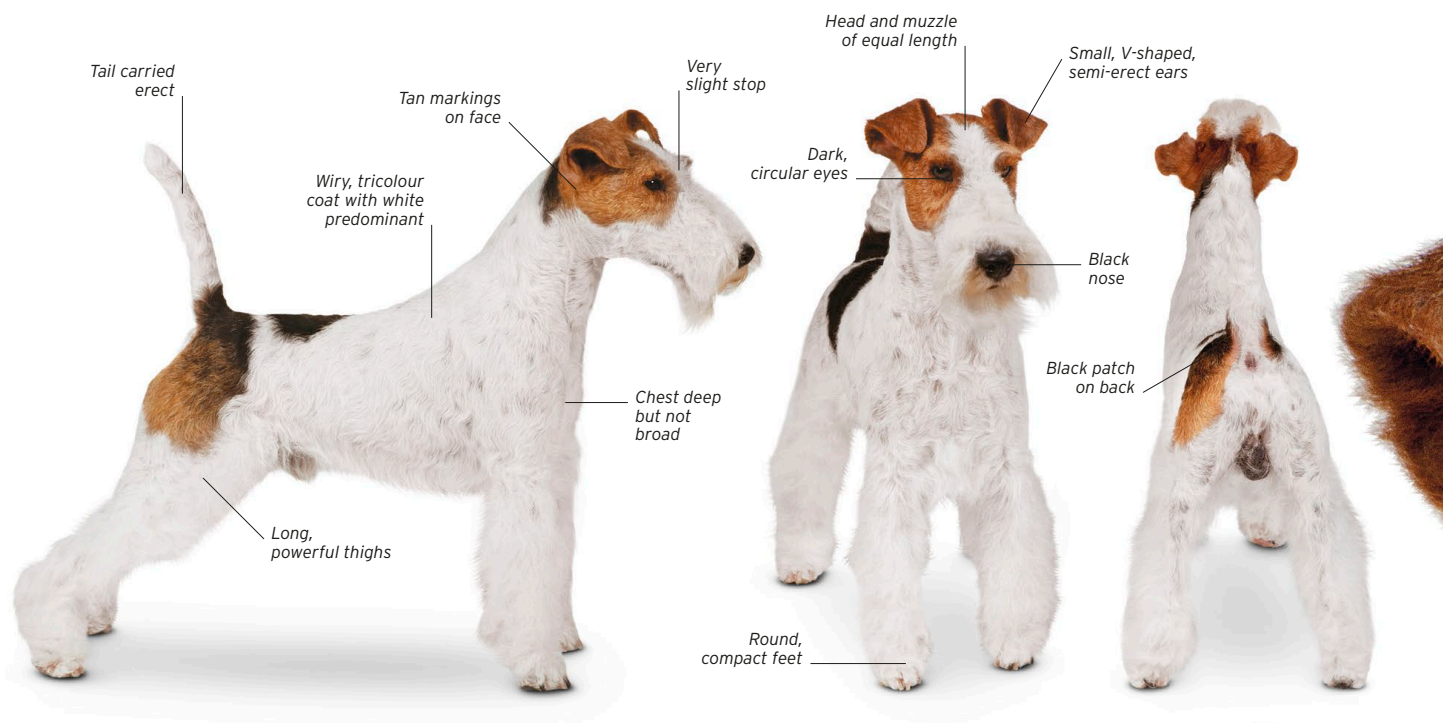


Variety of colours



This determined, agile little terrier was bred to chase foxes over hilly terrain and into their burrows, and it retains the tendency to chase anything that moves - regardless of size - and to be aggressive with other dogs. With training, it makes a fearless guard dog and an enthusiastic companion.





FOX TERRIER

THIS CHEERFUL, FRIENDLY DOG IS GOOD WITH CHILDREN AND ENJOYS LONG WALKS

KC

Height range
Up to 39cm (Up to 15in)

Weight range
Up to 8kg (Up to 18lb)



Life span 10 years

Origin UK



Other colours



White

May have tan or black markings.

An energetic and sometimes vocal

companion, the Fox Terrier from England was originally kept to kill vermin, hunt rabbit, and tackle foxes that had been run to ground.

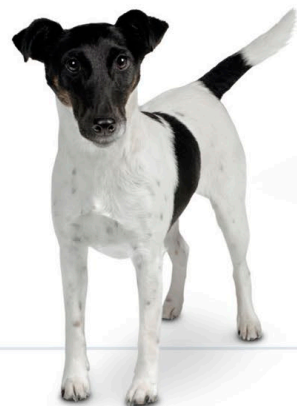
Its bold and fearless nature and love of digging make early socialization and training essential to prevent snappiness and curb any tendency to dig. If this is done, the Fox Terrier makes a wonderful family pet that loves to play and readily reciprocates any affection it receives.

The Wire Fox Terrier's coat needs regular grooming and "plucking" to remove any shed hair, and more extensive stripping three or four times a year. The coat should never be clipped because this does not remove shed hair and may cause irritation, and also leads to deterioration in coat texture and colour. The Fox Terrier is ancestral to several other dog breeds, including the Parson Russell Terrier (see p.195), the Jack Russell

Terrier (see p.196), the Toy Fox Terrier (see p.208), the Brazilian Terrier (see p.209), and the Rat Terrier (see p.211).

SMOOTH FOX TERRIER

Much rarer than its wire-haired cousin, the Smooth Fox Terrier's shorter coat requires less grooming. This dog's close-fitting coat clearly shows its very distinctive wedge-shaped head.







JAPANESE TERRIER

AN ELEGANT AND LIVELY LITTLE DOG WITH A SENSITIVE AND PLAYFUL NATURE

FCI

Height range
30–33cm (12–13in)

Weight range
2–4kg (5–9lb)



Life span 12–14 years

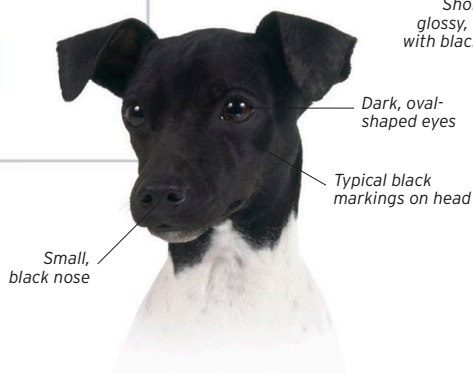
Origin Japan



Other colours



Black, tan, and white



Also known as the Nippon or Nihon Terrier, this rare breed is strong and athletic for its size. Its ancestors are thought to include the English Toy Terrier (see p.210) and the now extinct Toy Bull Terrier. The Japanese Terrier has been kept as a lapdog, ratter, and retriever, and makes an adaptable family pet as well as a good watchdog.

Pronounced stop

High-set, button ears

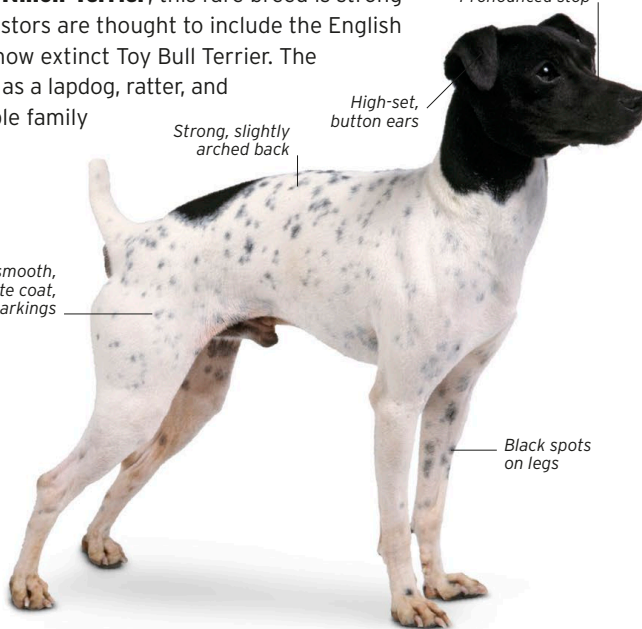
Strong, slightly arched back

Short, smooth, glossy, white coat, with black markings

Dark, oval-shaped eyes

Typical black markings on head

Small, black nose



Black spots on legs

TOY FOX TERRIER

THIS SMALL DOG IS FUN-LOVING AND BRAVE, BUT CAN BE BOSSY

AKC

Height range
23–30cm (9–12in)

Weight range
2–3kg (5–7lb)



Life span 13–14 years

Origin USA



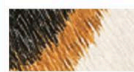
Other colours



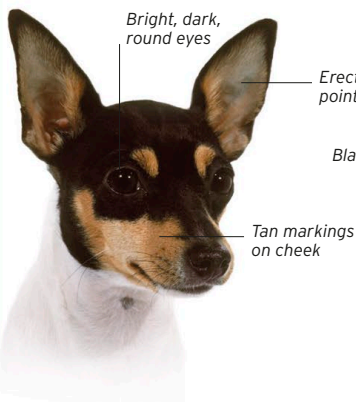
White and tan



White and black



White, chocolate, and tan



Bright, dark, round eyes

Erect, pointed ears

Tan markings on cheek

Also called the American Toy Terrier, this breed is a cross between the Smooth Fox Terrier (see p.206) and various toy breeds. The result is a dog that is a good ratter but also family-friendly. As with all toy breeds, the Toy Fox Terrier is not recommended as a pet in a home where there are babies and toddlers, but older children will enjoy its zest for life.

Docked tail held upright

Face predominately black with tan markings

Black patch

Fine-haired, satin-like, white coat



BRAZILIAN TERRIER

WITH A STRONG TERRIER TEMPERAMENT, THIS FRISKY, SPIRITED DOG IS QUICK TO LEARN

FCI

Height range
33–40cm (13–16in)

Weight range
7–10kg (15–22lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin Brazil



Bred from European terriers crossed with local Brazilian farm dogs, this breed has marked hunting instincts and is eager to explore and dig as well as track, chase, and kill rodents. Like its smaller cousin, the Jack Russell Terrier (see p.196), the Brazilian Terrier needs to know who is boss. It rewards a firm owner with devotion and obedience and makes a protective – and vocal – watchdog. Ever active, it thrives on a long, daily walk to keep it mentally and physically stimulated, otherwise it becomes restless. When well trained, the Brazilian Terrier makes an excellent family pet.



Alert expression



Croup slopes to tail

Typical tan markings on head

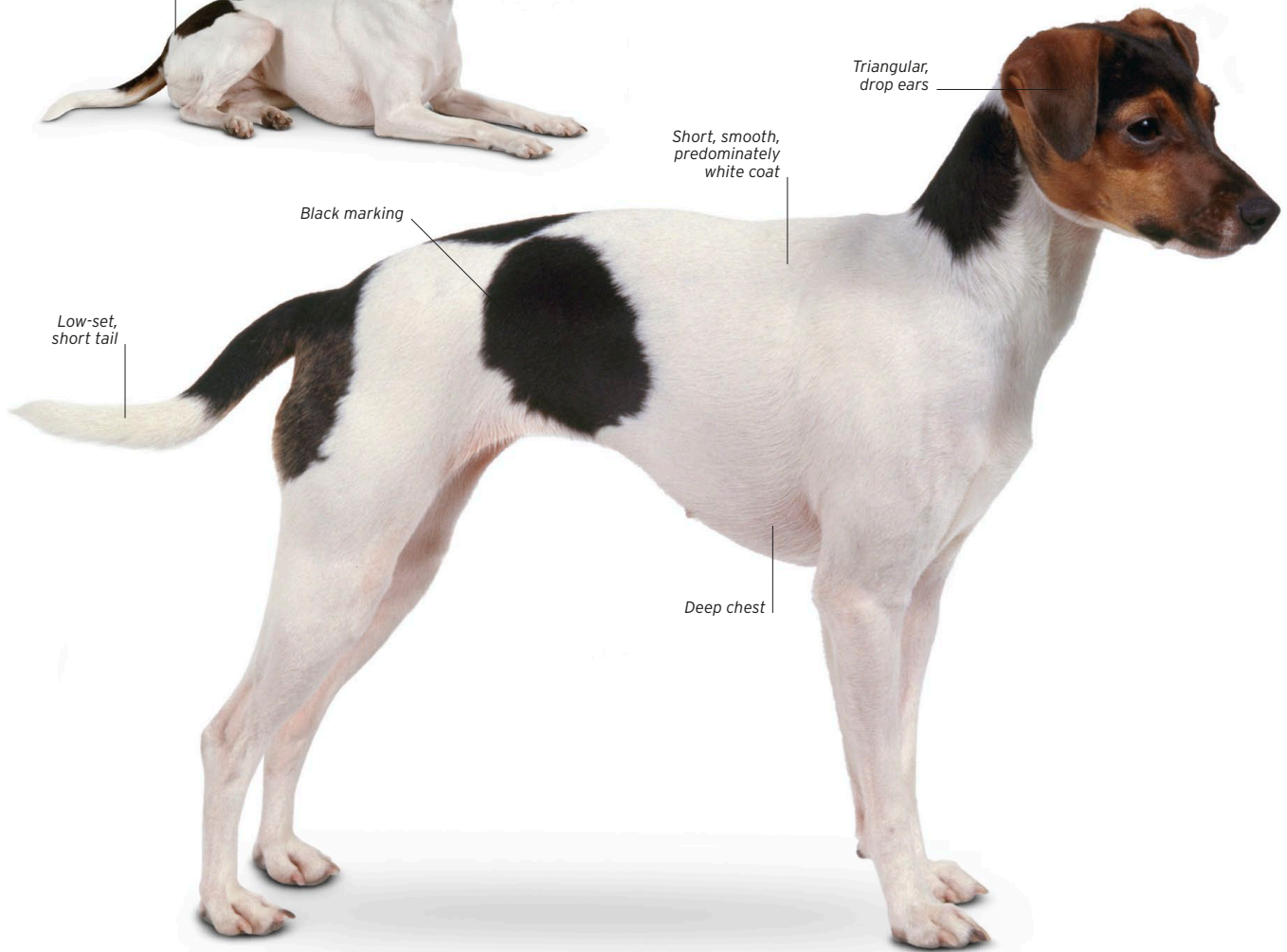
Short, smooth, predominately white coat

Triangular, drop ears

Black marking

Low-set, short tail

Deep chest



ENGLISH TOY TERRIER

A PERKY, FRIENDLY, AND CONFIDENT LITTLE COMPANION DOG

KC

Height range
25-30cm (10-12in)

Weight range
3-4kg (7-9lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin UK



The oldest British toy breed, the English Toy Terrier used to be called the Miniature Black and Tan Terrier. It differs from its larger cousin, the Manchester Terrier (opposite), only in its size and its erect ears. English Toy Terriers were popular as town pets during Queen Victoria's reign, when toy dogs became fashionable. Before that it was a rat-catcher. Like other terriers, this breed veers from cuddly family pet to voracious rodent-hunter. It bonds with its owner and makes a good watchdog. Because it is small, the English Toy Terrier needs less exercise than the Manchester Terrier and adapts well to city living.



High-set, candle-flame ears

Dark, almond-shaped eyes

Alert expression

Well-defined, mahogany-tan markings

Low-set, tapering tail, ends just above hock

Thick, glossy, jet-black and tan coat

Two inner toes longer than outer ones

MANCHESTER TERRIER

THIS DEVOTED FAMILY PET ADAPTS WELL TO TOWN OR COUNTRY LIFE

KC

Height range
38–41cm (15–16in)

Weight range
5–10kg (11–22lb)

Life span 13–14 years

Origin UK



With its sleek good looks, the Manchester Terrier makes an elegant and lively companion dog, bigger than the related English Toy Terrier (opposite). It takes its name from the weekly rat-killing contests in Manchester that occurred in the 19th century and at which it excelled. Ruthless with vermin, it is gentle with its owners.



Small, V-shaped, button ears

Black nose

Short tail carried low

Smooth, short, glossy, black and tan coat

Tan markings on legs

Slightly rounded back

Well-arched, compact forefeet

RAT TERRIER

AN ENERGY-CHARGED BUNDLE OF FUN FOR HUMANS BUT A TERROR FOR VERMIN

AKC

Height range
Miniature:
25–32cm (10–13in)

Standard:
33–46cm (13–18in)

Weight range
Miniature:
3–4kg (7–9lb)

Standard:
5–16kg (11–35lb)

Life span 11–14 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours

Tan markings are common.

This terrier is a phenomenal rat-catcher – one dog is reputed to have rid a barn infested with over 2,500 rats in just seven hours. Popular in the United States, the Rat Terrier was President Theodore Roosevelt's choice of hunting dog. The Miniature makes a good pet; the Standard suits an energetic owner. There are two ear types: erect and button.



Erect ears

Inquisitive, alert expression

Black coat

Pear-shaped head

Sturdy, compact body with tan parts

Standard

White feet

AMERICAN HAIRLESS TERRIER

THIS DISTINCTIVE-LOOKING DOG, WITH TERRIER TRAITS, IS ALERT AND FRIENDLY

AKC

Height range
30–41cm (12–16in)

Weight range
5–7kg (12–15lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin USA



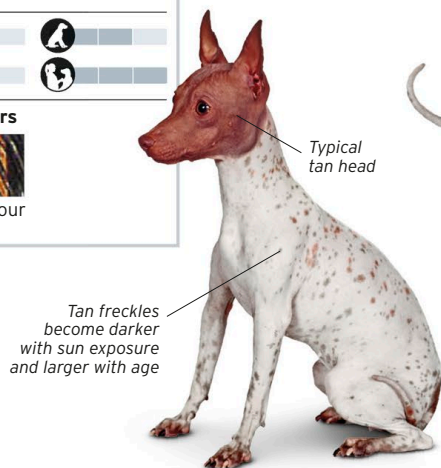
Other colours



Any skin colour



The first hairless Rat Terriers (see p.211) were the result of a genetic mutation, but were then bred with each other to produce hairless puppies. Apart from its lack of hair, this is a typical, lively terrier. It needs a coat in winter to stay warm and to avoid sunburn in summer. Ears may be erect, semi-erect, or button.



PATTERDALE TERRIER

THIS INDEPENDENT AND TENACIOUS HUNTER-DIGGER NEEDS AN EXPERIENCED OWNER

Height range
25–38cm (10–15in)

Weight range
5–6kg (11–13lb)

Life span 13–14 years

Origin UK



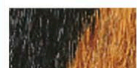
Other colours



Red



Liver or bronze



Black and tan

Coats may be grizzled.



The isolated valleys of the Lake District each had their own terrier - this one originates from the village of Patterdale. It remains popular in the UK but has gained favour in the United States too. It makes an excellent hunting companion as it never gives up on its prey. There are two coat types: smooth and broken.



KROMFOHRLANDER

THIS EVEN-TEMPERED, LOVABLE TERRIER IS GOOD WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY

FCI

Height range
38-46cm (15-18in)

Weight range
9-16kg (20-35lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin Germany



A recent German breed, only recognized since the 1950s, this dog takes its name from its place of origin in Germany. It was bred from a Wire Fox Terrier (see p.206) and a locally owned dog. The result is a kindly, attractive, low-maintenance, eager-to-please dog, which makes a good watchdog and, like other terriers, is a keen ratter. While wary of strangers, it is gentle and playful with familiar people and dogs. There are two coat types: rough-haired and smooth-haired.

Triangular,
drop ears



Thick coat lying
close to body

Rough-haired

Gently sloping stop

Oval,
brown eyes

White blaze with
tan speckles

Typical,
symmetrical
head markings



Irregular-shaped
tan markings

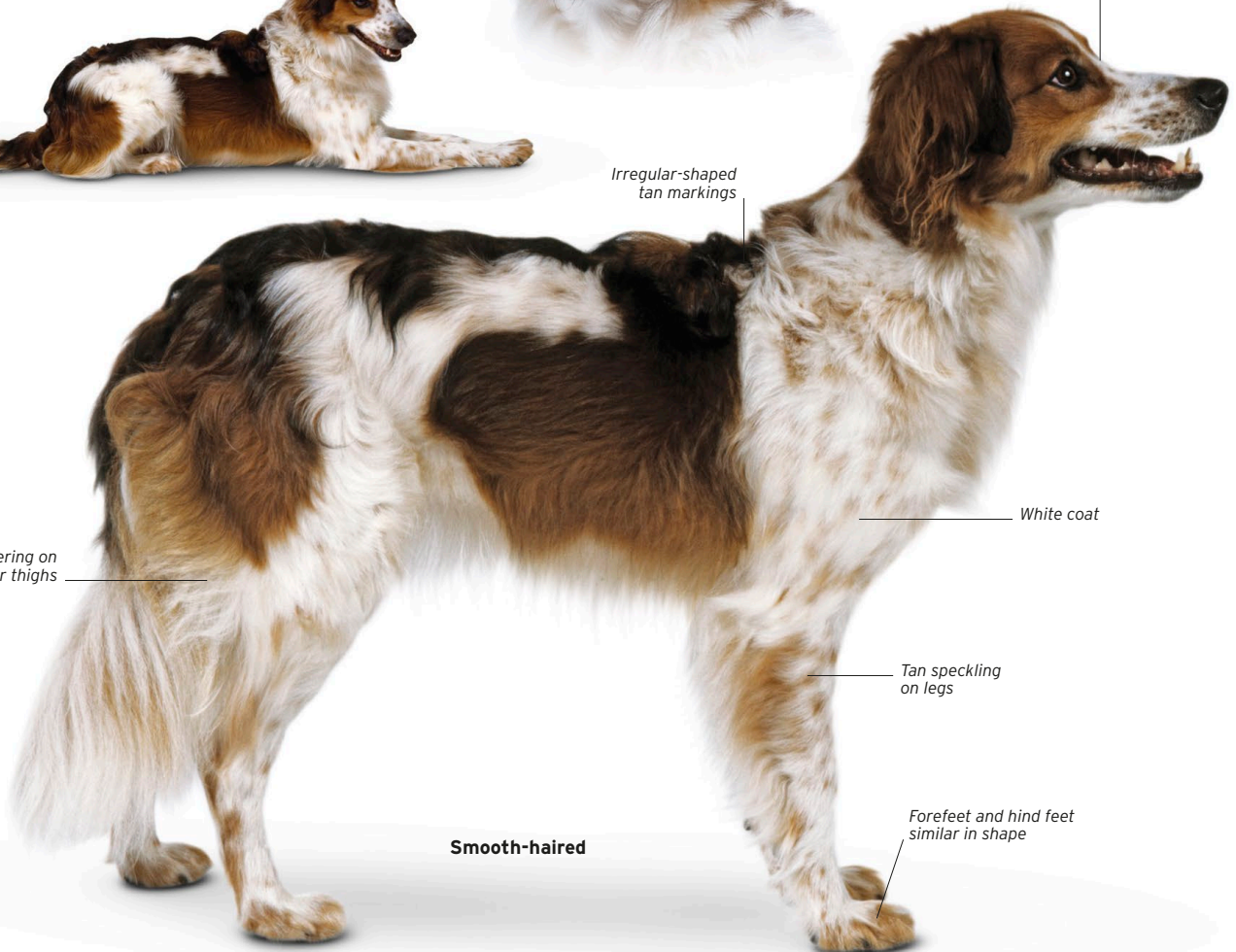
Feathering on
upper thighs

White coat

Tan speckling
on legs

Forefeet and hind feet
similar in shape

Smooth-haired



STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIER

THIS FEARLESS DOG LOVES CHILDREN AND CAN ACHIEVE HIGH LEVELS OF OBEDIENCE

KC

Height range
36–41cm (14–16in)

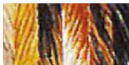
Weight range
11–17kg (24–37lb)

Life span 10–16 years

Origin UK



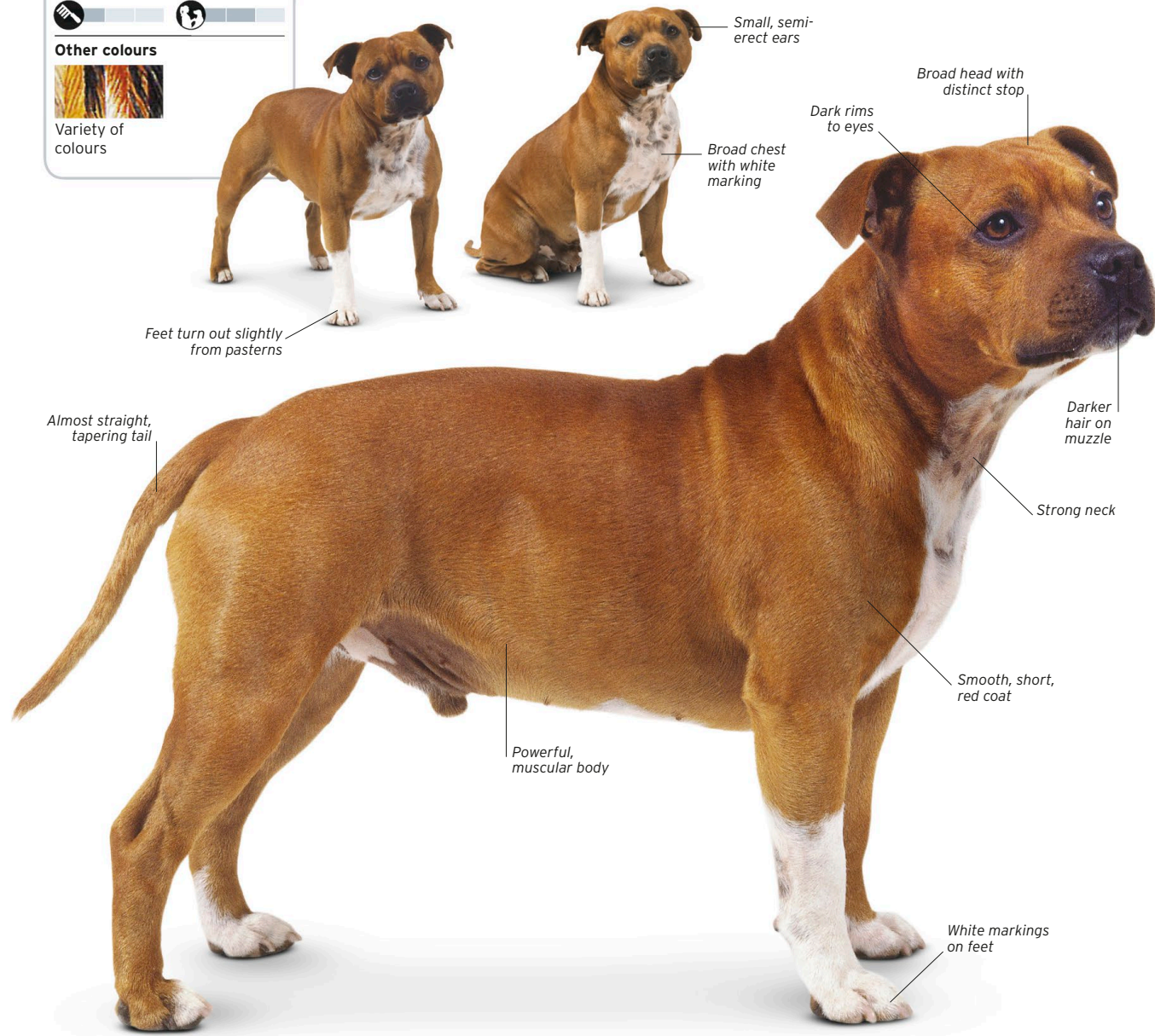
Other colours



Variety of colours



Originally bred for pit-fighting in the 19th century, the Staffordshire Bull Terrier was developed from crosses between bulldogs and terriers. The modern “Staffie”, as it is often affectionately known, has moved on from its historical background to become a people-loving pet, enormously popular in both town and country. This dog is robust, boisterous, and possesses legendary courage. A Staffordshire Bull Terrier is unlikely to back down if challenged by an unfamiliar dog. Firm handling and early obedience training are essential.



Small, semi-erect ears

Broad head with distinct stop

Dark rims to eyes

Broad chest with white marking

Darker hair on muzzle

Strong neck

Smooth, short, red coat

Powerful, muscular body

White markings on feet

Feet turn out slightly from pasterns

Almost straight, tapering tail

AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER

A LARGER VERSION OF THE ENGLISH STAFFIE, THIS IS A COURAGEOUS AND COMPANIONABLE DOG

FCI

Height range
43–48cm (17–19in)

Weight range
26–30kg (57–66lb)

Life span 10–16 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours



Developed from the Staffordshire Bull Terrier (opposite), this dog was recognized as a separate breed in the United States in the 1930s. Apart from being more heavily built than its English counterpart, the American Staffordshire Terrier shares all the characteristics of the original “Staffie”. It is bold and intelligent and makes a loyal family pet.

Very prominent cheek muscles

Powerful, muscular thighs

Dark eyes set low and wide apart

Broad, deep chest

White feet

Heavy neck, slightly arched

Short, stiff, shiny, blue-fawn coat

Moderately sized, compact feet

AMERICAN PIT BULL TERRIER

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR MOST OWNERS, THIS DOG NEEDS SKILLED HANDLING

Height range
46–56cm (18–22in)

Weight range
14–27kg (31–60lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Any colour

Merle colours discouraged.



The ancestors of the American Pit Bull Terrier were dogs brought to the United States in the 19th century by Irish immigrants. Although bred for fighting, this dog became much loved as a working or family dog. The breed has lately acquired a reputation for aggression, which is vigorously refuted by its supporters.

High-set, semi-erect ears

Distinctive wrinkles on forehead

Muscular, heavy neck

Tapering tail

Short, dense, glossy, red coat

Body stockily built, muscular, and agile

Deep, moderately wide chest, with small, white markings

SKYE TERRIER

FULL OF CHARACTER, THIS DOG OFTEN BECOMES DEVOTED TO ONE PERSON

KC

Height range
25-26cm (up to 10in)

Weight range
11-18kg (24-40lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Cream

Black

May have white spot on chest.

A very old breed from the Western Isles of Scotland, the Skye Terrier was originally used for fox- and badger-hunting. With a long, low-slung body, the Skye Terrier could easily slip into the narrow underground passages used by its quarry. This elegant little dog is active and good-spirited, and makes an excellent pet, becoming devoted to family and home. The long coat that is characteristic of the breed can take several years to grow to its full adult length. To prevent the hair from matting, a Skye Terrier needs a weekly grooming session.



Erect ears, fringed with long, silky hair

Soft, light grey hair covers brown eyes

Adult and two puppies



Darker hair on face

Black nose

Silky, fawn coat

Body much longer than leg length

Long, straight, grey coat parts down centre of back

Hair on ears darker than body hair



Lighter patches on coat

Long, feathered tail

DANDIE DINMONT TERRIER

THIS LOVEABLE AND AFFECTIONATE DOG IS GOOD WITH OTHER PETS IF SOCIALIZED EARLY

KC

Height range
20-28cm (8-11in)

Weight range
8-11kg (18-24lb)

Life span Up to 13 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Mustard

May have white chest hair.



This terrier comes from the border country between England and Scotland, where it was developed to hunt badger and otter. It was named the Dandie Dinmont Terrier after a character who owned a similar-looking dog in a novel by Sir Walter Scott. Game, sensitive, and intelligent, the Dandie Dinmont Terrier thrives on love and attention.



MINIATURE PINSCHER

THIS DOG IS HAPPY TO LIVE IN A SMALL SPACE BUT NEEDS REGULAR EXERCISE

KC

Height range
25-30cm (10-12in)

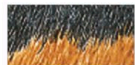
Weight range
4-5kg (9-11lb)

Life span Up to 15 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



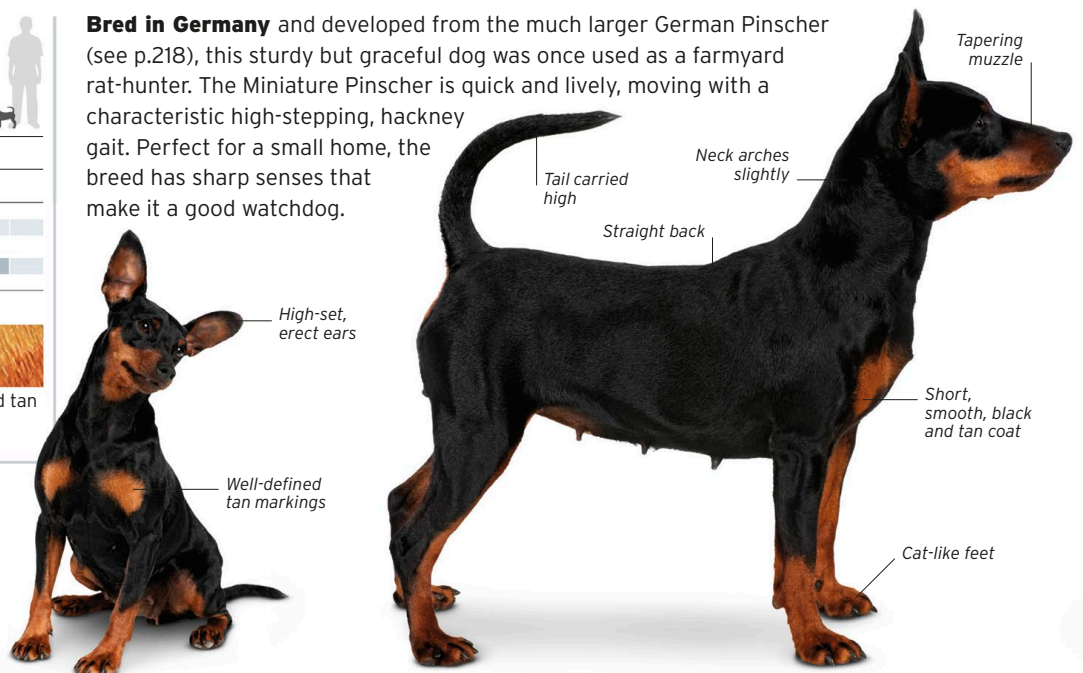
Blue and tan



Brown and tan



Bred in Germany and developed from the much larger German Pinscher (see p.218), this sturdy but graceful dog was once used as a farmyard rat-hunter. The Miniature Pinscher is quick and lively, moving with a characteristic high-stepping, hackney gait. Perfect for a small home, the breed has sharp senses that make it a good watchdog.





GERMAN PINSCHER

A GREAT COMPANION AND WATCHDOG FOR A FIRM OWNER

KC

Height range
43–48cm (17–19in)

Weight range
11–16kg (24–35lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Isabella



Blue



Also known as the Standard Pinscher, this tall terrier started out as a general-purpose farm dog. It makes a protective guard dog, but needs to be well trained so that it does not become overprotective, bark for too long, or behave aggressively towards other dogs. With the right training, it is gentle and responsive.

Dark, oval eyes

Tail sweeps upwards

Triangular, drop ears

Short, sleek, thick, stag-red coat

Short, round feet

MINIATURE SCHNAUZER

THIS CHEERFUL, FRIENDLY, FUN-LOVING DOG IS RELIABLE WITH ALL THE FAMILY

KC

Height range
33–36cm (13–14in)

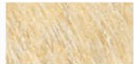
Weight range
6–7kg (13–15lb)

Life span 14 years

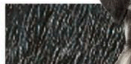
Origin Germany



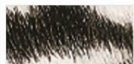
Other colours



White



Black



Black and silver



Popular in North America, as well as in its native Germany, the Miniature Schnauzer is named for its distinctive muzzle (*schnauze* means snout in German). An intelligent little dog, it responds well to obedience training. Despite its small size, it is energetic and needs play off the lead as well as a brisk daily walk to keep it healthy and happy.

Strong, straight back slopes from shoulder to tail

High-set, semi-erect ears

Strongly muscled thighs

Harsh, wiry, pepper and salt coat

Powerful muzzle with lighter-coloured beard

AUSTRIAN PINSCHER

THIS ALERT AND FAITHFUL WATCHDOG IS SUITABLE FOR A RURAL OWNER

FCI

Height range
42–50cm (17–20in)

Weight range
12–18kg (26–40lb)



Life span 12–14 years

Origin Austria



Other colours

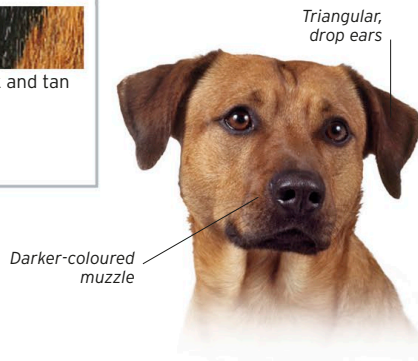


Russet gold
or brownish
yellow



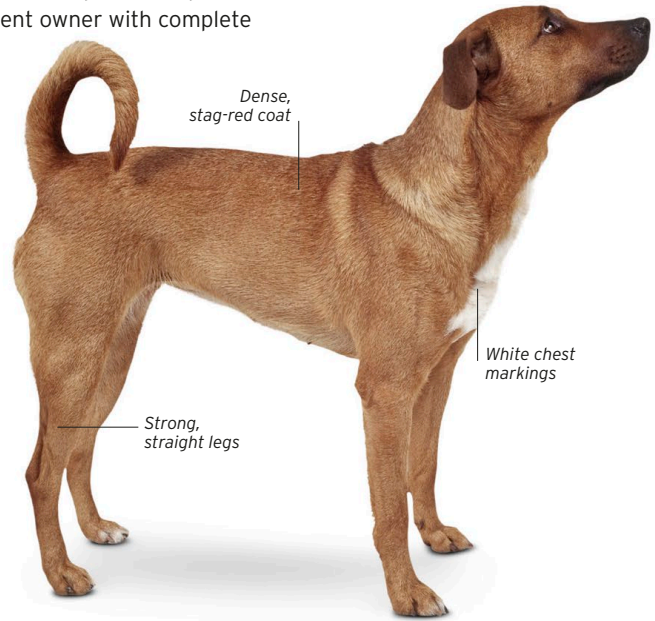
Black and tan

Bred as an all-purpose guard and herding farm dog in its native Austria, this breed rewards a confident owner with complete loyalty and devotion. Barking at anything suspicious, it makes an excellent watchdog for isolated locations, but its protective instincts and fearlessness can lead to aggression.



Darker-coloured
muzzle

Triangular,
drop ears



Dense,
stag-red coat

Strong,
straight legs

White chest
markings

AFFENPINSCHER

THIS MISCHIEVOUS, MONKEY-LIKE LITTLE DOG CAPTIVATES WITH ITS AMUSING ANTICS

KC

Height range
24–28cm (9–11in)

Weight range
3–4kg (7–9lb)



Life span 10–12 years

Origin Germany



Sometimes called the Black Devil, the Affenpinscher is among the oldest of the European toy dogs. It retains its terrier instincts though, and is a brave watchdog and rather despite its size. With its bright, sometimes stubborn personality, this dog learns easily but needs to know who is boss. It loves to play and gets on well with children who handle it considerably.



Blunt
muzzle with
wide nostrils

Small, round,
dark feet



Black coat

Domed,
broad
forehead

Lighter,
greyish
beard

Straight forelegs

**SOFT MOUTH**

Gundogs used for retrieving, like this dual-purpose English Springer Spaniel, are trained to carry game without crushing it.

GUNDogs

Before the advent of firearms, hunters used dogs to help them locate and chase game. With the introduction of guns, a different type of dog was required. Gundogs were developed to carry out specific tasks and to work more closely with the hunters. The breeds fall into several categories based on the type of work they were bred to perform.



The Lagotto Romagnolo is bred for retrieving from water

The dogs in the gundog group, which hunt by scent, are classified broadly in three main divisions: the pointers and setters, which locate prey; the spaniels, which flush game out of cover; and the retrievers, which collect fallen prey and bring it back to the hunter. Breeds that combine these functions are known as HPR (hunt/point/retrieve) dogs and include the Weimaraner, German Pointer, and the Hungarian Vizsla.

Pointers have been used as hunting dogs since the 17th century. They have the extraordinary ability to indicate the location of prey by “pointing” – freezing into position with nose, body, and tail aligned. A pointer remains motionless until the hunter either flushes out the game or instructs the dog to do so. The English Pointer, which features in many old sporting portraits alongside hunting squires and their “bags” of game birds, is a classic example of the type.

Setters also direct attention to game by freezing. Typically used to hunt quail, pheasant, and grouse, these dogs crouch, or “set”, when they pick up a scent. Originally, setters were trained to work with hunters who caught game with nets while their dogs prevented the prey from making an escape on the ground.

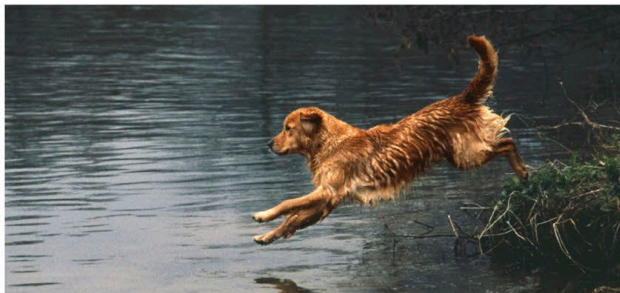
Spaniels drive out, or flush, game birds, forcing them to take wing into the line of the guns. They watch where a bird falls and are usually sent to retrieve it. This division includes small, silky-coated, long-eared dogs, such as the Springer Spaniel and Cocker Spaniel, used for finding game on land, and less familiar breeds, such as the Barbet and the Wetterhoun, which specialize in flushing waterbirds.

The retrievers were bred specifically for retrieving waterfowl. In common with

some breeds of the spaniel division, these gundogs often have water-resistant coats. They are renowned for their “soft” mouths, and quickly learn to carry game without damaging it.

VERSATILE VIZSLA

The Hungarian Vizsla is one of various gundog breeds that are skilled at multi-tasking and combine several functions.



FAMILY RETRIEVER

The water-loving Golden Retriever is a popular bird dog that, because of its gentle, calm, and lovable temperament, has also become a firm family favourite.

AMERICAN COCKER SPANIEL

A SMALL GUNDOG WITH A HAPPY DISPOSITION

KC

Height range
34–39cm (13–15in)

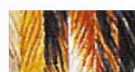
Weight range
7–14kg (15–31lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Any colour

Known for its sweet, playful nature, the American Cocker Spaniel is suited to life as a pet or a working gundog; the breed has speed and stamina and needs plenty of exercise. It also has a tendency towards shyness, so early and regular socialization is important.

Conspicuously rounded head

Large, round eyes

Sturdy, compact body

Pronounced stop

Low-set ears, fringed with long, silky hair

Long, wavy, jet-black coat

Red coat with lighter underparts

ENGLISH COCKER SPANIEL

THIS GUNDOG IS GENTLE, AFFECTIONATE, AND INTELLIGENT

KC

Height range
38–41cm (15–16in)

Weight range
13–15kg (29–33lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Any colour

Solid colours should have no white markings.

Originally known as the “cocking spaniel” and used for flushing woodcock and grouse, the English Cocker Spaniel is one of the most popular spaniel breeds. Smaller than the English Springer Spaniel (see p.226), this dog was developed to work in dense undergrowth. Show dogs are sturdier and heavier than working dogs, but both make excellent pets.

Ears fringed with long, wavy hair

Feathering on tail

Square muzzle with moderate flews

Black saddle

Long, silky, blue-roan coat

Red coat with feathering on chest and legs

GERMAN SPANIEL

THIS GREAT FAMILY DOG IS NOT FOR THE INEXPERIENCED OWNER OR CITY DWELLER

FCI

Height range
44–53cm (17–21in)

Weight range
18–25kg (40–55lb)



Life span 12–14 years

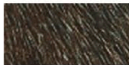
Origin Germany



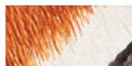
Other colours



Red

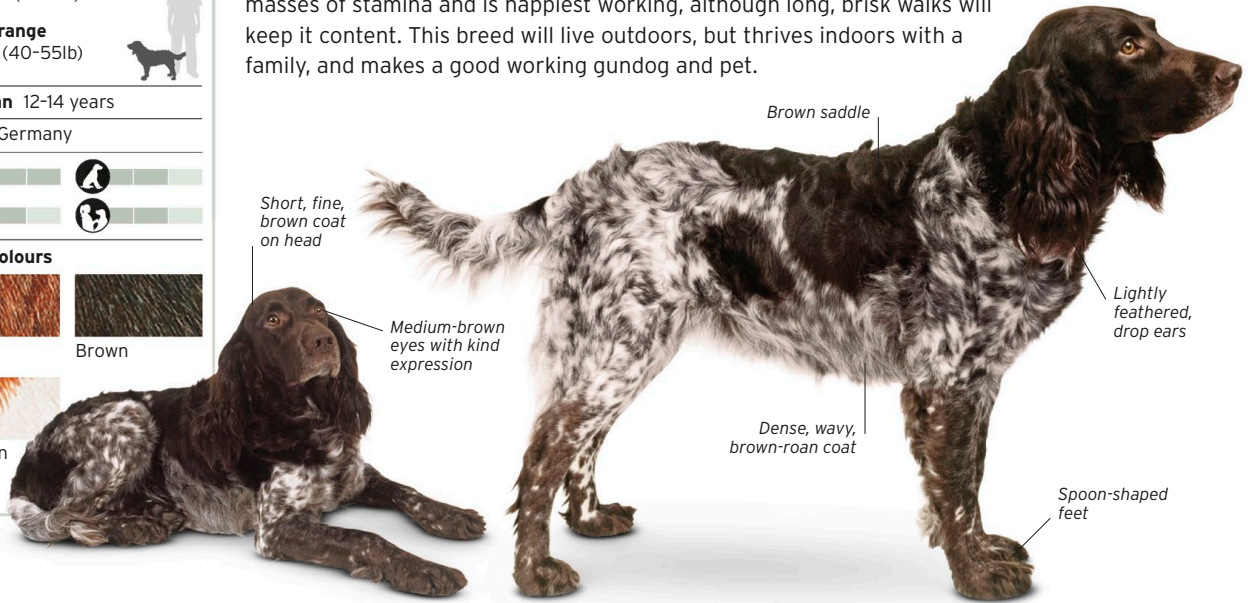


Brown



Red roan

An excellent retriever, this dog loves the water. The German Spaniel has masses of stamina and is happiest working, although long, brisk walks will keep it content. This breed will live outdoors, but thrives indoors with a family, and makes a good working gundog and pet.



FIELD SPANIEL

A HIGH-ENERGY WORKING GUNDog SUITABLE FOR THE COUNTRY DWELLER

KC

Height range
44–46cm (17–18in)

Weight range
18–25kg (40–55lb)

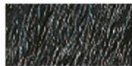


Life span 10–12 years

Origin UK



Other colours



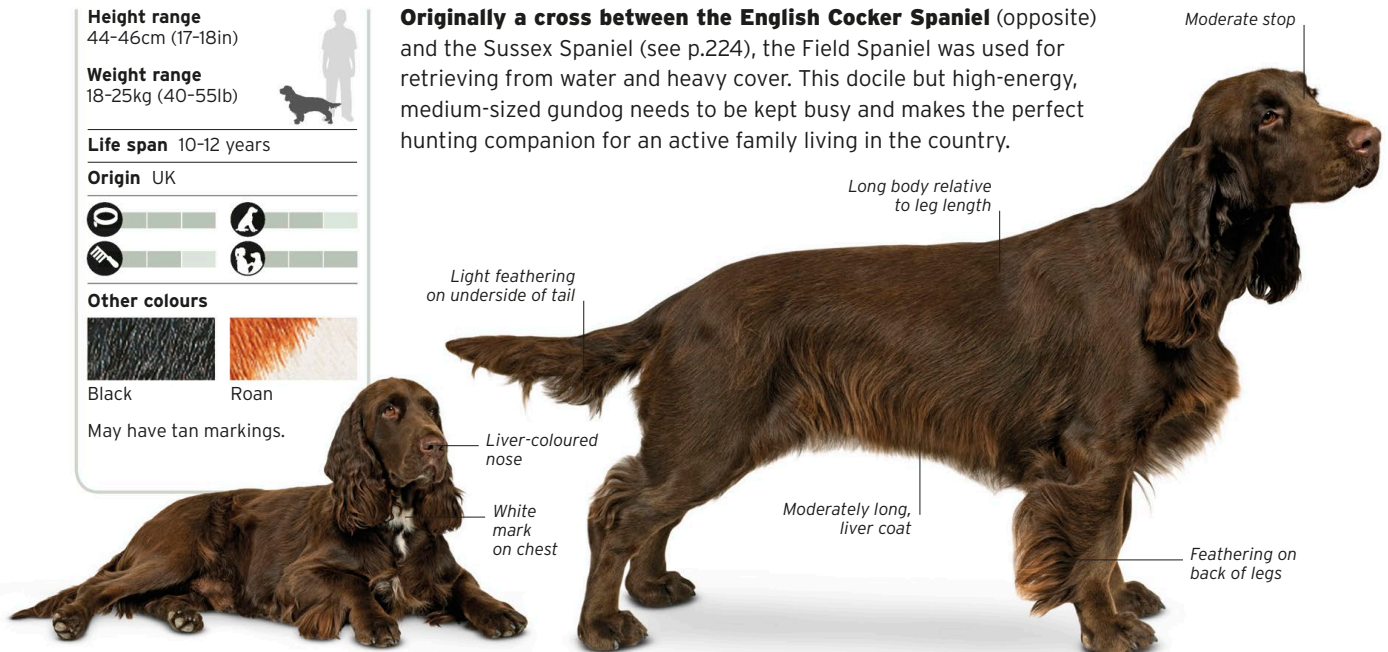
Black



Roan

May have tan markings.

Originally a cross between the English Cocker Spaniel (opposite) and the Sussex Spaniel (see p.224), the Field Spaniel was used for retrieving from water and heavy cover. This docile but high-energy, medium-sized gundog needs to be kept busy and makes the perfect hunting companion for an active family living in the country.



BOYKIN SPANIEL

THIS CHEERFUL, ENERGETIC SPANIEL MAKES A LOYAL AND INTELLIGENT COMPANION

AKC

Height range
36–46cm (14–18in)

Weight range
11–18kg (24–40lb)

Life span 14–16 years

Origin USA



Other colours

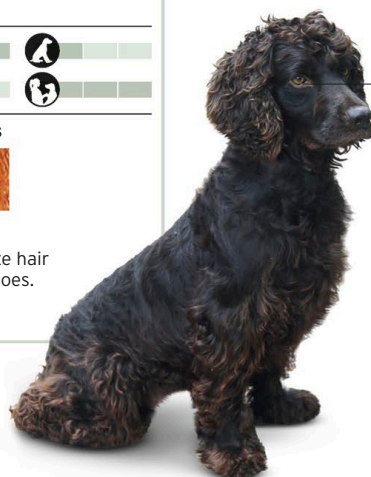


Liver

May have white hair on chest and toes.



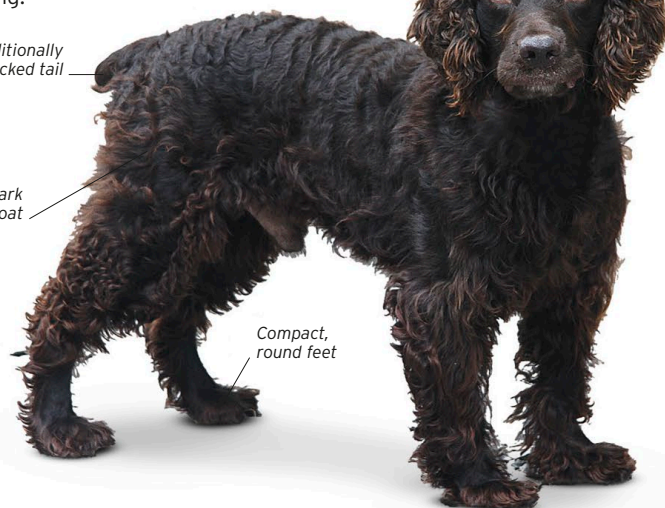
The official state dog of South Carolina, the Boykin Spaniel is a devoted companion and gets on well with other dogs and children. Its easy-going nature and willingness to work make it an ideal Gundog or pet for an active family. The Boykin Spaniel's curly coat requires regular grooming.



Traditionally docked tail

Distinctive, oval, brown eyes

Curly, dark chocolate coat



Compact, round feet

Shorter hair on face

SUSSEX SPANIEL

A KINDLY DOG WITH A FROWNING FACE THAT BELIES AN EASY-GOING, ENTHUSIASTIC NATURE

KC

Height range
38–41cm (15–16in)

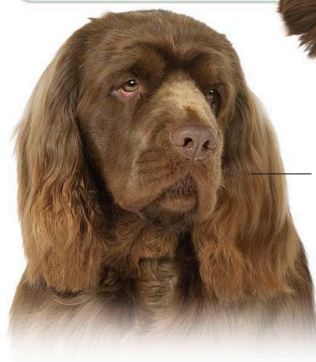
Weight range
18–23kg (40–51lb)

Life span 12–15 years

Origin UK



Although active by nature, this English Gundog from Sussex will adapt to life in a smaller household provided it is exercised sufficiently. Unlike other Gundogs, the Sussex Spaniel will bark, or “give tongue”, while working – a trait frowned upon in all other Gundog breeds; also distinctive is the rolling action to its gait.



Pendant ears covered with long, silky hair

Long, rich, golden-liver coat

Body length exceeds leg length



Hazel eyes under wrinkled brow

Shorter hair on face

Feathering on chest

Round feet with feathering between toes

CLUMBER SPANIEL

THIS BIG, GOOD-TEMPERED DOG ENJOYS FAMILY LIFE AND A COUNTRY HOME

KC

Height range
43-51cm (17-20in)

Weight range
25-34kg (55-75lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin France



Although its history has been romanticized, this dog is thought to have originated in 18th-century France, where it was favoured by the aristocracy. During the French Revolution Clumber Spaniels may have been brought to England and further developed at Clumber Park in Northumberland, home of the Duke of Newcastle. Muscular and low to the ground, this dog is the most solidly built of all the spaniels. Its calm and steady nature made the breed popular as a Gundog but it is now more commonly kept as a pet. Gentle and well behaved, the Clumber Spaniel is easy to train as a companion dog.

Dark
amber eyes



Broad head

Wide,
deep chest



Broad, deep
muzzle with
well-defined stop

Large,
drop ears

Heavy-boned, firm body,
low to the ground

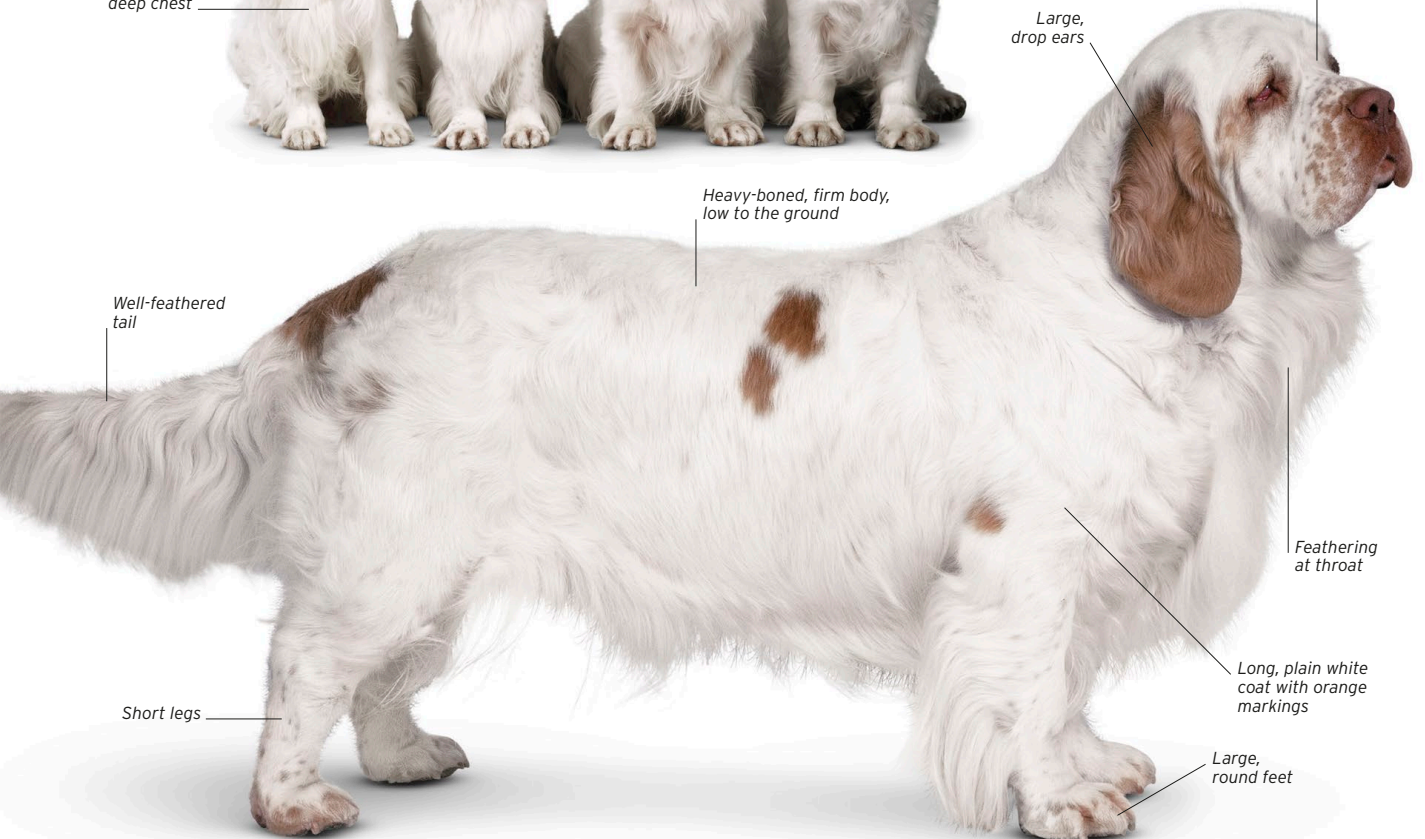
Well-feathered
tail

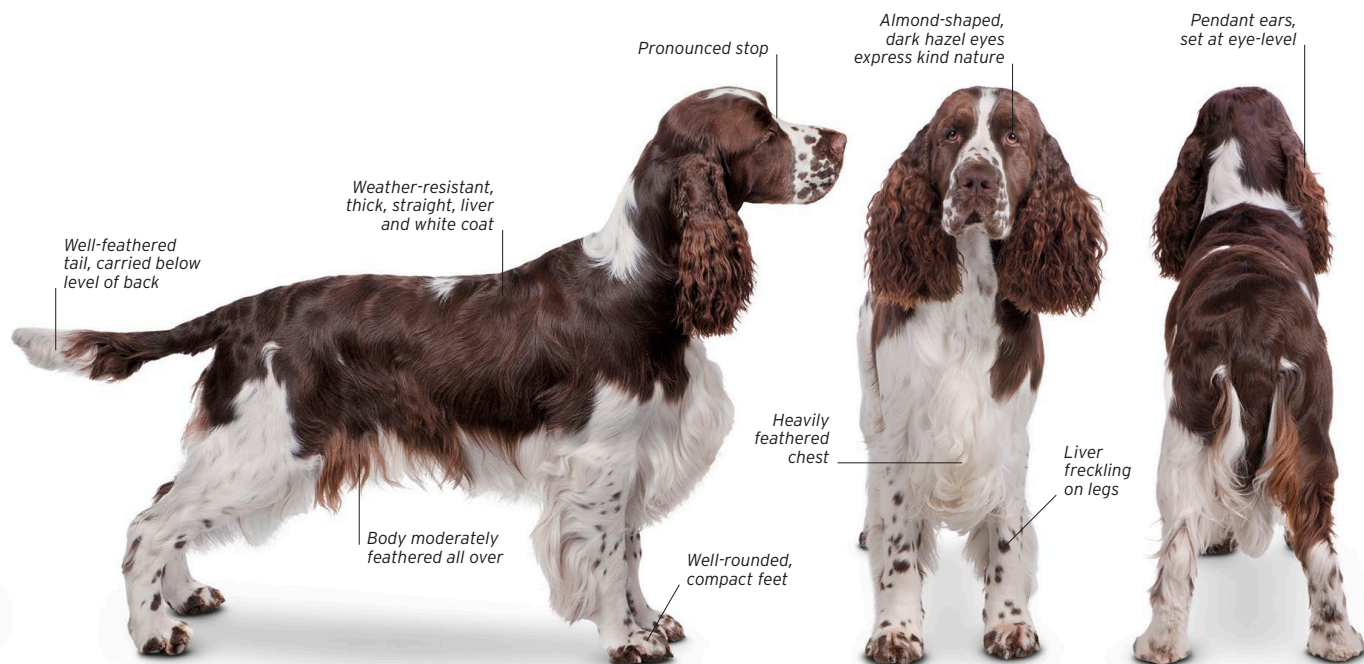
Feathering
at throat

Long, plain white
coat with orange
markings

Large,
round feet

Short legs





ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL

FULL OF ENTHUSIASM AND AFFECTION, THIS IS A SOCIABLE WORKING OR COMPANION DOG

KC

Height range
46–56cm (18–22in)

Weight range
18–23kg (40–51lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Black and white

May have tan markings.

This classic gundog is so called because it was originally used to “spring” game – startle birds into the air. Spaniels used as gundogs were once classified according to their size: the larger dogs (called Springers, see pp.226–28) were used for flushing game, and the smaller ones (called Cockers, see pp.222–23) for flushing woodcock. Until the beginning of the 20th century the English Springer Spaniel was not recognized as an official breed, although it had developed into a distinct type known as the Norfolk Spaniel.

The English Springer Spaniel will work with hunters in the field all day, undeterred by rough terrain or adverse weather conditions, even jumping into freezing water when necessary. This breed is a popular choice with game shooters but its friendly, biddable disposition makes it an excellent family dog too. It likes company, including children, other dogs, and the household cat. If left alone for too long, it may resort to

excessive barking. A non-working dog needs long, energetic daily walks and will enjoy having a stream to splash in, mud to roll in, or toys thrown for it to retrieve. This breed is bright and willing to learn, and will respond to calm authority. It is highly sensitive, so giving harsh or loud commands is likely to be counterproductive.

The English Springer Spaniel's love of the outdoors means that it needs weekly grooming to prevent its thick coat from becoming matted and dirty, and regular trimming, especially of the long feathering on the ears and legs.

There are two types of English Springer Spaniel: working and show. Dogs bred specifically to work in the field tend to have their tails docked and be slightly smaller and of lighter build than dogs produced for showing. Both types make equally good companion dogs.





WELSH SPRINGER SPANIEL

THIS GREAT WORKING DOG LOVES TO BE INCLUDED IN FAMILY ACTIVITIES

KC

Height range
46-48cm (18-19in)

Weight range
16-23kg (35-51lb)

Life span 12-15 years

Origin UK



A close cousin of the English Springer Spaniel (see p.226) and the English Cocker Spaniel (see p.222), this medium-sized Welsh gundog has a jolly disposition and makes a fine family dog and hunting companion. It is inclined to wander, so early and consistent training is imperative.

Finer head than English Springer Spaniel (see p.226)

Low-set, lightly feathered, vine-leaf-shaped ears

Long, muscular neck

Brown nose

Round, cat-like feet

Feathering above hock

Feathering on chest

Naturally straight, soft, rich red and white coat

IRISH WATER SPANIEL

THE CLOWN OF THE SPANIEL FAMILY, THIS DOG NEEDS AN ACTIVE LIFE

KC

Height range
51-58cm (20-23in)

Weight range
20-30kg (44-66lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Ireland



This tireless dog is an ideal companion for hikers. Its dark liver coat is virtually waterproof, and the breed's enthusiasm for plunging into ice-cold water earned it the nickname of "Bogdog". Although gentle and faithful, it is slow to mature and can be headstrong, so needs thorough training when young.

Broad, level back

Smoother hair on face

Smooth hair on throat forms V-shaped patch

Naturally oily, dense coat

Nose matches coat colour

Smooth tail except at base

Puce-liver coat forms dense ringlets

Large, round feet well covered with hair

AMERICAN WATER SPANIEL

THIS DOG IS EAGER TO PLEASE AND EASY TO CARE FOR

KC

Height range
38-45cm (15-18in)

Weight range
12-21kg (26-46lb)

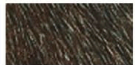


Life span 10-12 years

Origin USA



Other colours

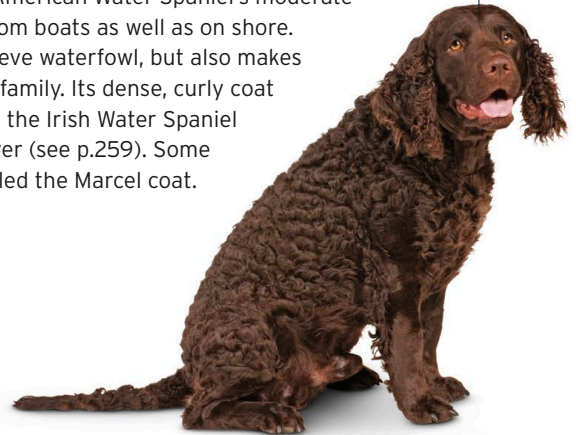


Chocolate

May have a few white hairs on chest and toes.

Originally bred as an all-round hunting and water dog in the Great Lakes region of the United States, the American Water Spaniel's moderate size and lean build allowed it to work from boats as well as on shore. The breed is still used to flush and retrieve waterfowl, but also makes an easy-going companion for an active family. Its dense, curly coat is inherited from ancestors that include the Irish Water Spaniel (opposite) and the Curly Coated Retriever (see p.259). Some dogs have a less tightly curled coat, called the Marcel coat.

Broad head



Ears covered with curly hair



Adult and puppy

Light brown eyes

Tight, liver curls, oily to touch

Smooth hair on face

Moderate feathering along tail

Moderately feathered legs



SPANISH WATER DOG

AN ADAPTABLE WORKING DOG WITH A NO-NONSENSE ATTITUDE

KC

Height range
40–50cm (16–20in)

Weight range
14–22kg (31–49lb)

Life span 10–14 years

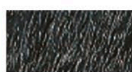
Origin Spain



Other colours



White



Black



Brown and white



Black and white

This distinctive breed has had many roles and names in its homeland, where it is now called the Perro de Agua. Merchants from North Africa or Turkey may have brought this type of dog to Andalusia, where it is most likely to be found today. The Spanish Water Dog has been used for herding, hunting, and towing boats in ports. It is a biddable, generally level-headed companion but can be impatient with children. Until the 1980s the breed was known only in southern Spain, and it remains rare today.

Brown nose matches colour of coat



Light chest markings

Woolly, brown coat forms cords if left unclipped

Back slopes gently down towards tail

Tail barely reaches hocks

Legs slightly shorter than body length

Round feet covered in hair



PORTUGUESE WATER DOG

ACTIVE AND INTELLIGENT, THIS DOG NEEDS AN OWNER TO MATCH

KC

Height range
43-57cm (17-22in)

Weight range
16-25kg (35-55lb)

Life span 10-14 years

Origin Portugal



Other colours



White

Brown



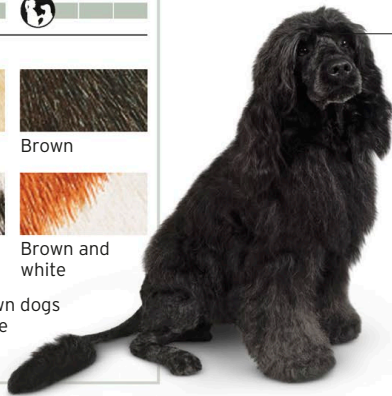
Black and white

Brown and white

Black and brown dogs may have white markings.



Although classed as a gundog, this dog was used to retrieve fishermen's nets as often as hunters' game. The breed's adaptability springs from a lively mind and desire to please, but if not kept busy it can be destructive. There are two coat types: long and wavy or short and curly.



Forehead has central furrow

Hind quarters clipped for work and showing

Round feet



Round eyes, set well apart

Curved tail with plume at tip

Long, wavy, black coat

Long and wavy coat

STANDARD POODLE

THIS INTELLIGENT RETRIEVER DOG MAKES AN EASY FAMILY COMPANION

KC

Height range
Over 38cm (Over 15in)

Weight range
21-32kg (46-71lb)

Life span 10-13 years

Origin Germany



Other colours



Any solid colour



Claimed by France but probably from Germany, this breed was originally a water dog, and the standard size remains closest to those roots. It is popular for crossbreeding because it is robust, clever, and good-tempered. A simple all-over clip is easiest to maintain.



Dark, almond-shaped eyes

Strong, well-chiselled face and jaw



Head carried high

Long, wide, pendant ears

Profuse, dense, curly, black coat

Small, oval feet, with arched toes

BARBET

THIS RELAXED, AFFECTIONATE DOG NEEDS DAILY GROOMING

KC

Height range
53–65cm (21–26in)

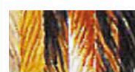
Weight range
16–27kg (35–60lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



Other colours



Variety of colours

One of Europe's oldest water dogs, with ancestors dating back to the Middle Ages, the Barbet has contributed to many other breeds. Its coat is perfect protection for a working dog but its high maintenance may be one reason why this breed is no longer popular, despite its tolerant, friendly attitude to children and to other dogs.

Low-set, drop ears covered by long hair

Face profusely covered with hair

Grey hairs on chin

Tail has slight hook at tip

Round, broad feet

Long, woolly, curly, solid black coat

FRISIAN WATER DOG

THIS CAPABLE, RESERVED BREED DOES BEST WITH A FIRM OWNER

FCI

Height range
55–59cm (22–23in)

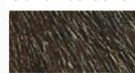
Weight range
15–20kg (33–44lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin The Netherlands



Other colours



Dark brown

Also known as the Dutch Spaniel or Wetterhoun, this breed was originally used by fishermen to control otters. It is still used for flushing and retrieving, but also as a guard and farm dog. Its independent, slightly suspicious character makes it unsuitable for city living, but it is a reliable and rugged dog for a rural home.

Low-set ears hang flat against head

Rounded top to head

Long tail curled into a ring

White chest markings

Solid black coat

Round, arched feet

CORDED POODLE

SMART AND FRIENDLY, THIS DOG IS WRAPPED IN EASY-CARE DREADLOCKS

Height range
24-60cm (9-24in)

Weight range
21-32kg (46-71lb)

Life span 10-13 years

Origin France



Other colours



Any colour



Like other poodles, this is a friendly, intelligent, and level-headed dog that makes a good guard or companion. Corded Poodles have been bred from separate lines of the well-known Standard Poodle (see p.231) for many years but as yet are not recognized as a breed in their own right. Their look was popular in the 19th century but today is rarely seen – even in France. This kind of cording is more often found on herding breeds, offering protection against both weather and predators. Most poodle coats will cord with a little encouragement, and once the cords have formed, are fairly easy to look after.



Muzzle has straight bridge

Black, corded coat



Long, elegant, narrow head

Oblique, almond-shaped eyes

Ears covered with many cords

Level back

Fine, dense, corded, white coat

BRITTANY

THIS ADAPTABLE AND RELIABLE DOG IS IDEAL FOR AN ACTIVE OWNER

KC

Height range
47-51cm (19-20in)

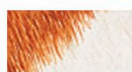
Weight range
14-18kg (31-40lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin France



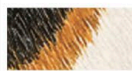
Other colours



Liver and white



Black and white



Black, tan, and white

Colours may be merged and not clearly defined (roan).



Also known as the Brittany Spaniel, and as the Epagneul Breton in its native France, this versatile gundog flushes and retrieves game but is best at simply locating game birds. An old-established breed, the Brittany almost disappeared in the 19th century but today has regained popularity both as a sporting dog and a good-natured family companion.



LAGOTTO ROMAGNOLO

THIS AFFECTIONATE AND BOISTEROUS DOG IS BEST SUITED TO A COUNTRY LIFE

KC

Height range
41-48cm (16-19in)

Weight range
11-16kg (24-35lb)

Life span 12-14 years

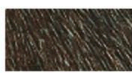
Origin Italy



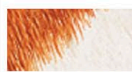
Other colours



Orange



Brown



Roan

Orange and roan coats may have a brown mask.



This breed originally worked as a retriever in the marshland of northern Italy, then later as a truffle hound. Today, it is bred as often for companionship as for work. The Lagotto Romagnolo is good-natured and likes to be kept busy. Its characteristic ringlet coat needs weekly combing and annual clipping.



PONT-AUDEMER SPANIEL

THIS ENGAGING BREED IS ENERGETIC OUTDOORS BUT RELAXED IN THE HOME

FCI

Height range
51-58cm (20-23in)

Weight range
18-24kg (40-53lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin France



Other colours



Brown

This French pointer and retriever is a specialist at hunting in water and swampland. The breed is thought to have been developed in the 19th century, and may include the Irish Water Spaniel (see p.228) in its ancestry. The Pont-Audemer Spaniel has never been well known, even in France, and by the 20th century was nearly extinct. It survived in small numbers and is still used for hunting but also makes a gentle house dog. The curly, slightly ruffled-looking coat is not particularly difficult to maintain, though it does need regular care.

Drop ears covered with long, silky hair

Rounded skull with topknot of curly hair

Small, dark amber eyes

Long, slightly pointed muzzle

Deep, broad chest reaches elbows

Tail slightly curved with lighter-coloured tip

Curly, dishevelled-looking, brown coat with grey and brown mottlings

Round feet with long, curly hair between toes





SMALL MUNSTERLANDER

A LIVELY, INTELLIGENT DOG STILL USED MAINLY FOR HUNTING

KC

Height range
52-53cm (20-21in)

Weight range
18-27kg (40-60lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin Germany



One German name for the breed, Heidewachtel or "heath quail dog", describes this dog's first purpose of flushing game birds. Although it is a cheerful and affectionate companion, hunters quickly snap up almost all of the small numbers that are bred each year. Despite its name, this breed is not directly related to the Large Munsterlander (below).



White blaze on head

Medium-length, well-feathered tail

Well-feathered, broad ears

Silky, brown coat

White legs with brown mottling

LARGE MUNSTERLANDER

THIS HUNTING DOG IS HAPPIEST IN THE HOME

KC

Height range
58-65cm (23-26in)

Weight range
29-31kg (65-68lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Germany



The Grosser Munsterlander, as it is called in Germany, is more closely related to the German pointers than the Small Munsterlander (above). It is slow to mature, but makes a calm, highly trainable, and versatile gundog. It positively thrives on close human company and is good with children.



Black mantle

Long, dense coat provides insulation

Legs are well feathered

White hairs at tip of snout

White coat with black flecking

Solid black head

FRISIAN POINTING DOG

THIS ADAPTABLE, ROBUST FARM DOG IS EASY TO LIVE WITH

FCI

Height range
50–53cm (20–21in)

Weight range
19–25kg (42–55lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin The Netherlands

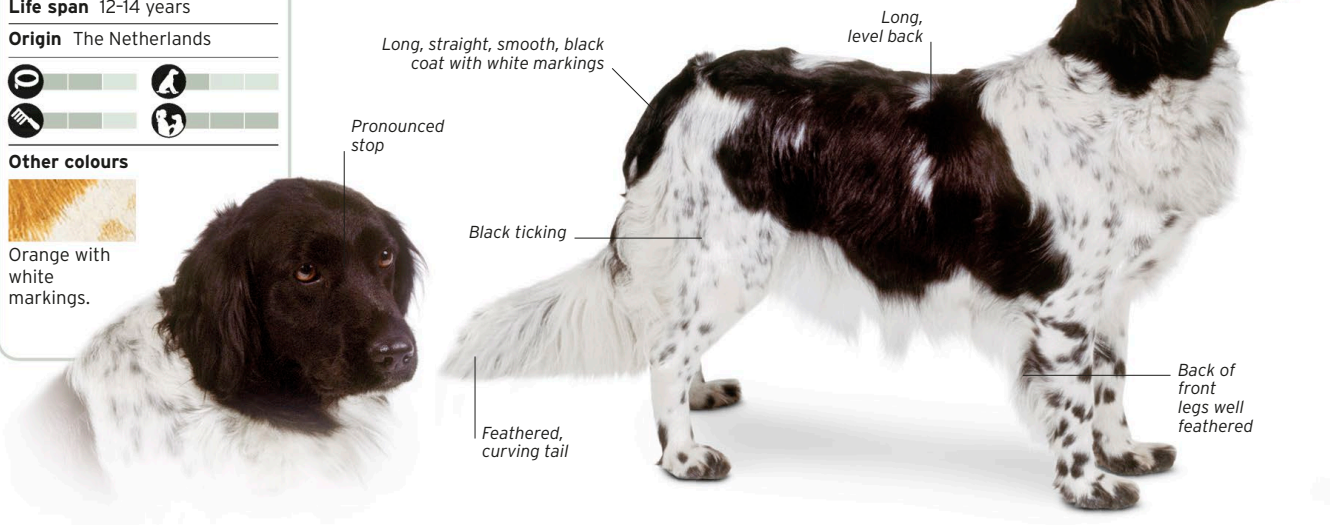


Other colours



Orange with white markings.

Bred by farmers, this dog, also known as the Stabyhoun, tracks, points, and retrieves alongside hunters. It makes an active and even-tempered family companion, and is excellent with children. This breed, despite efforts to improve its numbers, remains rare even in its native land.



DRENTSCHE PARTRIDGE DOG

A DEDICATED HUNTING DOG, BUT CALM ENOUGH FOR CITY LIFE

FCI

Height range
55–63cm (22–25in)

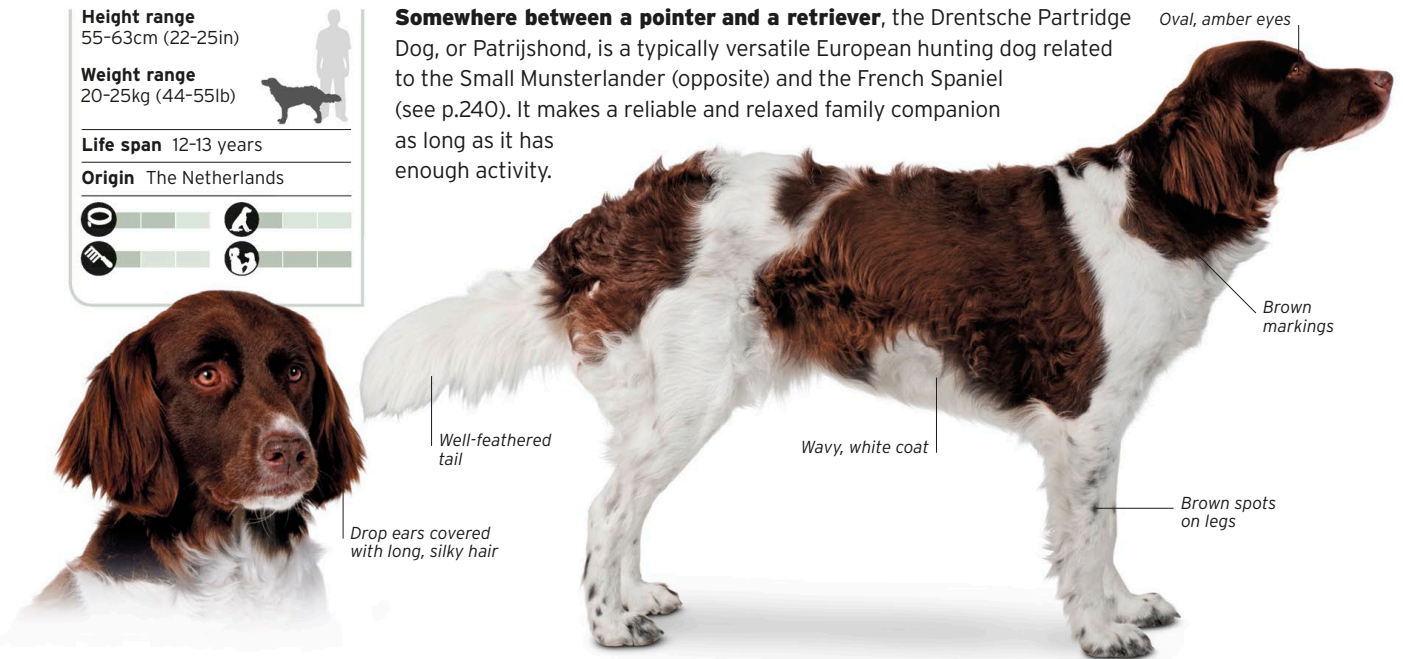
Weight range
20–25kg (44–55lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin The Netherlands



Somewhere between a pointer and a retriever, the Drentsche Partridge Dog, or Patrijshond, is a typically versatile European hunting dog related to the Small Munsterlander (opposite) and the French Spaniel (see p.240). It makes a reliable and relaxed family companion as long as it has enough activity.





KOOIKERHONDJE

THIS CHEERFUL, ENERGETIC DOG IS NOT SUITED TO CITY LIFE

KC

Height range
35–42cm (14–17in)

Weight range
9–11kg (20–24lb)



Life span 12–13 years

Origin The Netherlands



This breed goes by several other names, including Dutch Decoy Spaniel, which describes its original and unusual role. Romping and waving its flag-like tail, never barking, it was used for centuries to lure and drive curious waterfowl into tunnel traps or “kooien” for hunters to catch alive – a task it still performs today for researchers wanting to tag and release birds. It is a rare breed, but its working history makes it a playful, good-natured dog that is dedicated to its owners, although can be aloof with strangers.

Sleek, slightly wavy, white coat with orange-red patches

White blaze on face

Drop ears covered in long, silky hair

Alert, almond-shaped, deep brown eyes

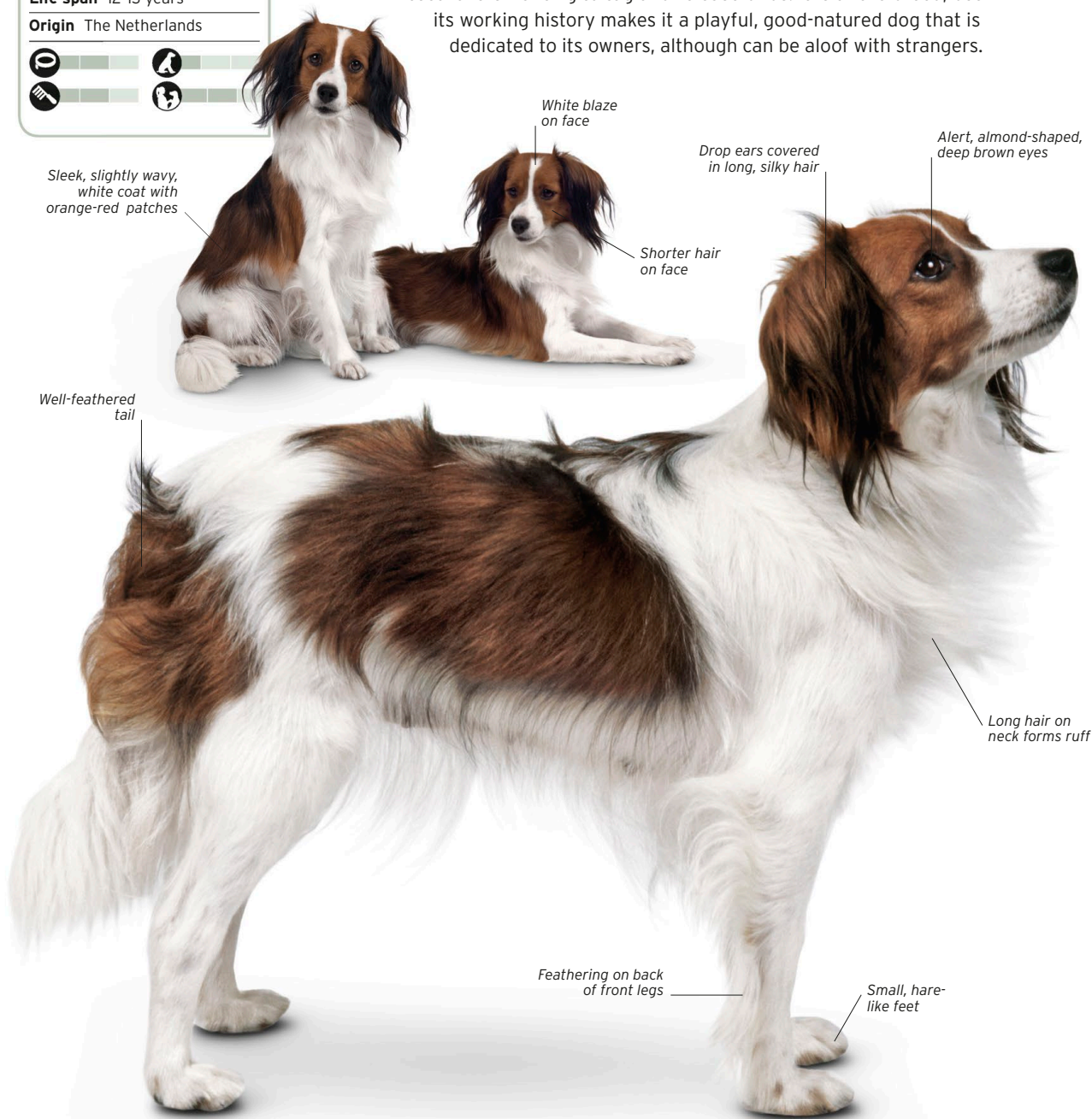
Shorter hair on face

Well-feathered tail

Long hair on neck forms ruff

Feathering on back of front legs

Small, hare-like feet



PICARDY SPANIEL

THIS DOG LOVES OPEN SPACES BUT MAKES A CALM COMPANION AT HOME

FCI

Height range
55-60cm (22-24in)

Weight range
20-25kg (44-55lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin France



One of the oldest spaniel breeds, the Picardy Spaniel is still used in France to flush birds in woodland and wetland areas. An enthusiastic swimmer, it makes a placid, reliable, and affectionate family dog, which will even adapt to city life if given a reasonable amount of exercise.

Long, low-set, drop ears

Oval head with well-defined stop

Dense coat has slight wave and grey mottling

Large feet are round, with feathering between toes

Back slopes down towards tail

Curved tail with feathering

Squarely built body

Brown patch

Rich tan markings

BLUE PICARDY SPANIEL

THIS PLAYFUL, GENTLE SPANIEL LOVES PLENTY OF ATTENTION AND EXERCISE

FCI

Height range
57-60cm (23-24in)

Weight range
20-21kg (44-46lb)

Life span 11-13 years

Origin France



Mainly used as a water dog for pointing and retrieving snipe in marshland, this quiet and easy-going breed is a fun-loving companion and good with children. However, the Blue Picardy Spaniel's friendly temperament means that it is of little use for guarding.

Well-defined stop

Slightly wavy coat with black patches

Pendulous flews

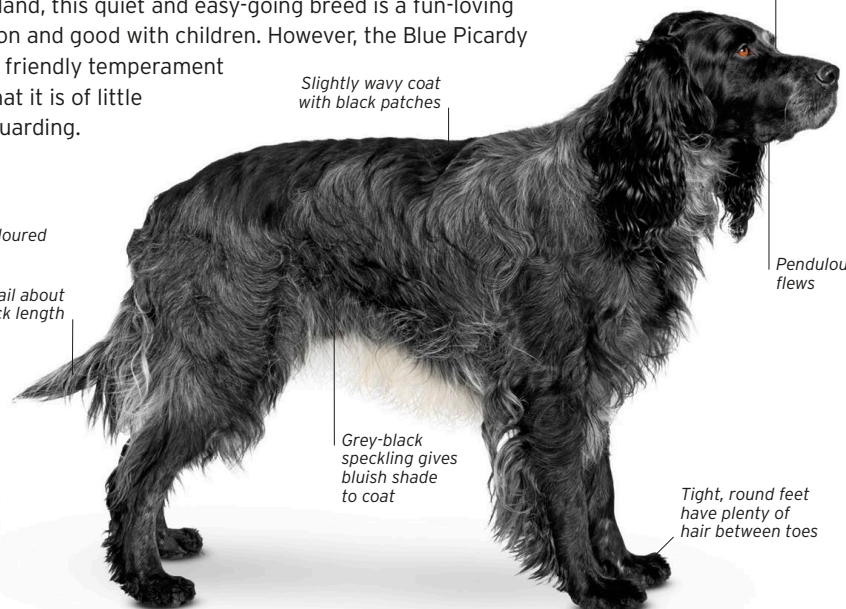
Lighter-coloured blaze

Tail about hock length

Grey-black speckling gives bluish shade to coat

Tight, round feet have plenty of hair between toes

Long, drop ears are covered with wavy hair



FRENCH SPANIEL

THIS FRIENDLY, ELEGANT GUNDOG IS HAPPY ON CITY STREETS OR IN WIDE OPEN SPACES

FCI

Height range
55–61cm (22–24in)

Weight range
20–25kg (44–55lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



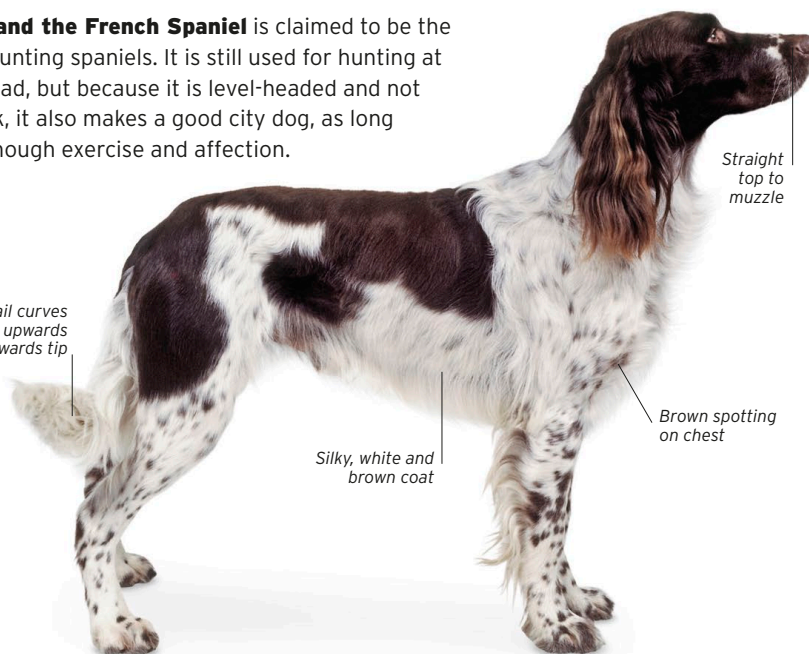
In its native land the French Spaniel is claimed to be the original of all hunting spaniels. It is still used for hunting at home and abroad, but because it is level-headed and not inclined to bark, it also makes a good city dog, as long as it is given enough exercise and affection.

Pendant ears
set quite
far back on
the head



Large, oval
eyes match
brown of coat

Tail curves
upwards
towards tip



Straight
top to
muzzle

Brown spotting
on chest

Silky, white and
brown coat

ENGLISH SETTER

THE PERFECT COUNTRY-HOUSE DOG IN BOTH LOOKS AND CHARACTER

KC

Height range
61–64cm (24–25in)

Weight range
25–30kg (55–66lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Orange or
lemon belton

Liver belton

Liver belttons may have
tan markings.

Developed to track, set, and retrieve birds, this breed is still worked today, although different bloodlines are used for hunting or home life. Elegant in appearance, the English Setter is a cheerful and tireless companion that needs a good deal of space and activity, but has a calm and reliable temperament.

Low-set,
pendant
ears

Blue belton coat

Well-feathered tail

Light tan
marks on
face

Square muzzle with
slightly pendulous flews



IRISH SETTER

AN EXUBERANT, ENTHUSIASTIC BREED FOR A PATIENT AND ACTIVE OWNER

KC

Height range
64-69cm (25-27in)

Weight range
27-32kg (60-71lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Ireland



The red dog, or Modder Rhu, of Ireland started out as a hunting dog and is still an effective worker, but today is more commonly kept as a striking and spirited companion. Slow to mature, it needs firm training from an early age. The breed's devil-may-care attitude and tendency to get into scrapes when young can try an owner's patience, but its sociable nature and zest for life make it worth the extra effort. It does not simply tolerate other dogs and children, but actively seeks them out to play with.



Silky, drop ears

Level, almond-shaped eyes have kind expression

Shorter hair on front of lower legs



Deep, square muzzle



Well-feathered tail

Long, glossy, red coat

Very deep and narrow chest

Longer hair on underside of body

Feathering on back of legs

IRISH RED AND WHITE SETTER

THIS PLAYFUL DOG IS SLOW TO MATURE, BUT IT IS WORTH THE WAIT

KC

Height range
64-69cm (25-27in)

Weight range
25-34kg (55-75lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Ireland

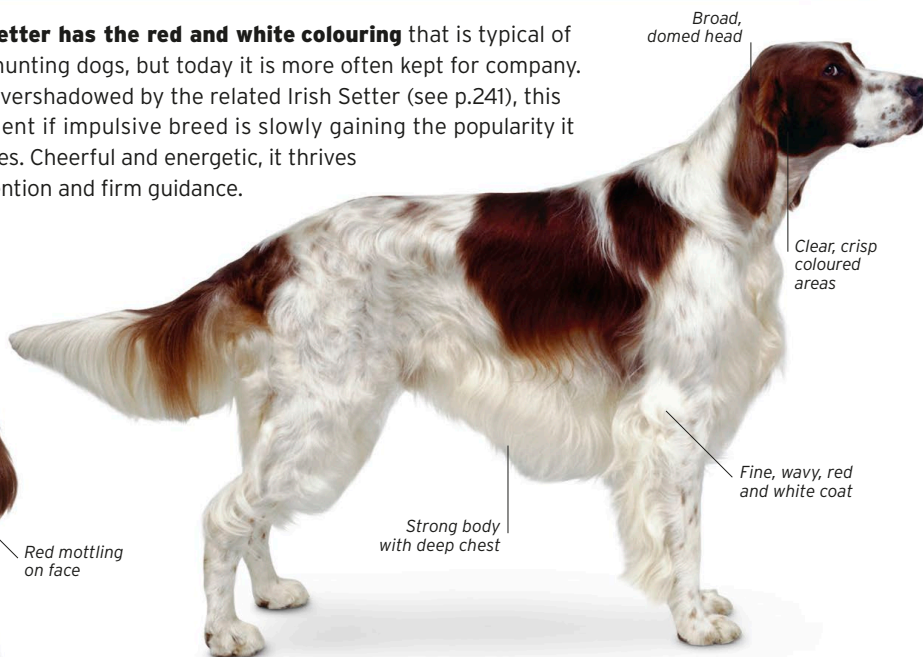


This setter has the red and white colouring that is typical of many hunting dogs, but today it is more often kept for company. Long overshadowed by the related Irish Setter (see p.241), this intelligent if impulsive breed is slowly gaining the popularity it deserves. Cheerful and energetic, it thrives on attention and firm guidance.

Ears level with eyes and set well back



Red mottling on face



Broad, domed head

Clear, crisp coloured areas

Fine, wavy, red and white coat

Strong body with deep chest

GORDON SETTER

AN OUTGOING BUT OBEDIENT CHARACTER BRED FOR WIDE OPEN SPACES

KC

Height range
62-66cm (24-26in)

Weight range
26-30kg (57-66lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin UK



Originally employed in Scotland to track game birds and then freeze once it had located them, changes in hunting fashions have seen this breed move from field to fireside. It brings with it a level-headed and loyal nature, but also a need for daily, vigorous exercise and a good deal of space.

Shiny, coal-black coat



Deep head with slightly rounded skull



Lean, long neck

Fringe on belly may extend to throat

Full feathering on long, muscular thighs

Typical chestnut-red marking on feet and lower legs

NOVA SCOTIA DUCK TOLLING RETRIEVER

THIS GUNDOG HAS ADAPTED WELL TO THE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT

KC

Height range
45-53cm (18-21in)

Weight range
17-23kg (37-51lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Canada



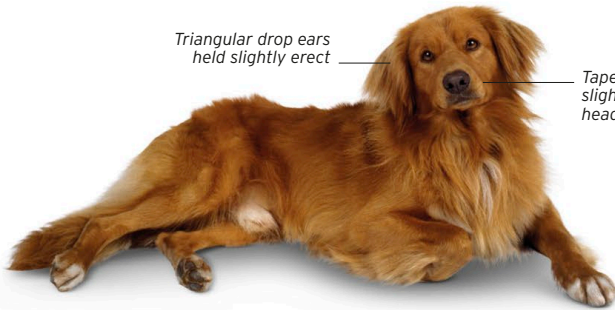
This breed takes its name from its role in an unusual form of duck and goose hunting. The dog used to retrieve sticks - thrown by hunters in a hide - with a great show of activity but no barking, and this would lure in, or "toll", inquisitive birds. Once the birds were in range, the hunters could shoot them and the dog would retrieve them. The ideal dog for this role, its playful, quiet, and obedient qualities make it an excellent companion breed. It is also tireless, so needs plenty of exercise.



Almond-shaped eyes have alert expression

Triangular drop ears held slightly erect

Tapering muzzle with slightly wedge-shaped head



Level back

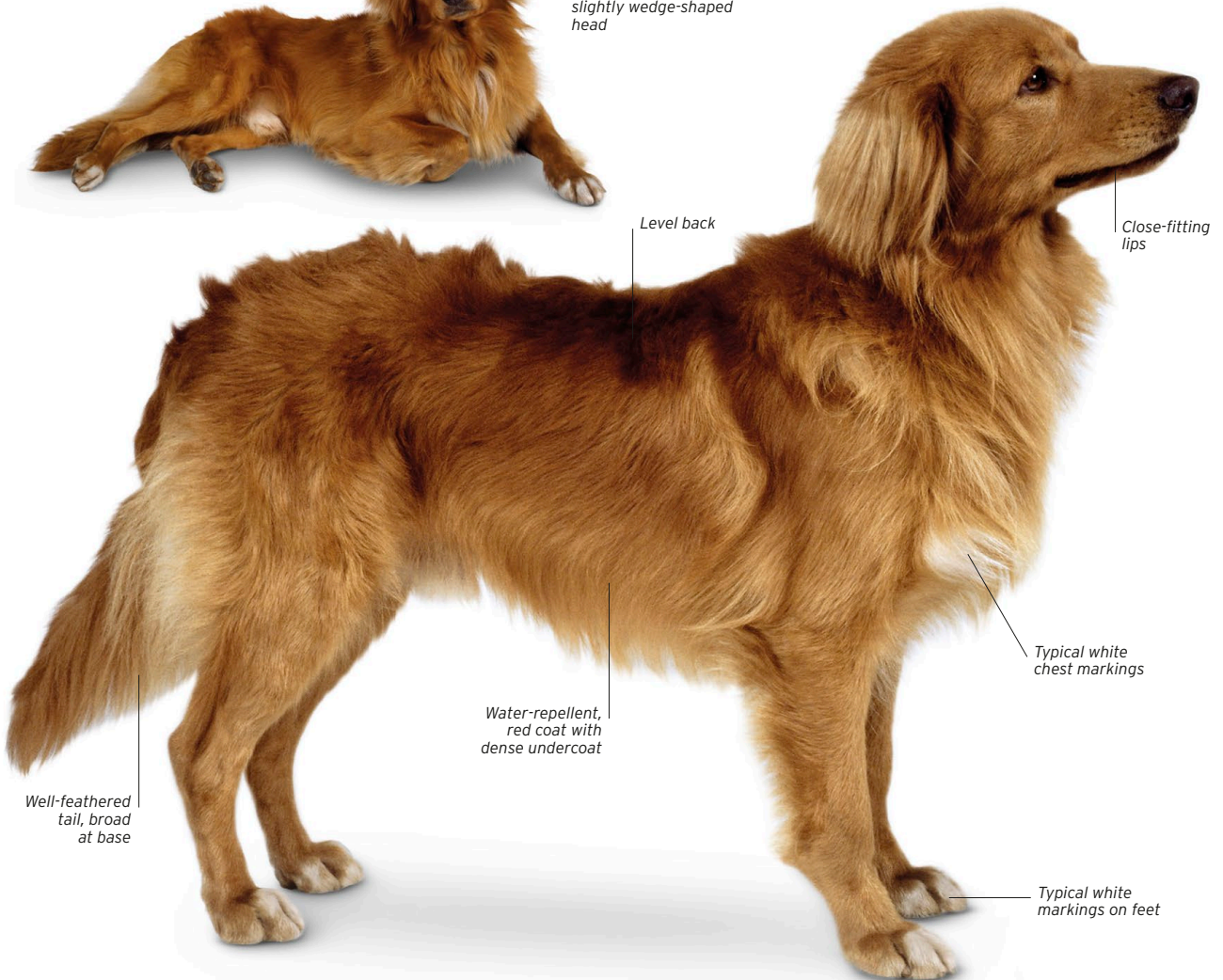
Close-fitting lips

Typical white chest markings

Water-repellent, red coat with dense undercoat

Well-feathered tail, broad at base

Typical white markings on feet





GERMAN POINTER

THIS INTELLIGENT BREED IS GENIAL AND GENTLE IF KEPT BUSY

Height range
53–64cm (21–25in)

Weight range
20–32kg (44–71lb)

Life span 10–14 years

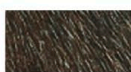
Origin Germany



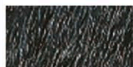
Other colours



Liver



Brown



Black



A superlative hunting dog, which tracks, points, and retrieves over any terrain from heathland to marshland, the German Pointer or Deutsch Kurzhaar is a loyal, obedient breed. In its homeland it has always been kept for the home as well as the hunt, and the breed is generally level-headed and reliable. This is an energetic dog, and individuals can become hyperactive and destructive if they are not given enough exercise. There are three coat types: wire-haired, long-haired, and short-haired. By far the best known is the German Short-haired Pointer, called GSP by hunters in the UK.



Brown nose

Short-haired

Wire-haired



Broad, drop ears, rounded at tips

Liver patch

Medium-sized, brown eyes

Well-defined stop

Tapering tail with white tip, carried low

Tucked-up belly

Liver coat with white ticking, coarse to touch

Spoon-shaped, compact feet

Short-haired



CESKY FOUSEK

THIS RURAL BREED IS INTELLIGENT AND ROBUST BUT MAY BE HEADSTRONG

FCI

Height range
58-66cm (23-26in)

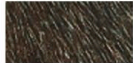
Weight range
22-34kg (49-75lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Czech Republic



Other colours



Brown

Brown coats may have ticked markings on chest and lower limbs.



This breed, variously claimed to be of Czech, Slovakian, or Bohemian descent, is still a popular hunting dog in these areas but is rare elsewhere. It is loyal and trainable, and usually gentle around people, but is a natural hunter and so may be unreliable with other pets.

Tail traditionally docked to two-fifths of length

Deep-set, amber eyes with kind expression

Brown nose

Distinctive, bushy eyebrows

Large, drop ears

Beard of soft hair

Hard, protective, dark roan coat with brown patches

Compact, spoon-shaped feet



KORTHALS GRIFFON

THIS RUGGED AND RELIABLE BREED IS A FRIENDLY TOWN OR COUNTRY COMPANION

KC

Height range
50-60cm (20-24in)

Weight range
23-27kg (51-60lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin The Netherlands



Other colours



Liver



White and orange



Roan, white, and brown



Related to the German Pointer (opposite), bred by Dutchman Edward Korthals, and adopted by French hunters, this is a versatile and easy-going breed. It is not the fastest gundog but is popular for hunting where obedient, close-working dogs are needed - qualities that also make it a valuable companion.

Hairy eyebrows

Shorter, liver hair on ears

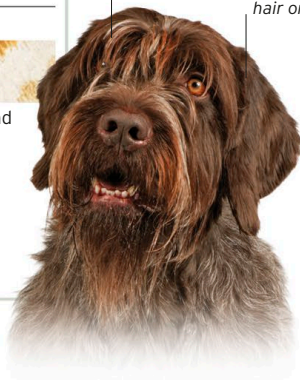
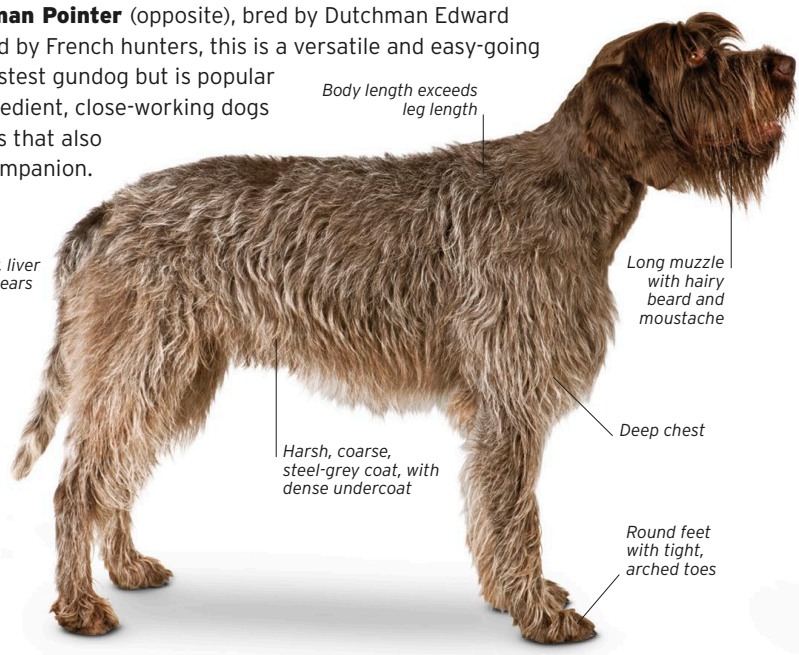
Body length exceeds leg length

Long muzzle with hairy beard and moustache

Deep chest

Harsh, coarse, steel-grey coat, with dense undercoat

Round feet with tight, arched toes



WEIMARANER

THIS BEAUTIFUL, INTELLIGENT DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF SPACE

KC

Height range
56-69cm (22-27in)

Weight range
25-41kg (55-90lb)



Life span 12-13 years

Origin Germany



Created as an all-purpose hunting, pointing, and retrieving gundog, this 19th-century breed, nicknamed the "Grey Ghost", is a careful, almost stealthy dog in the field. While the Weimaraner may be reserved with strangers, it is a bouncy family companion and can be too boisterous for small children. Elegant lines, striking colour, and grace in movement have contributed to this breed's popularity both as a pet and working dog, but it can stay active for hours, and needs an owner with similar stamina. There are two coat types: long-haired and short-haired.



Long-haired

*Striking, pale
blue-grey eyes*



*Large, high-set ears
have slight fold*

Grey nose

*Body as long as
height at the withers*

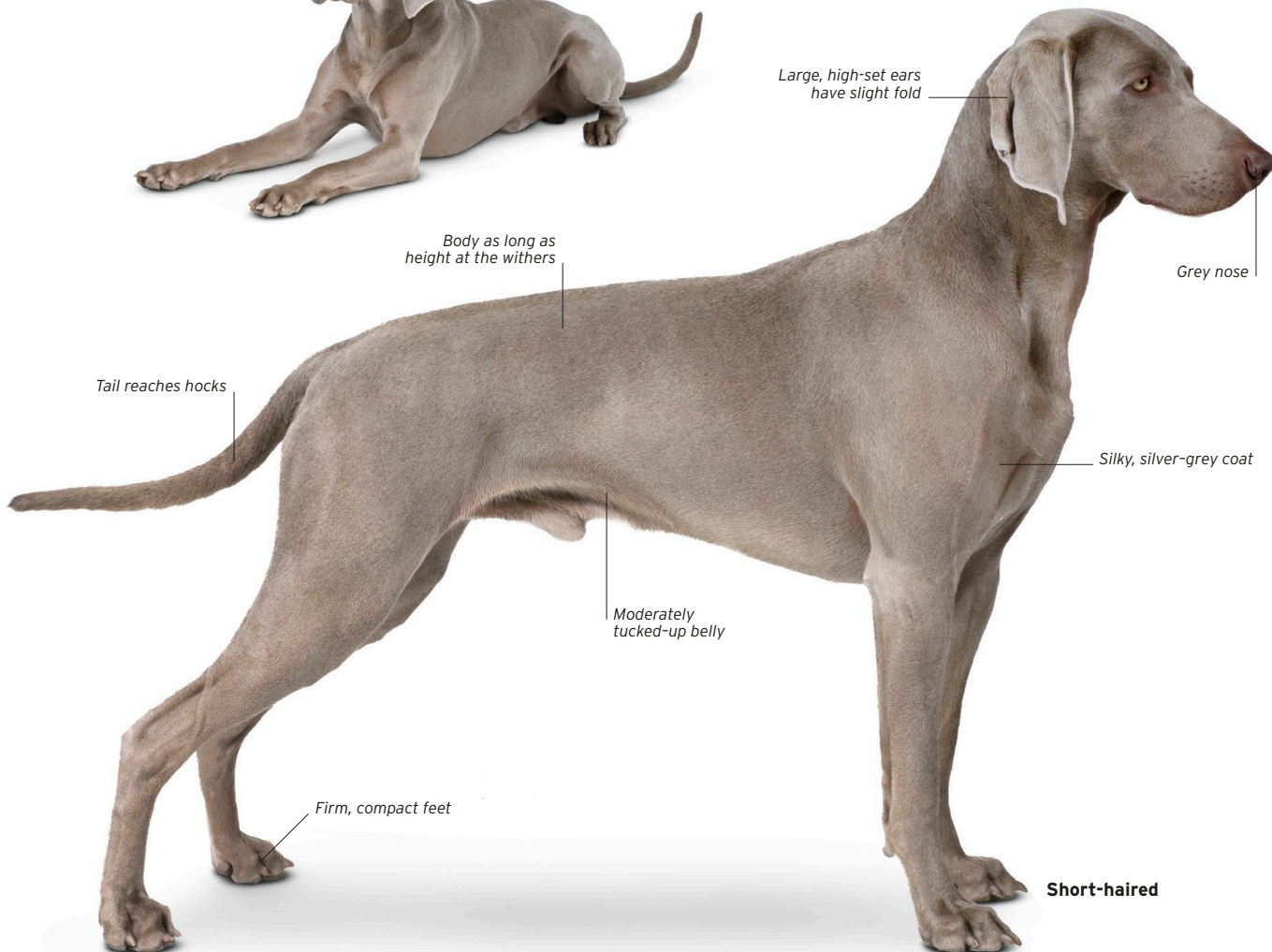
Silky, silver-grey coat

Tail reaches hocks

*Moderately
tucked-up belly*

Firm, compact feet

Short-haired



HUNGARIAN VIZSLA

THIS LOYAL AND GENTLE DOG IS HIGH-ENERGY BUT LOW MAINTENANCE

KC

Height range
53-64cm (21-25in)

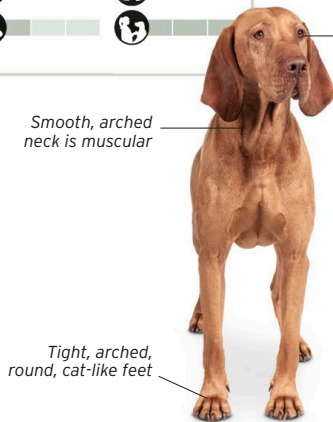
Weight range
20-30kg (44-66lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin Hungary



A typical European hunting dog thought to date back to the 16th century, this breed is also known as the Hungarian Short-haired Pointer. It is extremely affectionate and intelligent, and responds well to training. Popular with both hunters and families, the dog has almost boundless energy and will seek and retrieve sticks as readily as it will game - all day if allowed.



Smooth, arched neck is muscular

Tight, arched, round, cat-like feet

Eyes slightly darker than coat colour

Slightly curved tail tapers to pointed tip



Strong, muscular back

Distinctive, sleek, golden-russet coat lacks insulating undercoat

Nose colour matches coat

Long forearms

HUNGARIAN WIRE HAISED VIZSLA

BRED TO HUNT, BUT ALSO MAKES AN OBEDIENT AND AFFECTIONATE COMPANION

KC

Height range
53-62cm (21-24in)

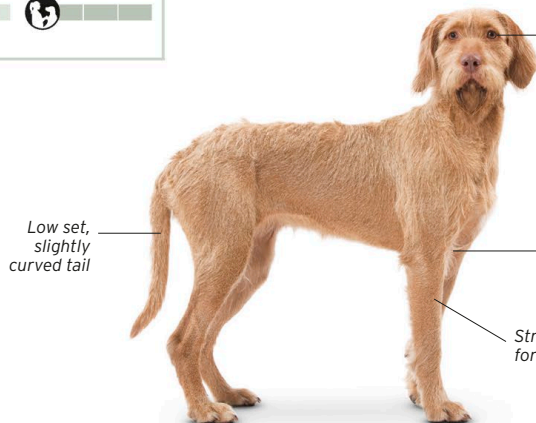
Weight range
20-30kg (44-66lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Hungary



The wire-haired variety of Hungarian Vizsla, which was developed in the 1930s, has a stronger build than the smooth-haired variety, probably because it originated from a cross between a smooth coated Vizsla and a German Wire-haired Pointer. Its characteristic dense wiry coat is ideal for hunting in cold conditions, while its shaggy beard and eyebrows give it an alert but gentle expression.

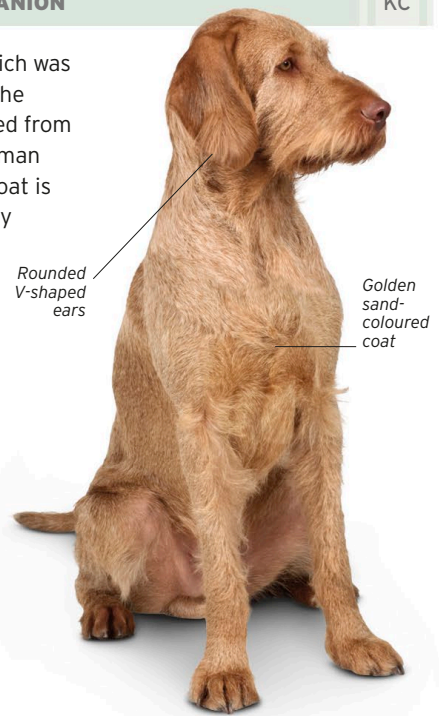


Low set, slightly curved tail

Eyes slightly darker than coat

Deep chest reaching down to elbows

Straight forelegs



Rounded V-shaped ears

Golden sand-coloured coat

PORTUGUESE POINTER

THIS TIRELESS AND ADAPTABLE HUNTING DOG IS BEST SUITED TO A WORKING LIFE

KC

Height range
50–58cm (20–23in)

Weight range
16–27kg (35–60lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin Portugal



Locally known as the Perdigueiro Português, which literally means the Portuguese Partridge Dog, this breed was used as a pointer for hunters with falcons or nets. Still worked today, the Portuguese Pointer is level-headed and biddable and so, also makes an amenable companion. However, this tenacious hunter needs considerable mental and physical activity every day.

Triangular,
drop ears

Moderately
developed
fews

Deep chest

Short, red-
yellow coat

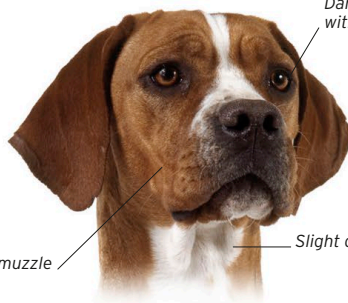
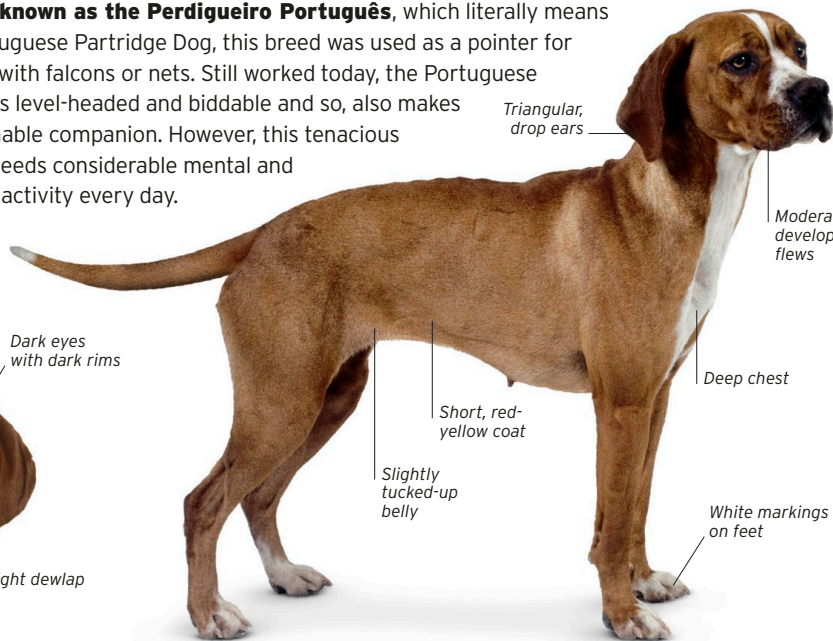
Slightly
tucked-up
belly

White markings
on feet

Dark eyes
with dark rims

Slight dewlap

Square muzzle



BRACCO ITALIANO

THIS RARE BREED IS ATHLETIC AND GOOD WITH CHILDREN

KC

Height range
55–67cm (22–26in)

Weight range
25–40kg (55–88lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin Italy



Dogs similar to the Bracco Italiano, or Italian Pointer, can be seen in paintings from the 14th century, when they were used to drive game birds into nets. Still used as a working dog today, this breed also makes a level-headed and gentle companion, though it can be stubborn at times.

Slightly arched muzzle

Pendant
ears with
rounded tips

Well-
developed
fews

Nose matches
coat colour

Powerful
neck has
soft dewlap

Smooth, roan coat with
chestnut markings

Oval-shaped feet

Other colours



White



White with
orange, amber,
or brown
markings

Tail tapers slightly



ITALIAN SPINONE

THIS EASY-GOING AND RELAXED COMPANION IS NOT IDEAL FOR HOUSE-PROUD OWNERS

KC

Height range
58-70cm (23-28in)

Weight range
29-39kg (65-85lb)



Life span 12-13 years

Origin Italy



Other colours



White



Orange roan



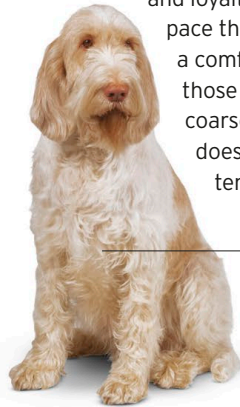
White and brown
or brown roan

This versatile tracker and retriever from northern Italy was the region's most popular hunting breed until the 20th century, and is still worked - its shaggy coat is useful protection in heavy undergrowth. More recently it has become a popular companion breed, prized for its gentle temperament

and loyalty. An inclination to move at a slightly slower pace than many gundogs makes the Italian Spinone a comfortable walking companion. This breed is for those who love the "doggy" nature of dogs: the coarse coat may not be high maintenance but does retain smells, and the breed has a tendency to drool.



Large, round,
ochre eyes
with kind
expression



Broad, deep chest



Thick tail
carried low

Back curves gently

Slightly tucked-up belly

Triangular,
pendant ears

Light-coloured
nose

Long moustache
blends into beard

Coarse, dense,
white and
orange coat

Large, round
feet

FRENCH PYRENEAN POINTER

A GRACEFUL DOG SUITED TO OUTDOOR-LOVING OWNERS

FCI

Height range
47–58cm (19–23in)

Weight range
18–24kg (40–53lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



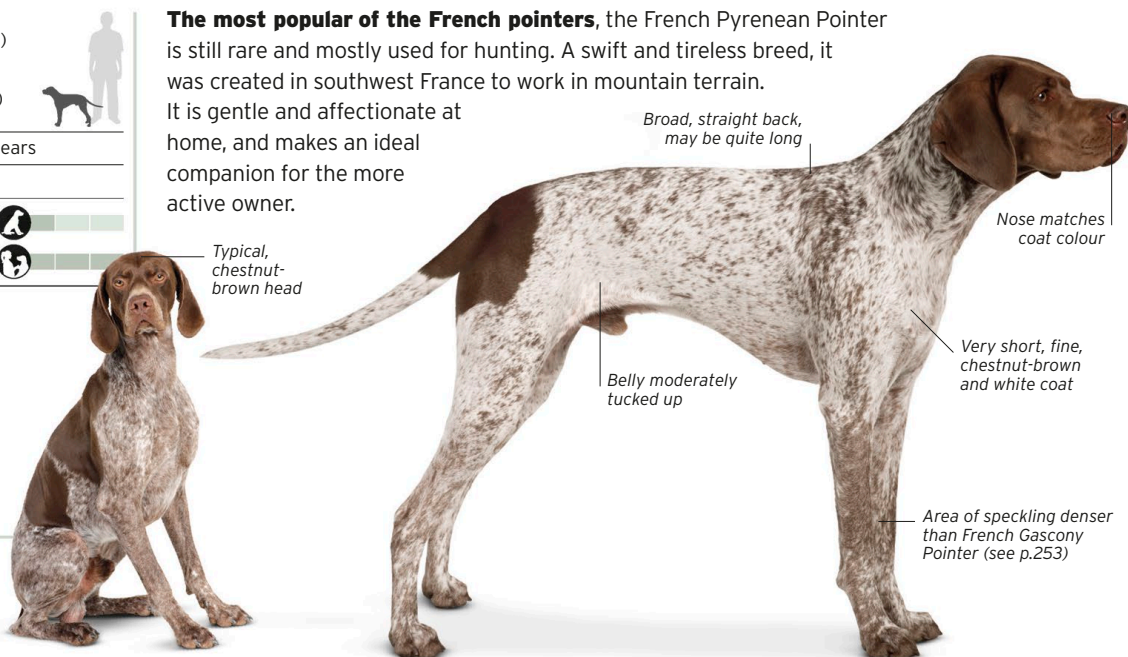
Other colours



Chestnut-brown

Chestnut-brown dogs may have tan markings.

The most popular of the French pointers, the French Pyrenean Pointer is still rare and mostly used for hunting. A swift and tireless breed, it was created in southwest France to work in mountain terrain. It is gentle and affectionate at home, and makes an ideal companion for the more active owner.



SAINT GERMAIN POINTER

AFFECTIONATE WITH FAMILY, BUT RESERVED WITH STRANGERS, THIS DOG IS KEEN IN THE FIELD

FCI

Height range
53–62cm (21–24in)

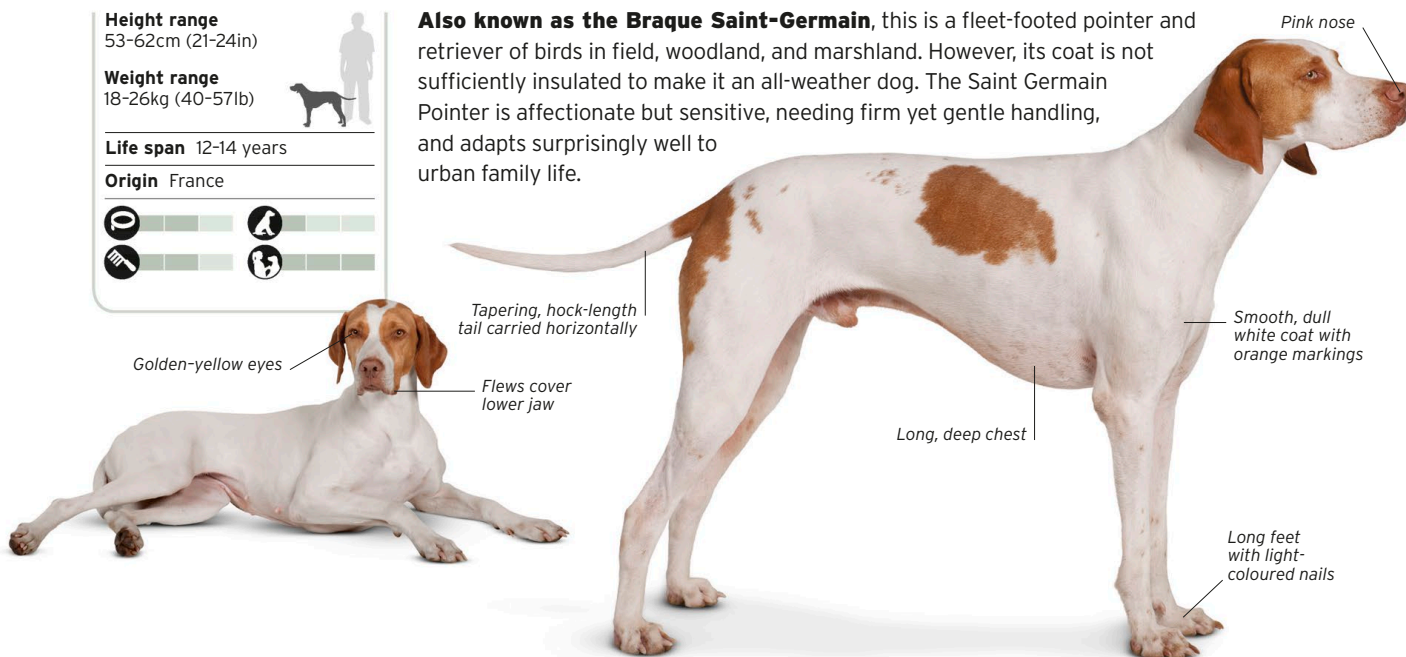
Weight range
18–26kg (40–57lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



Also known as the Braque Saint-Germain, this is a fleet-footed pointer and retriever of birds in field, woodland, and marshland. However, its coat is not sufficiently insulated to make it an all-weather dog. The Saint Germain Pointer is affectionate but sensitive, needing firm yet gentle handling, and adapts surprisingly well to urban family life.



BOURBONNAIS POINTING DOG

THIS TOLERANT AND LEVEL-HEADED BREED IS A GOOD ALL-ROUND GUNDOG

FCI

Height range
48-57cm (19-22in)

Weight range
16-26kg (35-57lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin France



A versatile tracker, pointer, and retriever, the Bourbonnais Pointing Dog is the oldest and perhaps the most level-headed of all the French gundog breeds. Robust in build, giving an impression of power, this dog is full of stamina when working but relaxed and affectionate when off duty.

Brown, drop ears with rounded tips

Slightly tapered muzzle

Nose colour matches brown of coat

Pear-shaped head

Line of belly rises steadily

Fine, dense, white coat with brown ticking and markings

Round feet

PUDELPOINTER

THIS WELL-BALANCED AND ROBUST BREED IS A DOG WORTH SEEKING OUT

FCI

Height range
55-68cm (22-27in)

Weight range
20-30kg (44-66lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Germany



Developed for both the field and home, this cross of poodle and pointer aims to be the best of both: intelligent, hardy, and sociable, with excellent all-round working abilities. Most popular with hunters, the Pudelpointer is an amenable and cheerful rural companion.

Curling forelock

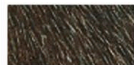
Drop ears lie close to head

Beard and moustache lighter in colour

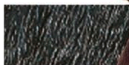
Hard, rough, brown coat, with dense undercoat

Oval feet

Other colours



Dead leaf



Black

Large, dark, amber eyes

Sabre-like tail

White markings on chest

Slightly tucked-up belly

BRAQUE D'AUVERGNE

A GOOD-NATURED, OBEDIENT DOG WITH LOTS OF STAMINA

KC

Height range
53–63cm (21–25in)

Weight range
22–28kg (49–62lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin France



The Braque d'Auvergne, or Auvergne Pointer, was bred in central France by and for hunters, and it remains a tenacious all-purpose hunting dog that can work all day over long distances. Friendly and intelligent, this is a lively, affectionate breed that is easily trained and loves company. The Braque d'Auvergne will thrive in any active household.



ARIEGE POINTING DOG

AN ELEGANT BREED BEST SUITED TO A HIGHLY ACTIVE, DISCIPLINED LIFE

FCI

Height range
56–67cm (22–26in)

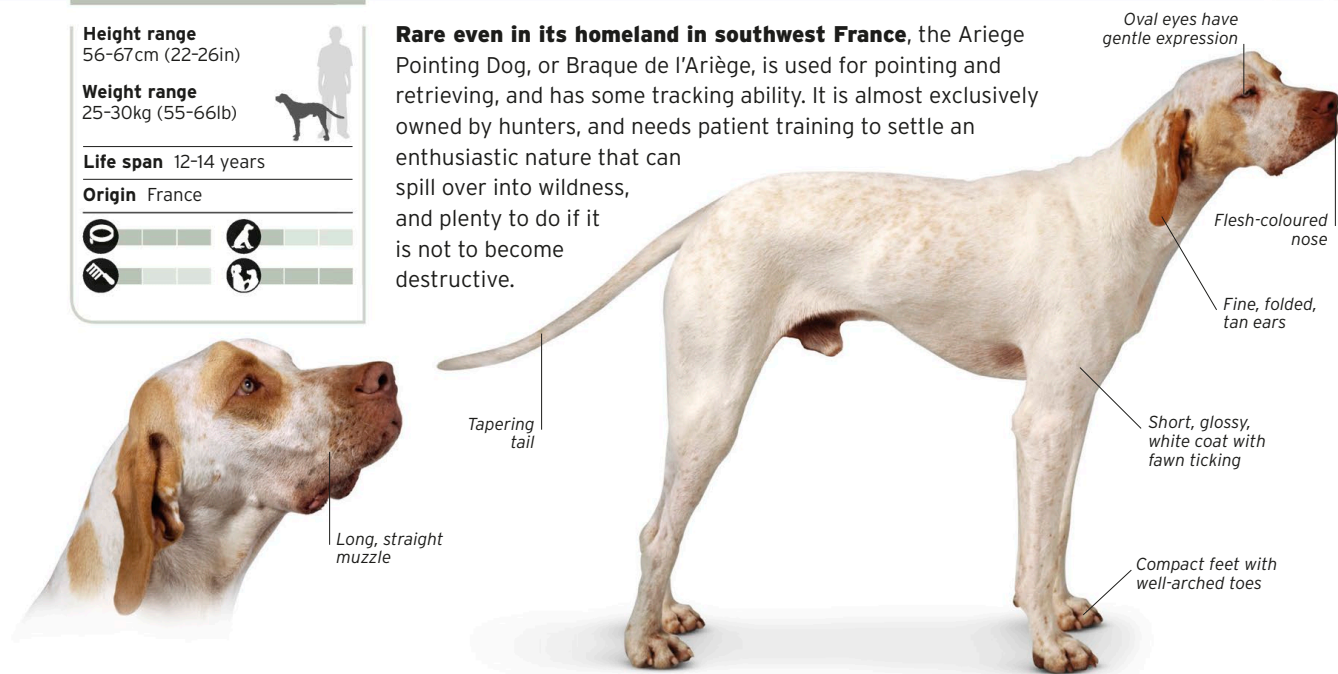
Weight range
25–30kg (55–66lb)

Life span 12–14 years

Origin France



Rare even in its homeland in southwest France, the Ariege Pointing Dog, or Braque de l'Ariège, is used for pointing and retrieving, and has some tracking ability. It is almost exclusively owned by hunters, and needs patient training to settle an enthusiastic nature that can spill over into wildness, and plenty to do if it is not to become destructive.



FRENCH GASCONY POINTER

THIS DOG IS GENTLE AND INTELLIGENT AT HOME BUT AN AVID HUNTER OUTDOORS

FCI

Height range
56-69cm (22-27in)

Weight range
25-32kg (55-71lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin France



Other colours



Chestnut-brown

Chestnut-brown dogs may have tan markings.

One of the oldest pointer breeds, the French Gascony Pointer, from southwest France, is still kept as a hunter's dog as well as a household companion. Loyal and affectionate, it has a sensitive nature that responds best to gentle, consistent training. It is a determined and enthusiastic tracker in the field.

Drop ears with rounded tips

Broad, straight back

Chestnut-brown eyes

Compact, almost round feet

Slightly tucked-up belly

Very fine, short, chestnut-brown and white coat

Chestnut-brown flecking less dense than on French Pyrenean Pointer (see p.250)

SLOVAKIAN ROUGH-HAIRED POINTER

THIS LOYAL, OBEDIENT, AND LEVEL-HEADED BREED LOVES TO WORK

KC

Height range
57-68cm (22-27in)

Weight range
25-35kg (55-77lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Slovakia



This breed is found under a variety of names, from Slovenský Pointer to Wire-haired Slovakian Pointer, and Slovenský Hrubosrstý Stavač in its homeland. It is probably descended from German hunting dogs, and shows their typical intelligence, good humour, and energy. Not a breed to leave alone at home, it thrives on company and activity.

Long, lean head

Straight, solid back slopes slightly down towards tail

Longer, softer, lighter-coloured hair on muzzle

Drop ears with short, soft hair

Almond-shaped, amber eyes

White markings on chest

Harsh, flat, grey (brown-shaded sable) coat

Rounded feet with well-arched toes



ENGLISH POINTER

THIS ATHLETIC DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF EXERCISE IF KEPT AS A PET

KC

Height range
61-69cm (24-27in)

Weight range
20-34kg (44-75lb)

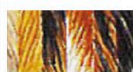


Life span 12-13 years

Origin UK

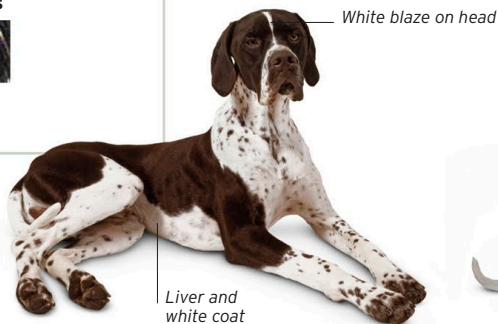


Other colours



Variety of colours

Simply known as the Pointer in the UK, this breed is swift and keen when tracking and pointing, tasks for which it has long been used; however, it does not retrieve particularly well. In character, English Pointers are gentle, loyal, and obedient. They are good-natured family companions and reliable with children but can be too boisterous with toddlers. They retain their hunting stamina and need plenty of outdoor space.



Liver and white coat



White blaze on head

Well-developed, soft flews

Very well-defined stop

Bright, hazel eyes

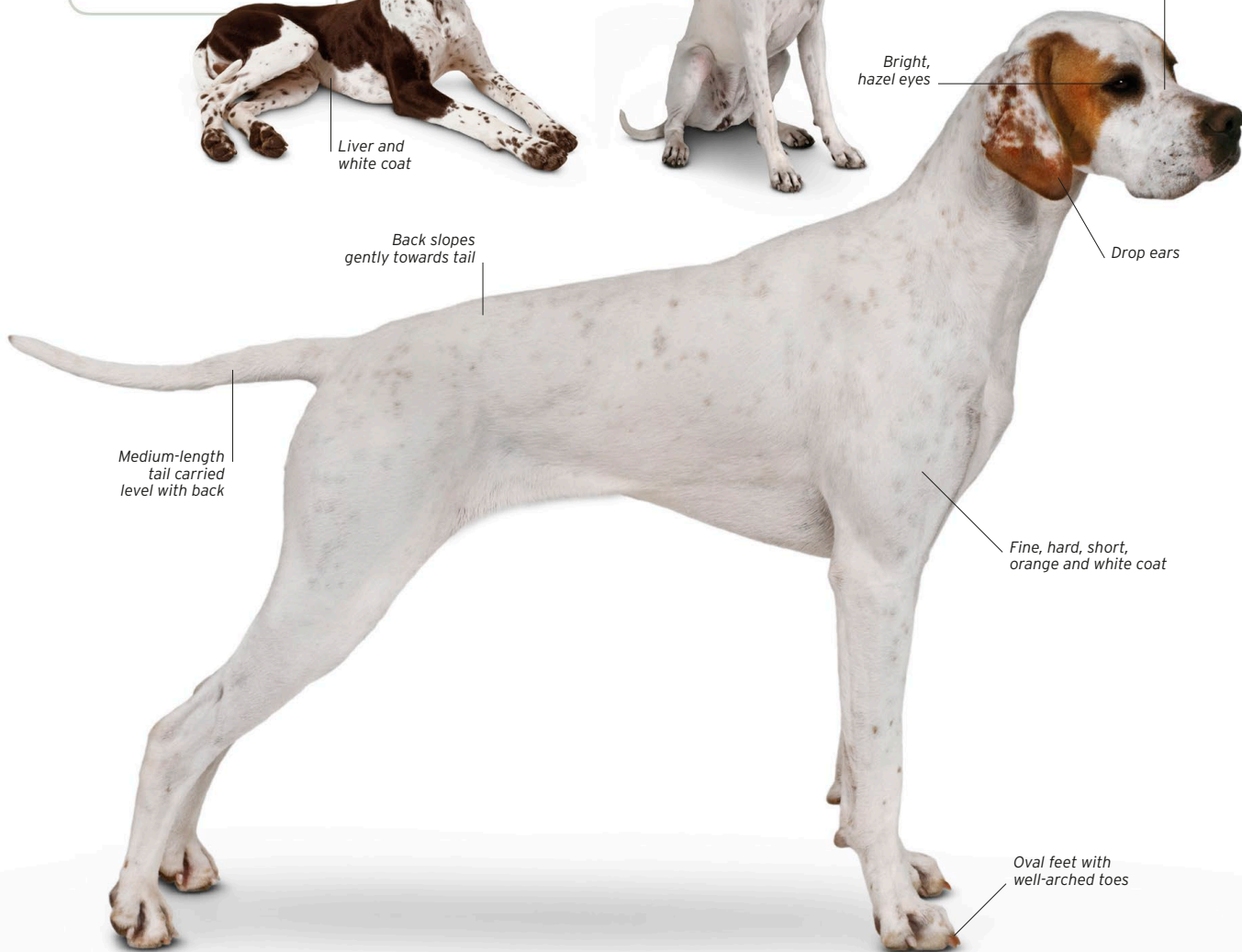
Drop ears

Back slopes gently towards tail

Medium-length tail carried level with back

Fine, hard, short, orange and white coat

Oval feet with well-arched toes



SPANISH POINTER

GENTLE AND INTELLIGENT, THIS BREED IS NIMBLER THAN IT LOOKS

FCI

Height range
59-67cm (23-26in)

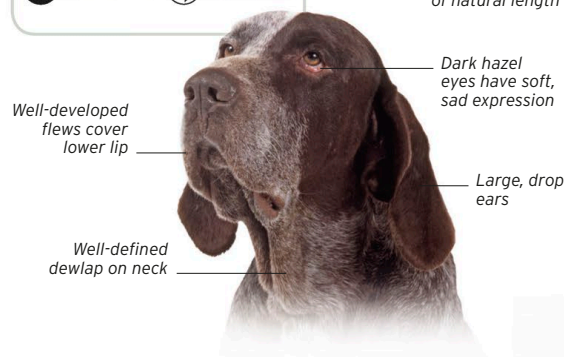
Weight range
25-30kg (55-66lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin Spain



Also known as the Perdiguero de Burgos, this dog was bred to track deer, but is now mostly used for smaller game. It is a reliable, easy-going breed that fits well into family life. Nonetheless, it is a keen hunter - halfway between a scent hound and a pointer - and thrives on work.

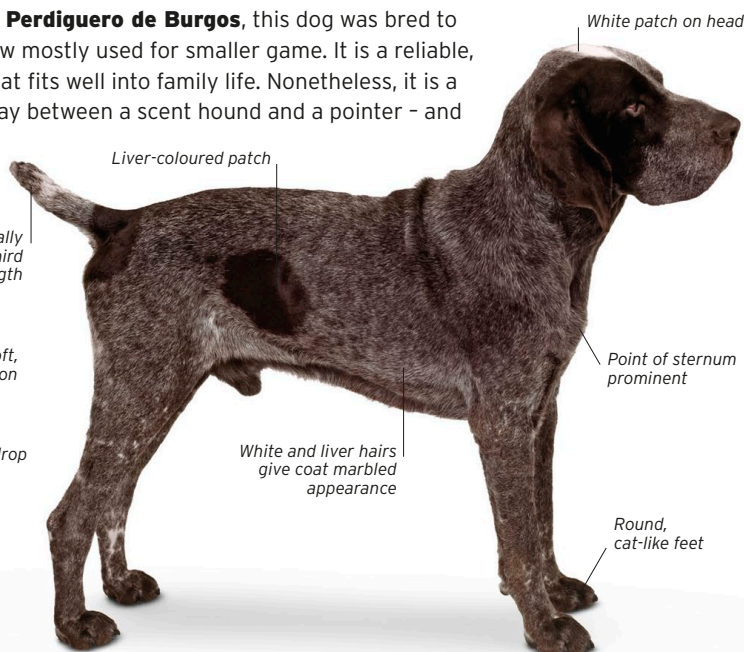


Well-developed
flews cover
lower lip

Well-defined
dewlap on neck

Dark hazel
eyes have soft,
sad expression

Large, drop
ears



White patch on head

Liver-coloured patch

Tail traditionally
docked to one-third
of natural length

White and liver hairs
give coat marbled
appearance

Point of sternum
prominent

Round,
cat-like feet

OLD DANISH POINTER

THIS ADAPTABLE AND ROBUST DOG MAKES A GENTLE, PATIENT COMPANION

FCI

Height range
50-60cm (20-24in)

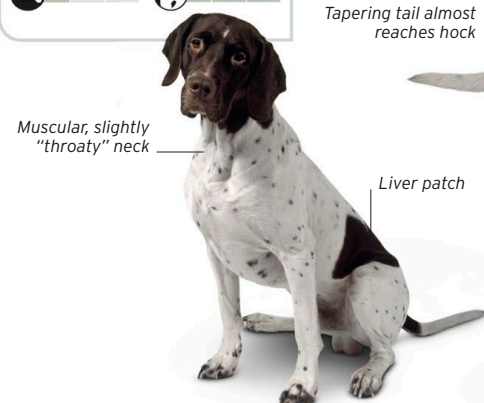
Weight range
26-35kg (57-77lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin Denmark



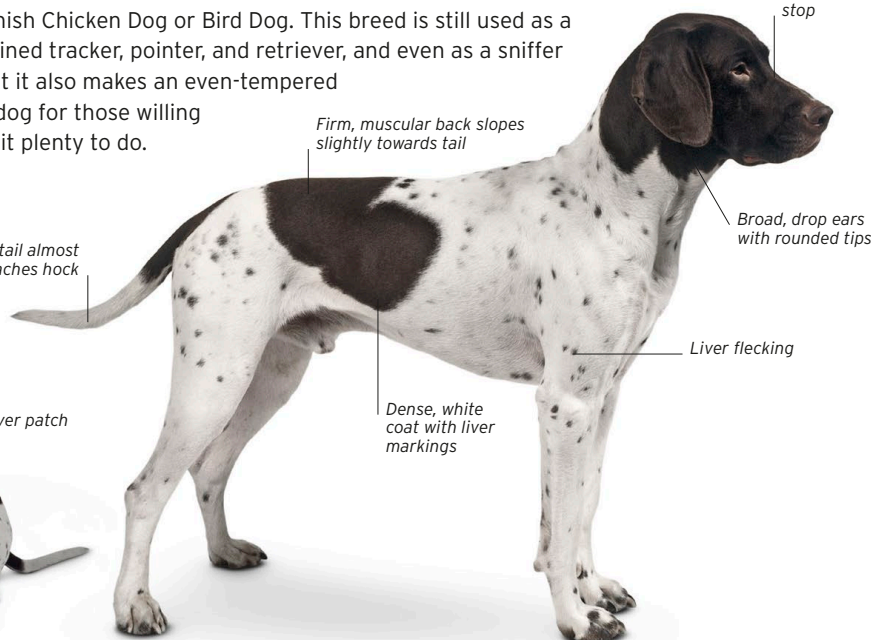
Its local name, Gammel Dansk Hønsehund, also translates as Old Danish Chicken Dog or Bird Dog. This breed is still used as a determined tracker, pointer, and retriever, and even as a sniffer dog, but it also makes an even-tempered family dog for those willing to give it plenty to do.



Muscular, slightly
"throaty" neck

Liver patch

Tapering tail almost
reaches hock



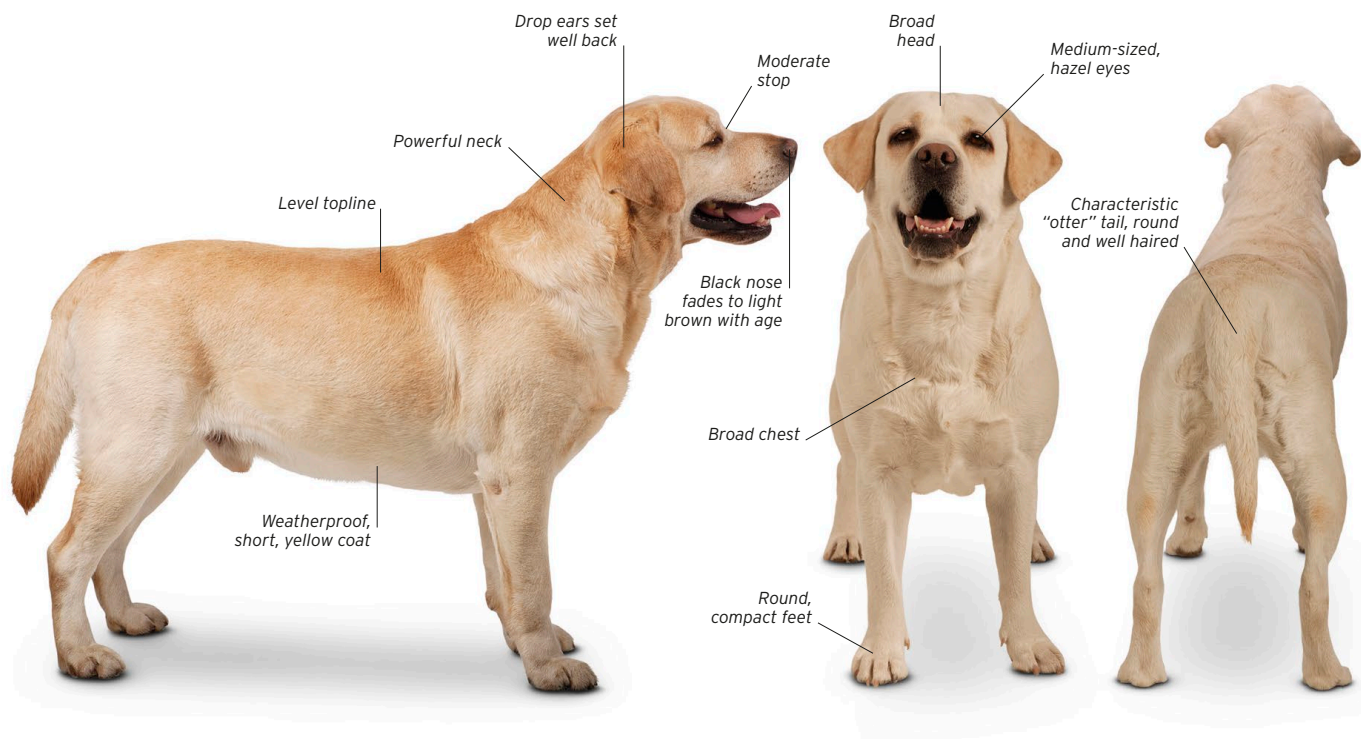
Moderate
stop

Firm, muscular back slopes
slightly towards tail

Broad, drop ears
with rounded tips

Liver flecking

Dense, white
coat with liver
markings



LABRADOR RETRIEVER

THIS KIND AND INTELLIGENT FAMILY FAVOURITE LOVES SPORT AND SWIMMING

KC

Height range
55–57 cm (22 in)

Weight range
25–37 kg (55–82 lb)

Life span 10–12 years

Origin Canada



Other colours



Chocolate

Black

May have a small, white spot on chest.

One of the most familiar dogs, the Labrador Retriever has been topping "popular dog" lists for at least two decades. The dogs from which the present-day Labrador Retriever descended were not from Labrador, as is commonly supposed, but from Newfoundland. Here, from the 18th century onwards, black dogs with waterproof coats were bred by local fishermen and used to help tow in catches and retrieve escaping fish. Dogs of this early type no longer exist, but a few were brought to England in the 19th century and these led to the development of the modern Labrador Retriever. By the early 20th century the breed was officially recognized and continued to be much admired by field sportsmen for its excellent retrieving skills.

Today, the Labrador Retriever is still widely used as a gundog and has proved efficient at other types of work, such as tracking

for police forces. In particular, its steady character makes it a superb guide dog for the blind. However, it is as a family dog that this breed has gained great popularity. The Labrador Retriever is loving and lovable, easy to train, anxious to please, and reliable with children and household pets – but it has too amiable a character to make a good guard dog.

This breed has energy to burn and needs to be kept mentally as well as physically active. Long daily walks are essential, preferably with the chance to have a swim along the way. If this dog sees water, it will plunge straight in. Under-exercised and left to its own devices, a Labrador Retriever may be given to excessive barking or become destructive. It tends to gain weight quickly, and lack of exercise combined with its insatiable appetite can lead to weight problems.



GOLDEN RETRIEVER

THIS EXUBERANT, EASY-GOING GUNDOG HAS BECOME A FAMILY FAVOURITE

KC

Height range
51-61cm (20-24in)

Weight range
25-34kg (55-75lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Cream

Bred as a powerful retriever for long-distance work, the Golden Retriever is used by hunters and in field trials. It is also used as a guide dog and kept as a gregarious pet. Responsive and even-tempered, this dog's main aim in life is to please. Its friendly nature means it does not make a good guard dog.

Powerful but well-chiselled head

Long tail without a curl

Long, silky, golden coat

Drop ears

Dark brown eyes

Dense, water-resistant, lighter undercoat

Round, cat-like feet

FLAT COATED RETRIEVER

A GOOD-NATURED GREGARIOUS DOG WITH A CORE OF COMMON SENSE

KC

Height range
56-61cm (22-24in)

Weight range
25-36kg (55-80lb)

Life span 11-13 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Liver

One of the earliest retriever breeds, this was once a favourite among gamekeepers. Today, it is still worked but is more often found as a good-natured and handsome pet. Lively and brimming with enthusiasm, the Flat Coated Retriever is also level-headed and obedient. It has a deep bark so can make a good guard dog.

Dense, black coat

Triangular, drop ears with rounded tips

Shallow stop

Feathering on chest

Well-feathered tail

Round, close-knit feet

CHESAPEAKE BAY RETRIEVER

THIS EVEN-TEMPERED DOG IS SUITED TO COUNTRY LIFE

KC

Height range
53–66cm (21–26in)

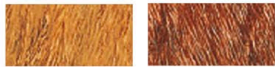
Weight range
25–36kg (55–80lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Straw bracken Red-gold
May have small, white markings.



This retriever originated in the northeastern United States and has much in common with the Curly Coated Retriever (below). A superb water dog, the Chesapeake Bay Retriever has typical retriever gentleness but an alert and determined personality. For those who can provide enough activity, this is an intelligent and biddable companion.



CURLY COATED RETRIEVER

THIS ROBUST, ENERGETIC WORKING DOG DOES NOT LIKE TO BE LEFT ALONE

KC

Height range
64–69cm (25–27in)

Weight range
27–32kg (60–71lb)

Life span 12–13 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Liver



Bred for hunting waterfowl, this rare retriever is worked and used as an assistance dog, as well as kept as an affectionate and level-headed companion. High energy levels and a need for company make this dog more suited to a rural life than to an urban home.



MEXICAN PET

A Chihuahua may fit into a handbag but it is not a fashion accessory. This little breed from Mexico needs exercise as much as any larger dog.



COMPANION DOGS

Almost any dog can provide companionship. Many dogs once used for outside duties, such as herding, have moved indoors with the family. Usually, these breeds have been developed for specific tasks and so are traditionally grouped according to their primary function. With a few exceptions, the companion dogs included here are bred solely as pets.



The Pug's flat face and round eyes are designed to appeal

Most companion dogs are small breeds, created primarily to sit on laps, look decorative, and entertain their owners without taking up much room. Some of them are toy versions of larger working breeds. The Standard Poodle, for example, once used for herding or for retrieving waterfowl, was bred down in size to a toy dog that could no longer perform any practical function. Other, larger, dogs sometimes grouped with companion breeds include the Dalmatian, whose career included a short-lived spell as a carriage escort, as much for prestige as guard duty. Now that this job no longer exists, Dalmatians are rarely used for any working purpose.

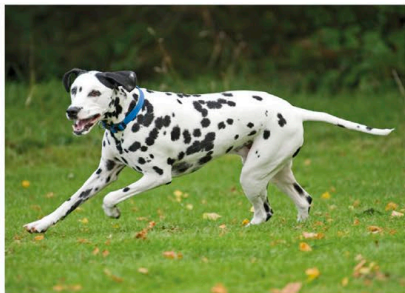
Companion dogs have a long history. A number of them originated thousands of years ago in China, where small dogs were kept in the imperial courts as ornaments and a source of comfort. Until the late 19th century, companion

dogs everywhere were almost exclusively the pampered pets of the wealthy. As such, they often featured in portraits, depicted sitting prettily in the drawing room or with children as a nursery plaything. Some, such as the King Charles Spaniel, owe their enduring popularity to the former patronage of royalty.

Appearance has always mattered in the breeding of companion dogs. Over the centuries, selective breeding has produced characteristics, some bizarre, that serve no useful function but are designed to appeal – for example, the human-like flat faces and large, round eyes of the Pekingese and

the Pug. Some have extravagantly long coats, curly tails, or – in the case of the Chinese Crested Dog – no hair at all apart from a few strategically placed tufts on the head or legs.

In modern times, companion dogs are no longer a symbol of class. They find a place with owners of all ages and circumstances, in small apartments as well as large country homes. Although still chosen for their looks, these dogs are also sought after as friends that give and demand affection and adapt happily to family activities.



LIVELY COMPANION

Although Dalmatians have great energy and stamina, they are nearly always kept as pets rather than for practical uses.

SMALLEST DOG

Few companion breeds come smaller than the diminutive and delightful Russian Toy.





GRIFFON BRUXELLOIS

A LIVELY, ALERT, WELL-BALANCED DOG WITH A TERRIER-LIKE DISPOSITION

KC

Height range
23–28cm (9–11in)

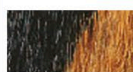
Weight range
3–5kg (7–11lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Belgium



Other colours



Black and tan

**Rough-haired
(Griffon Bruxellois)**

This cobby little dog originated in Belgium, where it was kept as a stable dog and rode in hansom cabs. With traces of the Affenpinscher (see p.219) in its ancestry, there is a smooth-haired variety (known as the Petit Brabançon) and a rough-haired variety with a distinctive beard. In some countries the rough-haired type is also differentiated by colour – black-

coated dogs are known as Belgian Griffons, all other colourings as Griffon Bruxellois. Totally fearless, but very adaptable and affectionate, the breed enjoys a good walk and being pampered. It is not recommended for households with very young children.

Semi-erect, high-set ears with shorter hair

Wiry, red coat

High-set tail curves over back when active

Compact, square body

Large, dark eyes

Smooth, red coat

**Smooth-haired
(Petit Brabançon)**

Round head with upturned nose

Distinctive, bearded chin

Coarse, wiry, black coat

Rounded, cat-like feet

**Rough-haired
(Belgian Griffon)**



AMERICAN BULLDOG

THIS LOYAL, RELIABLE, AND BRAVE DOG HAS STRONG PROTECTIVE INSTINCTS

Height range
51-69cm (20-27in)

Weight range
27-57kg (60-125lb)

Life span Up to 16 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours

Early English settlers brought the Bulldog (see p.94) with them to America. Two breeders, John D. Johnson and Alan Scott, used the English variety to develop the American Bulldog, which is taller, more active, and more versatile than its English counterpart. Male dogs are significantly heavier than females.

Large, broad head

Black nose

Broad, white chest

Short, red coat

Characteristic dip between shoulders and tail

Small, button ears

Well-developed flews

Short, white coat

OLDE ENGLISH BULLDOGGE

AN EXTREMELY STRONG BUT FRIENDLY AND LOVING COMPANION DOG

Height range
41-51cm (16-20in)

Weight range
23-36kg (51-80lb)

Life span 9-14 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours

This muscular dog is a re-creation of the original 19th-century Bulldog. It was developed in the United States during the 1970s by David Leavitt to eliminate some of the health problems that are now seen in the modern Bulldog (see p.94). Confident and courageous, these intelligent dogs are excellent family companions. However, they benefit from early socialization and training.

Round, brown eyes, set wide apart

Lower jaw is longer than upper jaw (undershot)

Broad chest

Very pronounced stop

Wide, muscular back

Button ears

Short, glossy, white and tan coat

Rounded, cat-like feet

FRENCH BULLDOG

THIS AFFECTIONATE AND INTELLIGENT CLOWN-LIKE DOG THRIVES ON HUMAN COMPANY

KC

Height range
28–33cm (11–13in)

Weight range
11–13kg (24–29lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin France



Other colours



Black brindle

Fawn coat



A sturdy, compact little dog, the French Bulldog makes an excellent companion, but has few boundaries and will want to share its owner's favourite chair. Always ready for fun, kind but firm direction may be needed. This breed is a descendent of the British Toy Bulldog taken to France in the 19th century.

Wide-set,
dark eyes

Distinctive, erect "bat"
ears, wide at base,
rounded at top

Short, pied
coat with white
predominant

Strong,
thickset
neck

PEKINGESE

DIGNIFIED AND COURAGEOUS YET SENSITIVE, THIS GOOD-NATURED DOG HAS A MIND OF ITS OWN

KC

Height range
15–23cm (6–9in)

Weight range
5kg (11lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin China



Other colours



Variety of
colours



An aristocrat, whose ancestors can be traced back to the Tang Dynasty (618–907CE), the Pekingese was considered sacred in China and could only be owned by royalty. The perfect dog for an apartment, it loves exercise but not long walks. Intelligent and fearless, it makes a loyal companion but can be hard to train.

Lion-like mane
around face

Coarse, straight,
long, gold topcoat

Very short
muzzle

Lighter-
coloured
undercoat



PUG

THIS PLAYFUL AND INTELLIGENT DOG LOVES PEOPLE BUT IS SOMETIMES WILFUL

KC

Height range
25-28cm (10-11in)

Weight range
6-8kg (13-18lb)



Life span Over 10 years

Origin China



Other colours



Silver



Apricot



Black

This breed, with a long history, originated in China and its ancestors were brought to Europe in the 16th century by the East India Company traders. In Europe, it became popular with royalty and aristocracy. The Pug is a small, sturdy, square dog whose stern appearance belies its cheerful personality and great character. It is highly intelligent, outgoing, has a loving disposition, and makes a loyal companion. The Pug is suitable for a novice dog owner and is good with children as well as other pets. This breed needs regular exercise but not a lot of space - so is ideal for apartment life.



Large,
round eyes

Thick neck

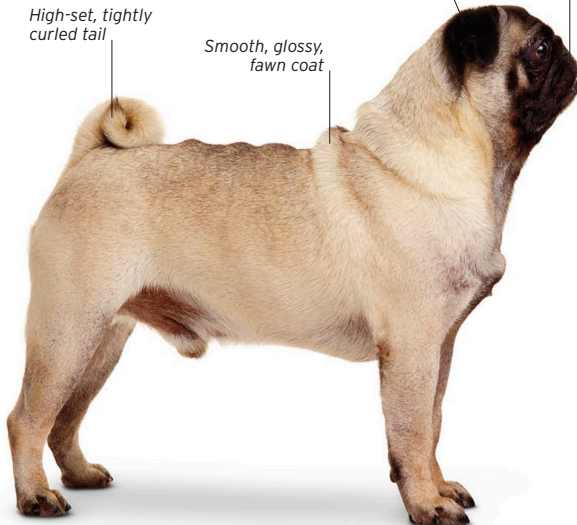
Broad chest

Button ears with flap
folding forward

Very short
muzzle

High-set, tightly
curled tail

Smooth, glossy,
fawn coat



LHASA APSO

HARDY, INDEPENDENT, AND FRIENDLY, THIS DOG IS NATURALLY SUSPICIOUS OF STRANGERS

KC

Height range
Up to 25cm (Up to 10in)

Weight range
6-7kg (13-15lb)

Life span 15-18 years

Origin Tibet



Other colours



Variety of colours



First bred in Tibet as a watchdog for temples and monasteries, the Lhasa Apso was brought to Europe via India in the 1920s. It is a small, hardy dog that will happily walk for miles. Its long, flowing coat is not difficult to care for. Very affectionate, it can also be quite stubborn.

Dark, medium-sized eyes covered by hair

Heavily feathered, pendant ears

High-set, plumed tail with kink at end

Cloak of heavy, straight, wheaten and white hair, with thick undercoat



SHIH TZU

THIS INTELLIGENT, BOUNCY, AND OUTGOING DOG LOVES BEING PART OF THE FAMILY

KC

Height range
Up to 27cm (Up to 11in)

Weight range
5-8kg (10-18lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Tibet/China



Other colours



Variety of colours



This sturdy breed is thought to be a cross between the Pekingese (see p.264) and the Lhasa Apso (above). Abundantly but not excessively coated, it sheds little or no hair, making it a good companion for allergy sufferers. Despite its distinctly arrogant carriage, the Shih Tzu makes an affectionate and friendly pet.

Hair grows upwards around the muzzle

Heavily plumed tail with white tip

White blaze on forehead

Short, muscular legs hidden by long coat



Long, dense, black and white topcoat

BICHON FRISE

A GENTLE, INTELLIGENT, AND EXTROVERT DOG WITH A NON-SHEDDING COAT

KC

Height range
23-28cm (9-11in)

Weight range
5-7kg (10-15lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Mediterranean



Sometimes known as the Tenerife dog, the Bichon Frise - a descendant of the Poodle (see p.271) and the Barbet (see p.232) - was allegedly taken from Tenerife to France. This is a happy little dog that loves to be the centre of attention, and does not like being left alone. It can be slow to house train.

Round,
black eyes

White topcoat
is coarser than
soft, dense
undercoat

Pendant
ears

Round foot,
exaggerated
by cut of coat

COTON DE TULEAR

A LOYAL, BRIGHT, AND HIGHLY SOCIABLE DOG WITH A SOFT, COTTON-TEXTURED COAT

KC

Height range
22-30cm (8-12in)

Weight range
3-7kg (8-15lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Madagascar



This small, long-haired dog is known for its happy temperament. The Coton de Tulear enjoys the company of humans as well as other dogs and does not like to be left alone. It is sometimes called the Royal Dog of Madagascar, where the dog existed for several hundred years before being introduced to France.

Well-feathered tail

Non-shedding,
soft, white coat

Strong,
powerful muzzle

Long hair
should not
reach the
ground



LÖWCHEN

AFFECTIONATE, LIVELY, AND OUTGOING, THIS FAMILY-LOVING COMPANION HAS A STYLISH MANE

KC

Height range
25-33cm (10-13in)

Weight range
4-8kg (9-18lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin France/Germany



Other colours



Any colour

Brown coat
with lighter
underparts
and head

Pendant ears
with long
fringes

Small, round
feet covered
in hair

The Löwchen, with origins in France and Germany, has existed as a companion dog for at least 400 years. The name Löwchen is German for little lion, hence its other name, the Little Lion Dog. It is a compact little dog with a bright expression and a reputation for agility and quickness. The Löwchen's intelligent, outgoing attitude makes it a pleasure to live with. It is highly recommended as a family pet and its size and non-shedding coat make it an ideal family dog.

Tail carried
high over back

Coat often
clipped at back,
and long at front

Long, wavy,
black coat with
silver brindling

BOLOGNESE

THIS HIGHLY INTELLIGENT, LOW-ENERGY DOG ENJOYS INDOOR AND OUTDOOR GAMES

KC

Height range
26-31cm (10-12in)

Weight range
3-4kg (7-9lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Italy



Slightly more reserved and shy than its relative the Bichon Frise (see p.267), the Bolognese loves people and will form a close relationship with its owner. Like the Bichon Frise, it has a non-shedding coat. The breed originates from northern Italy. Similar dogs were known as far back as Roman times and are represented in many 16th-century Italian paintings.

High-set,
drop ears

Body length same
as height to withers

Round,
black-rimmed
eyes

Distinctive,
non-shedding,
flocked, white coat

MALTESE

A BRAVE, ENERGETIC, AND FEARLESS DOG, BUT ALSO GENTLE MANNERED AND AMIABLE

KC

Height range
Up to 25cm (Up to 10in)

Weight range
2-3kg (4-7lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Malta



An ancient dog from the Mediterranean, Maltese-like dogs are mentioned in writings as far back as 300BCE. This is a lively, fun-loving, little dog that belies its chocolate-box appearance. The long, silky coat is a major commitment - it does not shed but requires daily grooming to prevent matting.

Long facial hair tied back with ribbon

Silky, long, white coat

Tail carried over back with hair to one side

Dark brown, oval-shaped eyes with black rims

Well-feathered, long ears hang close to head

Short, cobby - or square - body



HAVANESE

THIS INTELLIGENT, EASY-TO-TRAIN, AND AFFECTIONATE DOG IS THE PERFECT FAMILY PET

KC

Height range
23-28cm (9-11in)

Weight range
3-6kg (7-13lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Cuba



The Havanese is the national dog of Cuba, where it is known as the Habanero. A relative of the Bichon Frise (see p.267), it was probably brought to Cuba by Italian or Spanish traders. The Havanese loves to be at the centre of its family, plays endlessly with children, and is also a good watchdog.

High-set tail carried over back

Pointed, drop ears, set just above eyes

Soft, silky, wavy, wheaten topcoat

Other colours



Any colour

Small, hare-like feet hidden by long hair



RUSSIAN TOY

SMALL BUT NOT DELICATE, THIS LOVABLE DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF EXERCISE

KC

Height range
20-28cm (8-11in)

Weight range
Up to 3kg (Up to 7lb)



Life span Over 12 years

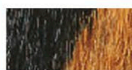
Origin Russia



Other colours



Red

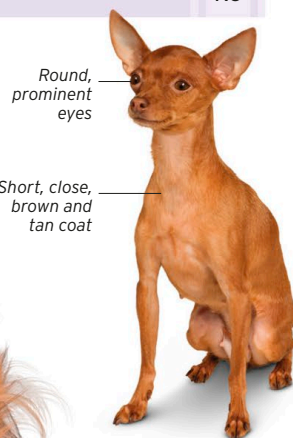


Black and tan



Blue and tan

Also known as the Ruskiy Toy, this miniature dog, one of the smallest breeds in the world, is descended from the English Toy Terrier (see p.210). The breed became popular in Russia in the second half of the 20th century but is still something of a rarity outside its native country. Despite its tiny size and fragile appearance, the Russian Toy is active, energetic, and usually has robust health. There are two coat types: smooth-haired and long-haired. The long-haired variety is the more recent development.



Smooth-haired

Round, prominent eyes

Short, close, brown and tan coat

Pronounced stop

Small, round head

Long, slightly wavy, fawn coat



Long-haired

Ears fringed with long, silky hair

Black overlay

Slight feathering on back of legs

Long-haired

Small, oval feet

Well-feathered tail extends to hocks



POODLE

A HIGHLY INTELLIGENT, EXTROVERT DOG WITH A NATURAL TALENT TO AMUSE

KC

Height range

Toy:

Up to 28cm (Up to 11in)

Miniature:

28-38cm (11-15in)

Medium:

38-45cm (15-18in)

Weight range

Toy:

3-4kg (7-9lb)

Miniature:

7-8kg (15-18lb)

Medium:

21-35kg (46-77lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin France



Other colours



All solid colours

Bred down from the Standard Poodle (see p.231)

are three other sizes of Poodle: toy, miniature, and medium (although the medium is not recognized by some kennel clubs). The smaller varieties have always been companion dogs, and were popular in the French court between the reign of Louis XIV and Louis XVI. An elegant dog, the Poodle is energetic, playful, affectionate, and eager to please. It is also very adaptable, equally at home in the city or the countryside. The dog's non-shedding coat makes it popular with allergy sufferers, although it does need regular brushing and clipping.



Toy



Toy



Miniature

KYI LEO

THIS ATTRACTIVE, RELAXED, COMPACT BREED NEEDS PLENTY OF ACTIVITY

Height range
23-28cm (9-11in)

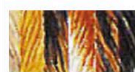
Weight range
4-6kg (9-13lb)

Life span 13-15 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours

May have tan markings.



A playful, affectionate breed that is gaining popularity, the Kyi Leo is named after its parents: Kyi, Tibetan for dog, after its Lhasa Apso parent from Tibet; and Leo, Latin for lion, after its Maltese parent, which was once called the Lion Dog. Suited to indoor life, this alert dog makes a good watchdog.

Long, thick, silky, black and white coat

Tail curls over back when alert

Body length exceeds leg length

Long hairs cover head

Heavily feathered, drop ears

Short muzzle with beard

Rounded feet, with hair between toes

CAVALIER KING CHARLES SPANIEL

OUTGOING, SPORTING, AND ABSOLUTELY FEARLESS, THIS DOG IS EAGER TO PLEASE

KC

Height range
30-33cm (12-13in)

Weight range
5-8kg (11-18lb)

Life span Over 12 years

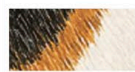
Origin UK



Other colours



King Charles



Prince Charles



A relative of the King Charles Spaniel (opposite), this breed dates back centuries. With large, dark eyes, a melting expression, and an ever-wagging tail, the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel is game, easy to train, and loves children - making it the perfect family pet. Its silky coat requires regular grooming.

Long, silky, well-feathered, Blenheim-coloured coat with slight wave

Well-defined stop

White lozenge mark on head

High-set, pendant ears

Short muzzle

Feathering on back of legs

Ruby-coloured coat

KING CHARLES SPANIEL

NATURALLY WELL BEHAVED, THIS DOG MAKES A GENTLE AND AFFECTIONATE COMPANION

KC

Height range
25-27cm (10-11in)

Weight range
4-6kg (9-13lb)



Life span Over 12 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Ruby



King Charles

A very popular, compact little dog, this breed is also known as the English Toy Spaniel. It is related to the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel (opposite), and found in the same colour variations, but it is a separate breed. Its ancestors were a favourite of King Charles II of England (1630-85), and often accompanied him on state occasions. A long, silky coat gives this spaniel an aristocratic look. Happy living in an apartment or house, it loves company and makes an excellent family pet, but does not like being left alone for long periods.

Very pronounced stop

Pendant ears

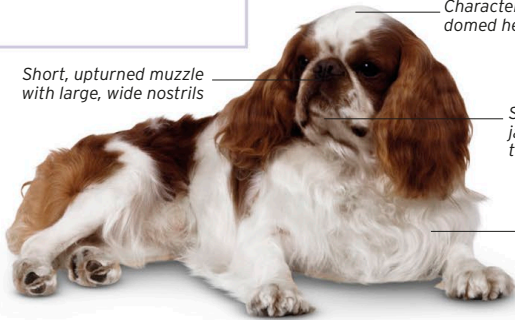


Characteristic domed head

Short, upturned muzzle with large, wide nostrils

Slightly undershot jaw (lower jaw longer than upper)

Blenheim-coloured coat



Large, wide-set eyes

Prince Charles-coloured, long, silky coat

Tan markings on legs

Well-padded feet





CHINESE CRESTED

THIS ELEGANT, INTELLIGENT DOG ALWAYS ATTRACTS ATTENTION

KC

Height range
23-33cm (9-13in)

Weight range
Up to 5kg (Up to 11lb)

Life span 12 years

Origin China



Other colours



Any colour



Hairlessness is a feature of several dog breeds around the world. It is the result of a genetic mutation that was initially considered a curiosity but then became desirable as the breed did not harbour fleas, shed hair, or have body odour. Although the Chinese Crested requires little grooming, its bare skin is sensitive: in winter it needs a coat to keep it warm, and in summer requires protection from the intense heat of the sun, which can burn and dry out its skin. This delicate skin, combined with the fact that the Chinese Crested needs little exercise and activity, makes it unsuitable for families that spend a lot of time outdoors. However, it is an ideal companion dog for older people due to its happy and friendly nature and playful personality.

Some Chinese Crested dogs are more lightly built than others. These fine-boned individuals are referred

to as the deer type, while Chinese Crested dogs that have a heavier build are known as the cobby type.

POWDERPUFF VARIETY

Unlike the hairless variety, the Powderpuff Chinese Crested has a long, soft coat, which needs regular grooming to prevent matting. Both coat varieties can occur in the same litter.







CHIHUAHUA

A COMPANIONABLE, CLEVER, TINY DOG WITH A LARGE-DOG PERSONALITY

KC

Height range
15–23cm (6–9in)

Weight range
2–3kg (4–7lb)



Life span Over 12 years

Origin Mexico



Other colours



Any colour

Always a single colour – never dappled or merle.

The smallest dog breed in the world, the Chihuahua is a highly intelligent, easily trained dog that makes a delightful companion. The breed is thought to have originated in China, but it is named after the Mexican state of Chihuahua, where it first came to prominence in the 1890s. The Chihuahua's size means it can be taken anywhere, making it the perfect lap dog. Possessive by nature, the Chihuahua is also an excellent watchdog and is ready to stand up for itself even if the opposition is far bigger. It is not suitable for a family with young children.

Distinctive apple-shaped head

Large, round eyes

Large, triangular, bat-like ears

Fawn coat with lighter underparts

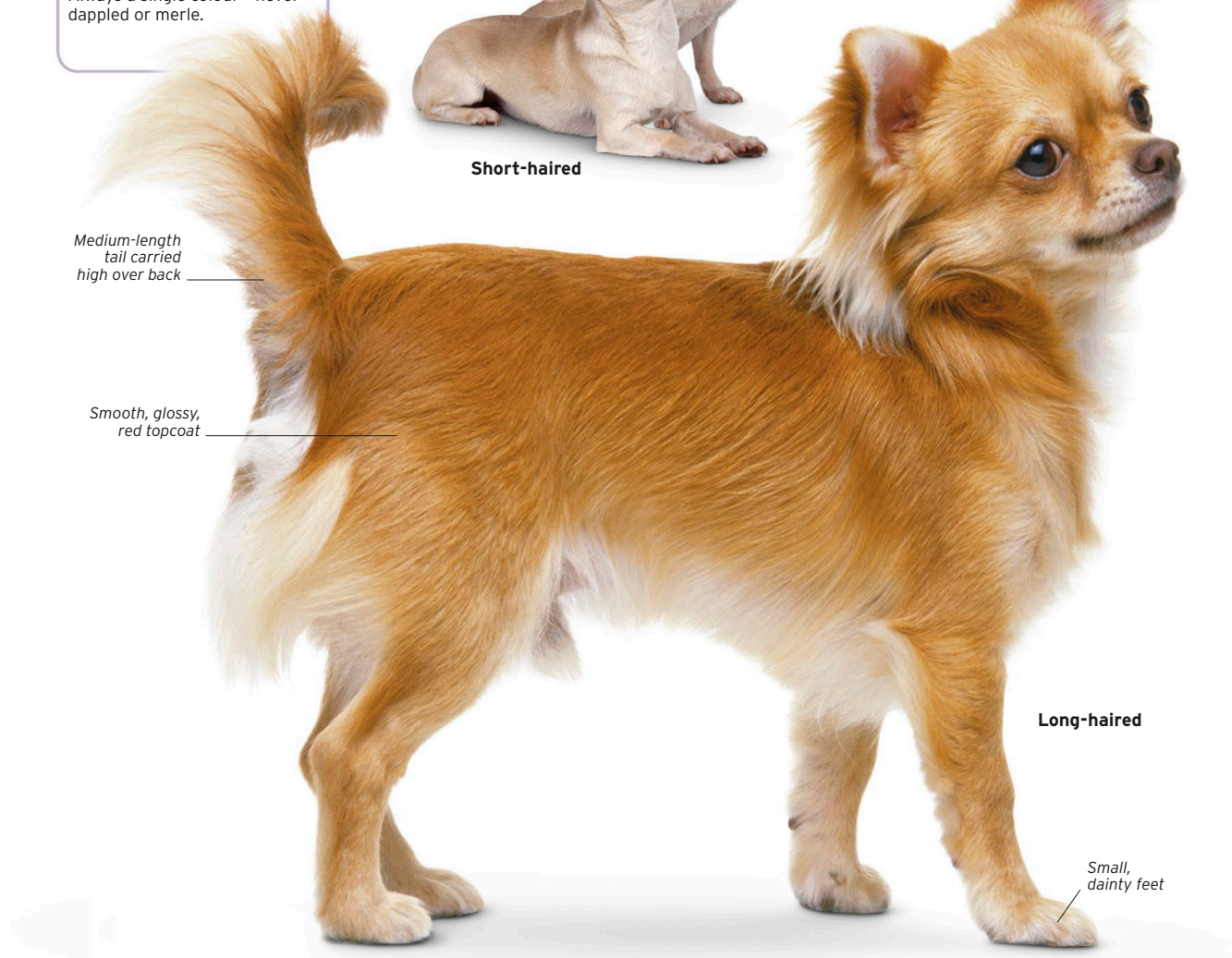
Short-haired

Medium-length tail carried high over back

Smooth, glossy, red topcoat

Long-haired

Small, dainty feet



TIBETAN SPANIEL

THIS FUN-LOVING, INTELLIGENT, PLAYFUL DOG THRIVES ON HUMAN COMPANY

KC

Height range
25cm (10in)

Weight range
4-7kg (9-15lb)

Life span Over 12 years

Origin Tibet



Other colours



Any colour



This small dog has a delightful, easy-going temperament. Bred and owned by the monks of Tibet, the Tibetan Spaniel has a long history and was first brought to the UK around 1900, by returning medical missionaries. In spite of its slightly haughty expression, this dog is only too happy to run around a garden and play.

Head small in proportion to body

Pendant, feathered ears

Sleek, sable coat

Dark brown, expressive, oval eyes



TIBETAN TERRIER

AN ATHLETIC, BRIGHT, SURE-FOOTED DOG PACKED WITH ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM

KC

Height range
36-41cm (14-16in)

Weight range
8-14kg (18-31lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Tibet



Other colours



Variety of colours



Resembling a miniature Old English Sheepdog (see p.49), the Tibetan Terrier was originally bred for herding and was also used as a guard dog, for traders journeying to and from China. This medium-sized dog requires a firm hand, but the reward is a loyal, devoted companion. The long coat needs daily grooming to prevent matting.

Silky, caramel and white topcoat

Feathered tail curls over back

Long hair falls over eyes

Feathering covers round, snow-shoe-like feet





JAPANESE CHIN

THIS EXTROVERT, STYLISH, LIVELY DOG IS DAINTY BUT DEFINITELY NOT DELICATE

KC

Height range
20-28cm (8-11in)

Weight range
2-3kg (5-7lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Japan



Other colours



Red and white

Ancestors of the Japanese Chin are thought to have been a royal gift from China to the Emperor of Japan. This dog was bred especially to warm the laps and hands of the ladies of Japan's Imperial Palace. Happy living in a small space, it makes an ideal apartment dog but its profuse coat sheds heavily.

White marking on domed head

Feathered tail curves over back

Short hair on front of legs

Compact, square body

Short, wide muzzle with upturned nose

Long, straight, silky, black and white coat

DANISH-SWEDISH FARMDOG

ALERT, ATTENTIVE, AND FRIENDLY, THIS DOG NEEDS A LOT OF EXERCISE

FCI

Height range
32-37cm (13-15in)

Weight range
7-12kg (15-26lb)

Life span 10-15 years

Origin Denmark/Sweden



This working dog has historically been used on farms in Denmark and Sweden as a herder, watchdog, and ratter, as well as a companion. Always eager to play, the Danish-Swedish Farmdog is good with children, so can make a great family dog, but it does have a tendency to chase small animals.

Rose ear

Tan markings on face

White coat

Black patch

Rounded croup

Short, smooth, white coat with tan patches

High-set, button ears

Triangular-shaped head is small in relation to body

DALMATIAN

THIS PLAYFUL AND EASY-GOING DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF EXERCISE AND PERSISTENT TRAINING

KC

Height range
56–61cm (22–24in)

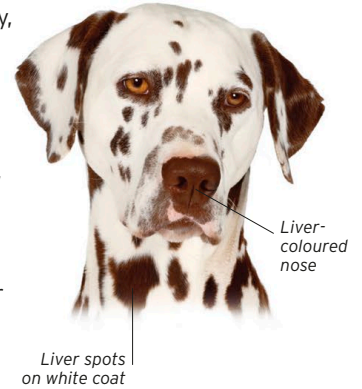
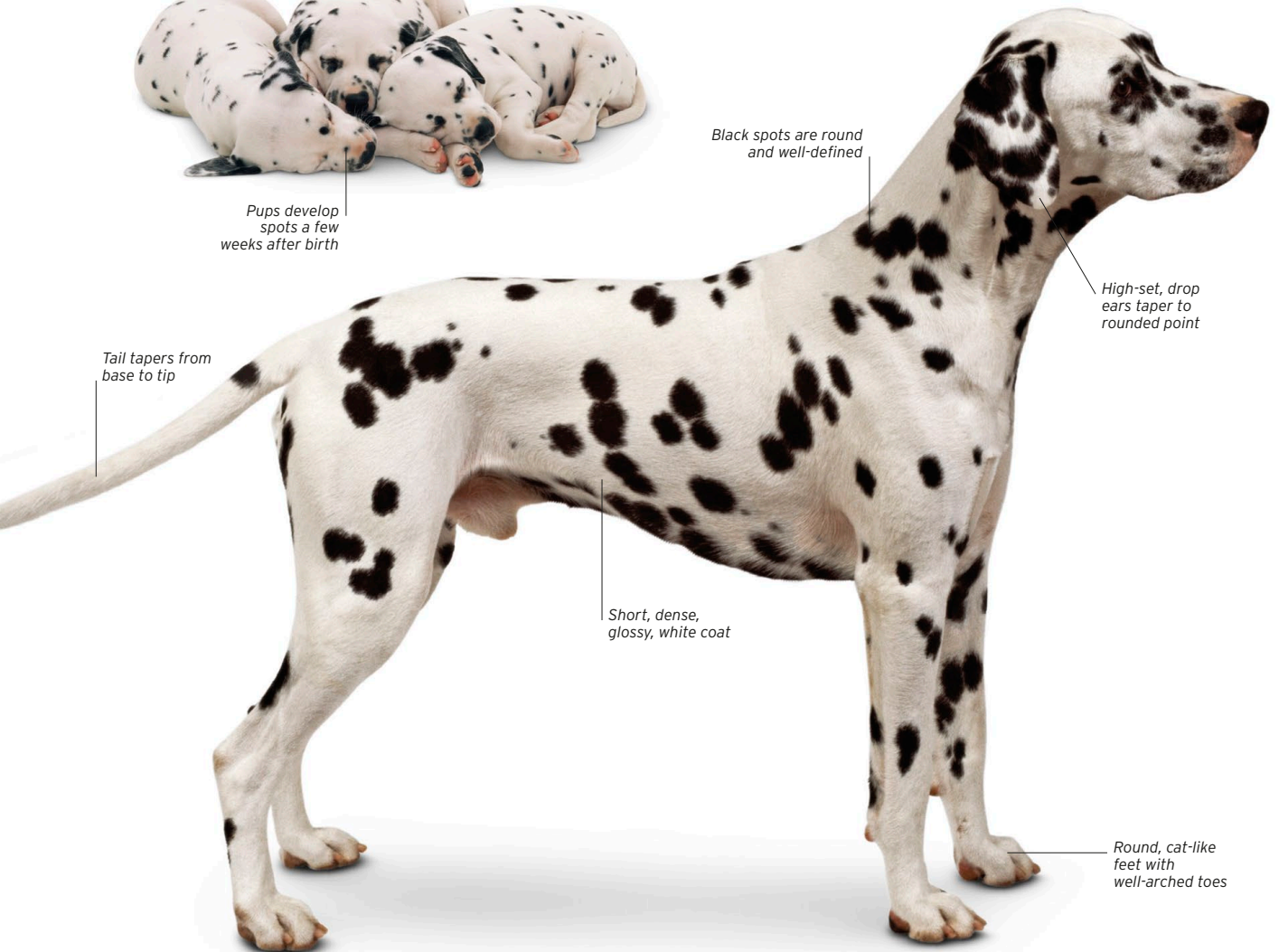
Weight range
18–27kg (40–60lb)

Life span Over 10 years

Origin Unknown



Particularly popular in Britain during the early 19th century, the Dalmatian was known as the “carriage dog”, because it was trained to run under or beside horse-drawn carriages and fire engines, often travelling very long distances. The only spotted dog breed, the Dalmatian is intelligent, friendly, and outgoing, and makes an excellent companion. However, it does have a lot of energy and can be stubborn and aggressive with other dogs, so an owner needs to dedicate time to training. The puppies are born pure white, making it difficult to predict whether the spots will be black or liver once mature; this dog’s white coat sheds a great deal.



MINIATURE AMERICAN SHEPHERD

THIS LOYAL LITTLE DOG RETAINS THE HERDING INSTINCT OF ITS ANCESTORS

AKC

Height range
33–46cm (13–18in)

Weight range
9–18kg (20–40lb)



Life span 12–13 years

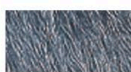
Origin USA



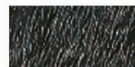
Other colours



Liver



Blue merle



Black

Downsized from the Australian Shepherd (see p.63) by American breeders, this dog is sometimes called the Miniature Australian Shepherd. It is highly intelligent, easy to train, and very good with children. The Miniature American Shepherd is eager to please, but can be nervous and quite destructive if left on its own for long periods of time.

High-set ears

Red merle coat

White markings on chest, legs, and muzzle

Tapering muzzle with rounded tip

Oval feet with well arched toes

HIMALAYAN SHEEPDOG

THIS DOG IS RESERVED BY NATURE SO CAN MAKE AN EXCELLENT WATCHDOG

Height range
51–63cm (20–25in)

Weight range
23–27kg (51–60lb)



Life span 10–11 years

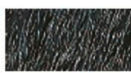
Origin Nepal/India



Other colours



Gold



Black

Also known as the Bhotia, this rare dog from the foothills of the Himalayas is related to the larger Tibetan Mastiff (see p.77), but its exact origins and former uses are obscure. This is a powerful dog with a strong herding instinct. Kept as a family pet, it is a good companion and an efficient guard dog.

Thick, bushy tail, loosely turned over back

Long, harsh, creamy white topcoat

Cat-like feet

Black and tan coat

White markings

Drop ears lie close to head

THAI RIDGEBACK

THIS TOUGH, INDEPENDENT-MINDED DOG IS VERY ATHLETIC

FCI

Height range
51-61cm (20-24in)

Weight range
23-34kg (51-75lb)

Life span 10-12 years

Origin Thailand



Other colours



Isabella



Red



Blue



An old breed and unknown outside Thailand until the mid-1970s, the Thai Ridgeback has since gained recognition in other countries. It was used for hunting, to follow carts, and as a guard dog. Its earlier geographic isolation has resulted in most of its original natural instincts and drives remaining, as there were few chances for it to breed with other dogs. Today, it is primarily kept as a companion dog, and is naturally protective of its home and family. It can make a loyal, loving pet, but is often suspicious of other dogs, and can be aggressive or shy if not properly socialized.



Muzzle longer than skull

Erect ears

Ridge of hair on back lies in opposite direction to rest of coat

Short, smooth, black coat

Slightly wrinkled forehead

**GOLDENDOODLE**

This attractive dog is a cross between a Standard Poodle and a Golden Retriever. The characteristics of the poodle parent are clearly visible.

CROSSBREEDS

Dogs of mixed breeding vary from the so-called designer dogs, with purebred parents of two different recognized breeds, to the bit-of-everything type, the result of accidental, random crosses (see p.290). Some designer hybrids are now extremely fashionable. They are mostly given whimsical combination names, such as Cockapoo (a Cocker Spaniel-Poodle cross).



**No pedigree, parents unknown
- but an excellent companion**

One of the reasons for creating modern designer dogs was to mix the desired characteristics from one breed with the non-shedding, hypoallergenic coat of another. A cross of this type currently enjoying great popularity is the Labradoodle, a mixture of Labrador Retriever and Poodle. However, even when the parents are readily recognized breeds such as these, it may be impossible to predict which side of the family the puppies will favour. Labradoodles, for example, show little consistency from litter to litter, some puppies inheriting the curly poodle coat while others are more obviously influenced by the Labrador parent. Such lack of standardization is common in designer crosses, although occasionally it has proved possible to produce a standard and breed dogs to type. An example of this is the Lucas Terrier, the result of crossing

the Sealyham Terrier and the Norfolk Terrier. Currently, it is rare for such crosses to achieve breed recognition.

Deliberate mixing of two specific breeds to produce particular characteristics has proliferated since the end of the 20th century, but is by no means a modern trend. One of the best-known crossbreeds, the Lurcher, has been around for several hundred years. This dog combines the qualities of speedy sight hounds, such as the Greyhound and Whippet, with desirable traits found in other breeds, such as the collie's enthusiasm for work and the tenacity of the terrier.

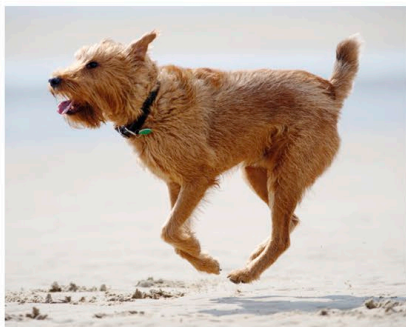
Prospective owners of a designer dog should take into account the personalities and temperaments of both breeds involved in the mix. These may be very different and either one might predominate. It is also important to consider both parent dogs' requirements for general care and exercise.

All crossbred dogs are commonly believed to be more intelligent than pedigree dogs,

but there is no sound evidence for this. Random breeds are often said to be healthier than purebreds, and it is true that they are at much lower risk of the inherited diseases prevalent in some breeds.

GUNDOG CROSS

The Labradinger is a cross between two popular gundogs – the Labrador Retriever and the English Springer Spaniel.



HEALTHY DOG

Random-bred dogs, like this terrier cross, are usually robust and are largely free from inherited disorders.



LURCHER

FLEET-FOOTED OUTDOORS, AT HOME THIS DOG IS LAID-BACK AND RELAXED

Height range
55-71cm (22-28in)

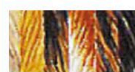
Weight range
27-32kg (60-71lb)

Life span 13-14 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Any colour



Famed as a poacher's dog, and used to hunt rabbit and hare, traditionally Lurchers were first-generation crosses of a sight hound with a terrier or a herding dog. Today, they are also bred with each other and ideally are greyhound size. In the home Lurchers are peaceful and tolerant, and make fine family companions.

Rough, blue merle coat

Fine, pointed muzzle

Long, slender legs

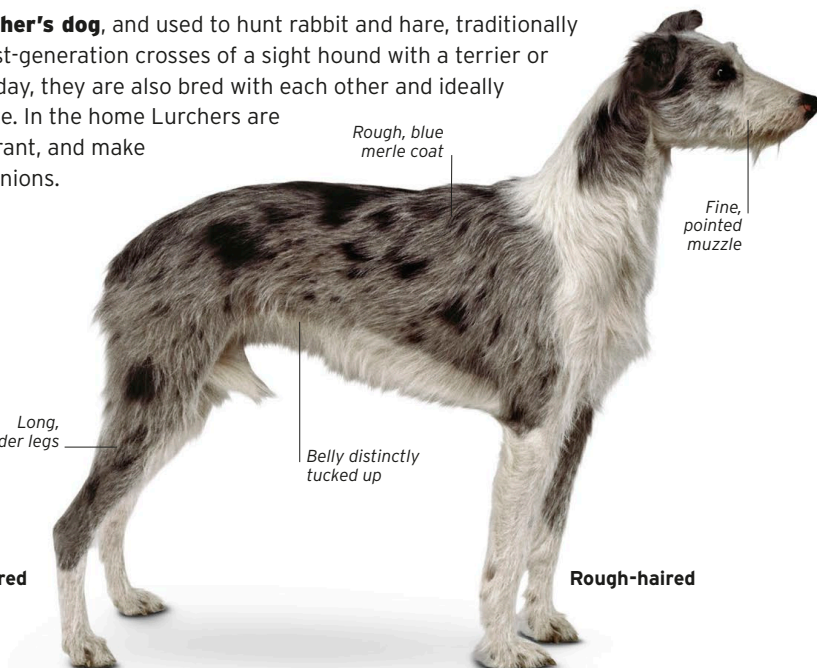
Belly distinctly tucked up

Smooth, fawn coat

Slight feathering on tail

Smooth-haired

Rough-haired



COCKAPOO

THIS INTELLIGENT, GREGARIOUS, AND RELAXED DOG MAKES AN EASY COUNTRY OR CITY COMPANION

Height range

Toy:
Up to 25cm (Up to 10in)

Miniature:
28-35cm (11-14in)

Standard:
Over 38cm (Over 15in)

Weight range

Toy:
Up to 5kg (Up to 11lb)

Miniature:
6-9kg (13-20lb)

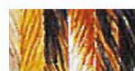
Standard:
Over 10kg (Over 22lb)

Life span 14-15 years

Origin Mostly USA



Other colours



Any colour



Most Cockapoos are first-generation crosses of a Toy or Miniature Poodle (see p.271) with an American or sometimes English Cocker Spaniel (see p.222). They are particularly valued for their tractable and affectionate characters. Their appearance is a variable mix of the parent breeds, but always with a wavy coat that sheds very little.

Long hair on muzzle

Square and compact body

Large, dark, round eyes

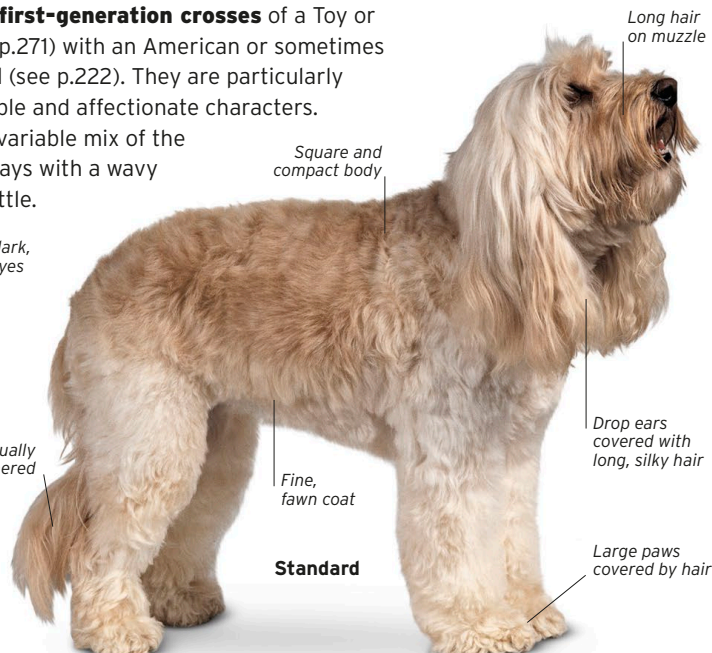
Tail usually feathered

Fine, fawn coat

Drop ears covered with long, silky hair

Large paws covered by hair

Standard



LABRADOODLE

INCREASINGLY POPULAR, THIS DOG IS RELIABLY PLAYFUL, AFFECTIONATE, AND INTELLIGENT

Height range

Miniature:

36-41cm (14-16in)

Medium:

43-51cm (17-20in)

Standard:

53-61cm (21-24in)

Weight range

Miniature:

7-11kg (15-24lb)

Medium:

14-20kg (31-44lb)

Standard:

23-29kg (51-65lb)

Life span 14-15 years

Origin Australia



Other colours



Any colour



The original Labrador-Poodle cross was intended as an assistance dog for allergy sufferers, but the Labradoodle has rapidly gained popularity as a family pet. In Australia, it is on its way to being a breed with a written standard. Elsewhere, this remains a crossbreed, with no official status but in huge demand. The dog's personality attracts owners as much as its appearance. It is consistently level-headed and biddable without becoming serious or reserved.

Large, dark, rounded eyes

Drop, apricot-coloured ears

Long, curved tail

Curly, cream coat has little dander

Tucked-up belly

Body slightly heavier than a Poodle (see p.271)

Standard

Medium-sized, round feet



SCHNOODLE

INTELLIGENT AND PLAYFUL, THIS DOG NEEDS PLENTY OF MENTAL STIMULATION

Height range

25-70cm (10-28in)

Weight range

3-39kg (6-85lb)

Life span 10-15 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours



As this dog is a cross between a miniature, standard, or giant Schnauzer (see pp.218 and 40-41) and a toy, miniature, or standard Poodle (see p.271), it can vary widely in size, weight, colour and appearance. Most are small companion dogs, but they still need sufficient exercise to avoid behavioural problems.

Square body with straight back

High-set ears

Round, dark brown eyes

Soft, wavy coat

Long hair on muzzle





BICHON YORKIE

THIS PLAYFUL, SMALL COMPANION DOG IS IDEALLY SUITED TO URBAN LIFE

Height range
23-31cm (9-12in)

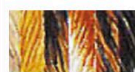
Weight range
3-6kg (7-13lb)

Life span 13-15 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Variety of colours



Some crossbreeds are created deliberately, but the first Bichon Frise (see p.267) and Yorkshire Terrier (see p.192) mix was a happy accident that breeders have chosen to repeat. The result is the Bichon Yorkie - a dog that is usually larger than the diminutive Yorkshire Terrier, with the feisty spirit of its terrier parent tempered by the more compliant nature of the Bichon Frise.

Dark nose

Dark, round eyes

High-set ears

Darker, plumed tail carried high when moving

Double-layered, silky, curly, white and orange coat

Round, tight feet

BULL BOXER

THIS FRIENDLY AND BOISTEROUS DOG IS EASIER TO TRAIN THAN OTHER MASTIFF-TYPES

Height range
41-53cm (16-21in)

Weight range
17-24kg (37-53lb)

Life span 12-13 years

Origin UK



Other colours



Any colour



The Bull Boxer is a cross between the laid-back Boxer (see p.88) and bull-baiting dogs, such as, the Staffordshire Bull Terrier (see p.214), which is highly popular but may be difficult with other pets. The Bull Boxer occupies the middle ground in size and character. This dog needs commitment, but rewards its owner well.

Small, semi-erect, drop ears

Powerful build inherited from both parents

Rounded eyes have alert expression

Long, tapering, curved tail

Strong, blunt muzzle with overhanging lip

Broad, deep chest

Smooth, shiny, short, dense, black coat

White markings on feet

Legs longer than Staffordshire Bull Terrier's

LUCAS TERRIER

THIS FRIENDLY, NON-YAPPY TERRIER GETS ON WELL WITH CHILDREN AND OTHER PETS

Height range
23-30cm (9-12in)

Weight range
5-9kg (11-20lb)

Life span 14-15 years

Origin UK



Other colours



White

Tan coats may have a black or badger-grey saddle. White coats may be marked with black, badger-grey, and/or tan.



This rare working terrier was developed in the 1940s by crossing Norfolk Terriers with Sealyham Terriers (see p.191) to produce a small, nimble dog to follow game to ground. Smart and eager to please, it is easy to train and quietly behaved, provided it has a good daily walk. It enjoys play and loves to dig, but is less inclined to bark than other terrier breeds.

Small, V-shaped ears with rounded tips

Thick-rooted, well-furred tail

Body length exceeds leg length

Almond-shaped, dark eyes

Longer hair forms moustache and beard

Medium-length, coarse, light tan coat

Black nose

MAL-SHI

AN ENDEARING DOG WITH A KIND DISPOSITION THAT LOVES HUMAN COMPANY

Height range
21-51cm (8-20in)

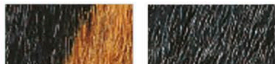
Weight range
2-7kg (5-15lb)

Life span 12-14 years

Origin USA



Other colours



Black and brown Black



Black and white Brown and white

May also be brown.



Also known as the Malt-tzu, this small dog is a cross between a Maltese (see p.269) and a Shih Tzu (see p.266). Developed in the 1990s, the Mal-shi has proved popular in many countries especially where there is demand for dogs with low shedding coats. If puppies are well socialized and trained, they are said to be a good choice for first time owners.

White coat with tan patches

Ears set wide apart and high on head

Dark-coloured, round eyes

Cream coat

Well-rounded loins

Broad chest

Short, straight front legs

Puppy



GOLDENDOODLE

A DELIGHTFUL NEW CROSSBREED, THIS DOG IS SOCIABLE AND EASY TO LIVE WITH

Height range

Up to 61cm (up to 24in)

Weight range

23-41kg (51-90lb)

Life span

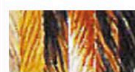
10-15 years

Origin

USA



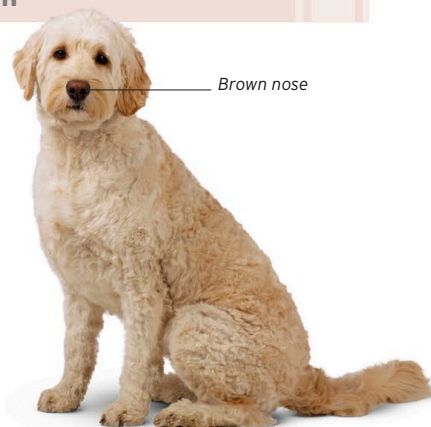
Other colours



Any colour



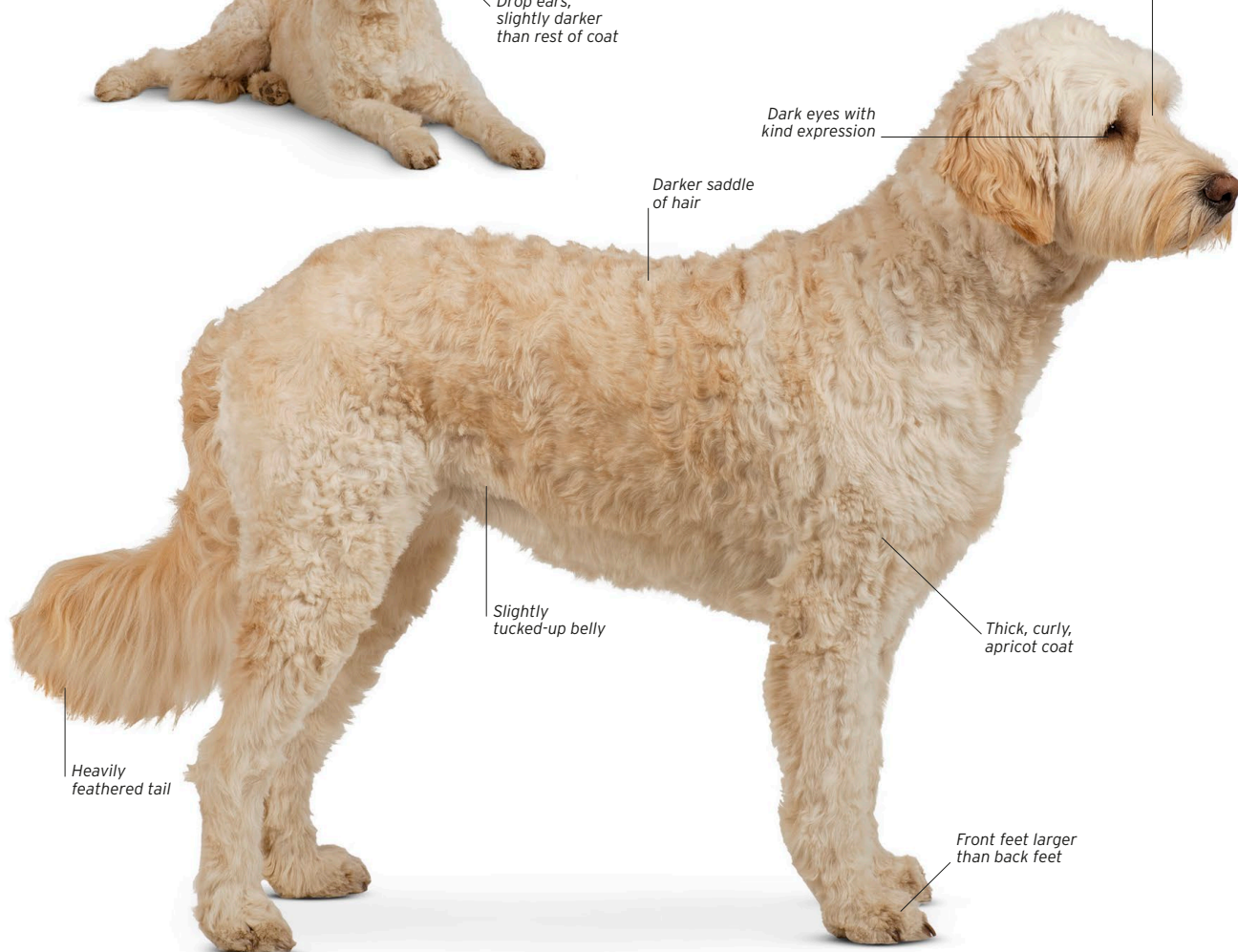
One of the newest "designer dogs", this mixture of the Golden Retriever (see p.258) and the Poodle (see p.271) was first bred in the USA in the 1990s. Since then the Goldendoodle's growing popularity has encouraged breeders elsewhere to continue its development. Most of these dogs are first-generation crosses and vary considerably in appearance - some have curly coats, while others are wavy or straight. The crossbreed's size depends on whether the Poodle parent is a medium, miniature, or toy variety. Although lively and energetic, Goldendoodles have gentle temperaments and are usually easy to train. They get on well with children and other pets.



Brown nose



Drop ears, slightly darker than rest of coat



Well-defined stop

Dark eyes with kind expression

Darker saddle of hair

Slightly tucked-up belly

Thick, curly, apricot coat

Heavily feathered tail

Front feet larger than back feet

LABRADINGER

THIS ATTRACTIVE ALL-ROUNDER IS SUITABLE AS A FAMILY DOG AND AS A GUNDOG

Height range
46-56cm (18-22in)

Weight range
25-41kg (55-90lb)

Life span 10-14 years

Origin USA



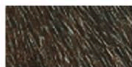
Other colours



Yellow



Liver



Chocolate

Also known as the Springador, this Labrador Retriever and English Springer Spaniel cross (see pp.256-57 and 226-27) may result from unplanned breeding on country estates where gundogs were kept. Interest in fashionable crossbreeds has given it popularity, and a name. It is an excellent gundog that can be trained to retrieve and flush game, and also makes a good family pet.



PUGGLE

WITH SUFFICIENT EXERCISE, THIS DOG MAKES AN IDEAL FAMILY COMPANION

Height range
25-38cm (10-15in)

Weight range
7-14kg (15-31lb)

Life span 10-13 years

Origin USA



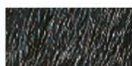
Other colours



Red or tan

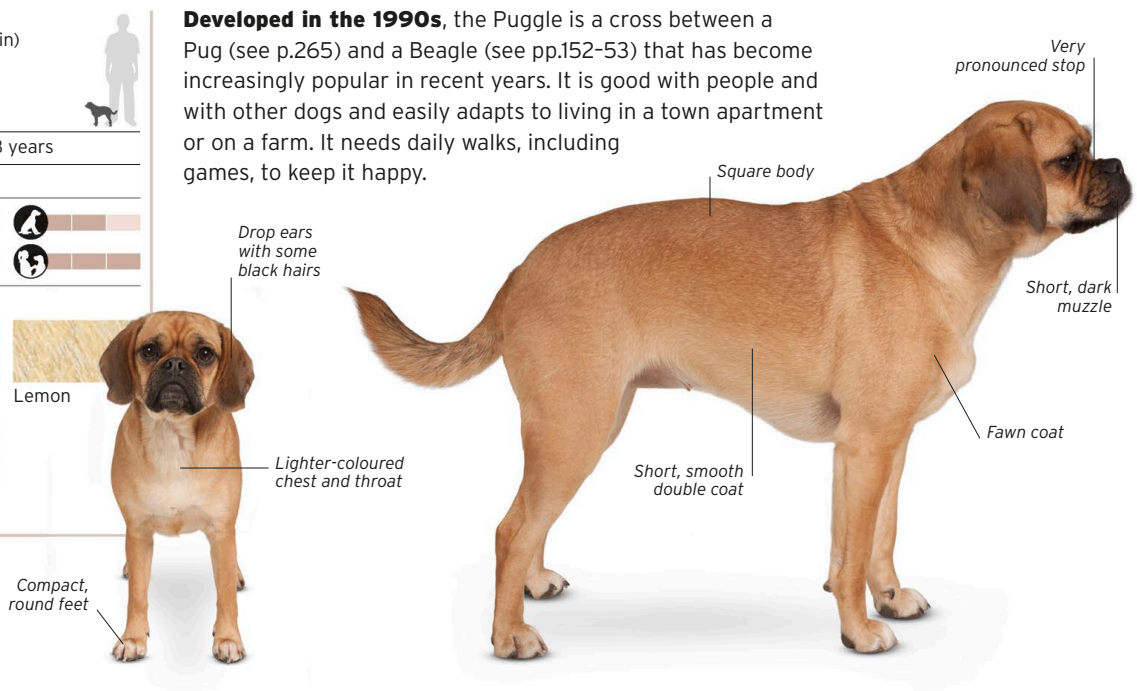


Lemon



Black

Developed in the 1990s, the Puggle is a cross between a Pug (see p.265) and a Beagle (see pp.152-53) that has become increasingly popular in recent years. It is good with people and with other dogs and easily adapts to living in a town apartment or on a farm. It needs daily walks, including games, to keep it happy.



RANDOM-BRED DOGS

THESE DOGS MAY LACK A PEDIGREE BUT THEY CAN PROVIDE LOVE, COMPANIONSHIP, AND FUN

Dogs with random breeding are usually of unknown ancestry, with the parents themselves likely to be the result of accidental mixings that may go back several generations. Choosing a random-bred puppy is a bit of a lottery for prospective owners as it is difficult to predict what the dog will look like at maturity. Many of the dogs available for adoption in rescue centres are random crossbreds; in the majority of cases they make excellent pets.



SOFT AND SILKY
Many random-bred dogs resemble sheepdogs with soft coats and feathering on the chest, legs, and tail. This dog has sheepdog markings too.



LONG AND SHAGGY

Puppies with soft, fluffy coats often grow up to have long, coarse coats, like this dog's, that require regular grooming to prevent matting.

Long hairs cover feet

LARGE DOG

Random-bred dogs can grow to any size or shape. This large dog may be the same size as one or other of its parents or somewhere in between the two.



Expressive, brown eyes

SHORT AND SMOOTH

The short coat and drop ears of this dog suggest a hound-like ancestor, but its merle colouring is less easy to explain.

Black, triangular, drop ears

MEDIUM-SIZED DOG

Many mixed-breed dogs are intermediate in size and sandy in colour, like this one.



Well-feathered tail



SMALL DOG

This small dog has some distinctly terrier-like features, including semi-erect ears and a broad head.



A scruffy, tan and black dog is running towards the camera on a sandy beach. The dog has a thick, wiry coat, dark eyes, and its tongue is hanging out. Its tail is bushy and slightly curved. The background is a bright, hazy beach scene.

UNIQUE APPEARANCE

Unlike pedigree dogs, no two random-bred dogs are alike. This dog may resemble a terrier superficially but its offspring may look very different.





CARE AND TRAINING

PREPARING FOR ARRIVAL

Forward thinking and early preparation will help to make your puppy's introduction to his new home as stress free as possible. Before the newest member of the family arrives, check that the home environment, both indoors and outdoors, is safe for a young, inquisitive dog. Ensure too that you have all the basic equipment needed for his daily care and development, including his collar, bed, and toys.



A puppy is life-changing

Puppy-proofing your home

Start your safety checks by walking around your home and garden and trying to see everything as your puppy would see it. What looks like a tempting object to chew? Is that table in a prime position to be knocked over? Is there a small gap in the fence that he could squeeze through if he tried? Take preventive action now to avoid trouble later.

Safety indoors

Making your home safe for a dog is similar to making it safe for children. Dogs investigate a new object by chewing it, so place anything potentially hazardous well out of a puppy's reach. Toxic household chemicals are an obvious danger but your puppy could be poisoned by many other things, such as certain pot plants and some human foods, including chocolate. Remind children not to leave small toys lying around for your puppy to pick up and choke on. Watch out for electrical wires, remote controls, and anything else near the floor and small enough for a puppy to gnaw. Objects that you may think are

out of reach may be accidents waiting to happen; a washing basket is easy to knock over and its contents can create hours of fun for a destructive puppy. Consider keeping some doors closed or using a stair gate to limit the areas that your dog can access. Excitable dogs can suffer back and leg injuries from slips and falls on smooth or polished floors. Put down non-slip mats; if they are machine-washable, it will be easy to deal with dirt and stains.

Safety outdoors

Look for gaps in fences and underneath gates, even if you plan to supervise your dog outside. Puppies can disappear through the smallest holes and thickest hedges if they think there is something interesting on the other side. Keep garden chemicals out of the way. Slug pellets and other pesticides can look like tasty treats, but may be harmful if eaten. Do not let your puppy chew garden plants – many are poisonous. Avoid leaning tools or wheelbarrows against fences where a boisterous puppy could knock them over and cause injury.

HAZARDS FOR YOUR DOG TO AVOID



TOXIC PLANTS



HARMFUL CHEMICALS



LOOSE FLEX



GAPS UNDER GATE



SLUG PELLETS

TOP TIPS

■ **Book a vet's appointment** to complete your puppy's vaccinations soon after you bring him home.

■ **Microchipping your dog** improves the likelihood of finding him if he gets lost, and is compulsory in some countries.

■ **Pet insurance** can provide peace of mind in an emergency.

■ **Ask your breeder** for a towel or blanket that smells familiar to your puppy. It will help to reassure him for the first few nights.

Collars and leads

To begin with, you will need to buy a small, light puppy collar and replace it as your dog grows. The style of collar depends on what your dog finds most comfortable. For example, long-haired breeds will find a smooth, rolled leather collar more comfortable because it does not pull on their coat as much as a nylon collar. Greyhound-type breeds are happier with a wide, flat collar that is less likely to damage their sensitive necks. Whatever type of dog you have, make sure that the width of his collar exceeds the width of one of his neck vertebrae. When choosing a lead, simply handle a few to see which one feels most comfortable for you.

Harnesses and halters

A typical harness fits around the body with the lead attaching on the dog's back. This can be beneficial for some dogs, as it removes tension from around the neck, but harnesses can be fiddly to take on and off, especially with an exuberant or over-excited dog. The harness straps should be well fitted at all points, leaving enough room for you to slip two fingers easily between the harness and the dog's body. Contrary to popular belief, harnesses do not stop a dog from pulling on the lead; only training can do that. If you have a dog that is a determined puller, you may find a halter with a fixed noseband helps to restrain him.



Name tag



Address holder



THE RIGHT COLLAR

Choose a collar for comfort, not fashionable appearance. Avoid collars that tighten when the dog pulls, such as check chains or half-check collars.



Nylon collar



Leather collar

ID TAGS

Include your name and emergency contact details so that people can get in touch with you easily if your dog is lost.

TYPES OF LEAD

Short leads are ideal when you need close control – for example, during training. Extending leads allow your dog more freedom to run.



Extending lead



Short lead

FITTING A COLLAR

A collar should fit securely around a dog's neck without being too tight. As a guide, you should be able to fit two fingers between the collar and the dog's neck. Check the fit regularly as your puppy grows and alter it as necessary. Replace the collar as soon as your puppy grows out of it.



Body harness



HARNESSES AND HALTERS

Instead of a collar, you may prefer to use a harness or halter. These must fit correctly and be introduced to a dog carefully. Some short legged dogs cannot wear harnesses and short muzzled dogs cannot wear halters.



Fixed noseband halter

Types of bed

Dog beds vary widely in price, and until your puppy is settled and fully house-trained it is not worth investing in anything expensive. A new dog may chew or soil his bed, so look for a cheap and washable option.

There are two main types of bed: hard and soft. Hard beds, made from moulded plastic, are easy to keep clean. They are also relatively difficult for a young puppy to chew, although a dog who has his adult teeth may inflict some damage. You can use disposable items such as old towels to make a plastic bed comfortable for your dog, safe in the knowledge that you can wash or discard bedding that gets chewed or soiled. These beds are also a good choice for an older dog who suffers from incontinence. Soft, foam-filled beds are more comfortable to sleep on, especially for an older dog who is beginning to experience stiffness in his joints. Although the cover may be washable, these beds are not suitable for young puppies because they like nothing better than pulling the bed's foam filling out, leaving you with the expense of a replacement bed.



Moulded plastic bed



Foam-filled bed

DOG BEDS

Plastic beds are hygienic and hard-wearing. Pad them with soft bedding to make your dog comfortable. Foam-filled beds and beanbags are cosy and attractive but are not suitable for young puppies until they are house-trained and have stopped chewing. Soft beds usually have washable covers that can be removed.

STAIR GATE

Use a stair gate to keep your young dog safe in one room without making him feel trapped.



Cages and playpens

Until your new puppy is house-trained, use a cage or a playpen as his personal space. Never confine your dog as a punishment. A cage or playpen should be a place that your dog enjoys – you may even feed him there. A playpen also gives you peace of mind, safely containing your puppy away from trouble while you are in another room. If you introduce your puppy to a cage when he is young and only shut the door for short periods, he will be happy to use it should it be necessary if he is ill or when you are going on a long journey. However, do not restrict your dog to a cage for long periods as this can increase the risk of behavioural problems.



Cage

Playpens have open tops



Playpen

USING A CAGE

A cage or playpen allows you to leave your puppy unsupervised when you are busy. He will probably sleep some of the time, but give him plenty of toys to keep him amused. Do not leave him confined alone for long periods at a time.



TOYS FOR YOUNG PUPPIES

Soft toys are best for young puppies who have not yet grown a set of adult teeth. A puppy is likely to go through several toys, so don't buy expensive ones.

Soft toys

Puppy with chewable rubber ring

Chewable rubber toys

TOYS FOR OLDER PUPPIES

As puppies get older, they will chew vigorously and need more durable toys. Thick rope tuggers, or toys with a combination of rope and chewable rubber, are a good choice and last a long time.

TOYS FOR ADULT DOGS

Adult dogs also love toys and appreciate those with a variety of textures and materials. Harder toys are best, as they will withstand chewing by a mature dog's full set of teeth.

Buying toys

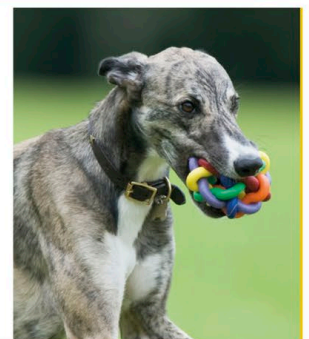
Toys provide a dog with mental stimulation and something permissible to chew on. Used for games or during training sessions, they are great for encouraging a dog to interact with his owner. When buying toys, choose only those that are specially designed for dogs. Children's toys are a dangerous substitute as they may have small pieces that a dog can chew off and swallow. Never leave your dog alone with his toys for long periods; even playthings that are meant to be chewed, such as rawhide bones, can be a choking hazard.

Soft toys are best for young puppies while they still have their baby teeth. As puppies get older and begin teething, they are more likely to chew and at this stage stronger toys such as rope tuggers are the best choice. Once your dog is an adult, choose toys with a variety of textures and shapes. Toys that can be thrown or tugged are good as long as you are able to play with your dog, otherwise choose a toy that he can chew on. Some chewable toys have tasty flavours and there are also food-dispensing toys that release treats when played with. These can keep a dog entertained for a long

time, and are useful if you are too busy to play. Dogs that are dedicated chewers can often be kept out of mischief with rubber toys, which are very durable, or the ranges of rubber toys that are designed to be stuffed with food. Most dogs have favourite toys, and you will soon get to know which ones your dog likes best.

TOP TIPS

- **Playing with a tug toy** is a great way to train a puppy not to mouth at your hand. Offer to play with him but end the game as soon as his teeth meet your hand.
- **Use food-dispensing toys** to keep your dog entertained if you have to leave him alone for short periods.
- **Keep a favourite toy** hidden out of your dog's reach and use it only as a prized reward during training sessions.



FOOD AND FEEDING



A puppy's dietary needs change as he matures

Keeping a dog healthy is largely a question of feeding him the right food in the right quantities. There are several options: complete, pre-prepared dried or wet foods; raw, uncooked foods; or a diet created from combination of these. Whatever you decide on, aim for a good nutritional balance and tailor the quantities to suit the size and age of your dog.

A balanced diet

Ready-prepared dog food is the choice of many owners as it is both quick and convenient. Reading the labels on processed foods will tell you what type of dog they are suitable for. Make sure you use a type that is appropriate for your dog's age. Some foods are available in puppy, junior, adult, and senior varieties, and buying the right formula is important. When in doubt about what quantities to feed, ask your vet for advice. If you decide to feed your dog a mixture of wet and dried food, be careful to halve the quantity of each so you are not over-feeding him.

A balanced diet consists of the right quantities of nutrients: proteins, carbohydrates, fat, vitamins, and minerals. Using processed foods ensures that you get the balance right; if you feed your dog fresh food, his diet needs a little more thought. A dog's nutritional requirements change as he ages. Puppies need high levels of protein and calcium to aid growth and development. Geriatric dogs, on the other hand, require particularly high-quality protein as well as increased levels of certain vitamins as their kidney function slows down. Reduced kidney function can lead to dehydration, due to too much water being excreted, so you may decide to feed an older dog a wet diet rather than dried food, to increase his water intake. The sort of food your dog eats will also

WHICH DOG BOWL?

It is best to invest in a sturdy stainless steel bowl with sloping edges rather than a plastic bowl. Pick a size that your new dog can reach into easily.

affect the care of his teeth. A dog that is fed exclusively on wet food is more likely to need to have his teeth cleaned regularly.

Your dog needs two bowls: one for food and one for water. Put the food bowl down only at mealtimes and remove it as soon as your dog has finished eating.

The water bowl should be left in an accessible place at all times and should always be kept filled with fresh water. Of the various types of bowl available, the best are stainless steel, as they can be thoroughly cleaned after each use and, unlike plastic bowls, cannot be chewed. Bowls with sloping edges are a good choice as they are difficult for your dog to tip over.



Stainless steel bowl



Plastic bowl

TYPES OF FOOD

Dry food provides your dog with a complete, age-appropriate diet. Wet food alone may lead to dental problems. Raw food, such as meat and vegetables, takes a little longer to prepare.



Dry food for puppies



Senior food



Tinned food



Meat from a sachet



Raw food

FOOD OPTIONS AND AMOUNTS PER DAY

DOG WEIGHT		DRIED FOOD	TINNED FOOD 400G (14OZ)	MEAT FROM A SACHET	RAW FOOD
Pekingese 5kg (11lb) 		75g (3oz)	1 tin	300g (11oz)	150g (5oz)
Beagle 10kg (22lb) 		200g (7oz)	2 tins	600g (1lb 5oz)	300g (11oz)
Border Collie 20kg (44lb) 		400g (14oz)	3 tins	1kg (2lb 3oz)	600g (1lb 5oz)
Doberman 30kg (66lb) 		500g (1lb)	4 tins	1.2kg (2lb 10oz)	900g (2lb)
Irish Wolfhound 40kg (88lb) 		600g (1lb 5oz)	5 tins	1.8kg (4lb)	1.2kg (2lb 10oz)

TOP TIPS

■ **Opened packets** or tins of wet food will need to be sealed and refrigerated between uses. Dried dog food should also be kept in a sealed container, to keep it fresh and free from contamination.

■ **Puppies need** three or four small meals a day, but by the time they are mature will only require feeding morning and evening. Feeding your dog smaller meals twice a day as opposed to one big meal is preferable, as it puts less strain on their digestive systems.

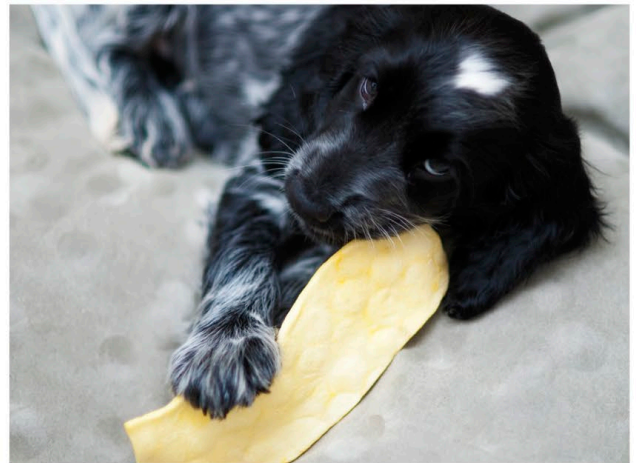
■ **Introduce new foods** gradually over several days to avoid stomach upsets.

Treats and chews

If you use a lot of edible treats to reward your dog during training, you may risk over-feeding him. Consider the treats part of your dog's overall diet and slightly reduce the amount of food you give him at mealtimes. Alternatively, you can take part of your dog's main rations to give as treats throughout the day, especially if you use dried food.

Either buy ready-made dog treats from a pet shop or make your own at home by chopping up foods such as cheese, chicken or sausage. Dogs are particularly fond of treats that have a strong smell and taste.

Chews are a great way to keep your dog occupied for a while and provide something to take a puppy's mind off chewing your household possessions. They are also very effective at keeping a dog's teeth clean. Be careful what type of chew you give your dog. Canine teeth are extremely strong and can tear apart chews with ease; swallowing the loose parts can lead to choking or a blockage. Never leave a puppy or young dog alone while he has a chew.

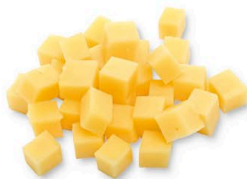


PRACTICAL CHOICE

Hide chews not only keep your puppy entertained but also help to clean his teeth. Always supervise him when he is chewing and remove any small pieces he tears off in exchange for a treat.

TREAT VARIETIES

Using a variety of treats keeps your dog motivated during training and allows you to create a hierarchy of rewards. Knowing which treats appeal most to your dog will make training easier and more enjoyable.



Cubes of cheese



Bite-sized training treats



Meaty strips



Cooked sausage

FIRST DAYS

Your puppy's first days in his new home are important to the rest of his development. Start as you intend to go on and set the rules right from the beginning. Do not be tempted to be lenient while your dog settles in. He will feel at home much more quickly and easily if you set clear boundaries. The sooner you establish a routine the sooner you will succeed in training your dog.



It's never too early for a puppy to learn

Choosing a name

Family discussions about choosing a name that suits your new puppy are likely to be long and difficult. The name should be something that you feel comfortable calling out in public. It must also be clearly distinguishable from any commands you are likely to want to teach your dog. For example, a dog called "Kit" will find learning the command

to "sit" very difficult. Overly long names make training problematic, so pick something with just one or two syllables. Remember that dogs do not understand language, only sounds. Giving your dog a long name that you shorten in some situations will only confuse him. Also to keep it simple for your dog, make sure that all members of your family use the same name to address him.

TRAINING | TEACHING YOUR DOG HIS NAME



1 When your puppy is nearby, crouch down and clearly call his name in a cheery, enthusiastic voice. Use your hands to guide his attention towards you.



2 As your puppy approaches, praise him in an excited tone of voice. Stroke and fuss him when he reaches you.



3 Make sure you show your puppy how pleased you are to see him by giving him lots of warm attention. Never use your puppy's name to scold him.



House-training

Some dogs learn to be clean indoors sooner than others, but with all of them the most important factor in house-training is vigilance. Supervision is the key to success in the first few weeks. Your puppy may need to relieve himself at any time, so learn to spot the signs, such as sniffing the ground and circling. You can also try to predict the times when he is most likely to need the toilet. Even in the absence of any signs, take your puppy into the garden at regular intervals, no matter what the weather is like, and wait patiently. Stay with your puppy to make sure that he does not get distracted. When he does go to the toilet, give a command such as “hurry up” and praise him enthusiastically when he has finished.

The occasional house-training accident is inevitable and unless you catch your puppy in the act there is nothing you can do except clean up the mess. Never punish or scold a puppy for having an accident but if you are nearby and spot him squatting, interrupt him with a sharp noise such as clapping your hands. Your aim is to stop him in mid-flow, not to scare him. When he stops, encourage him into the garden and wait for him to perform, giving the command “hurry up” followed by praise as described above.

Continue to take your puppy on regular toilet trips to the garden even when he has stopped having accidents. You may be able to lengthen intervals between trips, but beware the common mistake of stopping house-training as soon as your

TRIP OUTSIDE

Your puppy must learn that outside is the place to go to the toilet. Take your puppy into the garden first thing in the morning and last thing at night as well as whenever he wakes from a nap. Also, go outside with him after each feed or after playing with him.

puppy appears to be clean. It may be simply that you have become better at predicting your puppy's toilet habits and not that he has learned to control himself indoors.

What to do at night

Inevitably, your new puppy will cry or whine at night-time. This is a natural response to being separated from his mother and litter mates and is unlikely to last for more than a few nights. Ignore him, unless he is being very noisy, in which case he may need to go to the toilet. If you can take him outside to relieve himself in the middle of the night, he will learn to be clean indoors much more quickly. Tiring your puppy out during the day is the best way of getting a peaceful night. Spending time playing with him and feeding him a warm evening meal will make him feel sleepy. Always give your puppy the opportunity to go to the toilet just before you settle him down in his bed.



SECURE PLACE

A cage can be used at night as a way of keeping your puppy safe if there is no alternative, but confinement is not natural for a puppy and should not be used simply as a way of dog-proofing your home. A cardboard box is a cheap, disposable alternative.



HANDLING YOUR DOG

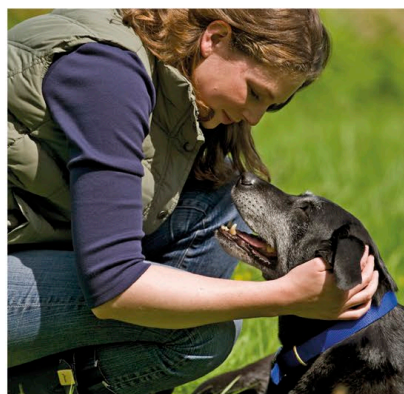


Accustom your puppy to regular handling

Getting your dog used to being handled early on will make his day-to-day care much more pleasurable. Teach him to accept being held without protest so that you can perform routine health checks or administer occasional treatments such as ear drops. A dog that is happy to be handled is a joy to groom, and tasks such as nail clipping and tooth brushing will not be a chore or turn into a struggle.

How to handle your dog

Make handling an opportunity for your dog to receive lots of attention, treats, and praise. Handling sessions should be frequent and fun, but keep them short so that your dog does not feel smothered. Begin by calling your dog to you and give him some gentle fuss and lots of praise when he approaches. Then practise handling him by examining his ears, eyes, mouth, paws, and tail. After each examination, reward your dog with a treat. When you have finished, spend some more time fussing him. In the early stages, handling sessions should be no more taxing than that. If your dog appears reluctant for any part of his body to be handled, do not force him.



PETTING

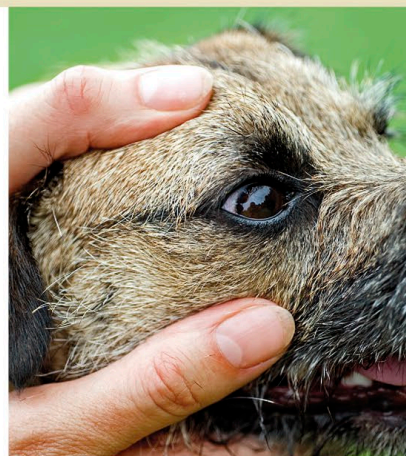
Pet your dog by crouching down to his level and talking to him in a gentle tone. Never lean into his space. If he is willing, slowly put your hand out and stroke his chest; avoid placing your hand directly over his head.

GOOD PRACTICE | EXAMINING YOUR DOG



LIFTING THE EARS

Get your dog used to having the inside of his ear handled. Check that the ear is its usual, dull, pink colour with no unpleasant odour or excessive wax.



EXAMINING THE EYES

Handle the area around your dog's eyes with great care. If the eyes need cleaning, wipe them lightly using cotton wool moistened with warm water.



PLENTY OF SUPPORT

When lifting both large and small dogs, support them front and back and hold them close to your body.

support his front and back, praise your dog, and hold him without lifting him. Reward him with a treat

for standing still. Gradually increase the length of time you hold him, before gently lifting him just off the ground. Immediately put him down and reward him with a treat.

Small breeds and puppies are relatively easy for one person to pick up. Larger breeds, however, should not be lifted by one person alone. Any dog over 15kg (33lb) requires two people to lift it, one at the front and one at the back. Dogs can move suddenly, causing strain to the person lifting them; they also risk being dropped, undoing hours of patient training and causing problems for the future. When you lift,

bend from the knees to avoid back injury, and check that there are no obstacles on the path to your destination.



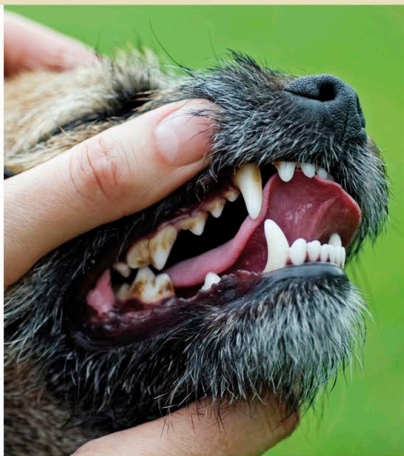
GENTLE SLOPE

If lifting your dog is impractical, a ramp is a good alternative, particularly to help older dogs to get into a car.

You may notice that he suddenly stiffens when you lift up his tail, for example, or growls when you try to pick up his paw. If this is the case, and on checking there is no sign he is hurt, use treats to gradually build up the amount of handling your dog will tolerate. Stiffening and growling are signs of aggression and, if they go unheeded, may result in a bite. Always get advice from a professional behaviour counsellor to help a reluctant dog accept being handled.

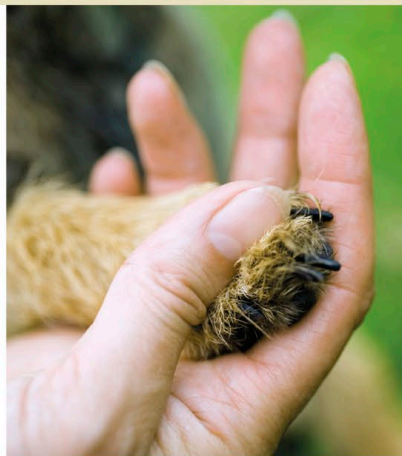
Lifting your dog

A dog that is not used to being lifted may panic and react aggressively if you pick him up, so it is worthwhile practising lifting your dog. To begin with, simply place your hands to



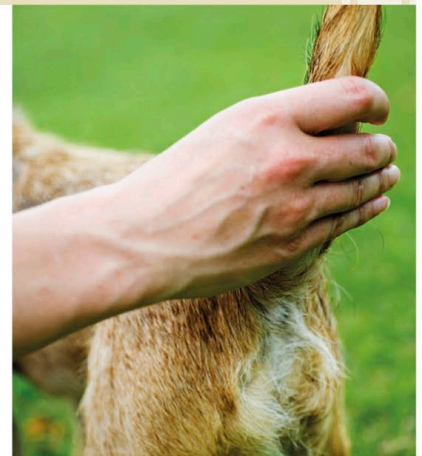
INSPECTING THE TEETH

Gently lift your dog's lips to check that the gums are pink and there are no signs of soreness. His teeth should be white and lack excessive tartar deposits.



TOUCHING THE PAWS

Check the pads for sore or broken skin, and look in between the toes for injuries or swelling. Examine the nails and get them trimmed or clip them yourself if necessary.



LIFTING THE TAIL

Lift your dog's tail while you tickle his stomach with your other hand. Ensure that the area below the tail is clean and that there are no signs of redness or swelling.

GROOMING

Both dog and owner alike should find grooming an enjoyable experience. The contact encourages a strong bond to develop and is beneficial to your dog. Not only do dogs find being groomed relaxing, but it is also good for their skin and coat. You can check your dog for lumps and bumps, parasites, and minor injuries too, while you brush him.

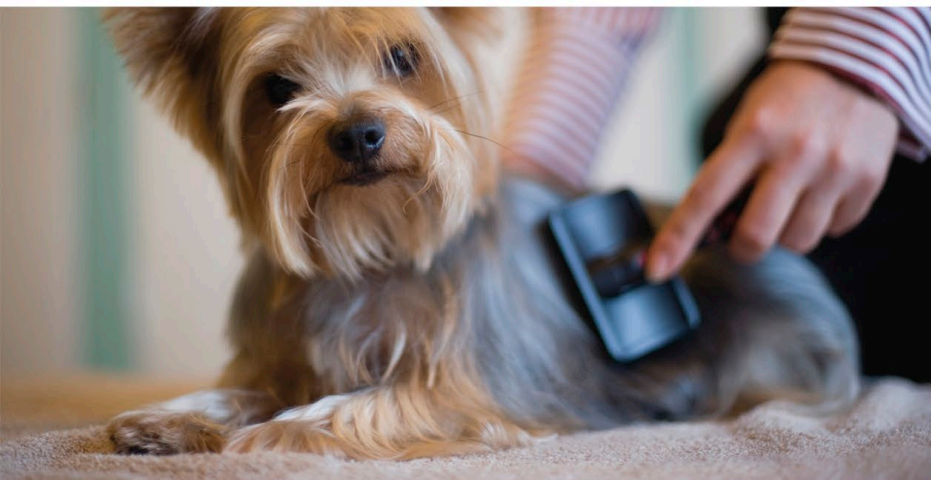


A dog's coat needs regular grooming - more frequently if it is a show dog

Learning to be groomed

Grooming is really an extended period of handling. It should not be difficult if you have taken the time to teach your dog to accept being restrained. Approach grooming as a training session. Place a towel on the floor and encourage your dog to stand still on it, in return for a treat. Calmly stroke and praise him, but do not allow him to become over-excited. Introduce your dog to each piece of grooming equipment that you will be using regularly. Let him sniff each brush but do not allow him to chew it. Restrain him gently and move the brush through the coat on his back without pressing too hard. After a few strokes of the brush, stop and reward him with praise and a treat.

No matter what type of coat your dog has, spend time each day practising grooming and getting him used to the sensation. With a new dog, make grooming sessions very short and always reward him for standing still. Speak to him in a calm, reassuring tone and avoid tugging on tangles or knots, which may hurt him. Gradually increase the length of time you require him to stand still. Be firm from the start. If he tries to bite the brush, do not let him turn the session into a game. Instead, gently turn his head away from the brush. He should remain standing, unless you ask him to sit or lie down so that you can reach another part of his coat. Once he is used to standing still on the towel for an extended time, you can start a proper grooming routine.



DETANGLING

Some coat types, such as the silky coat of the Yorkshire Terrier, are particularly prone to tangles. Silky coats need regular grooming to manage any small knots, so that they do not form uncomfortable mats.

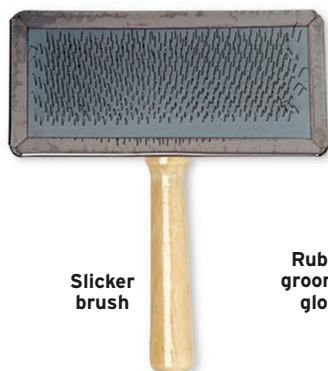
CLIPPING NAILS

Dogs that do not regularly walk on hard surfaces, or that have long hair around their paws, need their nails clipped regularly. Remove the pointed tip of the nail only and be careful to avoid cutting the quick.



GROOMING TOOLS

A rubber brush or glove removes shedding undercoat in smooth-coated breeds. For all other breeds, a slicker brush is the best general tool, although a bristle brush may be preferable for long coats. Use a comb on all coat types as a finishing tool.



Slicker brush



Bristle brush

Fine-toothed comb

Rubber grooming glove



HAVING A BATH

Brush any knots out of your dog's coat then wet him all over - avoid getting water into his eyes and ears. Massage dog shampoo into his coat; never use human shampoo, as it can cause painful skin problems. Rinse the shampoo out completely before drying him thoroughly, and finish off with a good brush.

Work your way round

Stick to a routine when you brush your dog to ensure that no areas are missed. Start at the foot of one of his hind legs and use an appropriate tool (see above) to brush from the bottom of the coat outwards. Keep tension on the skin with your other hand, to prevent the coat from pulling painfully as you brush. Whatever tool you use, make sure you work it right through

the coat but be careful not to scrape it painfully on the skin. Work your way up the leg and along your dog's side, then down the front leg to the foot and across the chest. Repeat this process on the other side, then finally brush the tail and around your dog's head.

Mats can form in a dog's long coat when loose underhairs wrap together or when the coat tangles. Matting that occurs in movement spots, such as the armpits, can be very painful. To deal with mats, you need a de-matting comb to break up the clumps so that they can be removed with a brush. As well as being time consuming, de-matting can be a very uncomfortable experience for your dog and may make him resent grooming. It is far better to prevent the mats from forming in the first place by brushing your dog at least every other day.

COAT CLIPPING

Clipping the coat is the usual practice for many breeds. Find a professional dog groomer who can do this for you. A good groomer will not rush a new dog and will spend time getting him used to the sound and feel of the clippers, using treats to help him feel comfortable.



TEETH CLEANING

■ **Never use human toothpaste**, buy special dog toothpaste instead.

■ **Clean one tooth** per day to get your dog used to the sensation.

■ **Some dog chews** are designed to help clean your dog's teeth.



GOOD BEHAVIOUR

A well-mannered dog is not only a pleasure to live with but is also happier. If your dog understands the house rules, he will stay out of trouble and can take part in family activities and greet visitors. Preventing bad habits from forming is much easier than trying to undo them later on, so start teaching your new dog how to behave as soon as he arrives in your home.

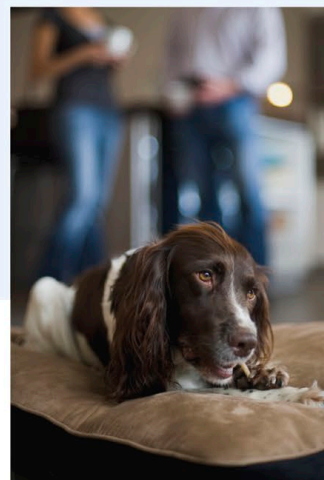
Where to rest

Although it is tempting to allow a new puppy on to the furniture and into your bed when he is very small, you may not want this to happen when he is much bigger, hairier, and dirtier. Changing the rules as your puppy grows up is unfair, so it is best to decide at the start which rooms he can go in and whether he can sit on the sofa. Make sure that the whole family agrees and treats the puppy consistently.

It is very important to give your dog a private corner to relax in on his own, but he may need encouragement to use it. At the times in the day when your dog normally goes

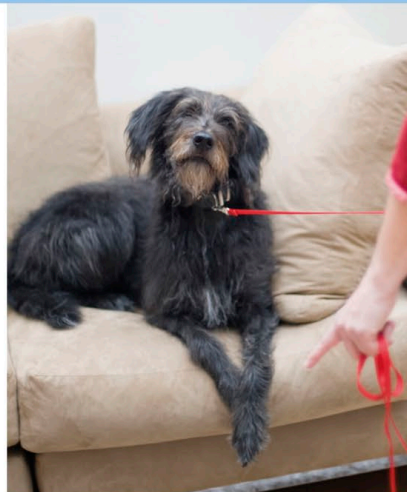
QUIET CORNER

To encourage your dog to go to his bed, give him a treat or chew to take with him. When he goes to his bed, offer gentle praise and encouragement.



to sleep, coax him on to his bed with a gentle cue such as "go to bed". Spend some time there with him, gently stroking him and quietly praising him as he falls asleep. Should he take himself to his bed of his own accord, praise him quietly or toss a treat so that it lands just in front of his nose.

TRAINING | GETTING OFF THE FURNITURE

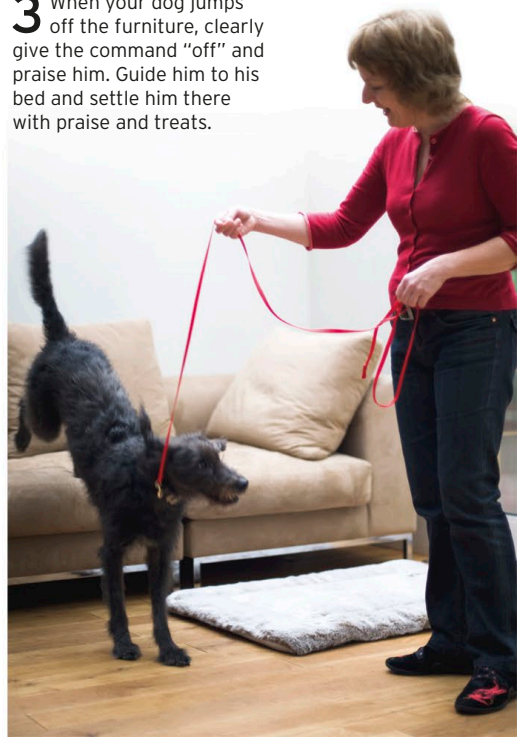


1 A light, long lead makes it easier to teach your dog to get off the furniture. Use this in the early stages of training when he does not yet understand the appropriate voice cue. If he sits on a forbidden chair or sofa, pick up the long lead and ask him to get off.



2 If encouragement and putting gentle pressure on the long lead fail to make him get down, do not use the lead to drag your dog off the furniture. If he does not jump off immediately, use a toy or a treat to encourage him further.

3 When your dog jumps off the furniture, clearly give the command "off" and praise him. Guide him to his bed and settle him there with praise and treats.



TRAINING | NO JUMPING UP

1 If your dog jumps up, remove all attention by turning your back and folding your arms. Avoid eye contact and do not speak to him until he stops.

2 When your dog has all four feet on the ground, reward him with lots of fuss in the form of praise, treats, and play. If he gets too excited and jumps up again, turn away immediately. He will quickly learn that keeping all four paws on the ground is the key to getting attention.

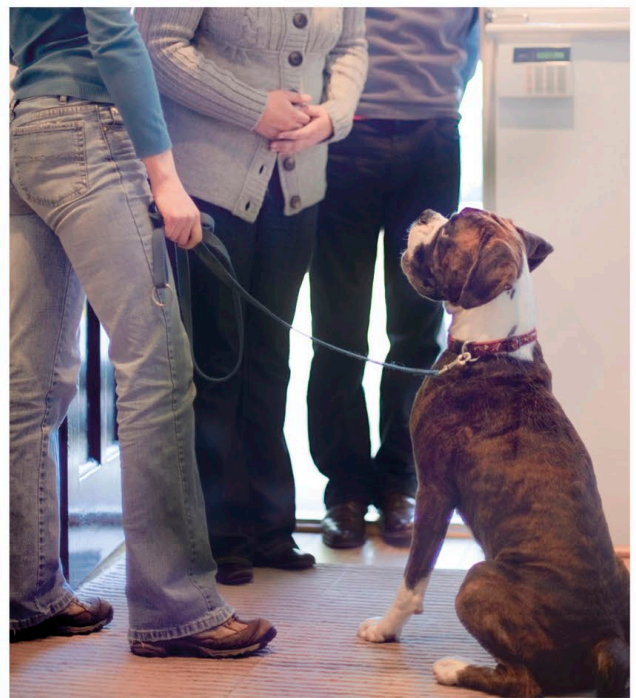
**Good manners**

Puppies often receive the most attention from people when they are jumping up or barking, so understandably they often continue to use the same technique as they get older, when such behaviour is less appealing. It is not wise to allow even the smallest dog to jump up at anyone, because a boisterous dog can scare people, especially young children, or even cause injuries.

For a dog to learn good manners, he must not receive any attention at all when he is jumping up or barking. This does not just mean withholding praise – to some dogs, being shouted at or pushed away counts as satisfactory attention. Ignore your dog completely to teach him that when he is sitting quietly, people come to him and lavish him with praise and treats.

GREETING VISITORS

Dogs can get over-excited when visitors call. Control your dog with a long lead to make sure that he is behaving politely before you let visitors say hello.





PLAY-BITING

If your puppy is a persistent play-biter, keep a soft toy nearby to grab quickly whenever you spend time playing with him. Use a big toy so that you can hold on to it without needing to put your hands too close to your dog's teeth.

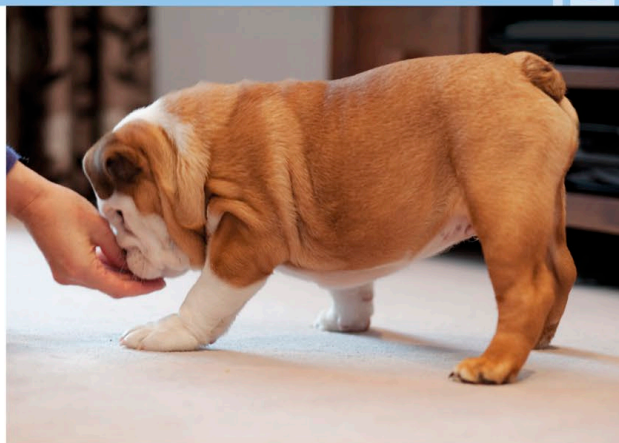
Teething troubles

Dogs investigate the world with their mouths. Young dogs, in particular, want to chew everything they come across to find out more about it. This habit often becomes more pronounced at around four months of age, when puppies begin to lose their first teeth. It is natural for puppies to play-bite their litter mates but they must learn never to use their teeth on humans in the same way. This lesson is an important part of teaching a young dog good manners. When your puppy play-bites at your hand, form a fist to make it harder for him to chew and offer him a soft toy instead. Engage him with the toy and have a good game with him, but stop if his teeth touch your hand. Either get up immediately and walk away to indicate the game has ended or keep your hand still and let out a yelp as another puppy would do.

TRAINING | TAKING FOOD GENTLY



1 Hold a tasty treat firmly in your fist and show it to your dog. Keep your fist still as he tries to get the treat, but do not open it if he is touching your hand or chewing or pawing it.



2 When your puppy moves away from your hand, even for a moment, open your fist and allow him to take the treat. This will teach him not to snatch food but to wait for it calmly.

TRAINING | GIVING UP CHEWS



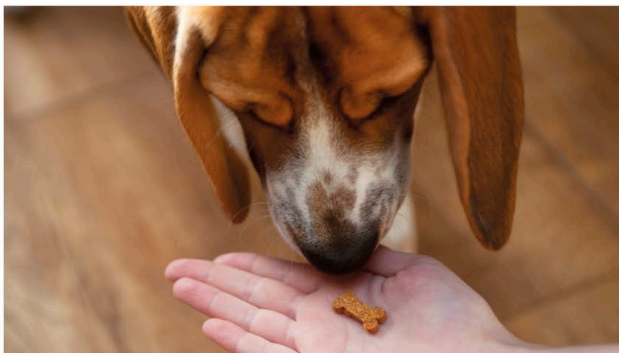
1 When your dog has been enjoying a chew for a while, approach calmly with a really smelly treat. Get close enough for him to smell it and use it to lure him away from his chew.



2 As he moves away from his chew, give him the smelly treat and at the same time calmly pick up the chew with your other hand. Use the treat to keep him distracted.

Preventing food aggression

Dogs can be very possessive about their food and many will guard it against anyone who approaches. Although perfectly normal canine behaviour, it is not tolerable in a pet dog and must be discouraged at a very early stage. Training a dog not to be aggressive about food is easy. Simply teach your puppy to expect that anyone who approaches him while he is eating will have something even tastier to offer. When you



3 Once he has eaten the treat, immediately give him back the chew. Repeat the lesson at intervals. It won't be long before your dog learns to give up his chews happily.



give your puppy his food, crouch down beside him and gently stroke and talk to him as he eats. Offer him some really tasty treats, such as cooked chicken or cheese, and allow him to take them from you. If he is comfortable with this, progress by putting your hand into his food bowl and letting him take the treat from there. Repeat this once or twice before leaving him to finish his meal. If you approach and your puppy looks up expectantly, lift up his bowl and place some tasty treats in it before returning it to him straight away. Once his response is absolutely predictable, get a variety of different people, including children, to repeat the procedure. As the puppy grows up, repeat this training less frequently but do not stop completely until your dog is fully mature. A dog that has already developed aggression around food poses a genuine risk and will bite anyone who gets too close. Do not attempt to treat this problem without the advice of a professional behaviour counsellor.

HANDOUT

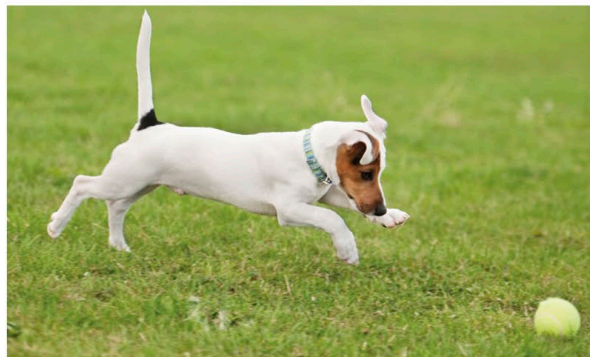
Offering your dog a treat on the flat of your hand prevents him from accidentally catching you with his teeth. Make sure that friends and children offering him treats are taught this rule.

**TUG-OF-WAR**

Tug games are a great way to interact with your dog, as long as you can control when the game begins and when it ends.

THRILL OF THE CHASE

Many dogs love chasing toys that fly through the air. Keep your puppy on a long lead until he understands the rules.

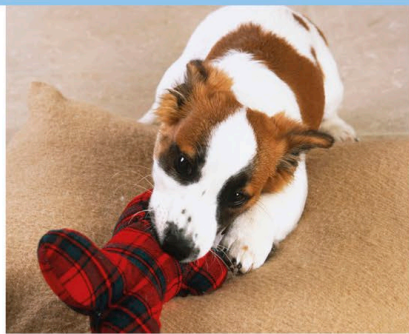
**Playtime**

As highly social animals, dogs need interaction with both other dogs and people as much as they need physical and mental exercise. Play can offer this interaction and helps dogs to mature properly, so it is essential that they have as much of it as they need. However, it is during playtime that your dog is most likely to become over-excited and start misbehaving. Teach your puppy the rules of play, both with you and with other dogs. He must also learn to stop playing when you tell him to.

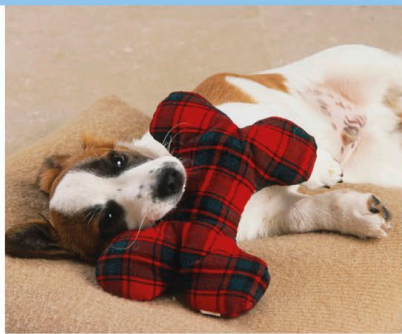
Use toys to help your dog learn that play with people is different from play-fighting with other dogs. Playtime should begin and end with a display of good manners, such as a sit. If your puppy gets over-excited, call a halt to the fun until he calms down. Don't restrain him with your hands during play as he will probably try to mouth you or jump up. It may be useful to keep a puppy on a light, long lead during playtime. This allows you to calm him down without offering the temptation of your hands. If this does not work, simply walk away from your puppy, making it clear that the game is over.

TOP TIPS

■ **Your dog should be taught** from an early age not to be possessive of his toys. It is understandable that any dog would want to guard a prized possession from human hands, but this can lead to snapping and biting. Spend time trading toys for treats until your dog learns that allowing people to pick up his toys leads to a tasty reward. Teach children that snatching something quickly away from a dog may startle him and possibly arouse aggression.

GOOD PRACTICE | PLAYING**RESPONDING TO A NEW TOY**

Allow your puppy to nibble a new toy to find out whether it tastes nice and to check whether it will bite back.

**PLAYFULNESS**

Do not be alarmed if your puppy growls – he is simply treating the toy like another puppy. This is normal playfulness, not aggression.

**GIVING UP A TOY**

Occasionally take the toy away from your puppy and praise him before returning it. If he is reluctant to give it up, swap it for a treat.



Barking

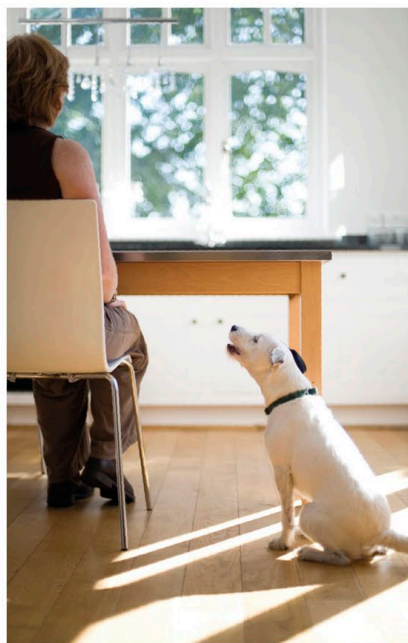
Often puppies will “find their voice” at around six months of age. Puppy-yapping can be amusing and although it is tempting to encourage this new behaviour, it is not advisable. As your puppy matures, both you and your neighbours will become weary of persistent barking. If your puppy is prone to barking at certain moments of high excitement – for example, during a game – then use a lead to control his behaviour. Give him what he wants only when he is quiet. If your puppy tends to bark excitedly when you are about to do something, such as prepare his dinner or get ready for a walk, stop what you are doing until he is quiet. If necessary, sit down calmly on the sofa until he has stopped barking completely. It is worth spending a few extra minutes getting your puppy calm before going out of the door for a walk. Your puppy will realize quickly that barking is completely counter-productive when it comes to getting what he wants, whereas waiting quietly is always rewarded.

OVER-EXCITEMENT

If your puppy barks when you are about to go for a walk, ignore it and he will learn that staying quiet is a quicker way to get what he wants.

ON GUARD

Your dog may use barking as an alert signal when the post arrives. He should not be told off for this, but do not let alarm barking continue for long.



ATTENTION SEEKING

Barking to gain attention should not be rewarded. Ignore your dog until he is silent or walk away from him, returning with lavish praise when he is quiet.



SOCIALIZATION

Whatever your young puppy experiences will affect the way he responds to the world as an adult dog. At an early age, introduce him to everything he is likely to encounter, from different people and other dogs, to cars and vacuum cleaners. This process, called socialization, is the single most important task you can undertake to ensure that your puppy grows into a friendly family pet.



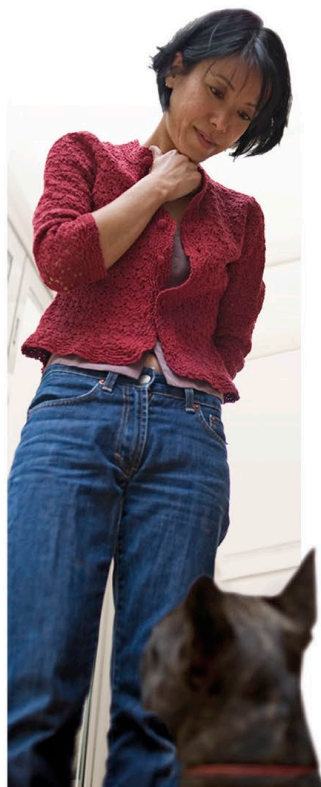
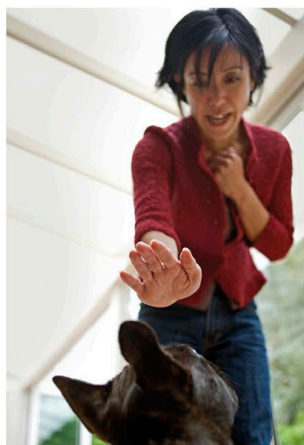
Everyone's friend

Understanding your dog

Socialization must begin with an understanding of how dogs interact with their surroundings. A puppy views the world very differently from humans. Whereas we rely on our eyes to get information about the world, dogs place much more reliance on their sense of smell. A new puppy learns about things more quickly by smelling and chewing them than by looking at them. In fact, dogs cannot see the same amount of detail as humans or distinguish red from green, but their

night vision is far superior to ours. Dogs have a much more acute sense of hearing than humans. This means a noise that is seemingly inconsequential to us may sound loud and scary to a dog.

Puppies go through a series of developmental stages as they mature. These stages are windows of opportunity for socialization, and positive experiences during such times will help to shape your puppy into a happy and balanced adult dog. In his first weeks your puppy is still inquisitive,

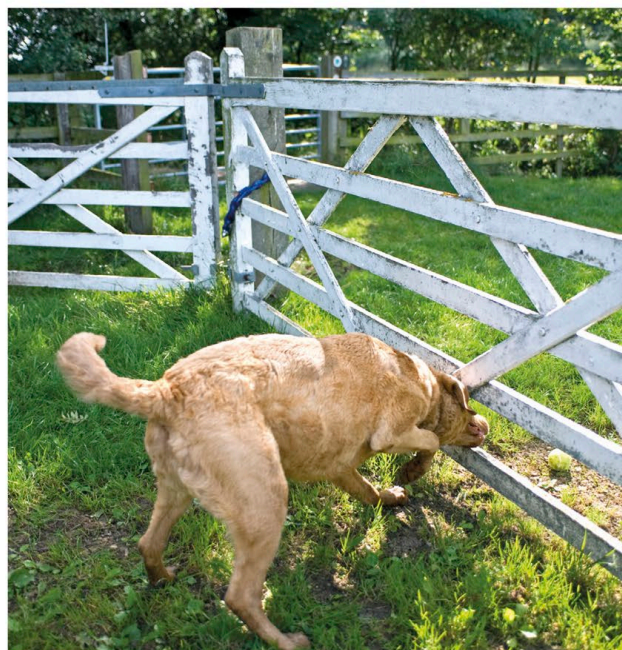


PAT ON THE HEAD

A well-intentioned pat on the head can be frightening for your puppy. Crouch down and stroke his chest instead.

DOG'S EYE VIEW

People appear huge to a young dog with little experience of the human world. Try not to overwhelm your puppy by looming above him.



BEHIND THE GATE

Your dog will need help to figure out how things work in a human world. His thought processes are different from ours, and to begin with he may not understand things like gates.

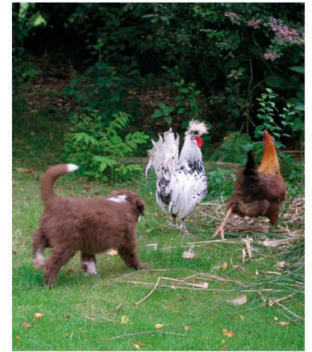
full of play, eager to please, and also less inclined to be wary of new and unusual things than he will be later on. Some socialization may have happened while your puppy was with the breeder. This is important as the period at which socialization becomes most critical is, broadly speaking, between 8-12 weeks of age, and you may not pick your puppy up until he is about that age. Once you have brought your puppy home, socialization must continue. Anything that he does not come across during his formative period and make a positive association with, will be looked upon with distrust or fear if he meets it as an adult. It is important not to miss this deadline, so introduce your puppy to your friends and their children. Having contact with toddlers and older people is particularly important. Once fully vaccinated, take him out to meet other animals, go for a bus ride, and visit the park to look at the ducks. Socialize your puppy early and socialize him well; you will find it a rewarding and joyful experience.

Getting used to other dogs

Dogs need to learn how to interact with other dogs at the earliest opportunity. A puppy that is not socialized correctly will grow up becoming more and more fearful of other dogs, and this usually leads to aggression. Puppies learn best about getting on with other dogs by playing with puppies

MAKING NEW FRIENDS

Meeting a variety of other animals, both large and small, will give your puppy confidence.



of their own age. During play, dogs discover how to read each other's body language and how to respond appropriately. They also learn how to display friendliness as well as how to judge whether another dog is friendly.

Adult dogs can also be very good at teaching puppies how to behave. Make sure that all the adult dogs your puppy meets are friendly and well socialized themselves. It can be difficult to stick to this rule if you take your puppy into public spaces, so stay vigilant and move away quickly from potential trouble. A negative experience at this tender age could be enough to make your puppy wary of other dogs for life. A good puppy class should include interactions with "safe" adult dogs. By taking care that all your puppy's experiences with other dogs are positive, you ensure that he has no reason to be afraid in later life.



HIGHLY PERCEPTIVE

Dogs do not have our acute vision but they are good at detecting movement, however slight. This allows them to predict our movements, sometimes before we are conscious of them ourselves.



PUPPY CLASS

A well-organized puppy class will be of great benefit to your puppy. Look for classes that use only reward-based methods and have only a few puppies playing together at any one time.

Meeting the family

If your puppy is to become a polite and confident dog, you must introduce him to a variety of different people. Puppies soon make friends with all the members of their family but some of them are shy with strangers. Invite visitors of all ages, male and female, to your home, to meet your puppy. Show your visitors how to interact with your puppy but do not let them overwhelm him. Instead, ask them to wait for the puppy to make the first approach before greeting him. When the puppy does come to them, make sure that your visitors give him plenty of treats and gentle attention.

Give your puppy plenty of experiences with children early on so that he becomes used to them, and teach your children how to behave around dogs. Interactions between your dog

YOUNG PLAYMATE

Children and dogs can become the best of friends, but they need time to get used to one another.



and children should always be supervised, as children's sudden movements and noises can sometimes startle young puppies. However, do not shy away from such encounters – taking a new puppy to the school gate when you drop off and pick up your children is a great way to socialize him with children of all ages. Using lots of praise and tasty treats on these visits will guarantee that your puppy remembers the experiences fondly.

Take the time to meet and greet all kinds of different people when you are outside the house with your puppy. Ask joggers and cyclists to stop and say hello to your puppy if he seems to be alarmed by their fast movement. If people are willing and able, get them to crouch down with a treat and wait for him to approach for his reward.



NEW ARRIVAL

Introduce babies and dogs gradually and never leave them alone together. Begin by getting your dog used to the smell of your baby's clothes.



FELINE INTRODUCTION

Introduce a cat by holding your dog to prevent him from chasing it. The cat must be free to escape if it feels threatened.



STRANGE SOUNDS

Introduce noisy objects like vacuum cleaners slowly and with lots of treats. Get your dog used to the movement of the vacuum before turning it on.

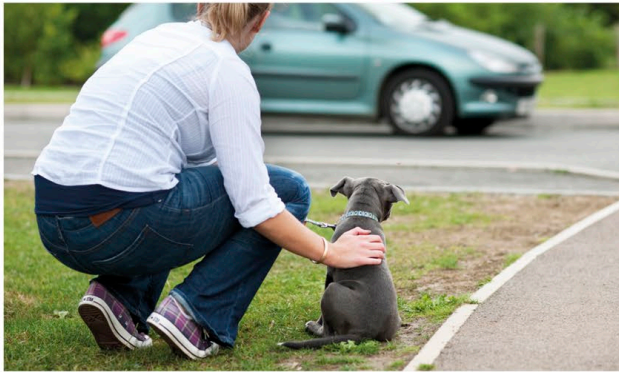
New sights and sounds

In addition to other dogs and people, puppies need to get used to the many strange objects they will encounter during their lifetime. Washing machines, coffee grinders, lawnmowers, vacuum cleaners, tumble dryers, and cars are all examples of objects that are big, loud, and scary to a young puppy. It is important to take the time to actively seek out these things and allow your puppy to get accustomed to them at his own pace. Do not force him to investigate them - instead, set up situations where he can observe the object from a distance and allow him to approach when he feels more confident.

Take treats with you wherever you go; make each new experience fun by playing games with your puppy, and rewarding him generously. Watch your puppy closely. If certain objects or experiences disturb him, don't avoid them but gradually familiarize him with them so that he learns not to react negatively. During these more stressful situations distract him with a toy and talk to him until he forgets his nerves. Once he relaxes, you can encourage him to move closer.

ONCOMING VEHICLE

Allow your puppy to get used to cars at his own pace, using treats to reinforce calm behaviour. He will lose fear once he accepts they are background objects.



GAME OF CHASE

If your puppy chases vehicles or livestock he may get injured, so discourage this behaviour from the start and get professional guidance if needed.

TROUBLE AHEAD

When you see a cyclist or jogger approaching, encourage your puppy to sit quietly. Once they have passed reward him with treats.



Car travel

For a young dog, car travel is a very strange experience at first and he needs time to get used to it. Puppies are usually wary of car rides because the first two trips they go on are when they are taken away from their mother and their first visit to the vet. Neither are very pleasant occasions and can leave many dogs with negative feelings about cars. Spending time rebalancing the way your puppy views the car will prevent travelling problems in the future.

Encourage your dog to investigate the car when the engine is turned off. Get him used to the sound of car doors opening and closing and to the feeling of being in a car. Spend time simply sitting in the car with your dog, or leave him there to sleep, so that he begins to see it as a great place to be. Put him in the place where he will be travelling in the future. For example, if you plan to travel with your dog in a car crate, that is where he should be placed from the start.

When you take your dog on a car journey, make sure he relieves himself before you set off. To begin with, go on lots of short trips that end with something enjoyable like a walk in the woods. By associating car journeys with positive endings, your puppy will soon forget the earlier trips that caused such distress. Over time, gradually increase the length of the journeys as your dog becomes happier and more relaxed in the car.



STRAPPED IN

Restraining your dog while he is in the car is essential. It stops him from interfering with the driver or other passengers and prevents him from being thrown around in the car during the journey.

TRAINING | SUCCESSFUL JOURNEYS

1 Before your dog does any travelling, he should learn that cars are fun. Take time to play with him in and around the car and even feed him his dinner in the car.



2 Until your dog is big enough to jump into the car without hurting himself, lift him in and be ready to prevent him from trying to jump out again. Settle him in the car by staying with him, praising him, and giving him lots of treats.



3 A travelling crate is a good way of keeping your dog contained and feeling secure. Dogs that are already used to sleeping in a cage or crate will find this particularly reassuring.





Travel sickness

Many dogs suffer from travel sickness as they find it difficult to adjust to the unnatural movement of a car journey. In fact, many problems experienced while travelling with a dog, such as excessive barking or panting, are due to underlying travel sickness making the dog restless. It is possible for many dogs to get over this with time. However, there may also be a psychological element involved, so think about whether your dog has good or bad feelings about the car. If you have a rescue dog, his previous experiences with cars may be unknown so stopping him from being sick may be more difficult. Treat a dog that is habitually travel-sick in the same way you would a dog who has never travelled before. Spend

TOP TIPS

■ **Help prevent car sickness** by making sure your dog has a non-slip surface if he stands up in the car. Take corners slowly and accelerate smoothly.

■ **Even on a cool day**, dogs can quickly overheat in a car, so never leave your dog alone in the car for very long.



SAFETY FIRST

Insist that your dog waits until he is asked to get out of the car. He should never jump out as soon as the door opens, as one day he may jump into the road. Restrain him if necessary and praise him for waiting calmly. Teach him to wait for just a few moments at first, gradually extending the length of time.

time with him, making a positive association with the car. Keep the engine off, play games around the car, and use lots of treats. When your dog is relaxed in the car, turn the engine on briefly and then play with him. For your first journey with your dog, just go to the end of the road before stopping for more games and treats. In extreme cases, consult your vet.

THIRSTY PASSENGER

The car is one of the few places where your dog may not have free access to water. Be sure to stop regularly to offer him a drink and to relieve himself; he may be more thirsty than usual due to the heat inside the car.



CONTENTED DOG

Take your dog for a walk before leaving him. If he is tired and content, he is likely to accept being left alone and will curl up and go to sleep.



Learning to be left alone

Everyone wants to spend a great deal of time with a new puppy in the first few weeks after his arrival. The general fuss and attention, combined with socialization, usually mean that the puppy is never alone for more than a few of his waking moments. As he gets older and stops receiving such constant attention, he may become anxious at being left alone. Part of his socialization should include teaching him to accept being on his own.

Choose a time when your puppy is ready for sleep. Take him outside to relieve himself before guiding him to his bed and calmly leaving the room. Shut the door behind you and ignore whining and barking until he gives up and falls asleep. This exercise should be repeated until the puppy has learned to settle quietly on his own for a few hours.

Puppies should be discouraged from following their owners around everywhere they go. Make a point of shutting doors behind you as you move around the house so that your puppy cannot always come with you. At first, go back to him quickly and reassure him, so that he knows he has not been abandoned and that you never stay away for long. He will soon learn that there is no need to become worried or nervous at being left alone.

Never tell your dog off for something that has happened in your absence. If you leave your puppy for half an hour and return to find he has chewed his blanket, do not punish him. Dogs associate events that occur very close together: scolding your puppy will teach him to be afraid of you coming home, not that chewing a blanket is wrong.

SEPARATION ANXIETY

When dogs are really worried they can work out their anxiety by chewing whatever is nearby, including furniture and other possessions. This is a sign that your dog is not coping with being left alone for long periods.

TOP TIPS

■ **Early on in your puppy's** training, get him comfortable with being alone. Set aside periods during the day where you leave him for a short time. He will rapidly gain confidence.



GRADUAL SEPARATION

Use a stair gate to help an anxious dog build up to full separation. He will be reassured by seeing and hearing you, even if he cannot follow.

Anxiety in the older dog

A mature dog that has never been acclimatized to being left alone may become extremely anxious on his own. Scratching at doorways, panting and pacing, howling, and lapses in toilet training are all signs of a dog that is struggling to cope with being left alone. The damage caused by an anxious dog can be expensive to repair, and there is also a danger that the dog may injure himself.

Deep-rooted separation anxiety can be tricky to overcome. Some dogs are so anxious that they panic at the mere sight of their owner picking up the keys. Long-standing cases may require assistance from a professional behaviour counsellor and, in the short term, possibly medication to calm the dog down enough to concentrate on learning new lessons.

Socialization consists of patiently going back to basics and, to begin with, getting your dog used to being left alone for a few seconds at a time. You can then gradually build up to longer periods of separation.



TRAINING YOUR DOG

To enjoy spending time with your dog, both in the house and outdoors, you need to train him to be well behaved. Training strengthens the bond between the two of you, and provides your dog with some of the mental stimulation he craves. If you learn how to communicate with your dog and read his body language, it will make teaching him much easier and more satisfying.

Communicating with your dog

Dogs and people have very different ways of communicating with each other. Although dogs become quite good at interpreting what people mean, successful training depends on people learning to “talk dog”.

A dog does not understand language; he merely responds to different sounds. “Lie” and “down” may mean the same thing to humans but they sound quite different to dogs.

So you should choose a simple verbal cue for each command and stick to it. Tone of voice also matters; puppies learn quickly that a low, growly voice means they are doing something

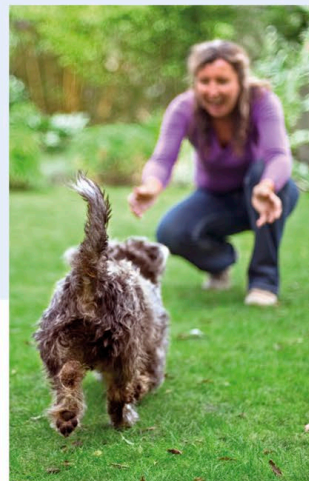
HAND SIGNALS

Your dog will probably recognize your hand signals before he learns what the voice cue means. It is important to be as consistent with your hand signals as with your voice cues.

INVITING GESTURE

Facing your dog and crouching down with open arms is a positive signal. Any time you face your dog directly, you are inviting interaction.

wrong and that treats and fuss usually follow a cheery tone. Most important of all is body language. Eye contact is a vital part of communicating with your dog, but remember that a prolonged stare can be seen as a threat. Dogs do not immediately understand hand movements, such as pointing; they have to learn to make an association between what your hand does and what they must do to earn a reward.



VOICE CUES

With repetition, your dog learns that certain words mean he should perform certain behaviours. A good test to see if your dog has learned the voice cue properly is to see if he will respond to your voice, even if you turn your back to him.

Reading a dog's body language

Being able to interpret your dog's body language means you will have a clearer idea of what he is feeling. You cannot train a dog effectively until you have learned to read the signs that tell you when he is happy or when he is scared. When dogs are stressed, it is impossible for them to concentrate on learning. If your dog is not responding well to training, it is important to stop the session straight away and try to analyse what is going wrong.

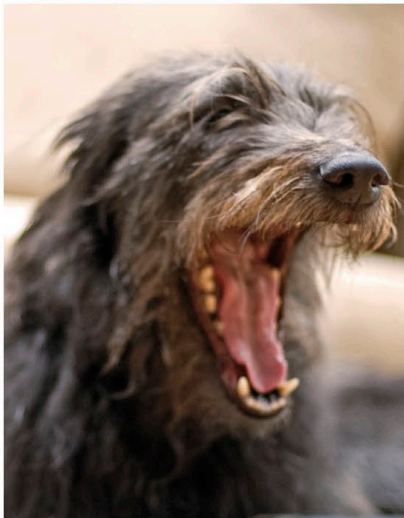
A relaxed dog shows no signs of tension and will hold his tail roughly level with his back and gently swinging. The ears will most likely be forward and the expression calm. A frightened or anxious dog tucks his tail in between his back legs and pulls his ears back. You may also notice that the dog is tensing his body or cowering. Other signs of fear or anxiety include excessive panting, pacing, or a sudden disinterest in food. A scared dog needs help to work through his worries and should never be punished, as this will only increase his anxiety.

You can also learn a lot about canine body language by observing what happens when your dog meets another. If your dog raises his hackles along his back and carries his tail straight up in the air, it means that he is worried and is trying to make himself appear as large as possible. This body language normally changes as the dogs exchange greetings and, if the other dog is friendly, the initial tension passes. However, raised hackles may also be the prelude to trouble if both dogs decide they do not like one another.



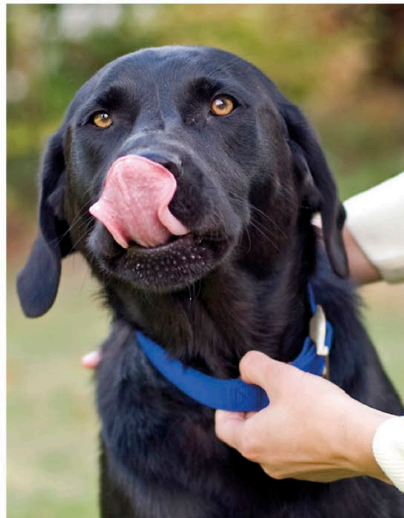
RELAXED DOG

A happy, confident dog will move in a relaxed manner. Any sign of tension, evident in a stiffening of the body, is a warning that he feels uncomfortable. Pay attention to his tail carriage. A tail held erect may suggest over-excitement or aggression, while a tucked-under tail suggests fear and anxiety.



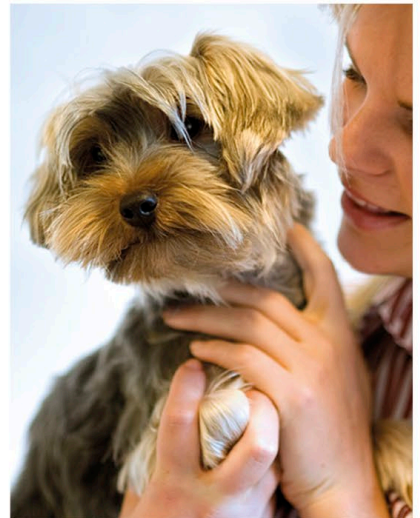
YAWNING

Dogs have many subtle ways of showing that they are feeling anxious or afraid. Signs include yawning or acting sleepy when the dog has no reason to be tired.



LICKING NOSE

A dog that repeatedly licks his nose or lips, even though there is no tempting food nearby, may be trying to communicate fear, anxiety, or stress.



TURNING HEAD AWAY

Dogs sometimes indicate unease by turning their head or whole body away, to break eye contact and distance themselves from what they perceive as a threat.

Rewards-based training

There has been a great deal of research into the best methods for training dogs. The results show that resorting to harsh punishments for disobedience, such as using a choke chain, shouting and hitting a dog, or pinning him down, is simply not effective. Such treatment is likely to cause more problem behaviours, including aggression and anxiety. The most successful way to train a dog is to find out what motivates him and use that to reward him for behaving in the way you want.

To do this, you need to find out what works with your own dog. All dogs are individuals and react differently to rewards, but there are some common motivators that can be used as training aids for the majority of dogs. Simple praise is a very effective reward for a young puppy. Dogs are sociable animals and find positive contact with people in their family unit deeply rewarding. Most dogs will happily do what you ask of them in return for praise.

However, for some dogs the situation in which they find themselves can be so distracting that the desire to please may temporarily be taken over by more impelling urges.

FAVOURITE TOY

Many dogs are motivated by toys. If your dog loves to play, keep his favourite toy aside and bring it out only as a reward during training.

For instance, your dog may choose to ignore your calls when he is running after a rabbit. This is not because he no longer loves or respects you; it is simply that for a few thrilling moments he finds the unusual excitement of the chase more rewarding than your praise, which is always on offer. To overcome such distractions during training, you must find other things that are particularly rewarding to your dog. The most powerful motivators used in dog training are toys and food. Use something that your dog really loves and will therefore be strongly motivated to receive.



USING PRAISE

One of the best forms of reward is praise. This requires no training aids – you simply have to make a big fuss of your dog. Talk to him in a friendly tone and stroke him.

MOTIVATING FOOD

All dogs find food motivating. Treats used for training should be small, bite-sized pieces of a food that is particularly tasty to your dog. Go for healthy choices such as cooked chicken or cheese.



TIMING REWARDS

Giving rewards too slowly may make your dog learn the wrong thing. If his attention is distracted, by the time he receives the reward, he may not make the connection between it and adopting the desired "sit" position (see above). Be prepared to give your dog his reward as soon as he follows your command (see right), and he will learn very quickly.



The importance of timing

Probably the most important skill for you to master as a dog trainer is good timing. Dogs learn exclusively by association. This means that if they do something and immediately receive a reward, they are more likely to repeat that behaviour. Of course, this also causes some behaviour problems. For example, if a dog that wants attention jumps up and gets pushed off or shouted at, he has received the attention he wants. Effectively, he has been rewarded for jumping up and is therefore more likely to jump up again. If this is repeated, jumping up becomes a learned behaviour - one that is repeated frequently.

Nevertheless, the way that dogs make associations is also extremely useful in teaching them how they should behave. If every time your dog sits he receives a food treat immediately afterwards, he will start sitting more frequently. An association has been made between the behaviour of

sitting and a reward. It is then fairly simple to insert a voice cue as he folds into a sit, creating a learned behaviour that your dog will produce on command. However, if you keep your food treats in your pocket and take a few moments to get them out, your dog will have sat, got bored, and jumped up at you by the time he gets the treat. Again, he learns that jumping up is a rewarding behaviour and will therefore repeat it more often.

SLEEP TIME

Your puppy will learn better if he sleeps between lessons. A young puppy tires easily, so keep training sessions short with frequent breaks.





Basic commands

Sitting is a behaviour that comes quite naturally to puppies and is therefore a good place to start formal training. It is a very easy command for a puppy to learn and gives him a guaranteed way of earning a reward. Because of this, most puppies will offer a sit as the first option, when there is a reward available. As your dog gets older and a sit becomes less exceptional, the behaviour is less likely to be rewarded, so he will try other methods to get noticed, such as jumping up or barking. Keep rewarding your dog whenever he offers a sit, to reinforce the calm behaviour you want from him.

Teaching a puppy to lie down can be more difficult than getting him to sit, but this is probably the most useful of all the basic positions for your dog to learn. Lying down is a more stable position than sitting, meaning that a dog is less likely to move again immediately afterwards. Having a reliable "down" command can be vital in emergencies when you need to stop your dog on the spot – for example, if he is running towards a road. Lying down also reinforces a relaxed state of mind and can help to calm a puppy in an exciting situation. Make it one of your puppy's earliest lessons, as the "down" command comes in handy if he becomes distracted during a training session and stops paying attention.

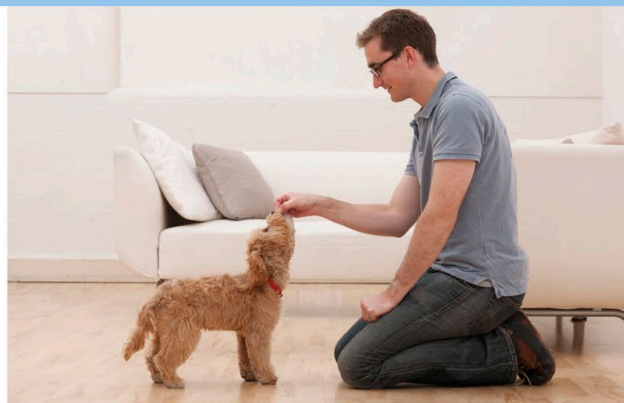
AT THE ROADSIDE



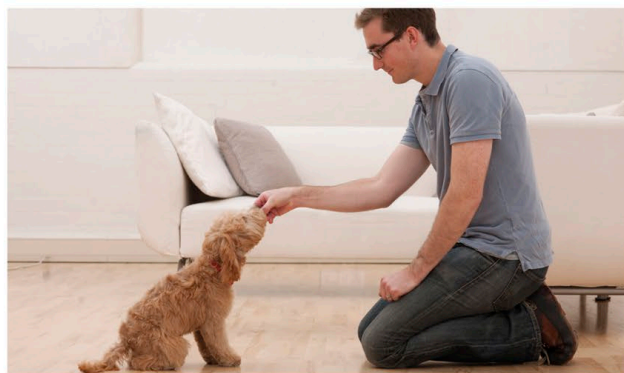
Put the sit command into practice whenever you need control over your dog. For example, asking a puppy to sit at every roadside will teach him not to walk straight into traffic (it is not always possible to shorten a lead in time to prevent mishap). Remember to practise sitting at every roadside you come to – not just at main roads. Your puppy cannot tell what type of road he is approaching.

Start teaching your puppy to lie down when he is highly motivated. For example, if you carry out a training session just before a meal, when he is hungry, he will be more receptive to what you ask because he will be eager for food treats. Encourage him by starting on a soft surface, such as carpet or grass, before moving on to harder, less comfortable surfaces. As with all your commands, be very precise about the meaning of each word. If your command to lie down is "down", then do not use the word "down" to ask your puppy to get off your furniture.

TRAINING | SIT

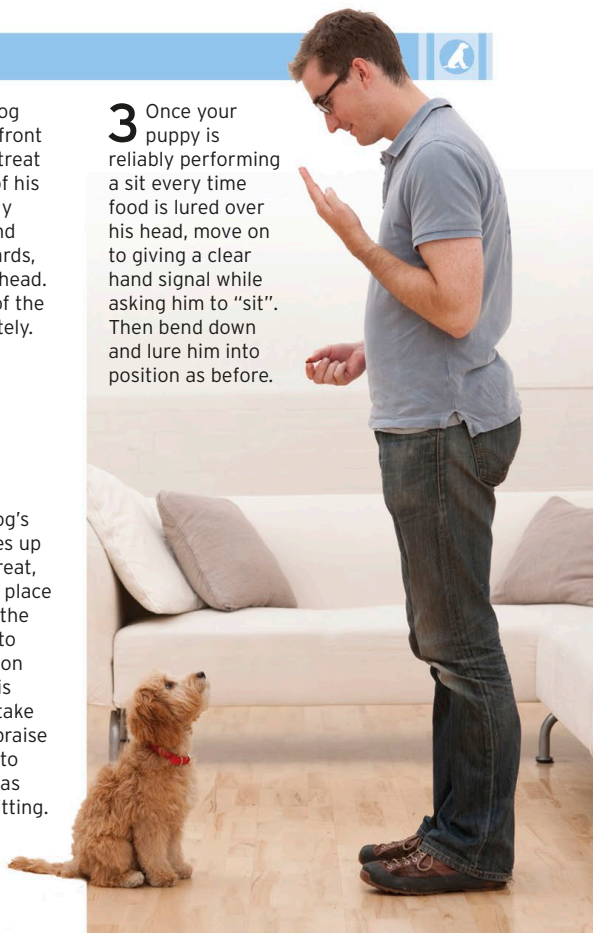


1 With your dog standing in front of you, hold a treat right in front of his nose and slowly move your hand up and backwards, close over his head. Do not let go of the treat immediately.



2 As your dog's nose moves up to follow the treat, he will have to place his bottom on the floor. Ask him to "sit" and as soon as his bottom is down, let him take the treat and praise him. Continue to praise him for as long as he is sitting.

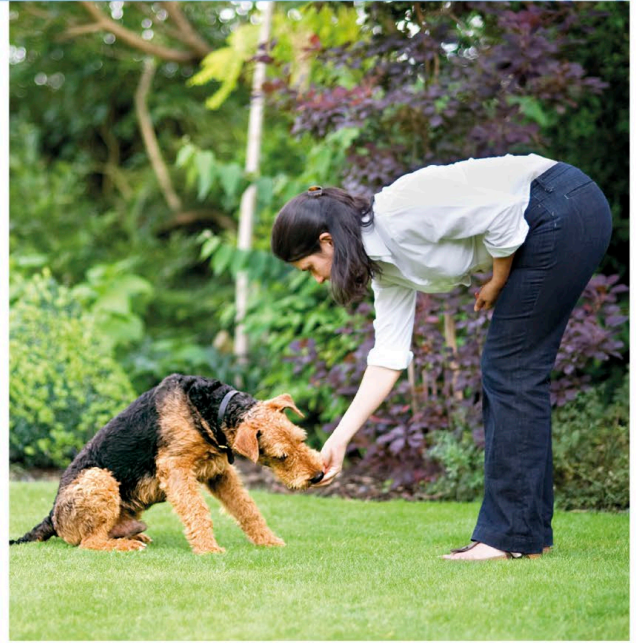
3 Once your puppy is reliably performing a sit every time food is lured over his head, move on to giving a clear hand signal while asking him to "sit". Then bend down and lure him into position as before.



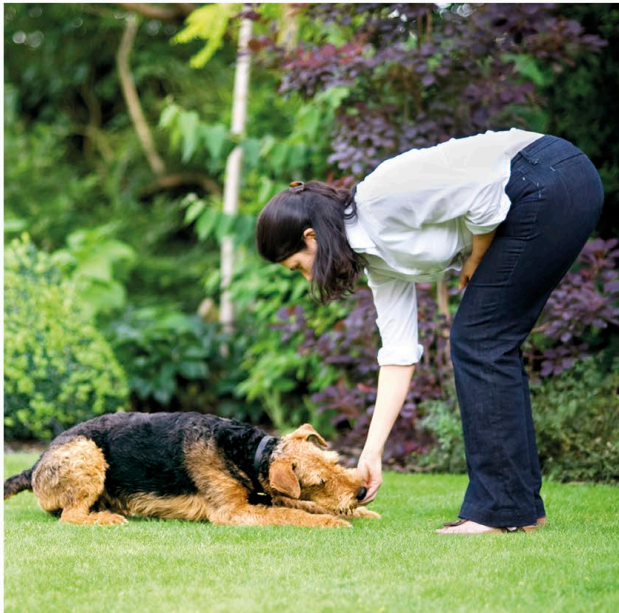
TRAINING | DOWN



1 In a distraction-free environment, such as your back garden, attract your dog's attention by showing him that you have a tasty treat. Use the treat to lure your dog into a sitting position but do not let him take it from you.



2 Move the treat from his nose in a straight line to the ground. Do this slowly so that your dog's nose follows your hand, but still hold on to the treat. Let him nibble at the treat so that he does not lose interest.



3 As your dog follows the treat, he will gradually fold into a lying position. Once he is fully down, let go of the treat and praise him. Give the command "down" as his elbows touch the ground.



Alternative If your puppy is reluctant to lie down, another method can be used. Make a bridge with your legs and lure him underneath. Use lots of treats and keep your legs positioned over him until he is lying down.

More advanced commands

Teaching your dog a command that means “stay there and wait for me to come back to you” is useful in any number of situations. This command works well for everyday use, both in the house and on walks, but it can also be helpful in other more difficult situations. For example, if your dog escapes and runs across a road, you will want him to wait where he is, rather than recrossing the road and putting himself in danger again. Your dog’s natural instinct is to follow you, so when you want him to stay in a particular position, it will make training easier if you turn sideways to him and avoid eye contact. By doing this he doesn’t think you are communicating with him and will therefore be less likely to move towards you.

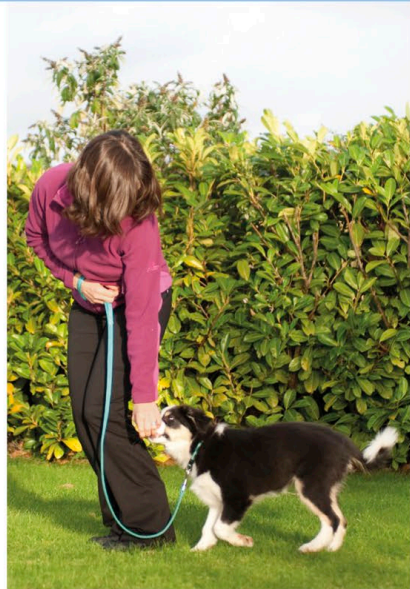
All dogs need to learn to walk on a lead, and must do so without pulling, if going for walks is to be an enjoyable experience and not a constant battle. Puppies do not instantly understand what a lead is for and it is natural for them to pull in an attempt to reach an exciting destination sooner. If they learn from the start that pulling on the lead is never successful, they will soon stop trying. Make sure that whenever your puppy pulls, you either stop and wait until he stops, or call him back to the correct heel position.



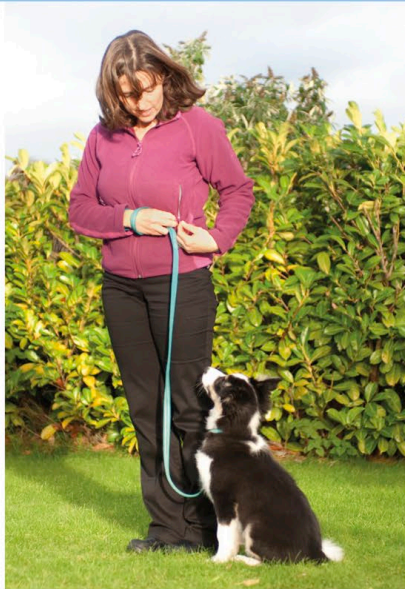
RESISTING TEMPTATION

The “stay” command can be used to teach your dog to ignore food and other temptations. Reward your dog for staying away from human food by giving him a more suitable treat.

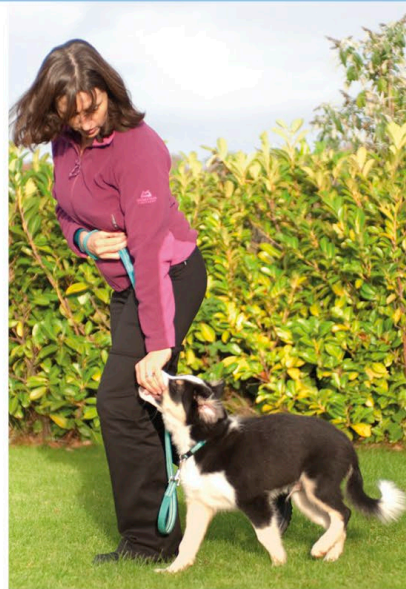
TRAINING | WALK ON A LEAD



1 Start your session in an area where there are few distractions. Keeping your dog on a long lead, lure him into the correct position next to your left leg by offering a food treat. Praise him when he is in the correct position by letting him take the treat.



2 Before your dog starts to lose interest and attempts to wander off, show him that you have another treat but hold it out of his reach. Use his name to keep his attention and do not allow the lead to tighten as you get ready to move.

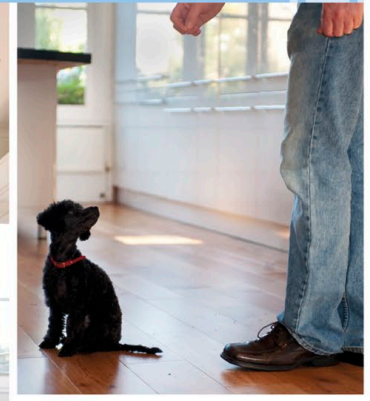


3 Take a step forward and give your dog the command “heel”. Immediately bend down and give him a treat. Repeat this exercise, taking single steps, stopping, and quickly pulling out another treat so that your dog does not get distracted.

TRAINING | STAY



1 Ask your dog to “sit”. Stand up straight, then immediately bend down to reward him with a food treat. Next time, stand up straight and count to two before rewarding him. Gradually extend the amount of time between the sit and the reward.



2 When your dog will stay in front of you for some time, take a step away from him before rewarding him. Repeat, gradually extending the time before the reward. Once he is confident with you one pace away, increase the distance.



4 As your dog becomes more confident and attentive, begin increasing the number of steps before he receives a treat. Do this very gradually, praising him all the time. As soon as the lead tightens, stop and lure him back into position before starting off again.

WALKING TO HEEL



It may not be necessary for your dog to walk precisely to heel at all times, as long as he does not pull on his lead. However, sometimes it is useful to keep your dog close – for example, when walking past people on the pavement. Use a similar method to that used to teach long-lead walking (left), keeping your dog in position by using a treat. Once your dog is reliably walking close to you, gradually phase out the treat.

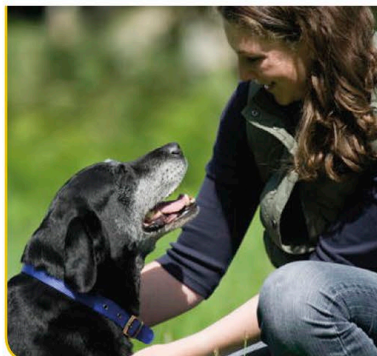


Returning on cue

All dogs love being able to go to the park or out into the country where they can run free, really stretching their legs and playing with toys or other dogs. However, until your dog has learned to return when you call, it is not safe to let him off his lead. You may come across someone who is nervous around dogs, or perhaps encounter another dog that is not friendly. Your dog may catch sight of a rabbit or squirrel and run after it towards a road. No matter what the distraction, part of responsible dog-ownership is keeping your dog under control – even when he is off-lead. Teaching your dog to come when he is called is imperative.

Puppies are born with a natural instinct to follow, and they never want to be far from you. This makes it easy to get your puppy used to the meaning of the word “come” at an early age. When your puppy is a short distance away from you, crouch down and throw your arms wide, calling his name. As he hurtles towards you, tell him he is a good boy and insert your cue “come”. Always reward him with an extra special treat for coming when he is called, so that he knows it is worthwhile. As he gets older and more independent, he will be less keen to run straight to you and more likely to continue investigating whatever else has caught his attention. On your first walks with your dog, teach him on a lead to come when called, until you are confident he will respond every time.

TOP TIPS



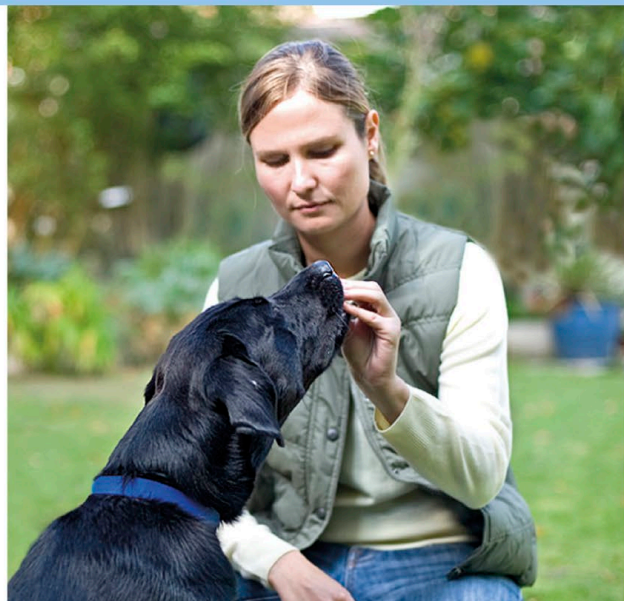
■ **Always praise your dog** for coming when called, no matter how long it has taken him. Resist the urge to tell him off for taking his time; it will only make him reluctant to return in future.

■ **Using a whistle** as your recall command can be useful as it is a very clear noise that travels a long way.

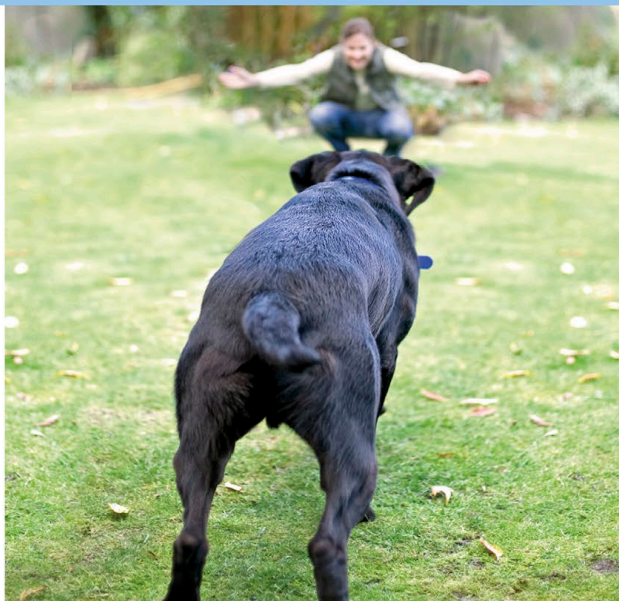
When he responds well on the lead, switch to an extending lead and practise the command before letting him off completely. Find a safe place to experiment with this stage.

Teaching your dog to fetch a toy is a great way to reinforce the command “come” through play. When your dog has reached a toy you have thrown, he will want to bring it back to you so that you can throw it for him again. Asking him to “come” as he naturally returns to you helps him learn this command. Teaching your dog to fetch properly will also prevent him from developing problem behaviours, such as stealing items and running off.

TRAINING | COME WHEN CALLED

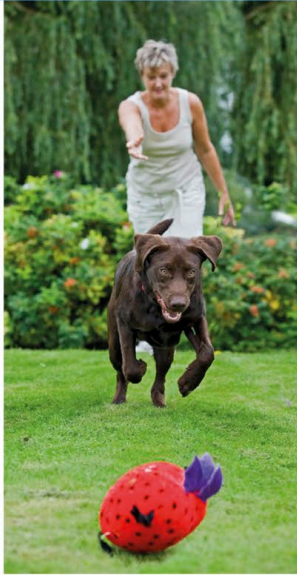


1 Show your dog that you have a really tasty treat in your hand before moving a short distance away. If your dog will not wait, ask someone else to gently hold on to the end of his lead.

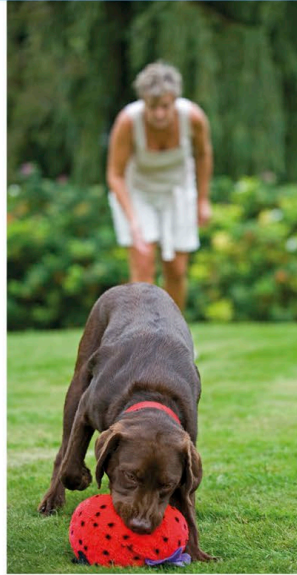


2 Turn and face your dog, crouch down, and spread your arms wide. In a loud, cheery voice call your dog's name and ask him to “come”. Keep calling until he responds.

TRAINING | FETCH



1 Get your dog excited by playing with him and his favourite toy. When he is fully focused on the toy, throw it a short distance away.



2 As he heads to his toy, ask him to "fetch". When he reaches it, praise him before immediately calling him in a cheery tone.



3 As soon as your dog moves towards you, encourage him by crouching down and praising him. Exchange his toy for a treat and repeat the process.

4 If your dog drops the toy, run over to it with him and move it to catch his interest. As he grabs it, walk backwards a few paces before taking the toy from him.



3 As soon as your dog moves towards you, praise him lavishly and keep praising him as he returns. Show him the treat and use it to lure him close to you.

4 When he is right next to you, prevent him from immediately running off again by gently taking hold of his collar before giving him the treat and lots of praise.



HEALTH

It is your responsibility to keep your dog as fit and healthy as possible throughout his life. You should learn the basic facts about health care and how to recognize when a trip to the vet is necessary. Make sure that your puppy is happy and relaxed at the vet's surgery from an early age – this is important preparation for stress-free visits later on.



If your puppy scratches, check him for fleas

Meeting the vet

Even before you bring a new puppy home you should register with a local veterinary surgery. Visit several surgeries to ask questions and make comparisons, and ask other dog owners, who are likely to be a good source of recommendations. Once you have your new puppy, it is advisable to take him to the vet as soon as possible for a full health check and vaccinations.

This is also a good opportunity to seek advice on such matters as feeding and local puppy classes.

Although veterinary surgeries are strange places, full of unusual smells and noises, puppies are not born

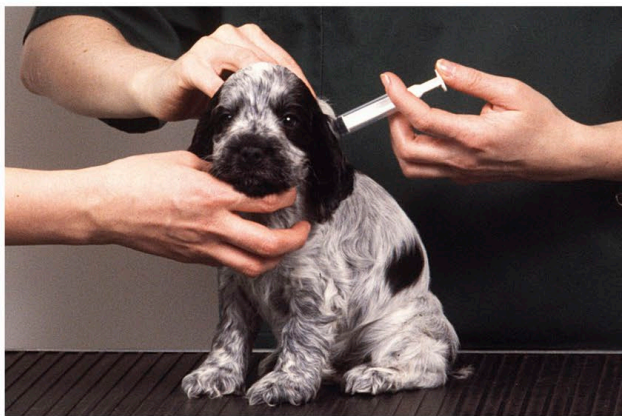
fearful of vets. If your puppy's first few visits to the vet's surgery are largely pleasant experiences, full of treats and cuddles, he is less likely to object to the occasional injection and won't become stressed when later visits are necessary. The surgery may allow you to make a social visit with your puppy even if you don't have an appointment. Ask a nurse or receptionist to give your puppy some treats so that he makes a positive association with both the building and the people in it.

On your first official visit to the vet, arrive early having given your puppy the chance to relieve himself before leaving home. When you enter the surgery, be aware of other animals, and do not assume that all dogs will be pleased to see a puppy. However, there will

EARLY ENCOUNTER

Your puppy's first visit to the vet is as much about socialization as it is about getting a health check. Try to ensure that it is a pleasant experience.





VACCINATIONS

Typically, puppies have their first vaccinations with the breeder and will need a second vaccination shortly after moving to a new home. Routine vaccinations protect against a number of potentially lethal diseases such as distemper, hepatitis, and parainfluenza.

be many people keen to take an interest in your puppy, so ask them to make a fuss of him, but don't put him down on the floor unless he has been fully vaccinated.

During the consultation, your vet will want to examine your puppy all over and give him an injection. Take the process slowly, speak reassuringly to your puppy, and provide him with lots of treats throughout the examination, both from your hand and the vet's.

Preventative measures

If your puppy has not already been microchipped by the breeder, ask your vet to do this for you. Although your puppy should wear a collar and tag at all times, having a microchip means he is identifiable even if he loses his collar. Get your vet to check the microchip's location every year when your dog gets his booster vaccinations.

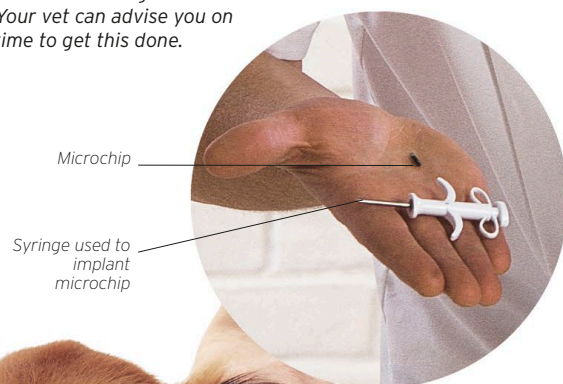
In between routine visits to your vet you need to take steps to protect your dog against common parasites. There are a variety of highly effective worming and flea treatments available; your vet will advise which are best for your puppy.

Unless you intend to breed from your dog you may want to discuss neutering on one of your early visits. Apart from unwanted pregnancies, female dogs benefit from a reduced risk of life-threatening conditions, such as mammary cancer and pyometra (pus in the womb). Neutered males are less likely to be aggressive and to go wandering. Your vet will fully explain the advantages and disadvantages of the procedure and recommend when to have it done if you decide to go ahead. Neutering is carried out under anaesthetic, so ask about post-operative care of your dog (see p.333).



NEUTERED DOGS

Most owners have their pet dogs neutered to prevent accidental matings and unwanted puppies. Your vet can advise you on the best time to get this done.



Microchip

Syringe used to implant microchip



Microchip injected into fold of skin

CHIPPING YOUR DOG

Microchipping is a quick and painless procedure to insert a small chip under the skin. It enables your dog to be identified at all times and returned to you if he is lost.

Identifying when your dog is ill

Different dogs react to illness in different ways. As an owner, you know how your dog behaves day to day and are in the best position to recognize any changes away from this norm as soon as they occur. If health problems are recognized and diagnosed early, treatment can start without delay and is more likely to have a successful outcome.

If your dog is in pain, he will probably make this immediately obvious by limping, or yelping when he moves or is handled. Other physical signs of ill health include breathing difficulties, such as coughing or heavy panting, for no apparent reason. Unusual discharges from the eyes or nose are also signs to be noted, as are excessive scratching, hair loss other than normal shedding, an unwillingness to exercise, or a sudden change in eating or drinking habits. However, not all indicators of ill health are physical signs. Changes in temperament or behaviour can also mean that your dog is not well. For example, if your dog becomes unusually aggressive, this may be a protective mechanism because he is uncomfortable or in pain.

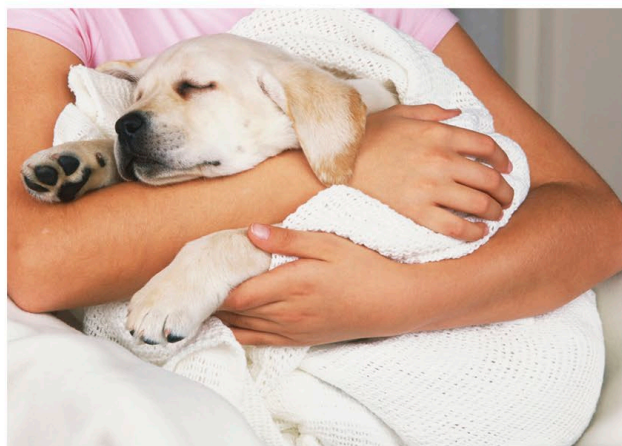
It is also wise to keep track of your dog's toilet habits so that you learn what is normal for him. Any sudden change in amount, appearance, or frequency of production of urine or faeces can indicate a health problem. Similarly, vomiting may be a sign of ill health. Remember, however, that as natural

scavengers, dogs have a very active vomit reflex to protect them from anything toxic they may have eaten.



EMERGENCY EAR BANDAGE

To protect an ear wound and prevent your dog from scratching it, bandage the ear flap flat against the top of the head. A pair of old tights can make a suitable bandage that goes around the neck and is not too constricting.



SECURITY BLANKET

A warm blanket can be beneficial in treating many conditions, including shock or hypothermia. It also comforts your dog if you need to leave him at your veterinary surgery. The scent of the blanket will remind him of home and help to reassure him until you return.

Minor injuries and first aid

Your first response when dealing with any injury should be to take your dog to the vet. However, in some situations you may be able to administer first aid before having to move the dog. In the case of severe injury, call for veterinary help and then put your dog in the recovery position. Lay him on his right side and straighten his head and neck to keep the airway free. Pull his tongue forward and to one side of the mouth so that the airway is open. Monitor his breathing and pulse until help arrives.

If there is extensive bleeding from a wound, this must be controlled until a vet can take over. Apply a piece of clean, absorbent material, such as gauze, to the site of the injury

TOP TIPS



■ Check for dehydration

Gently pinch the loose skin on your dog's back, lift it slightly then let go. In a well-hydrated dog the skin springs back quickly into position. A dehydrated dog's skin returns more slowly.

■ **Check gum colour** Pale gums can indicate shock or internal bleeding, and very red gums can be caused by heat stroke or fever. Blue gums suggest a shortage of oxygen in body tissues.

and cover this with bandaging to hold it in place. Take care not to apply too much pressure if you suspect that there is debris in the wound, as you may push it in deeper and cause more damage. Do not attempt to pull any large foreign body, such as broken glass or metal, out of a wound as you could cause severe bleeding.

Home care after surgery

A dog that has had surgery needs plenty of affection and care when he comes home from the vet. He may be very lethargic if he is still recovering from the anaesthetic. On the other hand, he may act as if he is perfectly fine and try to behave as normal, to the detriment of his recovery. Jumping up may pull out stitches or displace broken bones, so encourage your convalescent dog to remain calm by settling him on a blanket in a quiet area of the house, perhaps with a toy to chew, if his vet allows. Make sure children in the household understand that their playmate cannot romp energetically or be allowed to exercise off-lead until he is fully recovered.

After surgery, a dog will almost certainly be given some sort of medication and probably have bandages or stitches. He may have to wear a special collar, called an Elizabethan collar, to prevent him from touching the wound. If your dog was well handled as a puppy, you are unlikely to have difficulty in giving him any prescribed treatment. There is a good chance that he will just enjoy the extra attention.



ELIZABETHAN COLLAR

This protective plastic collar prevents a dog from licking or biting a wound. Dogs wearing the collar need supervision to ensure they can eat, drink, and move around easily.



CONCEALED TABLET

The easiest way to give your dog a tablet is to hide it in his food. Watch your dog while he eats, and check the bowl afterwards to make sure the "hidden" tablet has been eaten.

GIVING YOUR DOG MEDICINE

Liquid medicines are best given using a syringe. Gently holding your dog's mouth shut with one hand, insert the syringe under the side of his lip and slowly squirt the medicine into his mouth.



Breed-specific problems

Since humans first started breeding dogs, they have been tailoring them for different purposes. As a result, there is huge diversity among dogs, each breed having its own special qualities and traits. However, in some breeds particular characteristics have been greatly exaggerated, and you will need to take these into consideration if they apply to your chosen pet, because they can cause health problems. For example, dogs that have been bred to have excess, wrinkly skin are very prone to skin infections and require their wrinkles to be cleaned regularly. Similarly, dogs with very thick coats designed to cope with extremes of cold can develop uncomfortable skin conditions when placed in a relatively temperate climate. Hairless breeds feel the cold, but are also at risk of sunburn and need to have their skin protected before they go outside. Long-backed dogs may be very good at disappearing down holes after small mammals, but have problems when faced with going up and down stairs and jumping on to sofas. Dogs bred to have a short, flat face are prone to breathing disorders and also heatstroke, because although they pant, the short muzzle does not give them the means to keep cool effectively.



Weight issues

Dogs are scavengers and tend to eat whatever is placed in front of them, because they do not know when they might next find food. For pet dogs with regular access to plentiful food, this natural trait has led to a high incidence of excess weight gain. Overweight dogs, like overweight humans, are at increased risk of serious health problems. Changes in your dog's waistline are hard to spot from day to day, so it's advisable to weigh him regularly as a routine health check. Owners of very large dogs may need to visit the veterinary surgery to use their scales. If you find your dog is becoming too heavy, aim to reduce his weight gradually by increasing his exercise levels and cutting down his food intake. For a dog that is obese, a vet may recommend a low-fat diet.



OVERWEIGHT

There are many health problems associated with excess weight gain in dogs. Recent studies have shown that the stress placed on a dog's body can shorten his life span by as much as two years.

SKIN PROBLEMS

Deep wrinkles like those of the Shar Pei provide a breeding ground for bacteria and need regular cleaning to prevent infections.



UNDERSHOT JAW

Dogs with undershot jaws, such as the Bulldog, also tend to have short muzzles. In warm environments, air passing through these shorter nasal passages does not have time to cool down properly, and as a result these dogs tend to warm up quickly. They must pant to cool down and need to do so for longer than other dogs.



CHECKING YOUR DOG

As your dog gets older, it becomes more important to make regular checks for any new lumps or bumps that may appear. Signs of pain or discomfort should be reported promptly to your vet.

EXTRA REST

Older dogs need increasing amounts of rest and tend to sleep more deeply. Allow them to lie undisturbed whenever possible and to wake up in their own time.



Elderly dogs

Senior dogs often do very well for many years but, as with humans, old age brings the need for changes. If your ageing dog loses a few teeth and finds it difficult to eat, ensure that he gets the correct level of nutrients for his age by switching to a specific senior diet, usually softer food that is easier to chew. Senior foods also contain nutrients aimed at easing joint pain, which is common in older dogs. Keep brushing your dog's teeth, because plaque build-up tends to increase in older dogs.

An elderly dog will not require the same amount of exercise as before, but a daily walk improves his circulation and provides much-needed stimulation from sights and smells. As your dog spends more time lying down, he may be at risk of developing pressure sores, so pay extra attention to vulnerable areas like elbows. If you own a long-coated breed, check that his coat is not becoming matted.

Keep an eye on your dog's general comfort and make sure that he can still access everything he needs. For example, he may begin to find stairs more challenging, or find it difficult to reach down to a water bowl to drink adequately.

FAILING SIGHT

Many elderly dogs begin to lose their sight, and rely on previous knowledge of their surroundings to get around the house. Think before you start moving furniture and confuse your dog with unexpected new obstacles.

Inherited diseases

An inherited disease or disorder is one that is passed from one generation to the next. Such a disease can mean that an individual is born with a medical condition or is genetically predisposed to developing one in later life. In the case of dogs, there are conditions common to each breed that are known to be inherited. These include joint disorders, blindness, and deafness. Responsible breeders do all they can to make sure that dogs affected by these disorders are neutered to prevent them passing on their genes to the next generation. Nevertheless, the nature of inheritance means that these conditions can never be eliminated completely, because some dogs are carriers (see box below).

Many inherited disorders can be traced through a pedigree and therefore breeders can take steps to reduce the chances of breeding an affected puppy by choosing their bloodlines

for breeding carefully. Good breeders will be able to go back through several generations to tell you whether any of the dogs in their breeding lines have had medical problems. They will also know what, if any, conditions remain a potential source of concern in the puppy of your choice.

For many conditions, especially those with a simple recessive inheritance pattern (see box below), screening tests can be carried out. Ask your breeder to show you the results of any tests that are relevant to your puppy or his parents. If one of the parents is a carrier, then their puppies may be too, so it would be unwise to breed from your dog without screening it first. If both parents are carriers, your puppy is at risk of being affected by the condition. Before you visit a breeder, learn all you can about the screening tests that apply to your chosen dog and his likely conditions, and make sure you know what results to look out for.

GENETICS AND INHERITED DISEASE

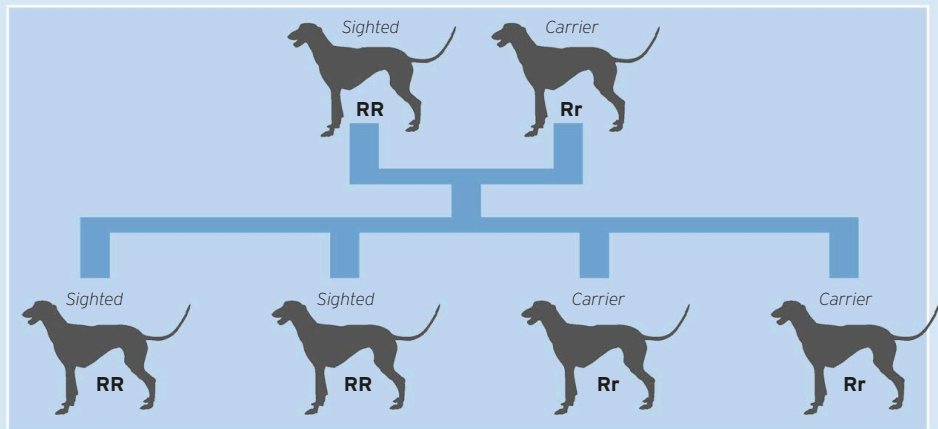
A common way for hereditary disorders to be passed on to offspring is through recessive inheritance. In the example of congenital blindness, dogs will be blind if they inherit a recessive gene (r) from both parents. The diagram shows how this can happen.

In cross 1, a sighted dog (RR) is crossed with a sighted carrier (Rr). All the offspring possess at least one dominant gene, and as a result are sighted. However, two of the puppies are carriers of the recessive gene for blindness.

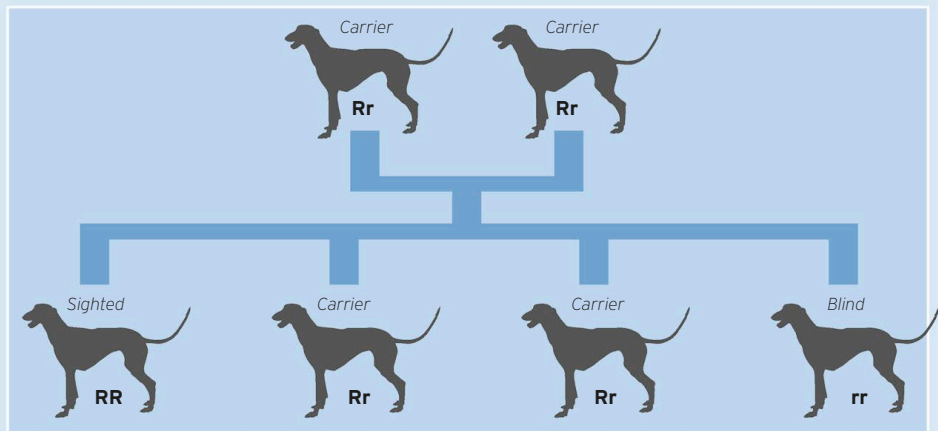
In cross 2, both parents are carriers of the recessive gene. This means that there is a one in four chance that one of the puppies (rr) will inherit the recessive gene from both parents and be born blind; two puppies will be carriers (Rr); and one puppy (RR) will have normal sight.

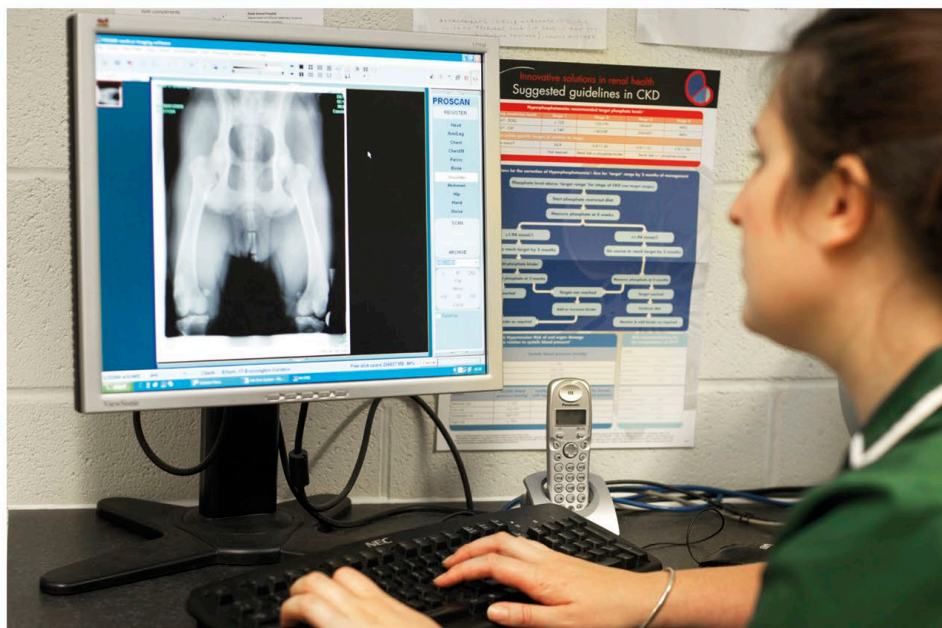
Key
R = Dominant gene
for normal sight
r = Recessive gene
for blindness

CROSS 1



CROSS 2





SCREENING

The likelihood of breeding puppies that develop the joint disorder hip dysplasia can be reduced by checking whether the parents are affected. This is done by assessing an X-ray of their hip joints and giving each a score that is compared to the average for the breed.

CONGENITAL DEAFNESS

Some breeds can inherit deafness, either complete or partial. There is a link between pigmentation and inherited deafness, and breeds with white variation, such as the Dalmatian, are often more at risk. Deafness should be tested for in all susceptible litters and any affected dogs neutered.

Even an ideal screening result is no guarantee that your puppy will not develop a chronic disorder. If you do have a problem, contact your vet but also be sure to report back to your breeder, who may choose not to repeat the mating that led to your puppy in future.

Think about the future

When you have decided what type of dog you are going to have, it is important to research which hereditary disorders are common problems within that particular breed. Read about each condition and be aware of the implications of taking on a puppy with a problem. Some disorders can be managed relatively easily and do not significantly affect the dog's general well-being and natural lifespan, although some adaptations may have to be made. A deaf dog, for example, needs to be trained using sign language and will not be able to run safely off-lead the majority of the time. Other disorders are potentially life-threatening and may require dedicated day-to-day, long-term management.

Consider also the increased cost of caring for a dog with a chronic condition. You could be faced with many years of vet's bills, regular medication, and special diets - and the expenses will soon add up. Work out what you can realistically cope with before going to visit a litter of puppies. It is all too easy to be persuaded to take on a cute puppy, but you may not have the skills, experience, time, or money to care for him adequately.



INHERITED DISORDERS

DISEASE	DESCRIPTION	CAN IT BE SCREENED FOR?	MANAGING THE DISEASE	TYPES OF DOG AFFECTED
Intervertebral disc disease	Similar to a prolapsed ("slipped") disc in humans; can cause intense pain and even paralysis.	No. The genetics of the condition are not fully understood.	Can be managed with rest and anti-inflammatory drugs; surgery may be necessary in severe cases.	Achondroplastic (dwarf) breeds that originated from a genetic mutation for short limbs.
Hip dysplasia	A condition in which the hip joint develops incorrectly.	Yes. An X-ray can be analysed and then measured against the breed average.	Careful management and pain relief is normally sufficient; surgery is available but relatively uncommon.	Heavy-bodied breeds, such as the mastiffs.
Elbow dysplasia	Abnormal development of the elbow joint.	Yes. X-rays of each elbow are analysed and given a numeric score. The overall grade is the higher of the two figures.	Affected dogs often benefit from exercise management and pain relief.	Large breeds. More prevalent in males than females. Rapid growth and weight gain exacerbate the symptoms.
Luxating patella	A congenital condition in which the patella (kneecap) slips out of its groove.	No. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Controlled exercise and diet are the main treatments, with pain relief if necessary; surgery is indicated only in younger dogs or those with extreme mobility difficulties.	Most prevalent in toy breeds.
Aortic stenosis	A congenital disorder in which narrowing of the aortic valve reduces blood flow from the heart. Symptoms include breathlessness.	No. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Exercise management may help dogs that become breathless on exertion.	Most prevalent in large breeds.
Von Willebrand disease	The most common inherited bleeding disorder in dogs. Varies in severity but can be lethal.	Yes. By blood and DNA tests.	Lifestyle adjustments and the use of blood-clotting drugs.	Not breed or group specific.
Progressive retinal atrophy (PRA)	Deterioration of the retina, leading to blindness.	Yes. A simple test categorizes dogs as affected, carriers, or unaffected.	Lifestyle management.	Occurs in most breeds but inheritance of the condition differs. Genes may be dominant or recessive. Symptoms usually apparent by three years of age.
Cataracts	Clouding of the lens of the eye, causing impaired vision.	Yes. For some breeds there is a DNA test. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Cataracts are removed surgically; the operation is relatively simple.	Not breed or group specific and may occur at any age.
Entropion	Inward turning of the eyelids, causing damage to the surface of the eyeball.	No. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Can be corrected surgically.	Common in brachycephalic breeds (flat-faced with short muzzle) and breeds with heavy, folded skin on the head.
Ectropion	Outward turning of the lower eyelid; may lead to dry eyes and infection.	No. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Can be corrected surgically.	Most prevalent in breeds with loose facial skin, as seen in spaniels and some breeds of hound.

DISEASE	DESCRIPTION	CAN IT BE SCREENED FOR?	MANAGING THE DISEASE	TYPES OF DOG AFFECTED
Distichiasis	Abnormal growth of the eyelashes. May cause pain and discomfort.	No. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	A vet may remove the abnormal hairs by plucking.	May occur in any breed but is more common in those with moderate to heavy skin folds on the head.
Deafness	Complete or partial loss of hearing; can occur from birth or over the course of the dog's life.	Yes. A non-invasive, painless test can be carried out by a specialist vet.	A dog completely deaf from birth is not recommended for a pet. Partially deaf dogs often have normal lives.	Most common in dogs with white, spotted, dappled, or merle coats. Some dogs also have blue eyes.
Abnormal dentition	In most breeds, the teeth normally meet in a scissor bite. Deviation from this can result in an overshot or undershot jaw.	No. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Most dogs experience no problems. Occasionally, surgical intervention is called for if the dog has trouble eating or drinking.	An undershot jaw is acceptable in some brachycephalic breeds. In others, it is considered a fault.
Elongated palate	A condition in which the soft palate at the back of the mouth abnormally overlaps the airway, obstructing breathing.	No. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Serious cases can be corrected with surgery to remove excess tissue on the palate.	Most prevalent in brachycephalic breeds.
Hypothyroidism	A deficiency in thyroid hormone that causes slow metabolism.	Yes. A blood test is available. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Typical symptoms such as weight gain, lethargy, and hair loss can be controlled with medication.	Occurs in medium- and large-sized dogs. Symptoms tend to appear when dogs reach middle age.
Diabetes mellitus	A condition in which the dog's ability to metabolize blood sugar is impaired.	Yes. A DNA test is possible but not routinely carried out. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Dogs who eat or drink unusually large amounts may be suffering from diabetes; the condition can be controlled with medication.	Not breed or group specific. More common in females. Symptoms tend to appear when dogs reach middle age.
Cleft palate	The roof of the mouth does not join correctly in the middle, preventing puppies from suckling properly.	No. Any dog that has produced puppies with cleft palates should not be used for further breeding.	Most vets recommend euthanizing affected puppies. Occasionally, it may be possible to hand rear a puppy until it is old enough to undergo corrective surgery.	May occur in any breed or cross-bred dog but most common in brachycephalic breeds.
Megaoesophagus	An enlarged oesophagus that lacks muscle tone and cannot convey swallowed food down to the stomach. An affected dog constantly regurgitates.	No. Any dog that has produced puppies with megaoesophagus should not be used for further breeding.	Depending on the severity of the condition, changes such as feeding small amounts from a raised bowl can have a positive impact.	Not breed or group specific. If condition is congenital, symptoms appear in the first few weeks or months of life.
Epilepsy	A neurological disorder causing characteristic fits or seizures.	Yes. DNA test. Affected dogs should not be used for breeding.	Epilepsy is not curable, but drug therapy can greatly reduce the likelihood of seizures.	Not breed or group specific. If congenital, symptoms appear between six months and five years of age.



GLOSSARY

Achondroplasia – A form of dwarfism that affects the long bones of the limbs, causing them to bow outwards. It is a genetic mutation that has been selectively bred for, resulting in short-legged breeds such as the Dachshund.

Almond-shaped eyes – Oval eyes with slightly flattened corners that are present in breeds such as the Kooikerhondje and the English Springer Spaniel.

Beard – Thick, sometimes coarse and bushy hair around the lower facial area. Often seen in wire-haired breeds.

Belton – A coat pattern that is a mix of white and coloured hairs (roan) that may have a flecked or ticked appearance.

Bicolour – Any colour combined with white patches.

Black and tan – A coat colour with clearly defined areas of black and tan. The black colour is usually found on the body and the tan colour on the underparts, muzzle, and perhaps as spots above the eyes. This pattern also occurs in liver and tan and blue and tan coats.

Blanket, blanket markings – Large areas of colour over the back and sides of the body; commonly used to describe hound markings.

Blaze – Broad, white marking running from near the top of the head to the muzzle.

Brachycephalic head – A head that is almost as wide as it is long due to shortening of the muzzle. The Bulldog and Boston Terrier are examples of breeds with this head shape.

Bracke – A term used for continental hounds that specialize in running down small game such as rabbit or fox.

Breeches – Fringing of longer hair on the thighs, which is also known as culottes or trousers.

Breed – Domestic dogs that have been selectively bred to have the same distinctive appearance. They conform to a breed standard drawn up by a breed club and approved by an internationally

recognized body, such as the Kennel Club, FCI, or American Kennel Club.

Breed Standard – The detailed description of a breed that specifies exactly how the dog should look, the acceptable colours and markings, and the range of height and/or weight measurements.

Brindle – A colour mix in which dark hairs form a striped pattern on lighter background of tan, gold, grey, or brown.

Brisket – The breastbone.

Button ears – Semi-erect ears in which the top part folds down towards the eye covering the ear opening. They are seen on breeds such as the Fox Terrier.

Candleflame ears – Long, narrow, erect ears that are shaped like a candleflame. They are seen on breeds such as the English Toy Terrier.

Cape – Thick hair covering the shoulders.

Carnassial teeth – Cheek teeth (upper fourth premolar and lower first molar) that are used, rather like a pair of scissors, to slice through meat, hide, and bone.

Cat-like feet – Round, compact feet with the toes grouped closely together.

Conformation – The general appearance of a dog that is determined by the development of individual features and their relationship to one another.

Croup – An area of the back just above the base of the tail.

Cropped ears – Ears that are erect and pointed due to surgical removal of part of the ear cartilage. The procedure, which is illegal in many countries, including the UK, is normally carried out when puppies are about 10–16 weeks old.

Dander – Small scales of dead skin shed from the body.

Dapple – A spotted coat of darker markings on a lighter background. Usually used as a description for short-haired breeds only; merle is used to describe the same colouring in long-haired dogs.

Dewclaw – A non-weight-bearing toe on the inner side of the lower foreleg (pastern). Some breeds, such as the Schipperke, may also have dewclaws on the hindlegs, while others, such as the Norwegian Lundehund, have double dewclaws.

Dewlap – Loose, hanging skin that falls in folds on the chin, throat, and neck of some breeds: for example, the Bloodhound.

Docked tail – A tail cut to a specific length in accordance with the breed standard. The procedure is normally carried out when puppies are only a few days old. The practice is now illegal in the UK and parts of Europe except for the tails of working dogs such as the German Pointer.

Dolichocephalic head – A long, narrow head with an imperceptible stop, as seen in the Borzoi, for example.

Double coat – Coat consisting of a thick, warm underlayer and a weatherproof top layer.

Drop ears – Ears that hang down from their base. Pendant ears are a more extreme form of drop ears, being longer and heavier.

Erect ears – Upright or pricked ears with pointed or rounded tips. Candleflame ears are an extreme type of erect ears.

Feathers, feathering – Fringes of hair that may be found on the ear margins, belly, backs of legs, and the underside of the tail.

Flews – The lips of a dog. Most commonly used to describe the fleshy, hanging upper lips in dogs of the mastiff type.

Forelock – Lock of hair on the forehead that falls forward between the ears.

Furrow – A shallow groove, visible in some breeds, that runs from the top of the head down to the stop.

Gait – Movement or action.

Griffon – (Fr.) Referring to a coarse or wire coat.

Grizzle – Usually a mixture of black and white hairs, which gives a blue-grey or iron-grey shading to the coat. It is seen in some breeds of terrier.

Group – Dog breeds are classified into various groups by the Kennel Club, FCI, and American Kennel Club. The groups are loosely based on function but no two systems agree. The number and names of the groups differ, as do the breeds that are recognized and included in them.

Hackney gait – Dogs with this type of action, such as the Miniature Pinscher, raise the lower part of the leg particularly high as they walk.

Harlequin – A colour pattern comprising irregular-sized patches of black on white; seen only in the Great Dane.

Hock – Joint on the hind leg; equivalent to the human heel; in dogs this is elevated because they walk on their toes.

Isabella – A fawn colour found in some breeds, including the Bergamasco and Doberman.

Mask – Dark coloration on the face, usually around the muzzle and eyes.

Merle – A marbled coat with darker patches or spots. Blue merle (black on a bluish-grey background) is the most common variation.

Mesaticephalic head – Head shape in which the base and width are of medium proportions. The Labrador Retriever and Border Collie are examples of breeds with this type of head shape.

Neutering – A surgical procedure that prevents dogs from breeding.

Oestrus – A period of about three weeks in the reproductive cycle during which a female dog can be mated. Primitive breeds tend to come into oestrus once a year (as do wolves); in other breeds it is usually twice a year.

Otter tail – A thickly furred, rounded tail that has a broad base and tapers to the tip; the hair on the underside is parted. It is seen in breeds such as the Labrador Retriever and Chesapeake Bay Retriever.

Pack – Usually used to describe a group of scent or sight hounds that hunt together.

Pastern – Lower part of the leg, below the carpals (wrist bones) of the foreleg or the hock on the hind leg.

Pendant ears – Ears that hang down from their base; an extreme form of drop ears.

Pendulous lips – Full, loosely hanging upper or lower lips.

Rose ears – Small, drop ears that fold outwards and backwards so that part of the ear canal is exposed. This type of ear is seen in Whippets.

Ruff – A long, thick collar of stand-out hair around the neck.

Sable – A coat colour in which hairs tipped with black overlay a lighter background colour.

Saddle – A darker coloured area that extends over the back.

Scissors bite – The normal bite of dogs with mesaticephalic and dolichocephalic heads. The upper incisors (front teeth) are slightly in front of but in contact with the lower incisors when the mouth is closed. The other teeth interlock with no gaps and form the cutting edge of the “scissors”.

Semi-erect ears – Erect ears in which only the tip is inclined forwards, as seen in breeds such as the Rough Collie (right).

Sesame – A coat colour comprising an equal mixture of black and white hairs. In black sesame, there are more black hairs than white; red sesame is a mixture of red and black hairs.

Sickle tail – Tail that is carried in a half circle over the back.

Spoon-like feet – Similar to cat-like feet but more oval in shape because the middle toes are longer than the outer toes.

Stop – The indentation between the muzzle and the top of the head, in between the eyes. The stop is almost absent in dolichocephalic breeds, such as the Borzoi, and very pronounced in brachycephalic and dome-headed breeds, such as the American Cocker Spaniel and the Chihuahua.

Temperament – The character of a dog.

Topcoat – Outer coat of guard hairs.

Topknot – Long tuft of hair on the top of the head.

Topline – The outline of the dog's upper body from ears to tail.

Tricolour – A coat of three colours in well-defined patches, usually black, tan, and white.

Tucked up – Referring to the belly, an upward curve to the abdomen towards the hind quarters, typically seen in breeds such as the Greyhound and the Whippet.

Undercoat – Underlayer of hair, usually short, thick, and sometimes woolly, that provides insulation between the topcoat and the skin.

Undershot – Facial conformation in which the lower jaw protrudes beyond the upper jaw, seen in breeds such as the Bulldog.

Undershot bite – The normal bite of brachycephalic breeds such as the Bulldog. Because the lower jaw is longer than the upper jaw, the incisor teeth do not meet and the lower incisors are in front of the upper ones.

Withers – The highest point of the shoulder, where the neck meets the back. A dog's height is measured vertically from the ground to the withers.



INDEX

The dog breeds listed in this index may be followed by any combination of the initials KC (Kennel Club), FCI (Federation Cynologique Internationale – the World Canine Organisation), and AKC (American Kennel Club). The initials indicate which of these three international organizations recognize the breed. Occasionally the KC, FCI, and AKC recognize the same breed but use a different name to the one used in this book. This alternative name is also listed along with the initials of the organization that uses it. Some breeds have been granted provisional acceptance by the FCI and these are indicated here as FCI*. Other breeds have no initials following their name but may be recognized by other kennel clubs in their country of origin, and be in the approval process of one of the organizations listed here.

A

Affenpinscher KC, FCI, AKC 16, 219, 262
 Afghan Hound KC, FCI, AKC 15, 125, 133
 African Lion Hound
 see Rhodesian Ridgeback 185
 Aidi FCI 16, 62
 Ainu Dog
 see Hokkaido Dog 111
 Airedale Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 16, 186, 187, 199, 200
 Akbash 70
 Akita KC, AKC 97, 112
 Akita Inu KC 112
 Alapaha Blue Blood Bulldog 16, 86
 Alaskan Klee Kai 15, 97, 102
 Alaskan Malamute KC, FCI, AKC 11, 15, 100–01
 Alpenländische Dachsbracke FCI
 see Alpine Dachsbracke 173
 Alpine Dachsbracke 173
 Alsatian
 see German Shepherd Dog 15, 32, 35, 36, 58, 179
 American Akita FCI
 see Akita 97, 112
 American Bulldog 94, 263
 American Cocker Spaniel KC, FCI 222, 284
 American Dingo
 see Carolina Dog 23, 29
 American English Coonhound AKC 162
 American Eskimo Dog AKC 16, 123
 American Foxhound FCI, AKC 157
 American Hairless Terrier AKC 212

American Pit Bull Terrier 187, 215
 American Staffordshire Terrier FCI, AKC 214, 215
 American Toy Terrier
 see Toy Fox Terrier 17, 206, 208
 American Water Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 228, 229, 259
 Anatolian Shepherd Dog KC, AKC 15, 69
 Anglo-Français de Petite Vénérerie FCI 151
 Appenzell Cattle Dog 66
 Appenzeller Sennenhund FCI
 see Appenzell Cattle Dog 66
 Ariege Hound
 see Ariégeois 164, 165
 Ariege Pointing Dog 252
 Ariégeois FCI 164, 165
 Artois Hound 163
 Atlas Mountain Dog
 see Aidi 16, 62
 Australian Cattle Dog KC, FCI, AKC 33, 59
 Australian Heeler
 see Australian Cattle Dog 33, 59
 Australian Kelpie FCI 58
 Australian Shepherd KC, FCI, AKC 63, 280
 Australian Silky Terrier KC, FCI 17, 194
 Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog FCI* 59
 Australian Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 16, 195
 Austrian Black and Tan Hound 148
 Austrian Pinscher 219
 Auvergne Pointer
 see Braque d'Auvergne 252

Azawakh KC, FCI, AKC 15, 135
 Azores Cattle Dog
 see St. Miguel Cattle Dog 90

B

Barandlbracke FCI
 see Austrian Black and Tan Hound 148
 Barbet KC, FCI 232, 267
 barking problems 307, 311, 317
 Basenji KC, FCI, AKC 16, 22, 23, 24
 Basset Artésien Normand FCI 145
 Basset Bleu de Gascogne KC, FCI 167
 Basset Fauve de Bretagne KC, FCI 145
 Basset Hound KC, FCI, AKC 16, 137, 144
 Bavarian Mountain Hound KC 178
 Bayrischer Gebirgsschweishund FCI see Bavarian Mountain Hound 178
 Beagle KC, FCI, AKC 137, 152–53
 Beagle Harrier FCI 15, 150
 Bearded Collie KC, FCI, AKC 16, 48
 Beauceron KC, AKC 80
 Bedlington Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 204
 beds, types and use of 296, 306
 behaviour, teaching good 306–11
 barking problems 307, 311
 puppies see puppy behaviour
 see also training techniques
 Belgian Barge Dog
 see Schipperke 117
 Belgian Griffon
 see Griffon Bruxellois 17, 262
 Belgian Malinois AKC
 see Malinois 39
 Belgian Sheepdog AKC
 see Groenendael 38
 Belgian Shepherd Dog
 see Groenendael 38;
 Laekenois 15, 38; Malinois 39;
 Tervueren 15, 39
 Belgian Tervuren AKC
 see Tervueren 15, 39
 Bergamasco KC, AKC 62
 Berger de Beauce FCI
 see Beauceron 80
 Berger Blanc Suisse FCI
 see White Swiss
 Shepherd Dog 68
 Berger de Brie FCI
 see Briard 15, 48
 Berger Picard FCI, AKC
 see Picardy Sheepdog 36
 Berner Sennenhund FCI
 see Bernese Mountain Dog 16, 67
 Bernese Laufhund 176
 Bernese Mountain Dog KC, AKC 16, 67
 Bernese Niederlaufhund 177
 Bhotia
 see Himalayan Sheepdog 280
 Bichon Frisé KC, AKC 17, 267, 286
 Bichon Havanais FCI
 see Havanese 17, 269
 Bichon à Poil Frisé FCI
 see Bichon Frisé 17, 267, 286
 Biewer Terrier 194
 Billy FCI 15, 169, 172
 Black Devil
 see Affenpinscher 16, 219, 262
 Black Forest Hound 180



Black Norwegian Elkhound 110
 Black Russian Terrier AKC
 see Russian Black Terrier 15, 187, 200
 Black and Tan Coonhound KC, FCI, AKC 15, 160
 Bleu de Gascogne 170, 171
 Basset 167
 Grand 165
 Petit 166
 Bloodhound KC, AKC 11, 139, 160
 Blue Gascony Griffon 16, 166
 Blue Picardy Spaniel 239
 Bluetick Coonhound AKC 137, 161
 Bobtail Sheepdog
 see Old English Sheepdog 15, 49
 Boerboel AKC 16, 87
 Bohemian Terrier
 see Cesky Terrier 16, 190
 Bolognese KC, FCI 17, 268
 Border Collie KC, FCI, AKC 15, 33, 53, 58
 Border Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 205
 Borzoi KC, AKC 16, 125, 130
 Bosanski Ostrodlaki Gonic Barak
 FCI see Bosnian Rough-coated Hound 182
 Bosnian and Herzegovinian-Croatian Shepherd Dog
 see Tornjak 77
 Bosnian Rough-coated Hound 182
 Boston Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 17, 197
 Bouledogue Français FCI
 see French Bulldog 17, 264
 Bourbonnais Pointing Dog 251
 Bouvier des Ardennes FCI 42
 Bouvier des Flandres KC, FCI, AKC 16, 42
 Boxer KC, AKC 15, 88-89, 286
 Boykin Spaniel AKC 224
 Bracco Italiano KC, FCI 15, 248
 Brandlbracke FCI
 see Austrian Black and Tan Hound 148
 Braque de l'Ariège FCI
 see Ariege Pointing Dog 252
 Braque d'Auvergne KC, FCI 252
 Braque du Bourbonnais FCI
 see Bourbonnais Pointing Dog 251

Braque Français, Type Gascogne FCI
 see French Gascony Pointer 253
 Braque Français, Type Pyrénées FCI
 see French Pyrenean Pointer 250
 Braque Saint-Germain FCI
 see Saint Germain Pointer 250
 Brazilian Terrier 206, 209
 Briard KC, AKC 15, 48
 Briquet Griffon Vendéen FCI 15, 144
 Brittany KC, AKC 234
 Brittany Spaniel
 see Brittany 234
 Broholmer FCI 11, 92
 Bruno Jura Hound 138
 Brussels Griffon AKC
 see Griffon Bruxellois 17, 262
 Bucovina Shepherd Dog FCI
 see Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
 Bull Boxer 286
 Bull Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 16, 187, 198
 Bulldog KC, FCI, AKC 11, 16, 84, 88, 94, 198, 263
 Bullmastiff KC, FCI, AKC 33, 92

C

Ca de Bestiar FCI
 see Majorca Shepherd Dog 80
 Ca de Bou
 see Mallorca Mastiff 83
 Cairn Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 187, 188, 189, 194
 Canaan Dog KC, FCI, AKC 16, 25
 Canadian Eskimo Dog KC, FCI 15, 98
 Canarian Warren Hound 26
 Cane Corso AKC
 see Italian Corso Dog 90
 Cane Corso Italiano FCI
 see Italian Corso Dog 90
 Cane de Pastore Bergamasco FCI
 see Bergamasco 62
 Cane de Pastore Maremmano-Abruzzese FCI see Maremma Sheepdog 15, 33, 63

Caniche FCI
 see Corded Poodle 233;
 Poodle 11, 271; Standard Poodle 16, 231, 233, 261, 271
 Cão de Agua Português FCI
 see Portuguese Water Dog 16, 231
 Cão de Castro Laboreiro FCI
 see Castro Laboreiro Dog 45
 Cão Fila de São Miguel FCI
 see St. Miguel Cattle Dog 90
 Cão da Serra de Aires FCI
 see Portuguese Sheepdog 46
 Cão da Serra da Estrela FCI
 see Estrela Mountain Dog 44
 car travel and traffic 315, 316-17, 324
 Cardigan Welsh Corgi KC, AKC 33, 55
 Carolina Dog 23, 29
 Carpatin Shepherd Dog FCI
 see Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
 Castro Laboreiro Dog 45
 Catahoula Leopard Dog 159
 Catalan Sheepdog KC 46
 Caucasian Shepherd Dog 71
 Cavalier King Charles Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 16, 272
 Central Asian Shepherd Dog 70
 Československý Vlcíak FCI
 see Czechoslovakian Wolfhound 15, 34
 Český Fousek FCI 245
 Český Teriér FCI
 see Cesky Terrier 16, 190
 Cesky Terrier KC, AKC 16, 190
 Chart Polski FCI
 see Polish Greyhound 15, 131
 Chesapeake Bay Retriever KC, FCI, AKC 15, 259
 Chien d'Artois FCI
 see Artois Hound 163
 Chien de Berger Belge FCI
 see Groenendael 38;
 Laekenois 15, 38; Malinois 39;
 Tervueren 15, 39
 Chien de Berger des Pyrénées à Face Rase FCI
 see Pyrenean Sheepdog 47

Chien de Berger des Pyrénées à Poil Long FCI
 see Pyrenean Sheepdog 47
 Chien de Montagne des Pyrénées FCI see Pyrenean Mountain Dog 16, 33, 75
 Chien de Saint Hubert FCI
 see Bloodhound 11, 139, 160
 Chihuahua KC, AKC 17, 260, 276
 Chihuahueño FCI
 see Chihuahua 17, 260, 276
 Chin FCI
 see Japanese Chin 17, 278
 Chinese Crested KC, AKC 11, 17, 261, 274-75
 Chinese Crested Dog FCI
 see Chinese Crested 11, 17, 261, 274-75
 Chinese Shar Pei AKC
 see Shar Pei 82
 Chinook AKC 103
 Chow Chow KC, FCI, AKC 16, 97, 113, 116
 Cimarrón Uruguayo FCI
 see Uruguayan Cimarron 85
 Ciobanesc Romanesc de Bucovina FCI see Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
 Ciobanesc Romanesc Carpatin FCI
 see Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
 Ciobanesc Romanesc Mioritic FCI
 see Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
 Cirneco dell'Etna KC, FCI, AKC 26
 Clumber Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 225
 Cockapoo 284
 Cocker Spaniel AKC
 see American Cocker Spaniel 222, 284
 Collie AKC
 see Rough Collie 16, 50-51
 Collie Rough FCI
 see Rough Collie 16, 50-51
 Collie Smooth FCI
 see Smooth Collie 15, 52
companion dogs 260-61
 American Bulldog 94, 263
 Bichon Frise 17, 267, 286
 Bolognese 17, 268

INDEX *continued*

- Cavalier King Charles Spaniel 16, 272
 Chihuahua 17, 260, 276
 Chinese Crested 11, 17, 261, 274-75
 Coton de Tulear 17, 267
 Dalmatian 11, 15, 261, 279, 337
 Danish-Swedish Farmdog 278
 French Bulldog 17, 264
 Griffon Bruxellois 17, 262
 Havanese 17, 269
 Himalayan Sheepdog 280
 Japanese Chin 17, 278
 King Charles Spaniel 17, 261, 273
 Kyi Leo 17, 272
 Lhasa Apso 17, 266
 Löwchen 17, 268
 Maltese 11, 17, 269
 Miniature American Shepherd 280
 Olde English Bulldogge 263
 Pekingese 11, 17, 261, 264, 266
 Poodle 11, 271
 Pug 11, 17, 261, 265
 Russian Toy 11, 17, 261, 270
 Shih Tzu 16, 266
 Thai Ridgeback 281
 Tibetan Spaniel 16, 277
 Tibetan Terrier 16, 277
 Continental Toy Spaniel FCI
 see Papillon 17, 122
 Corded Poodle 233
 Coton de Tulear KC, FCI, AKC 17, 267
 Courlander Hound
 see Hamiltonstövare 154
 Crnogorski Planinski Gonic FCI
 see Montenegrin Mountain Hound 182
 Croatia Sheepdog
 see Croatian Shepherd Dog 43
 Croatian Shepherd Dog 43
crossbreeds 282-83
 Bichon Yorkie 286
 Bull Boxer 286
 Cockapoo 284
 Goldendoodle 282, 288
 Labradorer 283, 289
 Labradoodle 15, 283, 285
 Lucas Terrier 283, 287
 Lurcher 283, 284
 Mal-Shi 287
 Puggle 289
 Schnoodle 285
 Curly Coated Retriever KC, FCI, AKC 229, 259
 Cursinu 64
 Czech Terrier
 see Cesky Terrier 16, 190
 Czechoslovakian Vlcak
 see Czechoslovakian Wolfdog 15, 34
 Czechoslovakian Wolfdog 15, 34
- ## D
- Dachshund KC, FCI, AKC 16, 137, 174
 Dalmatian KC, AKC 11, 15, 261, 279, 337
 Dalmatinski Pas FCI
 see Dalmatian 11, 15, 261, 279, 337
 Dandie Dinmont Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 17, 194, 217
 Danish-Swedish Farmdog 278
 Dansk-Svensk Gårdshund FCI
 see Danish-Swedish Farmdog 278
 Deerhound KC, FCI 15, 132
 Deutsch Drahthaar FCI
 see German Pointer 11, 221, 244
 Deutsch Kurzhaar FCI
 see German Pointer 11, 221, 244
 Deutsch Langhaar FCI
 see German Pointer 11, 221, 244
 Deutsche Bracke FCI
 see German Hound 175
 Deutsche Dogge FCI
 see Great Dane 88, 95
 Deutscher Boxer FCI
 see Boxer 15, 88-89, 286
 Deutscher Jagtterrier FCI
 see German Hunting Terrier 202
 Deutscher Pinscher FCI
 see German Pinscher 15, 217, 218
 Deutscher Schäferhund FCI
 see German Shepherd Dog 15, 32, 35, 36, 58, 179
 Deutscher Spitz FCI
 see German Spitz 119
 Deutscher Wachtelhund FCI
 see German Spaniel 15, 223
 Do-Khyi FCI
 see Tibetan Mastiff 16, 77
 Doberman Pinscher AKC
 see Dobermann 179
 Dobermann KC, FCI 179
 Dogo Argentino FCI 84
 dogs
 anatomy of 9-10, 340-41
 breeds and breed groups 12
 choosing correctly 14-17
 coat colours 13
 evolution of 8-9
 Dogue de Bordeaux KC, FCI, AKC 33, 91
 Drentsche Partridge Dog 16, 237
 Drentsche Patrijshond FCI
 see Drentsche Partridge Dog 16, 237
 Drever FCI 16, 175
 Drotzörü Magyar Vizsla FCI
 see Hungarian Vizsla 15, 221, 247
 Dunker FCI
 see Norwegian Hound 156
 Dutch Decoy Spaniel
 see Kooikerhondje 238
 Dutch Schapendoes 15, 54
 Dutch Shepherd Dog 15, 37
 Dutch Smoushond 203
 Dutch Spaniel
 see Frisian Water Dog 232
- ## E
- East Siberian Laika 104
 English Cocker Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 15, 221, 222, 223, 284
 English Coonhound
 see Bluetick Coonhound 137, 161
 English Foxhound KC, FCI, AKC 137, 142, 150, 154, 155, 158, 162, 170, 172
 English Pointer KC, FCI 15, 221, 254
 English Setter KC, FCI, AKC 16, 240
 English Springer Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 220, 221, 226-27, 289
 English Toy Spaniel AKC
 see King Charles Spaniel 17, 261, 273
 English Toy Terrier KC, FCI 17, 208, 210, 270
 Entlebucher Mountain Dog KC, AKC 66
 Entlebucher Sennenhund FCI
 see Entlebucher Mountain Dog 66
 Epagneul Bleu de Picardie FCI
 see Blue Picardy Spaniel 239
 Epagneul Breton FCI
 see Brittany 234
 Epagneul Français FCI
 see French Spaniel 240
 Epagneul Nain Continental FCI
 see Papillon 17, 122
 Epagneul Picard FCI
 see Picardy Spaniel 16, 239
 Epagneul de Pont-Audemer FCI
 see Pont-Audemer Spaniel 235
 Erdélyi Kopó FCI
 see Transylvanian Hound 181
 Estrela Mountain Dog KC 44
 Eurasier KC, FCI 16, 116
 exercise levels and choice of dog 15-17
- ## F
- Field Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 223
 Fila Brasileiro FCI 85
 Finnish Hound 15, 156
 Finnish Lapphund KC, AKC 108
 Finnish Spitz KC, AKC 16, 105
 Flat Coated Retriever KC, FCI, AKC 258
 food and feeding 298-99
 food as reward 322, 323, 324, 325, 327
 food aggression, preventing 309
 teeth and diet 298
 Formosan Mountain Dog
 see Taiwan Dog 83
 Fox Terrier KC 16, 187, 206-07, 213
 Fox Terrier (Smooth) FCI
 see Fox Terrier 16, 187, 206-07, 213

Fox Terrier (Wire) FCI
 see Fox Terrier 16, 187,
 206-07, 213
 Français Blanc et Noir FCI
 see French White and Black
 Hound 171
 Français Blanc et Orange FCI
 see French White and
 Orange Hound 172
 Français Tricolore FCI
 see French Tricolour Hound 169
 French Bulldog KC, AKC 17, 264
 French Gascony Pointer 253
 French Pyrenean Pointer 250
 French Spaniel 240
 French Tricolour Hound 169
 French Water Dog
 see Barbet 232, 267
 French White and Black Hound 171
 French White and Orange Hound 172
 Friaar Dog
 see Icelandic Sheepdog 120
 Frisian Pointing Dog 237
 Frisian Water Dog 232

G

Galgó Español FCI
 see Spanish Greyhound 135, 159
 Gammel Dansk Hønsehund FCI
 see Old Danish Pointer 255
 Gascon-Saintongeais FCI 165,
 170, 171
 German Hound 175
 German Hunting Terrier 202
 German Pinscher KC, AKC 15,
 217, 218
 German Pointer KC, AKC 11, 221, 244
 German Shepherd Dog KC, AKC 15,
 32, 35, 36, 58, 179
 German Short-haired Pointer (GSP)
 AKC see German Pointer
 11, 221, 244
 German Spaniel 15, 223
 German Spitz KC 119
 German Wolfspitz 116, 118
 Giant Schnauzer KC, AKC 15,
 41, 200
 Glen of Imaal Terrier KC, AKC 196
 Golden Retriever KC, FCI, AKC
 15, 221, 258, 288
 Goldendoodle 282, 288
 Gordon Setter KC, FCI, AKC 242
 Gos d'Atura Catalá FCI
 see Catalan Sheepdog 46
 Grand Anglo-Français Blanc
 et Noir FCI see Great Anglo-
 French White and Black
 Hound 170
 Grand Anglo-Français Blanc et
 Orange FCI see Great
 Anglo-French White and
 Orange Hound 172
 Grand Anglo-Français Tricolore FCI
 see Great Anglo-French Tricolour
 Hound 170
 Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen KC,
 FCI, AKC 15, 143
 Grand Bleu de Gascogne KC, FCI
 15, 164, 165, 166
 Grand Griffon Vendéen FCI 142
 Great Anglo-French Tricolour
 Hound 169, 170
 Great Anglo-French White and
 Black Hound 170
 Great Anglo-French White and
 Orange Hound 172
 Great Dane KC, AKC 88, 95
 Great Pyrenees AKC
 see Pyrenean Mountain Dog
 16, 33, 75
 Great Swiss Mountain Dog KC 68
 Greater Swiss Mountain Dog AKC
 see Great Swiss Mountain Dog 68
 Greek Sheepdog
 see Greek Shepherd Dog 64
 Greek Shepherd Dog 64
 Greenland Dog KC 15, 97, 98, 103
 Greyhound KC, FCI, AKC 11, 16,
 124, 125, 126, 128, 131, 134, 179
 greyhounds
 see *under* sight hounds
 Griffon d'Arrêt à Poil dur Korthals
 FCI see Korthals Griffon 245
 Griffon Belge FCI see Griffon
 Bruxellois 17, 262
 Griffon Bleu de Gascogne FCI see
 Blue Gascony Griffon 16, 166

Griffon Bruxellois KC 17, 262
 Griffon Fauve de Bretagne KC,
 FCI 146
 Griffon Nivernais FCI 16, 142
 Groenendael KC 38
 Grønlandshund FCI
 see Greenland Dog 15, 97, 98, 103
 grooming 11, 304-05
 and choice of dog 15-17
 and handling 302-03
 Grosser Munsterlander Vorstehhund
 FCI see Large Munsterlander 236
 Grosser Schweizer Sennenhund FCI
 see Greater Swiss Mountain
 Dog 68
gundogs 220-21
 American Cocker Spaniel
 222, 284
 American Water Spaniel 228,
 229, 259
 Ariege Pointing Dog 252
 Barbet 232, 267
 Blue Picardy Spaniel 239
 Bourbonnais Pointing Dog 251
 Boykin Spaniel 224
 Bracco Italiano 15, 248
 Braque d'Auvergne 252
 Brittany 234
 Český Fousek 245
 Chesapeake Bay Retriever 15, 259
 Clumber Spaniel 225
 Corded Poodle 233
 Curly Coated Retriever 229, 259
 Drentsche Partridge Dog 16, 237
 English Cocker Spaniel 15, 221,
 222, 223, 284
 English Pointer 15, 221, 254
 English Setter 16, 240
 English Springer Spaniel 220,
 221, 226-27, 289
 Field Spaniel 223
 Flat Coated Retriever 15, 258
 French Gascony Pointer 253
 French Pyrenean Pointer 250
 French Spaniel 240
 Frisian Pointing Dog 237
 Frisian Water Dog 232
 German Pointer 11, 221, 244
 German Spaniel 15, 223
 Golden Retriever 15, 221,
 258, 288
 Gordon Setter 242
 Hungarian Vizsla 15, 221, 247
 Hungarian Wire Haired Vizsla 247
 Irish Red and White Setter 15, 242
 Irish Setter 15, 241
 Irish Water Spaniel 228, 229, 235
 Italian Spinone 249
 Kooikerhondje 238
 Korthals Griffon 245
 Labrador Retriever 15, 256-57,
 285, 289
 Lagotto Romagnolo 221, 234
 Large Munsterlander 236
 Nova Scotia Duck Tolling
 Retriever 243
 Old Danish Pointer 255
 Picardy Spaniel 16, 239
 Pont-Audemer Spaniel 235
 Portuguese Pointer 248
 Portuguese Water Dog 16, 231
 Pudelpointer 251
 Saint Germain Pointer 250
 Slovakian Rough-haired
 Pointer 253
 Small Munsterlander 16, 236
 Spanish Pointer 255
 Spanish Water Dog 230
 Standard Poodle 16, 231,
 233, 261, 271
 Sussex Spaniel 223, 224
 Weimaraner 15, 179, 221, 246
 Welsh Springer Spaniel 228

H

Habanero
 see Havanese 17, 269
 hairless dogs 23, 334
 American Hairless Terrier 192
 Chinese Crested 11, 17, 261,
 274-75
 Peruvian Hairless 30
 Peruvian Inca Orchid 29
 Xoloitzcuintle 31
 Halden Hound 155
 Haldenstøvere FCI
 see Halden Hound 155

INDEX *continued*

Hamiltonstövare KC, FCI 154
 handling 302-03
 see also grooming
 Hannoverscher Schweisshund FCI
 see Hanoverian Scenthound 178
 Hanovarian Haidbrake
 see Hamiltonstövare 154
 Hanoverian Scenthound 147, 178
 Harrier FCI, AKC 15, 137, 150, 152
 Havanese KC, AKC 17, 269
 health care 18, 330-37
 breed-specific problems 334
 elderly dogs 335
 first aid and minor injuries 332-33
 inherited diseases 336-39
 medication 333
 neutering 331
 preventative measures 331
 and screening 336-37
 vaccinations 294, 313, 331
 vet visits 330-31
 weight issues 334
 worming and flea treatments 331
 Heidewachtel
 see Small Munsterlander 16, 236
 Hellenic Hound 184
 Hellenic Shepherd Dog
 see Greek Shepherd Dog 64
 Helliiniikos Ichnilatis FCI
 see Hellenic Hound 184
 Himalayan Sheepdog 280
 Hokkaido FCI
 see Hokkaido Dog 111
 Hokkaido Dog 111
 Hollandse Herdershond FCI
 see Dutch Shepherd Dog 15, 37
 Hollandse Smoushond FCI
 see Dutch Smoushond 203
 Holstein Hound
 see Hamiltonstövare 154
 Hovawart KC, FCI 79
 Hrvatski Ovcari FCI
 see Croatian Shepherd Dog 43
 Hungarian Greyhound 127
 Hungarian Hound FCI
 see Transylvanian Hound 181

Hungarian Kuvasz KC 16, 33, 78
 Hungarian Puli KC 16, 61
 Hungarian Pumi KC, FCI, AKC 60
 Hungarian Short-haired Pointer FCI
 see Hungarian Vizsla 15, 221, 247
 Hungarian Vizsla KC 15, 221, 247
 Hungarian Wire-haired Pointer FCI
 see Hungarian Wire Haired Vizsla 247
 Hungarian Wire Haired Vizsla KC 247
 Hygen Hound 157
 Hygenhund FCI
 see Hygen Hound 157

I
 Ibizan Hound KC, AKC 23, 27
 Icelandic Sheepdog AKC 120
 Illyrian Hound
 see Bosnian Rough-coated Hound 182
 Illyrian Shepherd
 see Karst Shepherd Dog 44
 Illyrian Shepherd Dog
 see Sarplaninac 43
 Inuit Dog
 see Canadian Eskimo Dog 15, 98
 Irish Glen of Imaal Terrier FCI
 see Glen of Imaal Terrier 196
 Irish Red Setter FCI
 see Irish Setter 15, 241
 Irish Red and White Setter KC, FCI, AKC 15, 242
 Irish Setter KC, AKC 15, 241
 Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier FCI see Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier 187, 203
 Irish Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 187, 201
 Irish Water Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 228, 229, 235
 Irish Wolfhound KC, FCI AKC 132
 Islenskur Fjárhundur FCI
 see Icelandic Sheepdog 120
 Istarski Kratkodlaki Gonic FCI
 see Istrian Smooth-coated Hound 15, 147

Istarski Ostrodlaki Gonic FCI
 see Istrian Wire-haired Hound 146, 147
 Istrian Shepherd Dog
 see Karst Shepherd Dog 44
 Istrian Smooth-coated Hound 15, 147
 Istrian Wire-haired Hound 146, 147
 Italian Corso Dog 90
 Italian Greyhound KC, AKC 127
 Italian Spinone KC 249
 Italian Volpino 17, 117

J
 Jack Russell Terrier KC, FCI 187, 196, 206
 Jämthund FCI
 see Swedish Elkhound 109
 Japanese Akita Inu
 see Akita 97, 112
 Japanese Chin KC, AKC 17, 278
 Japanese Shiba Inu KC 114
 Japanese Spitz KC 116
 Japanese Terrier 208
 Jugoslovenski Ovcarski Pas-Sarplaninac FCI
 see Sarplaninac 43
 Jura Neiderlaufhund 177

K
 Kai FCI 115
 Kai Ken see Kai 115
 Kangal Coban Köpegi FCI
 see Turkish Kangal Dog 69
 Karelian Bear Dog 103
 Karjalankarhukoira FCI
 see Karelian Bear Dog 103
 Karst Shepherd Dog 44
 Kavkazskaia Ovtcharka FCI
 see Caucasian Shepherd Dog 71
 Keeshond KC, FCI, AKC 16, 118
 Kerry Blue Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 202
 King Charles Spaniel KC, FCI 17, 261, 273
 King Shepherd 36

Kishu FCI 115
 Kishu ken see Kishu 115
 Kleiner Munsterlander FCI
 see Small Munsterlander 16, 236
 Komondor KC, FCI, AKC 11, 16, 61
 Kooikerhondje KC 238
 Korean Jindo KC 114
 Korea Jindo Dog FCI
 see Korean Jindo 114
 Korthals Griffon KC 245
 Kraski Ovcari FCI
 see Karst Shepherd Dog 44
 Kromfohrlander FCI 213
 Kuvasz FCI, AKC
 see Hungarian Kuvasz 16, 33, 78
 Kyi Leo 17, 272

L
 Labradinger 283, 289
 Labradoodle 15, 283, 285
 Labrador Retriever KC, FCI, AKC 15, 256-57, 285, 289
 Laekenois KC 15, 38
 Lagotto Romagnolo KC, FCI, AKC 221, 234
 Lakeland Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 16, 187, 205
 Lancashire Heeler KC, FCI* 60
 Landseer FCI 74
 Lapinporokoiri FCI
 see Lapponian Herder 108
 Lapponian Herder 108
 Large Munsterlander KC 236
 leads and behavioural training 306, 307, 310, 311, 326-27, 328
 Leonberger KC, FCI, AKC 71
 Lhasa Apso KC, FCI, AKC 17, 266
 Little Lion Dog
 see Löwchen 17, 268
 Löwchen KC, FCI, AKC 17, 268
 Lucas Terrier 283, 287
 Lucerne Laufhund 176
 Lurcher 283, 284
 Luzerne Neiderlaufhund 177

M

- Magyar Agar FCI
see Hungarian Greyhound 127
- Majorca Shepherd Dog 80
- Malinois KC 39
- Mallorca Mastiff 83
- Mal-Shi 287
- Maltese KC, FCI, AKC 11, 17, 269
- Manchester Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 60, 211
- Maremma Sheepdog KC 15, 33, 63
- Mastiff KC, FCI, AKC 84, 93, 95, 159
- Mastín Español FCI
see Spanish Mastiff 16, 87
- Mastín del Pirineo FCI
see Pyrenean Mastiff 76
- Mastino Napoletano FCI
see Neapolitan Mastiff 16, 33, 91
- Mexican Hairless
see Xoloitzcuintle 31
- Miniature American Shepherd 280
- Miniature Black and Tan Terrier
see English Toy Terrier 17,
208, 210, 270
- Miniature Bull Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 198
- Miniature Pinscher KC, AKC 17,
187, 217
- Miniature Schnauzer KC, AKC
16, 218
- Mioritic Shepherd Dog FCI
see Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
- Modder Rhu
see Irish Setter 15, 241
- Monkey Dog
see Portuguese Sheepdog 46
- Montenegrin Mountain Hound 182
- Mountain Cur 184
- Mudi FCI 40

N

- Neapolitan Mastiff KC, AKC 16, 33, 91
- Nederlandse Kooikerhondje FCI, AKC
see Kooikerhondje 238
- Nederlandse Schapendoes FCI
see Dutch Schapendoes 15, 54
- New Guinea Singing Dog 23, 24
- New Zealand Huntaway 15, 58
- Newfoundland KC, FCI, AKC 16, 71, 74
- Nihon Supittsu FCI
see Japanese Spitz 116
- Nihon Teria FCI
see Japanese Terrier 208
- Nihon Terrier
see Japanese Terrier 208
- Nippon Terrier
see Japanese Terrier 208
- Norrbottenspets FCI
see Nordic Spitz 16, 121
- Nordic Spitz 16, 121
- Norfolk Spaniel
see English Springer Spaniel 220,
221, 226-27
- Norfolk Terrier KC, FCI, AKC
16, 191, 287
- Norsk Buhund FCI
see Norwegian Buhund 121
- Norsk Elghund Gra FCI
see Norwegian Elkhound 110
- Norsk Elghund Sort FCI
see Black Norwegian
Elkhound 110
- Norsk Lundehund FCI
see Norwegian Lundehund 120
- Norwegian Buhund KC, AKC 121
- Norwegian Elkhound KC, AKC 110
- Norwegian Hound 156
- Norwegian Lundehund AKC 120
- Norwich Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 187,
197
- Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever
KC, FCI, AKC 243

O

- Ogar Polski FCI
see Polish Hound 180
- Old Danish Pointer 255
- Old English Sheepdog KC, FCI,
AKC 15, 49
- Olde English Bulldogge 263
- Österreichischer Pinscher FCI
see Austrian Pinscher 219
- Otterhound KC, FCI, AKC 137,
140-41, 142
- Ovtcharka
see South Russian Shepherd
Dog 55
- Papillon KC, AKC 17, 122
- Parson Russell Terrier KC, FCI,
AKC 195
- Patterdale Terrier 15, 212
- Peintingen Hound
see Styrian Coarse-haired
Mountain Hound 15, 147
- Pekingese KC, FCI, AKC 11, 17, 261,
264, 266
- Pembroke Welsh Corgi KC, AKC
16, 33, 56, 60
- Perdigueiro Português FCI
see Portuguese Pointer 248
- Perdiguero de Burgos FCI
see Spanish Pointer 255
- Perro de Agua Española FCI
see Spanish Water
Dog 230
- Perro Dogo Mallorquín FCI
see Mallorca Mastiff 83
- Perro sin Pelo del Perú FCI
see Peruvian Hairless 30
- Peruvian Hairless 30
- Peruvian Inca Orchid 29
- Petit Anglo-Française
see Anglo-Française de Petite
Vénerie 151
- Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen
KC, FCI, AKC 143
- Petit Bleu de Gascogne FCI 166
- Petit Brabançon FCI
see Griffon Bruxellois 17, 262
- Petit Chien Lion FCI
see Löwchen 17, 268
- Phalene see Papillon 17, 122
- Pharaoh Hound KC, FCI, AKC 23, 25
- Picardy Sheepdog KC 36
- Picardy Spaniel 16, 239
- Piccolo Levriero Italiano FCI
see Italian Greyhound 127
- pinschers
Doberman Pinscher AKC see
Dobermann 179
other varieties see *under*
terriers
- Plott AKC
see Plott Hound 159

P

- Plott Hound 159
- Podenco Canario FCI
see Canarian Warren Hound 26
- Podenco Ibecenco FCI
see Ibizan Hound 23, 27
- Podengo Português FCI
see Portuguese Podengo 28
- Pointer AKC
see English Pointer 15, 221,
254
- pointers see *under* gundogs
- Poitevin FCI 15, 168, 170
- Polish Greyhound 15, 131
- Polish Hound 180
- Polish Lowland Sheepdog KC,
AKC 15, 54
- Polski Owczarek Nizinny FCI
see Polish Lowland
Sheepdog 15, 54
- Polski Owczarek Podhalanski FCI
see Tatra Shepherd Dog 73
- Pomeranian KC, AKC 17, 97, 123
- Pont-Audemer Spaniel 235
- Poodle AKC
see Standard Poodle 16, 231, 233,
261, 271
- Poodle KC, AKC 11, 251, 267, 271,
284, 285, 288
- Porcelaine FCI 151
- Portuguese Cattle Dog
see Castro Laboreiro Dog 45
- Portuguese Podengo KC, AKC
28
- Portuguese Pointer KC 248
- Portuguese Pointing Dog FCI
see Portuguese Pointer 248
- Portuguese Sheepdog 46
- Portuguese Warren Hound
see Portuguese Podengo 28
- Portuguese Watchdog 45
- Portuguese Water Dog KC,
AKC 16, 231
- Posavaz Hound 181
- Posavski Gonic FCI
see Posavaz Hound 181
- Powderpuff Chinese Crested
see Chinese Crested 11, 17, 261,
274-75
- Presa Canario FCI 16, 84

INDEX *continued*

primitive dogs 22-23

- Basenji 16, 22, 23, 24
- Canarian Warren Hound 26
- Carolina Dog 23, 29
- Cirneco dell'Etna 26
- Ibizan Hound 23, 27
- New Guinea Singing Dog 23, 24
- Peruvian Hairless 30
- Peruvian Inca Orchid 29
- Pharaoh Hound 23, 25
- Portuguese Podengo 28
- Xoloitzcuintle 31
- Pudelpointer FCI 251
- Pug KC, FCI, AKC 11, 17, 261, 265
- Puggle 289
- Puli FCI, AKC
 - see Hungarian Puli 16, 61
- Pumi FCI, AKC
 - see Hungarian Pumi 60
- puppies
 - beds and cages 296, 301
 - choice, and breeder checks 18, 19, 336-37
 - health care
 - see health care
 - name choosing 300
 - puppy farms 18
 - toys, choice of 297
- puppy behaviour
 - alone, being left 319
 - barking, dealing with 307, 311
 - car travel and traffic 315, 316-17, 324
 - chewing 299, 308, 319
 - first days in new home 300-01, 312-15
 - food and feeding 298, 299, 308, 309
 - house-training 296, 301
 - leads, use of 295, 306, 307, 310, 311
 - puppy classes 313
 - safety precautions 294-95
 - socialization 312-19, 324
 - training techniques
 - see training techniques

- Pyrenean Mastiff KC 76
- Pyrenean Mountain Dog KC 16, 33, 75
- Pyrenean Sheepdog KC 47
- Pyrenean Shepherd AKC
 - see Pyrenean Sheepdog 47

R

- Rafeiro de Alentejo FCI
 - see Portuguese Watchdog 45
- Rampur Greyhound 134
- random-bred dogs 290-91
- Rat Terrier AKC 16, 187, 206, 211
- Redbone Coonhound AKC 160
- Reisenschnauzer FCI
 - see Giant Schnauzer 15, 41, 200
- rescue dogs 18-19
- retrievers *see under* gundogs
- Rhodesian Ridgeback KC, FCI, AKC 185
- Romanian Mioritic Shepherd Dog
 - see Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
- Romanian Shepherd Dogs FCI 65
- Rottweiler KC, FCI, AKC 58, 81, 179, 200
- Rough Collie KC 16, 50-51
- Rövídszörű Magyar Vizsla FCI
 - see Hungarian Vizsla 15, 221, 247
- Royal Dog of Madagascar
 - see Coton de Tulear 17, 267
- Russell Terrier AKC
 - see Jack Russell Terrier 187, 196, 206
- Russian Black Terrier KC 15, 187, 200
- Russian Toy KC 11, 17, 261, 270
- Russian Wolfhound
 - see Borzoi 16, 125, 130
- Russian-European Laika 105
- Russkaya Psovaya Borzaya FCI
 - see Borzoi 16, 125, 130
- Russkiy Tchiorny Terrier FCI
 - see Russian Black Terrier 15, 187, 200
- Russkiy Toy FCI
 - see Russian Toy 11, 17, 261, 270
- Russko-Evropéiskaia Laika FCI
 - see Russian-European Laika 105

S

- Saarloos Wolfdog 34
- Saarlooswolfhond FCI
 - see Saarloos Wolfdog 34
- Sabueso Español FCI
 - see Spanish Hound 148
- Saint Bernard AKC
 - see St. Bernard 16, 71, 72
- St. Bernard KC 16, 71, 72
- St. Bernardshund FCI
 - see St. Bernard 16, 71, 72
- Saint Germain Pointer 250
- St. Hubert Hound
 - see Bloodhound 11, 139, 160
- St. Hubert Jura Hound 138
- St. Miguel Cattle Dog 90
- Saluki KC, FCI, AKC 11, 15, 125, 131
- Samoiedskaia Sabaka FCI
 - see Samoyed 97, 106-07, 116
- Samoyed KC, AKC 97, 106-07, 116
- Sarplaninac 43
- scent hounds** 136-37
 - Alpine Dachsbracke 173
 - American English
 - Coonhound 162
 - American Foxhound 157
 - Anglo-Française de Petite Vénérerie 151
 - Ariégeois 164, 165
 - Artois Hound 163
 - Austrian Black and Tan Hound 148
 - Basset Artesien Normand 17, 145
 - Basset Bleu de Gascogne 167
 - Basset Fauve de Bretagne 145
 - Basset Hound 16, 137, 144
 - Bavarian Mountain Hound 178
 - Beagle 137, 152-53
 - Beagle Harrier 15, 150
 - Billy 15, 169, 172
 - Black Forest Hound 180
 - Black and Tan Coonhound 15, 160
 - Bloodhound 11, 139, 160
 - Blue Gascony Griffon 16, 166
 - Bluetick Coonhound 137, 161
 - Bosnian Rough-coated Hound 182
 - Briquet Griffon Vendéen 15, 144
- Bruno Jura Hound 138
- Catahoula Leopard Dog 159
- Dachshund 16, 137, 174
- Dobermann 179
- Drever 16, 175
- English Foxhound 137, 142, 150, 154, 155, 158, 162, 170, 172
- Finnish Hound 15, 156
- French Tricolour Hound 169
- French White and Black Hound 171
- French White and Orange Hound 172
- Gasçon-Saintongeais 165, 170, 171
- German Hound 175
- Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen 15, 143
- Grand Bleu de Gascogne 15, 164, 165, 166
- Grand Griffon Vendéen 142
- Great Anglo-French Tricolour Hound 170
- Great Anglo-French White and Black Hound 170
- Great Anglo-French White and Orange Hound 172
- Griffon Fauve de Bretagne 146
- Griffon Nivernais 16, 142
- Halden Hound 155
- Hamiltonstövare 154
- Hanoverian Scenthound 178
- Harrier 15, 137, 150, 152
- Hellenic Hound 184
- Hygen Hound 157
- Istrian Smooth-coated Hound 15, 147
- Istrian Wire-haired Hound 146, 147
- Montenegrin Mountain Hound 182
- Mountain Cur 184
- Norwegian Hound 156
- Otterhound 137, 140-41, 142
- Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen 143
- Petit Bleu de Gascogne 166
- Plott Hound 159
- Poitevin 15, 168, 170
- Polish Hound 180
- Porcelaine 151
- Posavaz Hound 181

- Redbone Coonhound 160
 Rhodesian Ridgeback 185
 St. Hubert Jura Hound 138
 Schillerstövare 154
 Segugio Italiano 149
 Segugio Maremmano 149
 Serbian Hound 183
 Serbian Tricoloured Hound 183
 Smålandsstövare 155
 Spanish Hound 148
 Styrian Coarse-haired
 Mountain Hound 15, 147
 Schweizer Laufhund 176
 Schweizer Neiderlaufhund 177
 Transylvanian Hound 181
 Treeing Walker
 Coonhound 161, 162
 Westphalian Dachsbracke 173
 Schillerstövare FCI 154
 Schipperke KC, FCI, AKC 117
 Schnauzer KC, FCI 40
 Schnoodle 285
 Schweizer Laufhund FCI 176
 Schweizer Neiderlaufhund FCI 177
 Scottish Deerhound AKC
 see Deerhound 15, 132
 Scottish Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 16, 189
 Sealyham Terrier KC, FCI, AKC
 16, 191, 287
 Segugio Italiano KC, FCI 149
 Segugio Maremmano FCI* 149
 Serbian Hound 183
 Serbian Mountain Hound
 see Montenegrin Mountain
 Hound 182
 Serbian Tricoloured Hound 183
 setters *see under* gundogs
 Shar Pei KC, FCI 82
 Shetland Sheepdog KC, FCI,
 AKC 52
 Shiba Inu FCI, AKC
 see Japanese Shiba Inu 114
 Shih Tzu KC, FCI, AKC 16, 266
 Shikoku FCI 111
 Siberian Husky KC, FCI, AKC
 96-97, 99
sight hounds 124-25
 Afghan Hound 15, 125, 133
 Azawakh 15, 135
 Borzoi 16, 125, 130
 Deerhound 15, 132
 Greyhound 11, 16, 124, 125,
 126, 128, 131, 134, 179
 Hungarian Greyhound 127
 Irish Wolfhound 132
 Italian Greyhound 127
 Polish Greyhound 15, 131
 Rampur Greyhound 134
 Saluki 11, 15, 125, 131
 Sloughi 15, 134
 Spanish Greyhound 135, 159
 Whippet 16, 128-29, 204
 Silky Terrier AKC
 see Australian Silky Terrier 17, 194
 Skye Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 17, 216
 Sloughi KC, FCI, AKC 15, 134
 Slovakian Chuvach 78
 Slovakian Rough-haired
 Pointer KC 253
 Slovenský Cuvac FCI
 see Slovakian Chuvach 78
 Slovenský Hrubosrstý Stavac
 (Ohar) FCI *see* Slovakian Rough-
 haired Pointer 253
 Slovenský Kopov FCI
 see Black Forest Hound 180
 Slovenský Pointer
 see Slovakian Rough-haired
 Pointer 253
 Småland Hound
 see Smålandsstövare 155
 Smålandsstövare FCI 155
 Small Munsterlander KC 16, 236
 Smooth Collie KC 15, 52
 Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier AKC
 see Soft-coated Wheaten
 Terrier 187, 203
 Soft-coated Wheaten Terrier
 KC 187, 203
 South Russian Shepherd Dog 55
 spaniels *see under* gundogs
 Spanish Greyhound 135, 159
 Spanish Hound 148
 Spanish Mastiff 16, 87
 Spanish Pointer 255
 Spanish Water Dog KC, AKC 230
 Spinone Italiano FCI, AKC
 see Italian Spinone 249
spitz-type dogs 96-97
 Akita 97, 112
 Akita Inu 112
 Alaskan Klee Kai 15, 97, 102
 Alaskan Malamute 11, 15, 100-01
 American Eskimo Dog 16, 123
 Black Norwegian Elkhound 110
 Canadian Eskimo Dog 15, 98
 Chinook 103
 Chow Chow 16, 97, 113, 116
 East Siberian Laika 104
 Eurasier 16, 116
 Finnish Lapphund 108
 Finnish Spitz 16, 105
 German Spitz 119
 German Wolfspitz 116, 118
 Greenland Dog 15, 97,
 98, 103
 Hokkaido Dog 111
 Icelandic Sheepdog 120
 Italian Volpino 17, 117
 Japanese Shiba Inu 114
 Japanese Spitz 116
 Kai 115
 Karelian Bear Dog 103
 Keeshond 16, 118
 Kishu 115
 Korea Jindo 114
 Lapponian Herder 108
 Nordic Spitz 16, 121
 Norwegian Buhund 121
 Norwegian Elkhound 110
 Norwegian Lundehund 120
 Papillon 17, 122
 Pomeranian 17, 97, 123
 Russian-European Laika 105
 Samoyed 97, 106-07, 116
 Schipperke 117
 Shikoku 111
 Siberian Husky 96-97, 99
 Swedish Elkhound 109
 Swedish Lapphund 109
 Thai Bangkaew Dog 113
 West Siberian Laika 104
 Springador
 see Labradinger 283, 289
 Sredneasiatskaia Ovtcharka FCI
 see Central Asian Shepherd
 Dog 71
 Srpski Gonik FCI
 see Serbian Hound 183
 Srpski Planinski Gonik FCI
 see Montenegrin Mountain
 Hound 182
 Srpski Trobojni Gonik FCI
 see Serbian Tricoloured
 Hound 183
 Stabyhoun FCI
 see Frisian Pointing Dog 237
 Staffordshire Bull Terrier KC, FCI,
 AKC 187, 214, 215, 286
 Standard Pinscher
 see German Pinscher 15, 217, 218
 Standard Poodle KC 16, 231,
 233, 261, 271
 Standard Schnauzer AKC
 see Schnauzer 40
 Steirische Rauhaarbracke FCI
 see Styrian Coarse-haired
 Mountain Hound 15, 147
 Styrian Coarse-haired Mountain
 Hound 15, 147
 Suomenajokoiria FCI
 see Finnish Hound 15, 156
 Suomenlapinkoiria FCI
 see Finnish Lapphund 108
 Suomenpystykorva FCI
 see Finnish Spitz 16, 105
 Sussex Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC
 223, 224
 Svensk Lapphund FCI
 see Swedish Lapphund 109
 Swedish Elkhound 109
 Swedish Foxhound
 see Hamiltonstövare 154
 Swedish Lapphund KC 109
 Swedish Vallhund KC, AKC 16, 57
 Swiss Hound
 see Schweizer Laufhund 176

T

- Taiwan Dog FCI 83
 Tatra Shepherd Dog 73
 teeth care 303, 305
 and diet 298, 299
 Tenerife Dog
 see Bichon Frise 17, 267, 286

INDEX *continued*

Terrier Brasileiro FCI
see Brazilian Terrier 206, 209

terriers 186-87

Affenpinscher 16, 219, 262
Airedale Terrier 16, 186,
187, 199, 200
American Hairless Terrier 212
American Pit Bull Terrier 187, 215
American Staffordshire
Terrier 214, 215
Australian Silky Terrier 17, 194
Australian Terrier 16, 195
Austrian Pinscher 219
Bedlington Terrier 204
Biewer Terrier 194
Border Terrier 205
Boston Terrier 17, 197
Brazilian Terrier 206, 209
Bull Terrier 16, 187, 198
Cairn Terrier 187, 188, 189, 194
Cesky Terrier 16, 190
Dandie Dinmont
Terrier 17, 194, 217
Dutch Smoushond 203
English Toy Terrier 17, 208,
210, 270
Fox Terrier 16, 187, 206-07, 213
German Hunting Terrier 202
German Pinscher 15, 217, 218
Glen of Imaal Terrier 196
Irish Terrier 187, 201
Jack Russell Terrier 187, 196,
206
Japanese Terrier 208
Kerry Blue Terrier 202
Kromfohrländer 213
Lakeland Terrier 16, 187, 205
Manchester Terrier 60, 211
Miniature Bull Terrier 198
Miniature Pinscher 17, 187, 217
Miniature Schnauzer 16, 218
Norfolk Terrier 16, 191, 287
Norwich Terrier 187, 197
Parson Russell Terrier 195
Patterdale Terrier 15, 212
Rat Terrier 16, 187, 206, 211
Russian Black Terrier 15, 187, 200
Scottish Terrier 16, 189
Sealyham Terrier 16, 191, 287

Skye Terrier 17, 216
Soft-coated Wheaten
Terrier 187, 203
Staffordshire Bull Terrier
187, 214, 215, 286
Toy Fox Terrier 17, 206, 208
Welsh Terrier 201
West Highland White
Terrier 16, 188
Yorkshire Terrier 17, 187,
192-93, 194, 286
Tervueren KC 15, 39
Thai Bangkaew Dog FCI* 113
Thai Ridgeback FCI 281
Tibetan Kyi Apso 76
Tibetan Mastiff KC, AKC 16, 77
Tibetan Spaniel KC, FCI, AKC 16, 277
Tibetan Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 16, 277
Tornjak FCI 77
Tosa FCI 16, 95
Toy Fox Terrier AKC 17, 206, 208
training techniques 320-29

and body language, canine 321
and choice of dog 15-17
"come" command 328-29
communication and verbal
cues 320
"down" command 324, 325
"fetch" command 329
rewards-based 322-23, 324,
325, 327
"sit" command 324
"stay" command 326-27
walking on lead 326-27
walking to heel 327
see also behaviour, teaching
good

Transylvanian Hound 181
traffic and car travel 315, 316-17,
324
Treeing Walker Coonhound AKC
161, 162
Turkish Kangal Dog KC, FCI 69

UV

Uruguayan Cimarron 85
Västgötaspets FCI
see Swedish Vallhund 16, 57

Virelade Hound
see Gascon-Saintongeais 165,
170, 171
Virginia Foxhound
see American English
Coonhound 162
Vizsla FCI, AKC
see Hungarian Vizsla 15, 221, 247
Volpino 117
Volpino Italiano FCI
see Volpino 117
Vostotchno-Sibirskaja Laika FCI
see East Siberian Laika 104

W

Weimaraner KC, FCI, AKC 15,
179, 221, 246
Welsh Corgi Cardigan FCI
see Cardigan Welsh Corgi 33, 55
Welsh Corgi Pembroke FCI
see Pembroke Welsh Corgi 16,
33, 56, 60
Welsh Springer Spaniel KC,
FCI, AKC 228
Welsh Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 201
West Highland White Terrier KC,
FCI, AKC 16, 188
West Siberian Laika 104
Westfälische Dachsbracke FCI
see Westphalian Dachsbracke 173
Westphalian Dachsbracke 173, 175
Wetterhoun FCI
see Frisian Water Dog 232
Whippet KC, FCI, AKC 16,
128-29, 204
White Swiss Shepherd Dog KC 68
Wire Fox Terrier AKC
see Fox Terrier 206-07
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon AKC
see Korthals Griffon 245
Wirehaired Vizsla AKC
see Hungarian Wire Haired
Vizsla 247
working dogs 32-33
Aidi 16, 62
Akbash 70
Alapaha Blue Blood Bulldog 16, 86
Anatolian Shepherd Dog 15, 69
Appenzell Cattle Dog 66
Australian Cattle Dog 33, 59
Australian Kelpie 58
Australian Shepherd 63, 280
Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle
Dog 59
Bearded Collie 16, 49
Beauceron 80
Bergamasco 62
Bernese Mountain Dog 16, 67
Boerboel 16, 87
Border Collie 15, 33, 53, 58
Bouvier des Ardennes 42
Bouvier des Flandres 16, 42
Boxer 15, 88-89, 286
Briard 15, 48
Broholmer 11, 92
Bulldog 11, 16, 84, 88, 94, 198, 263
Bullmastiff 33, 92
Cardigan Welsh Corgi 33, 55
Castro Laboreiro Dog 45
Catalan Sheepdog 46
Caucasian Shepherd Dog 71
Central Asian Shepherd Dog 71
Croatian Shepherd Dog 43
Cursinu 64
Czechoslovakian Wolfdog 15, 34
Dogo Argentino 84
Dogue de Bordeaux 33, 91
Dutch Schapendoes 15, 54
Dutch Shepherd Dog 15, 37
Entlebucher Mountain Dog 66
Estrela Mountain Dog 44
Fila Brasileiro 85
German Shepherd Dog 15, 32,
35, 36, 58, 179
Giant Schnauzer 15, 41, 200
Great Dane 88, 95
Great Swiss Mountain Dog 68
Greek Shepherd Dog 64
Groenendael 38
Hovawart 79
Hungarian Kuvasz 16, 33, 78
Hungarian Puli 16, 61
Hungarian Pumi 60
Italian Corso Dog 90
Karst Shepherd Dog 44
King Shepherd 36
Komondor 11, 16, 61

Laekenois 15, 38
 Lancashire Heeler 60
 Landseer FCI 74
 Leonberger 71
 Majorca Shepherd Dog 80
 Malinois 39
 Mallorca Mastiff 83
 Maremma Sheepdog 15, 33, 63
 Mastiff 84, 93, 95, 159
 Mudi 40
 Neapolitan Mastiff 16, 33, 91
 New Zealand Huntaway 15, 58
 Newfoundland 16, 71, 74
 Old English Sheepdog 15, 49
 Pembroke Welsh Corgi 16, 33, 56, 60
 Picardy Sheepdog 36
 Polish Lowland Sheepdog 15, 54
 Portuguese Sheepdog 46
 Portuguese Watchdog 45
 Presa Canario 16, 84

Pyrenean Mastiff 76
 Pyrenean Mountain Dog 16, 33, 75
 Pyrenean Sheepdog 47
 Romanian Shepherd Dogs 65
 Rottweiler 58, 81, 179, 200
 Rough Collie 16, 50–51
 Saarloos Wolfdog 34
 St. Bernard 16, 71, 72
 St. Miguel Cattle Dog 90
 Sarplaninac 43
 Schnauzer 40
 Shar Pei 82
 Shetland Sheepdog 52
 Slovakian Chuvach 78
 Smooth Collie 15, 52
 South Russian Shepherd Dog 55
 Spanish Mastiff 16, 87
 Swedish Vallhund 16, 57
 Taiwan Dog 83
 Tatra Shepherd Dog 73

Tervueren 15, 39
 Tibetan Kyi Apso 76
 Tibetan Mastiff 16, 77
 Tornjak 77
 Tosa 16, 95
 Turkish Kangal Dog 69
 Uruguayan Cimarron 85
 White Swiss Shepherd Dog 68

Zwergpinscher FCI
 see Miniature Pinscher 17, 187, 217
 Zwergschnauzer FCI
 see Miniature Schnauzer 16, 218
 Zwergspitz FCI
 see Pomeranian 17, 97, 123

XYZ

Xoloitzcuintle KC, FCI
 Xoloitzcuintli AKC 31
 see Xoloitzcuintle 31
 Yorkshire Terrier KC, FCI, AKC 17, 187, 192–93, 194, 286
 Yuzhnorusskaya Ovcharka FCI
 see South Russian Shepherd Dog 55
 Zapadno-Sibirskaja Laika FCI
 see West Siberian Laika 104

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