

Dogs are important to us—we value them for their intelligence, selflessness, and loving nature, and they return our affection with enthusiasm.



No other species comes in such a huge variety of shapes, sizes, and colors as domestic dogs. The biggest breed may be 24 times larger than the smallest!



Packed with fascinating and thought-provoking facts as well as stunning images of dogs and their puppies



Describes all the main, internationally recognized

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containing vital information such as place of origin, size, and main colors

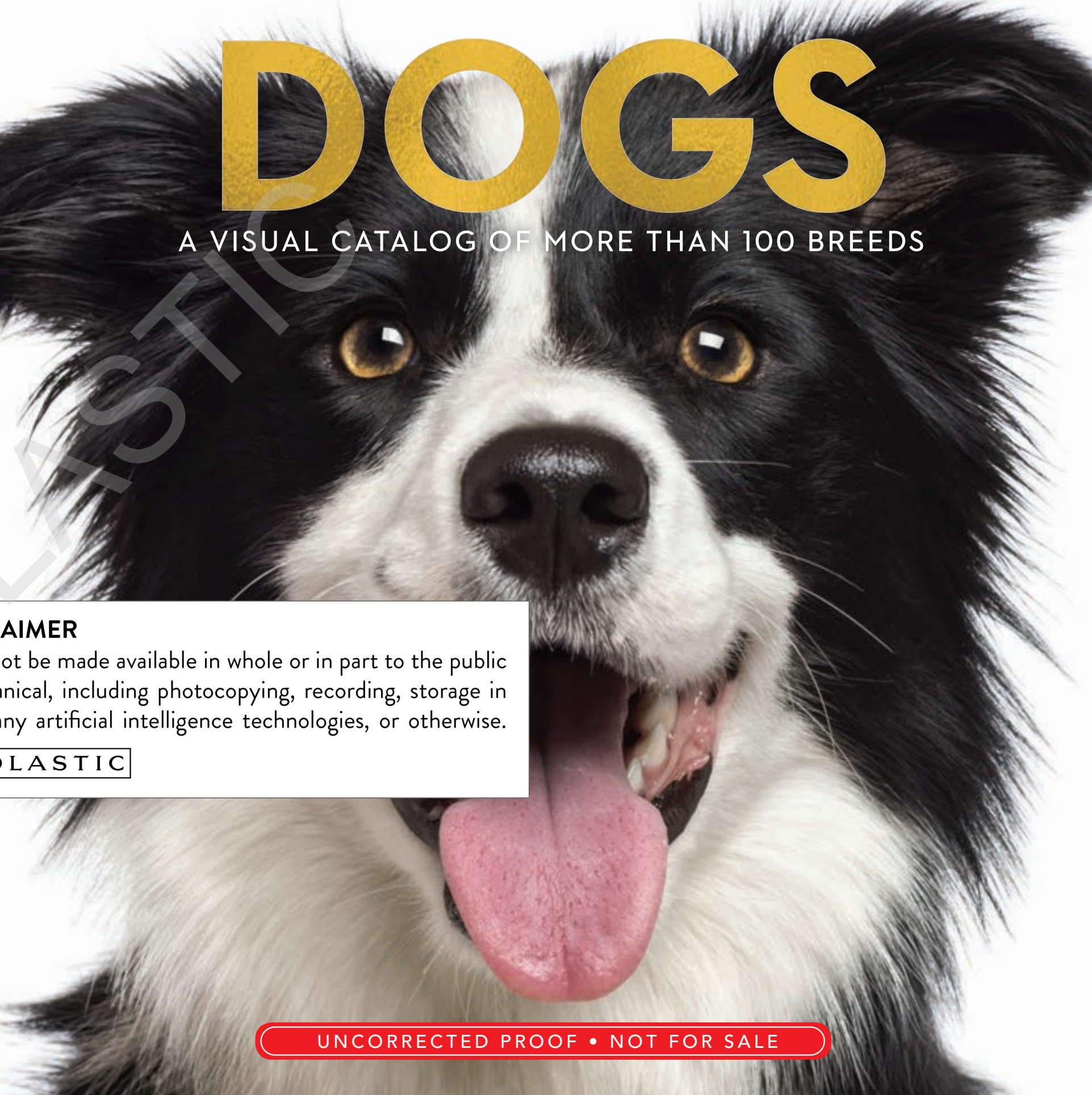
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DOGS

A VISUAL CATALOG OF MORE THAN 100 BREEDS

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DOGS DOGS

The best pets
Most breeds of dog make good pets, but in this chapter you will meet some of the very best. They treat family members as their pack and are fiercely loyal and protective. They have a calm temperament and are able to cope with the excitement of children of all ages and the hurly-burly of a busy household. It is important to choose a family dog that suits the family's energy levels and is the right size for the home.



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Earliest dog?

The dog is the oldest domesticated animal. This doglike canid skull, which is 33,500 years old, was found in a cave in the Altai Mountains of southern Siberia. It is similar to that of fully domesticated dogs from Greenland, which are about 1,000 years old, and is among the oldest evidence of early dogs found so far.

THE DOG

Dogs play a vital role in our lives today, whether they are affectionate family pets, efficient working animals, or loving companions. They provide support to those who are battling illness, help to stave off loneliness, and encourage physical contact and exercise where it is most needed.



Ancient dog

This small, intelligent dog traces its history back to very ancient ancestors. The Basenji, from Central Africa, has changed very little over thousands of years.



Ancient cultures

Dogs had a special place in ancient cultures. In Greek mythology, three-headed dog Cerberus guarded the gates of Hades, the underworld. In ancient Mexican myths, dogs were guides and companions in the afterlife. Many hundreds of figures of reddish dogs have been found in tombs and homes in West Mexico. This one dates from 100 BCE to 300 CE.

Tail set

How the tail attaches to the croup

Croup

The rump or rear end of the dog

Loin

Runs from end of the rib cage to the pelvis

Back

Runs from the shoulders to end of the rib cage

Tail

Either set high or set low, and may be feathered, as here

Upper thigh

Part of the hind leg above the knee

Lower thigh

Part of the hind leg from the knee to the hock

Hock

Joint at a sharp angle at the back of the hind leg

Hind foot

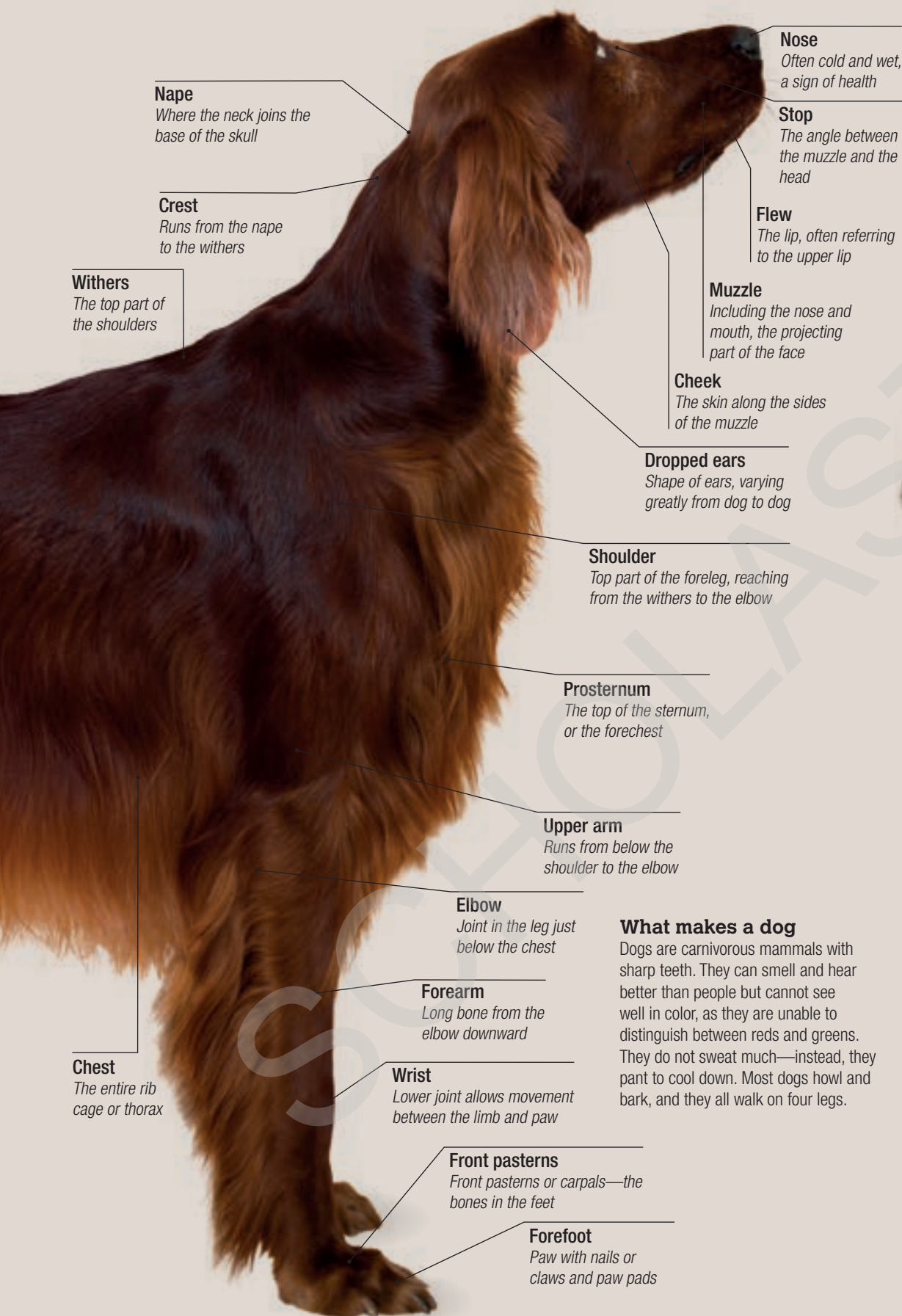
Paw with nails or claws and paw pads

Abdomen (belly)

The belly from the end of the rib cage to the tail

Rear pasterns

Rear pasterns or carpals—the bones in the feet



DOGS AND THEIR RELATIVES

The ancestor of all the dogs in the world is a now-extinct wolf from Asia. The difference between the DNA of wolves and dogs is tiny. However, there are many canids, or doglike animals, close to the wolf and others more distant. Welcome to the dog family!



Dingo



Close relatives

The gray wolf is the closest living relative to the dog, with DNA that is very similar and shared characteristics.

What makes a dog

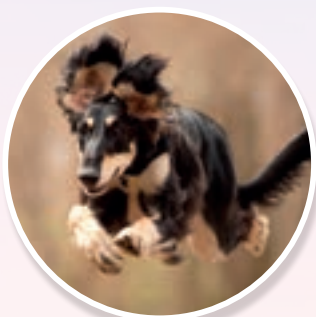
Dogs are carnivorous mammals with sharp teeth. They can smell and hear better than people but cannot see well in color, as they are unable to distinguish between reds and greens. They do not sweat much—instead, they pant to cool down. Most dogs howl and bark, and they all walk on four legs.

More distant relatives

There are 38 species in the canid family, so these are only some of them. Many are currently under threat of extinction.

THE DOG AND US

The most important things that dogs give to humans are unfailing love and loyalty. To find your perfect canine friend, consider visiting an animal shelter, rescue organization, or responsible breeder. Each offers a chance to welcome a loving dog into your home and heart. Humans have bred dogs over thousands of years to achieve particular characteristics such as speed, gentleness, or a keen sense of smell. This book explores the most popular and fascinating dog breeds.



SIGHTHOUNDS

Known for their speed and superb vision, this group of dogs was developed to chase and catch quick-moving prey. Their narrow heads give them a great field of vision and they have slender, aerodynamic bodies. One sighthound, the Greyhound (see page 93), is the fastest dog of all.



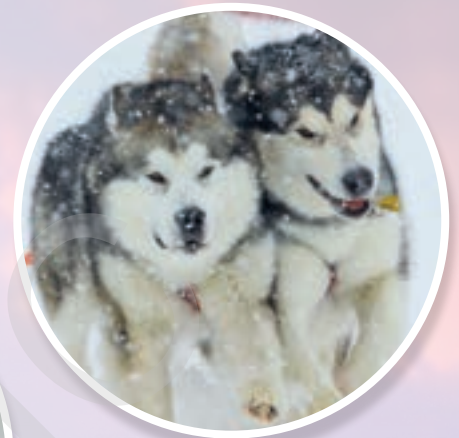
GUARDIANS

Some dogs have a natural instinct to protect. They act spontaneously as guardians of livestock or to guard property against intruders. They consider owners to be part of their packs and will always protect their human family.



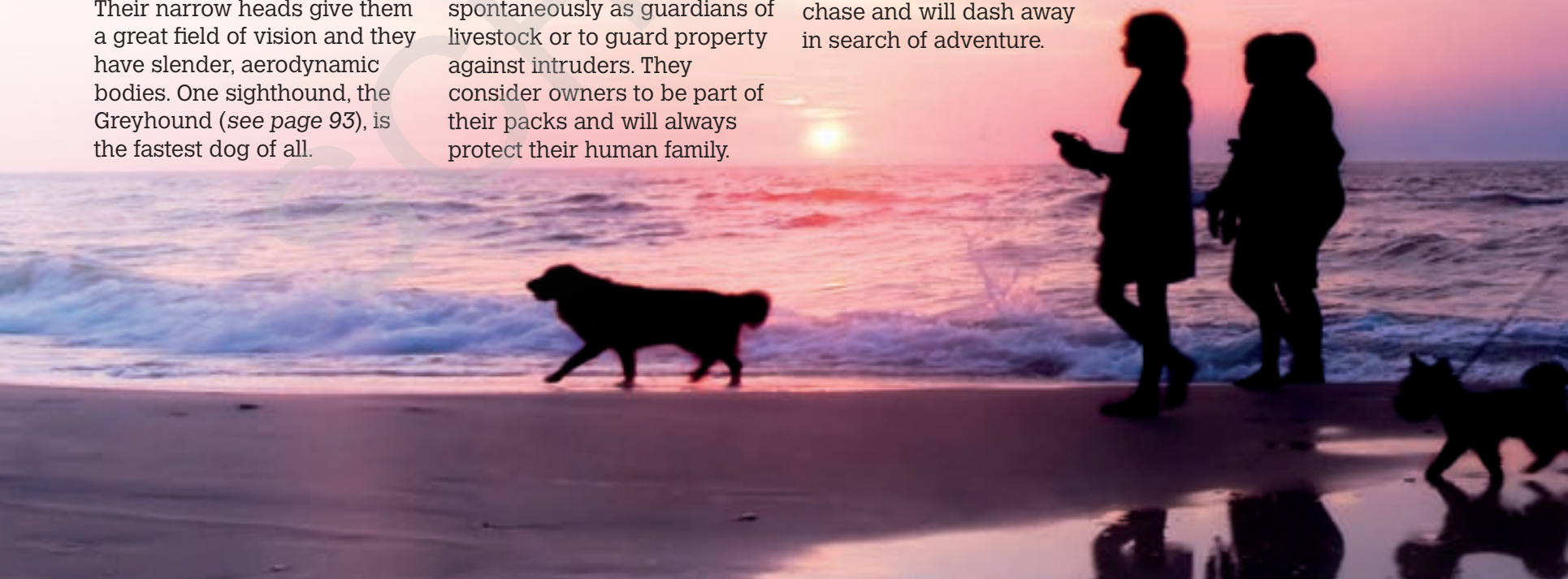
PEST CONTROLLERS

Terriers may be used to help control rats and other vermin that humans consider pests. They are small to medium sized, many with a harsh wiry outer coat to cope with tangled undergrowth or tunnels underground. They are very popular small pets but need careful watching because they love the chase and will dash away in search of adventure.



HAULERS

For many people all over the world, dogs haul heavy loads in difficult conditions. The most famous are probably the teams of sled dogs, such as the Alaskan Malamute (see page 76), that pull sleds carrying goods and people over snow and ice. Large, strong dogs, such as the St. Bernard (see page 36), have also traditionally been used to move heavy loads.





SCENTHOUNDS

These dogs were bred as hunting dogs that could follow a scent. The breeds are physically very different, from the Beagle (see page 28) to the Dachshund (see page 30) to one of the most impressive, the Bloodhound (see page 98). Today, all these dogs make loving family companions.



RETRIEVERS

These dogs were bred to retrieve game for hunters. There are six retriever breeds and they are all soft-mouthed, which means they are able to carry things in their mouth without damaging them. Retrievers are good on land and in water and are excellent swimmers. They all make great family dogs, and the Labrador Retriever (see page 14) is one of the world's favorite pets.



HERDERS

Throughout history, people have relied on working dogs to herd and protect their livestock, such as sheep or cattle. The herding breeds, such as collies, cattle dogs, and sheepdogs, are intelligent, quick, and agile, and able to work on most terrains and in all weather. Many of these dogs are adept at fending off predators such as wolves.

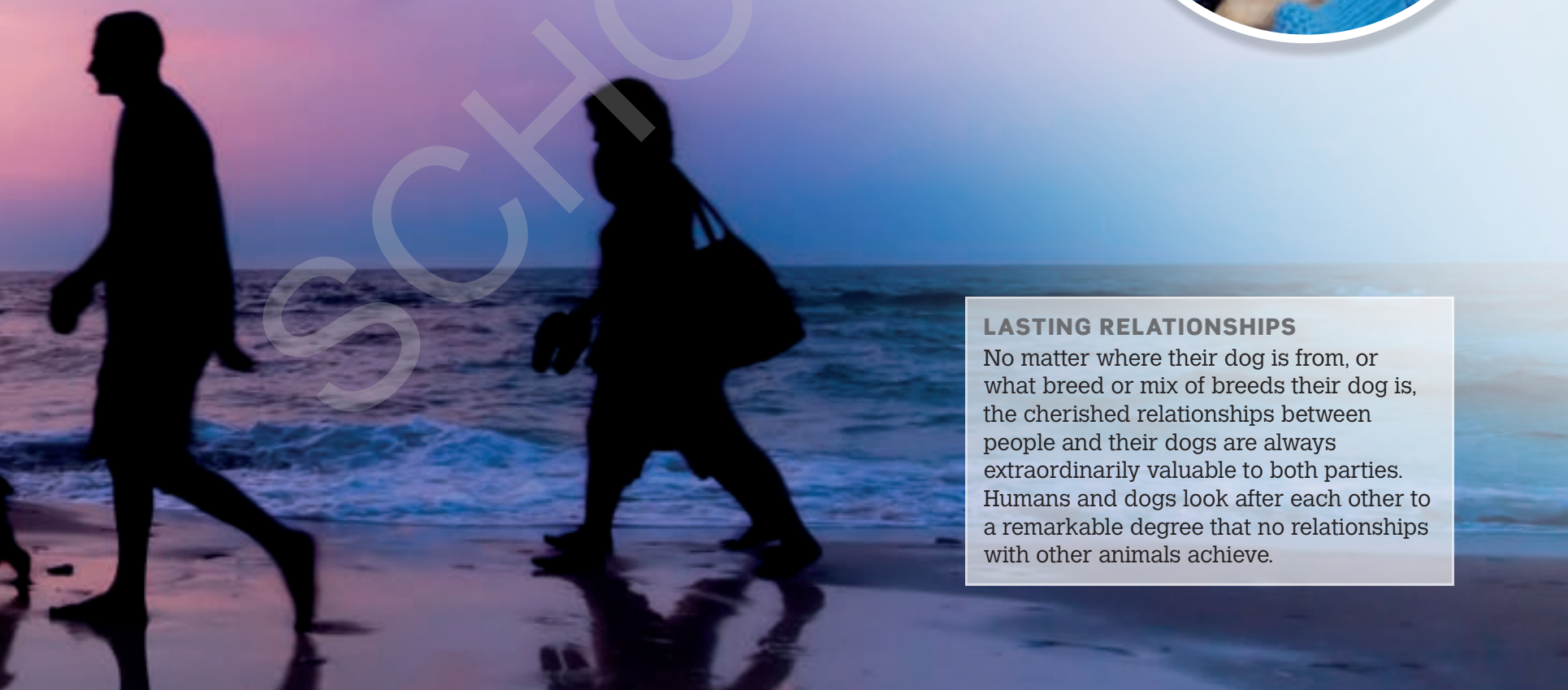


ASSISTANCE DOGS

Dogs excel as companions to people who need assistance. Many different breeds work with people who are blind, people who are deaf, and people with disabilities. Some dogs provide support for those with a mental or emotional illness. Dogs change, and perhaps may save, the lives of their owners.

LASTING RELATIONSHIPS

No matter where their dog is from, or what breed or mix of breeds their dog is, the cherished relationships between people and their dogs are always extraordinarily valuable to both parties. Humans and dogs look after each other to a remarkable degree that no relationships with other animals achieve.





TOP



DOGS

Choosing a dog

People get dogs for all sorts of reasons. They may want the best companion that they have ever had—to love and play with, to groom and care for. They may want a dog to help them with their work but also be a family dog that is good with small children. They may need a dog that will fiercely protect property or livestock but be gentle and loving as well. In this chapter you will find all these traits in some of the most popular dogs.

FRENCH BULLDOG

NON-SPORTING GROUP

This is a small dog with a big personality and large ears that makes a perfect companion. It is strong and sturdy with a muscular frame and has become very popular as a pet. Bred in the late 19th century in France from a small bulldog-type English dog, it was named Bouledogue Français. The French dog originally had rose-shaped ears, but today's breed is famous for its "bat ears."



Early favorite

The French Bulldog crossed the Atlantic to North America in 1885 as part of a breeding program that made the dog a favorite with wealthy people in New York. This is Mrs. Malcolm Straus with Beau Athos, her prizewinner in the French Bulldog class in a kennel show in 1912.

Origins

During the mid-1800s, lacemakers in Nottingham, England, used toy bulldogs to keep their laps warm while they worked. When machinery replaced their jobs in the Industrial Revolution, many lacemakers moved to France, where the French Bulldog was bred. It soon became a favorite of city dwellers.

Dwayne **"The Rock"** Johnson works out **in the gym** with his French Bulldog **Hobbs**.

Playful explorers

A litter of Frenchie puppies is usually two to four in number. They open their eyes when they are 8–12 days old and start exploring at 3–4 weeks.



Distinctive face

These dogs are very brachycephalic. This means that they, like the English Bulldog (see page 50), have a short nose and broad skull. They have a pronounced underbite and eyes that are set wide apart.

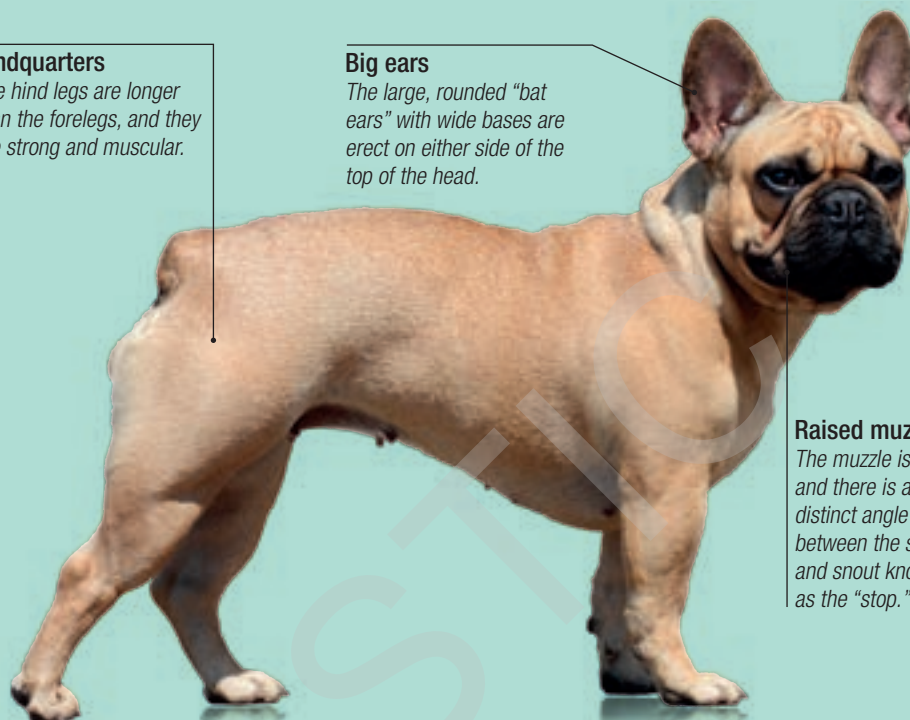


Hindquarters

The hind legs are longer than the forelegs, and they are strong and muscular.

Big ears

The large, rounded “bat ears” with wide bases are erect on either side of the top of the head.



Raised muzzle

The muzzle is short and there is a distinct angle between the skull and snout known as the “stop.”

Origin: France

Height: 11–13 ins (28–33 cm)

Weight: under 28 lbs (12.7 kg)

Life span: 10–12 years

Main colors: cream and white, fawn, or any combination

Strong features

The French Bulldog has a very expressive face with large eyes and a short muzzle set in a wide, round head. It has a compact body with a heavily muscled chest and a smooth coat.



No swimming

Even though they love water, Frenchies cannot swim. Their flat faces and short noses make it hard for them to breathe in water without tilting their heads very high. Their stocky bodies and short legs make it hard for them to float. They should never be left alone around water that's too deep for them.

Family friend

The Frenchie is considered an excellent family pet. It is adaptable, playful, and affectionate, getting along with children of all ages. Its friendly and gentle temperament allows it to adapt easily to change. It may sometimes be stubborn, although normally it is eager to please. Although it does not bark much, it is alert and makes a good watchdog.



Artists' muse

The French Bulldog's distinctive looks and playful personality have inspired many artists. Both Degas and Toulouse-Lautrec painted portraits of this appealing dog.



Colorways

The first Labradors were more often black than any other color, and today black remains the most common coat color. Yellow and chocolate emerged over the decades and became popular. Others, such as silver, champagne, and charcoal, are not recognized by the American Kennel Club.

LABRADOR RETRIEVER

SPORTING GROUP

An intelligent dog, this is one of the most popular breeds in the world. It can be trained to become almost anything you want it to be, from adored pet to efficient working dog, from patient guide to untiring search and rescue dog. It is amiable, outgoing, and very gentle, and is often described as one of the most family friendly of all dog breeds.



Superb swimmer

This naturally good swimmer relishes taking part in anything to do with water, including competitions. And like all good retrievers, it will fetch anything and return it to its owner.

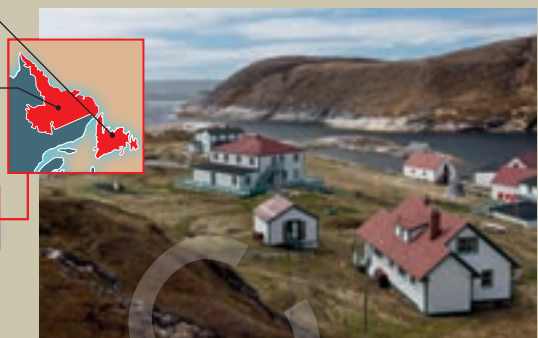


A gentle pet

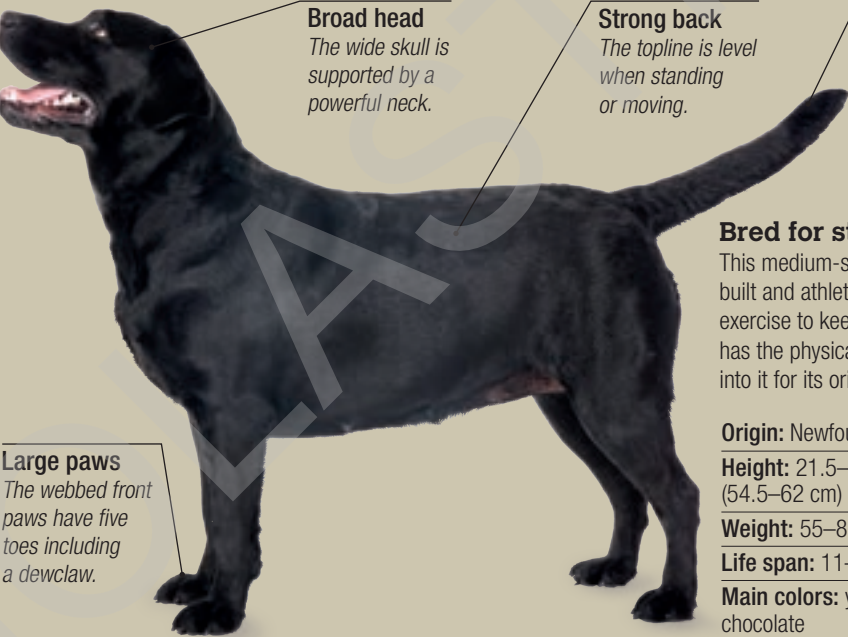
This intelligent, energetic, trainable dog is not only a great working dog, but makes the ideal family pet because of its gentle, affectionate nature. A Labrador Retriever will not make a good guard dog, however, as it is very friendly and will try to make friends with any strangers!

Canadian origins

Labrador Retrievers were bred from black dogs found in Newfoundland on the east coast of Canada. There, fishermen used small water dogs to retrieve fish and nets from the icy seas. The dogs' thick coats repelled water and they were excellent swimmers.



Coastline of Newfoundland and Labrador



Broad head

The wide skull is supported by a powerful neck.

Strong back

The topline is level when standing or moving.

Thick tail

The characteristic "otter" tail is covered with short, dense hairs.

Large paws

The webbed front paws have five toes including a dewclaw.

Bred for strength

This medium-sized dog is strongly built and athletic, and needs lots of exercise to keep it in shape. The dog has the physical stamina that was bred into it for its original working role.

Origin: Newfoundland, Canada

Height: 21.5–24.5 ins (54.5–62 cm)

Weight: 55–80 lbs (25–36 kg)

Life span: 11–13 years

Main colors: yellow, black, chocolate



Puppy trainee

Guide dogs

Labradors make some of the best guide dogs for people with sight loss or people who are disabled. The lifelong training begins when the dogs are just puppies of seven or eight weeks.



Helping to negotiate city streets



Inspiring canine

Endal the Retriever was the assistance dog for navy veteran Allen Parton, who, inspired by him, launched the charity Hounds for Heroes. Parton's injuries meant he could not speak at first, so they communicated with sign language, in which Endal learned more than 1,000 commands. And Endal was "best man" when Allen and his wife remarried in 2002.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER

SPORTING GROUP

“Goldies” or “Goldens” like nothing more in life than to please, which means they are easy to train and make perfect pets. They share a common ancestor with the Labrador Retriever, but they are a distinct breed, with a unique personality and a gentle, sensitive nature. As well as their beautiful golden coats, they are known for their ever-wagging tail—an outward expression of their friendly, gentle, and playful character.



Early days

In 1868, the Scottish Lord Tweedmouth mated this yellow wavy-coated retriever named Nous with a Tweed Water Spaniel named Belle. This created a foundation litter of three yellow wavy-coated Golden Retriever puppies appropriately named Crocus, Cowslip, and Primrose. In 1882, the first Golden Retriever left Scotland to travel to Fort McKavett, Texas, to become a strong working dog on the Rocking Chair Ranch there. Other Goldens were later sent all over the world.



Puppy fur

The puppies often have lighter-colored soft coats that become more dense and darken with age—for example, from light cream to rich golden.

Sizable litter

A single litter can be anything up to 12 puppies at a time, although 5–6 puppies are the average. The gentle, happy nature of the breed, apparent from the youngest age, is carried through to fully grown adulthood.



A good run

Golden Retrievers are very active, with energy to burn, and enjoy running at full tilt. They need a lot of exercise to keep fit and avoid gaining weight, which is something they do quite quickly. They were bred as working dogs that could tackle difficult, hilly terrain for long distances, so will take most physical challenges in stride.

Friendly helpmate

With its bright, intelligent eyes and open mouth, this dog always looks as though it is smiling. It is quick to learn and is ideal as a guide dog or for a therapy role. It is also used for search and rescue.

Origin: Scotland, UK

Height: 21.5–24 ins (54.5–61 cm)

Weight: 55–75 lbs (25–34 kg)

Life span: 10–12 years

Main colors: dark golden, golden, light golden

Drop ears

The gentle V-shaped ears flop down over the ear canals.

Expressive tail

This tends to swish from side to side as the dog walks along.

Dense coat

The double coat protects the skin from heat and cold and is water-repellent.

Golden Retrievers consistently **rank** in the **top three** most **popular** dogs in the **United States.**

Family dog

This is a true family dog with a good-natured temperament around young and old alike. Happiest when in the company of its humans, it is highly sociable, and perfectly suits a large, active family.



Country colors

The gold color varies greatly in this breed. However, there are three colors that can be associated with different countries. In Canada, the breed's fur tends to be darker, with a bit more red. In the US, it tends to be more honey-colored; and in the UK, cream-colored is most likely.



Canada: darker

USA: honeyed

UK: cream

Champion fetchers

Golden Retrievers love nothing more than to fetch! The world record for the most tennis balls held in the mouth by a dog at one time is six, achieved by Finley in Canandaigua, New York, in 2020.



Starting young



Fetching as a joint effort!



An underwater photograph of a Golden Retriever swimming in a pool. The dog's legs and paws are visible, with the water appearing clear and blue. The dog's fur is a golden-brown color. The paws are large and webbed, with visible claws. The water is slightly rippled, and the lighting is bright, creating a clear view of the dog's limbs.

Dog or dolphin?

The Golden Retriever is a strong swimmer. Its double coat resists cold water very effectively, it can hold its breath underwater for more than 10 seconds, and it is able to dive to depths of 15 ft (4.5 m). Long periods in cold water are not good for any dog, and vets recommend that the time is limited to 10 minutes or there may be a danger of hypothermia or frostbite. However, this is a water-loving breed that has fun swimming.

GERMAN SHEPHERD

HERDING GROUP

In 1899, a German cavalry officer, Captain Max von Stephanitz, registered Horand von Grafrath as the first true German Shepherd. This strong and courageous dog, bred for herding, remains a working dog today, as a guard dog, guide dog, and aid to the police and military. German Shepherds are intelligent, agile, and quick on their paws. They learn a new task after five repetitions and respond to commands correctly 95 percent of the time, according to Stanley Coren, an American professor of canine psychology.



Smart moves

This animal is a fast and intelligent learner. Here, a German Shepherd has found a favorite ball hidden under a purple cone. This exercise is part of training aimed at stimulating the dog's brain and improving its memory skills.

Dark eyes

These are almond shaped and usually brown in color.

Long back

The croup gradually slopes down toward the tail.

“Old Shep,” recorded by **Elvis Presley** in 1956, was **written** about a **German Shepherd** named **Hoover**.

Straight ears

The erect, pointed ears are listening all the time.

Origin: Germany

Height: 22–26 ins (56–66 cm)

Weight: 50–90 lbs (22.5–41 kg)

Life span: 12–14 years

Main colors: sable, black and tan, black and red

Strong frame

This deep-chested dog has a long, muscular body that is longer than it is tall. It is covered in a dense double coat—a straight or slightly wavy outer coat and a soft undercoat.



Playful puppy

Only a couple of months old, and weighing around 18 lbs (8 kg), this quick learner is inquisitive and unafraid, and will explore everything and everybody. It is very affectionate and likes to be kept busy. On average, the size of a litter is 8 puppies, but there may be anything up to 15 puppies.

Intelligent appeal

Although it is famous for its herding ability, this dog makes an excellent pet when well trained. It is loyal, forming a strong bond with its humans, and it is protective, which makes it a good guard dog. Playful and athletic, it is a great companion for both old and young.

Great variety

All German Shepherds' skulls slope down smoothly to their long, wedge-shaped muzzles. However, the color, markings, and length of fur around the neck varies considerably.



Presidential winner

Franklin D. Roosevelt and his daughter, Anna, with their prizewinning German Shepherd, "Chief of the Mohawk." They are shown attending a Washington Kennel Club show in 1932, a year before Roosevelt became president.

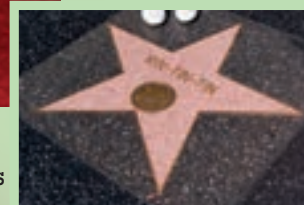
Canine film star

Rescued on the battlefield in France during World War I, Rin-Tin-Tin was taken to Hollywood. He appeared in 27 films from 1922 to 1931, and became the first non-human to be given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.



On the red carpet

Rin-Tin-Tin's star



On patrol

German Shepherds are considered one of the best breeds to work with police. They remain calm under pressure, and are easily trained, loyal to their humans, and hard workers.

POODLE

NON-SPORTING GROUP

Whether standard, miniature, or toy, this is a very popular dog. Eager to please and adaptable, it is also smart, quick to learn commands, and has a good memory. The word Poodle comes from the German word *pudelhund*, which means “splash dog,” and Poodles are first-class swimmers. Athletic and easy to train, they have a strong sense of smell—some are even taught to find truffles.



Early advertising

The appealing nature of a Poodle has often been used in advertising to attract buyers to a product. This French poster from 1898 shows a Poodle weight lifting two tins of Graisse Windsor, a rustproof grease for use on car engines and gears.

“I have the **street smarts** and survival **skills** of, like, a **Poodle**.”

Jennifer Lawrence

Poodle puppies

These tiny toy Poodle pups will be 11 ins (28 cm) tall when fully grown. A “petite” ancestor of the Poodle was first created by breeding small dogs to each other in the 1400s, and they became the favored pets of many wealthy people in France, including Louis XVI. During the 18th century, many were carried as hand warmers in their owners’ large sleeves and became known as “sleeve dogs.”

Unique coating

Poodles are known for their naturally thick, curly fur that often looks and feels like lambswool.

With a large variety of coat colors, these dogs are popular because they shed very little fur. However, this means that they need to have their coats clipped regularly, even if they are not taking part in dog shows.

Classic standard Poodle with hair trimmed for showing



Standing tall
The long, elegant neck and straight back lead to, in this case, a curled tail.



Heads up
The rounded head has floppy ears and an elongated muzzle.

Origin: Germany
Height: over 15 ins (38 cm)
Weight: 40–70 lbs (18–32 kg)
Life span: 10–18 years
Main colors: black, brown, white, silver, café au lait

Hidden paws
The long, straight legs are covered in fur, which hides the small, dainty feet.

Standard Poodle
Standard Poodles are gracefully built. They have a thick coat with two layers: a wiry outer one and a dense undercoat. If long enough, the coat will form tight ringlets difficult to untangle.



Cockapoo

Doodles
These dogs are not purebred. They are mixed breeds (see pages 68–69) and are becoming increasingly popular. The Cockapoo is a Poodle crossed with a Cocker Spaniel, while the Labradoodle is a cross with a Labrador Retriever.



Labradoodle

Standard Poodle with shaved face



Standard and miniature

Toy

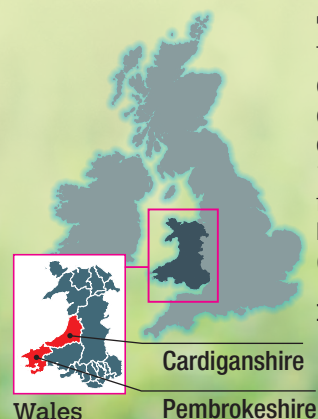
Great playmates

A friendly nature combined with a fun-loving temperament and lots of energy makes Poodles of all sizes excellent as family pets. They are very good with children and mix well with other animals.

PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI

HERDING GROUP

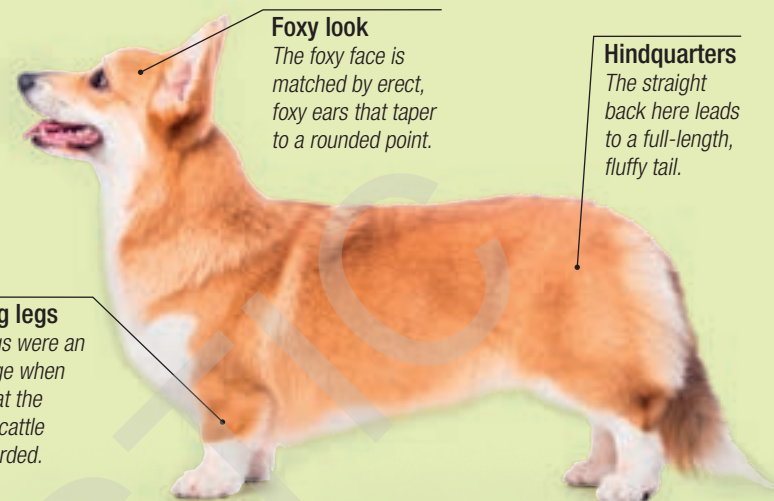
This lively, happy little dog is a great companion, friendly and outgoing, and a world-class herder. In legend, it is said that the Pembroke was used by the fairies for herding, pulling their carriages, and riding into battle. One day, human children found the dog, which they thought was a fox, and discovered its agility and quick responses made it perfect for herding their cows without getting injured.



The Welsh corgis

The breed had its origins in cattle-herding dogs that needed great stamina for the distances they had to cover in the hilly Welsh countryside. One breed was split in two in 1934 and recognized separately for coming from two different areas in Wales: Pembrokeshire and Cardiganshire (now known as Ceredigion).

British Isles



Foxy look

The foxy face is matched by erect, foxy ears that taper to a rounded point.

Hindquarters

The straight back here leads to a full-length, fluffy tail.

Working legs

Short legs were an advantage when nipping at the heels of cattle being herded.

Alert to everything

A little dog with a big bark, the corgi is very protective and tenacious with a stubborn streak, which makes it a good guardian. It has a long, low-slung body with straight fur covering a dense undercoat.

Origin: Wales

Height: 10–12 ins (25–30 cm)

Weight: 28–30 lbs (12.5–13.5 kg)

Life span: 12–13 years

Main colors: black and tan, fawn, red, sable





Growing up

These two sturdy puppies will reach their full height and weight when they are around a year old. The breed has four standard basic colors, usually with white markings on the legs, chest, muzzle, and belly. Some have a narrow white blaze on their heads, like the puppy on the right. The rarest of the colors is sable—a mix of black, red, and brown, like the puppy on the left.



Royal companions

In 1944, the future Queen Elizabeth II was given a Pembroke named Susan as an 18th birthday present. From then until she died in 2022, she raised 14 generations of Pembroke Corgis all descended from Susan. In the 1970s, her sister Princess Margaret's Dachshund Pipkin and one of the Queen's Corgis named Tiny produced the first Dorgi.



Pembroke and Cardigan Corgis

The two breeds are usually about the same height and have similarly shaped heads, but there are some real differences between the two breeds. The Pembroke's ears are pointed and erect, while the Cardigan's are larger and more rounded. The Cardigan is slightly larger, stockier, and more heavily boned, and its hindquarters slope more.



Small but speedy

This Corgi was bred for activity and needs to be kept busy, with plenty of room in which to run around. It is a sprinter, not a distance runner, but the short, sturdy legs enable it to run at a surprising speed of 20 mph (32 km/h) or more! Some Pembroke Corgis are working dogs that are still used to herd. Their speed combined with their enthusiasm also makes them ideal for both herding and agility competitions, where they are crowd-pleasing favorites.

ROTTWEILER

WORKING GROUP

The Rottweiler has much in common with the mastiffs valued by Roman legions for their strength in herding and protecting the camps from thieves or bandits. The Rottweiler breed was established in the town of Rottweil, Germany, in 1901, where the dog had previously been used to herd and drive cattle. With the right training, this is an excellent and active working dog. Its loyalty and intelligence also make it a great family pet.



Puppy training

To find the playfulness and gentleness of this breed, you have only to look at the puppies. These are people-loving dogs, easily trained at a young age to control any aggressive behaviors and turn them into perfect pets. They are affectionate toward anyone who is in "their pack," including young children. If they are treated calmly and gently they will return the favor.



Pulling power

Rottweilers thrive on stimulation, and regular exercise helps them channel any excess energy. These dogs are powerful enough to pull very heavy loads over long distances at a steady pace, so are often used to do this, frequently taking part in competitions. This one is training for sledding races that take place on winter snow in Latvia in northeastern Europe.



Heavy head

The broad head has a large distance between the ears.

Active body

The compact, athletic body needs lots of space and exercise.

Bite force

The powerful jaws can inflict one of the strongest bites of any dog.

Expressive tail

The tail usually hangs down, but it is held over the back when the dog is on the alert.

Alert stance

This is a robust and powerful dog, its muscular body covered in a short, shiny black coat with tan markings. The front legs stand straight under the body.

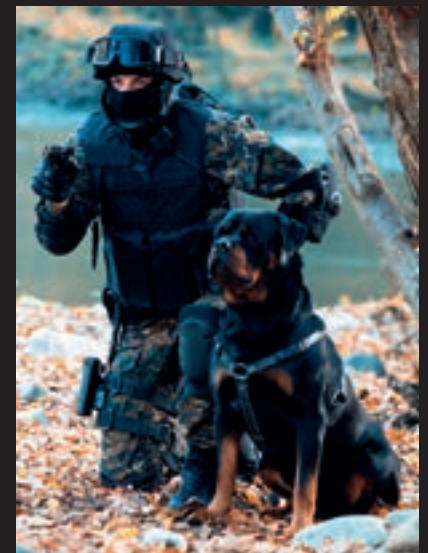
Origin: Germany

Height: 22–27 ins
(56–68.5 cm)

Weight: 80–135 lbs
(36–61 kg)

Life span: 9–10 years

Main colors: black and rust, black and mahogany, black and tan



Asset to the forces

Rottweilers want nothing more than to please their owners and trainers. Their intelligence, strength, and stamina make them a breed that is increasingly used for patrolling and other roles in the military and police special forces.

Flexible talents

Known affectionately as Rotties, these are among the most popular dogs for a reason. They are dogs that feed off their humans' energy and they love to give and receive affection. Despite their imposing looks, they are calm and confident when trained and socialized. Among many other activities, their intelligent willingness to learn makes them excellent guide dogs and therapy dogs.





BEAGLE

HOUND GROUP

Loving but independent, this sturdy little hound has great stamina and enjoys any opportunity to run. It loves the company of its “pack” (its family) and will not enjoy being alone for long periods. In addition, it has a remarkable sense of smell that is at least 10,000 times stronger than that of humans. Scientists are today investigating the use of this ability to identify cancers in humans.

Naturally inquisitive

The Beagle's ancestors can be traced back to ancient Greece, where scent dogs of a similar size and type were used for hunting small mammals. Today's Beagles have high energy and are built for long expeditions. They are happy with life in the city or countryside as long as they get plenty of exercise and places to explore with their nose to the ground. They are good escape artists, loving to climb and dig, so their owners need to keep an eye on them and ensure any gardens are safe.



Hall of fame

The world's most famous Beagle was created by cartoonist Charles M. Schulz in 1950. Snoopy, the dog in the comic strip *Peanuts*, has found his way into the hearts of people all over the world. He is Charlie Brown's Beagle and has a rich fantasy life in which he is, among other things, an author, an attorney, and a World War I flying ace.



Sniffer dog

This Beagle works in the baggage claim area of O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. It is a member of a team of dogs, known as the Beagle Brigade, that sniffs out banned food products arriving in shipments and luggage. Other Beagles are trained to sniff out bombs and drugs.

Bouncing puppy

From the time it is a puppy, this dog is inquisitive and energetic, loving to run, play, and jump. It is a great family companion that likes to take part in every activity and thrives in an environment where it can run around. Beagles are very sociable, happy to sit down and watch television with the family. They also get along well with other dogs and cats.

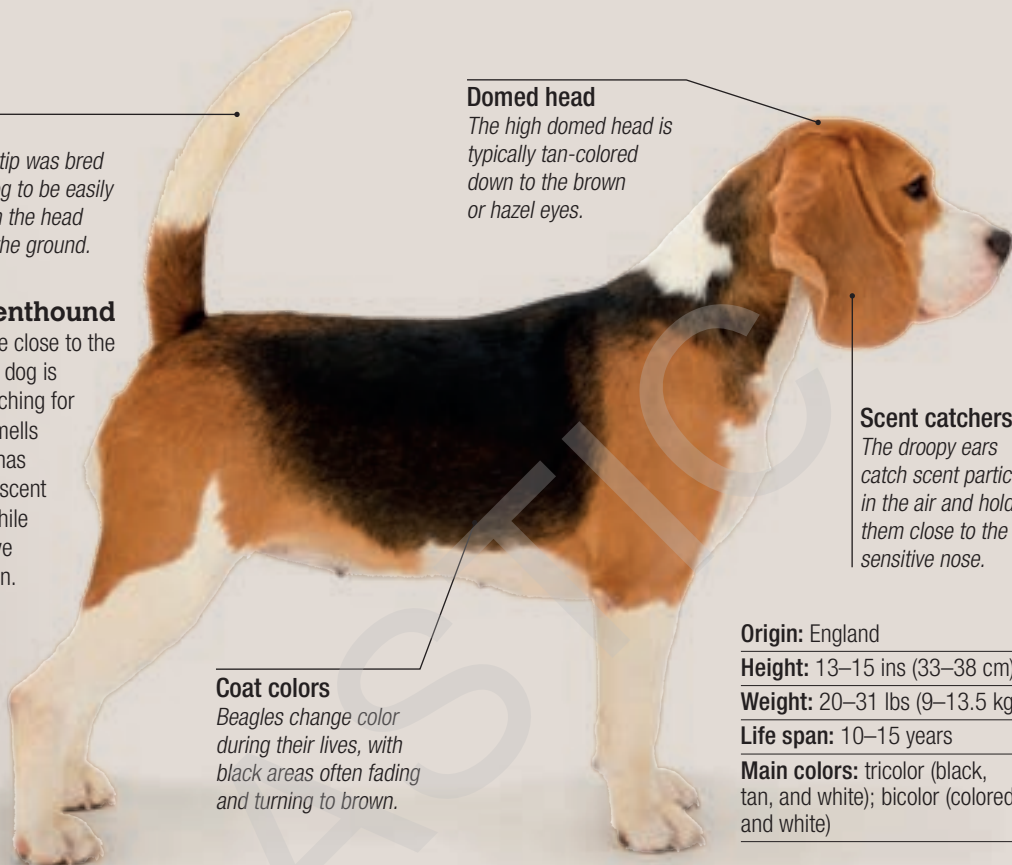


Whip tail

The white tip was bred into the dog to be easily seen when the head was near the ground.

True scenthound

With its nose close to the ground, this dog is always searching for intriguing smells to follow. It has 225 million scent receptors while humans have only 5 million.



Domed head

The high domed head is typically tan-colored down to the brown or hazel eyes.

Scent catchers

The droopy ears catch scent particles in the air and hold them close to the sensitive nose.

Coat colors

Beagles change color during their lives, with black areas often fading and turning to brown.

Origin: England

Height: 13–15 ins (33–38 cm)

Weight: 20–31 lbs (9–13.5 kg)

Life span: 10–15 years

Main colors: tricolor (black, tan, and white); bicolor (colored and white)

Snoopy was **loosely based** on a black-and-white dog named **Spike** that **Charles M. Schulz** had when he was a **teenager**.

Communication

Beagles are very vocal and make different sounds that are quite distinctive. They have a standard short bark, a yodel-like baying, and they also howl (*right*). The bark is an alert, for example, to someone knocking at the door. The baying is normally a response to hearing another dog and having a desire to join in. The howl is to alert everyone that they have found something.



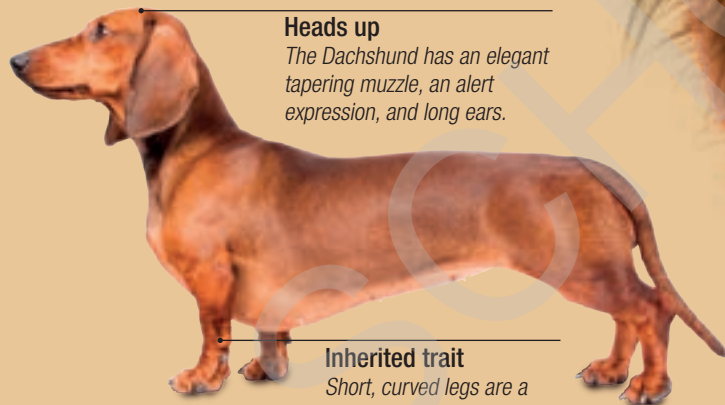
DACHSHUND

HOUND GROUP

A small breed with a long body and short legs, the Dachshund is affectionately nicknamed “wiener dog” or “sausage dog” due to its shape, and is today one of the most popular of all pets. It is extremely adventurous and, given the chance, will disappear down rabbit holes when out for a walk. It loves people and attention, so needs lots of both!

“Nothing will turn a man’s **home** into a **castle** more quickly than a **Dachshund.**”

Queen Victoria



Heads up

The Dachshund has an elegant tapering muzzle, an alert expression, and long ears.

Inherited trait

Short, curved legs are a unique feature of this breed.

One and only

The Dachshund has a long-bodied appearance and a compact, well-muscled body. Its short legs mean it travels close enough to the ground to pick up and easily follow the scents of the animals it was designed to hunt.

Origin: Germany

Height: 8–9 ins (20–22 cm)

Weight: 16–32 lbs (7–14.5 kg)

Life span: 12–16 years

Main colors: black and tan, red, dappled/merle, chocolate

Longhaired



Quiet time

Dachshunds may have up to six puppies in a litter. These are the smallest hounds, so naturally they have small puppies, which may weigh as little as 0.5 lbs (225 g) and be only 3–4 ins (7.5–10 cm) tall when born. The puppies quickly develop a loud bark like their parents, and they are lively, playful, and clever.

Standard

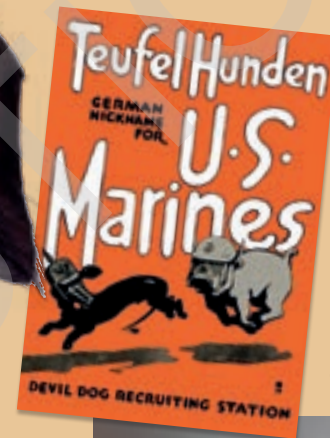


Miniature

Little and large

There are two sizes of Dachshund that are both less than 9 ins (22 cm) tall. However, miniatures are much more lightweight at 11 lbs (5 kg) or less, compared with the standard's weight of 16–32 lbs (7–14.5 kg).

Wirehaired



Dog wars

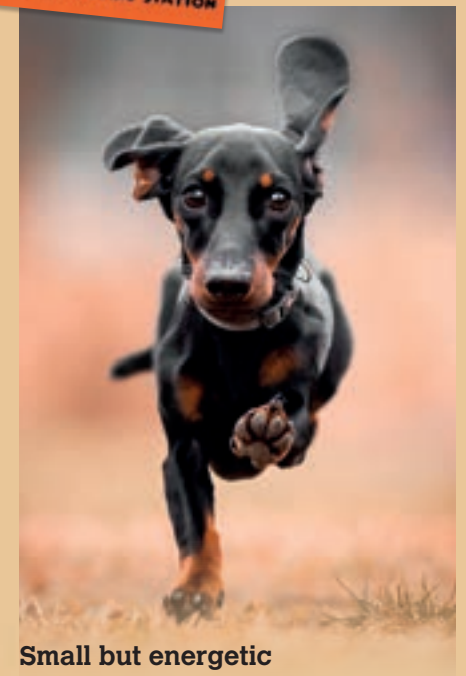
During World War I, German soldiers referred to American Marines as *teufel hunden*, or “devil dogs.” In return, the Marines printed this recruitment poster showing a US Marine Bulldog chasing a German Dachshund.

Smoothhaired



Coat types

Dachshunds have three coat types. The longhaired's coat is soft and straight or wavy, and longest under the neck, under the body, and behind the legs. The smoothhaired's coat is dense and short. And the wirehaired's coat is short and harsh with a dense undercoat and a beard on the chin. The breed was originally smoothhaired, but the wirehaired variety was bred to cope better in the brambles and briars of the countryside.



Small but energetic

This is a vivacious dog that loves to exercise. Despite its short legs, a fully grown Dachshund can run at up to 20 mph (32 km/h) in short bursts, but cannot maintain that speed over a long distance. They need plenty of physical activity to keep their back muscles strong and prevent any injury as they age.



Loyal pet

This pointer was bred both as a sporting and a family dog. It is playful, intelligent, and good with children and other dogs, particularly when it is raised with them. It is also an affectionate and loyal companion, but has boundless energy, loving to run and play, so needs plenty of exercise to keep it out of trouble.

GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER

SPORTING GROUP

With its speed, athleticism, and endurance, this dog is an all-around favorite. It has a keen sense of smell and is intelligent, eager to please, and easily trained. It has a friendly, playful nature and forms a strong bond with its owner or family. This is the dream companion for any outdoor enthusiast who loves long hikes in nature.



Agile experts

Their breeding makes these active dogs great for taking part in agility competitions. They have fun navigating a range of obstacles such as jumps and tunnels.



Puppy appeal

On average, the females have litters of 8–12 puppies, and they make great mothers. The puppies are born weighing around 24 oz (340 g), but quickly double their weight. At six weeks, they are full of life and very playful.

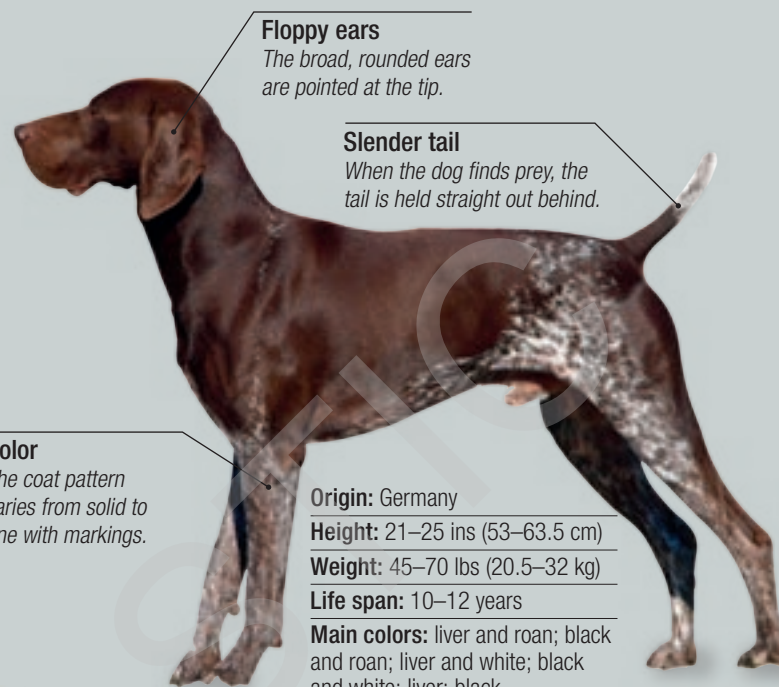


German cousin

The German Wirehaired Pointer has a fuller coat, varying from shaggy to a more wiry coverage.

Finding and pointing

This dog was originally bred as a working dog to find animals and birds in all kinds of terrain, including dense forests, open fields, and on mountainous ground. When it spots an animal it stops just downwind and takes up this stance (*right*), “pointing” the way.



Floppy ears

The broad, rounded ears are pointed at the tip.

Slender tail

When the dog finds prey, the tail is held straight out behind.

Color

The coat pattern varies from solid to one with markings.

Origin: Germany

Height: 21–25 ins (53–63.5 cm)

Weight: 45–70 lbs (20.5–32 kg)

Life span: 10–12 years

Main colors: liver and roan; black and roan; liver and white; black and white; liver; black

Looking great

The confident stance of this handsome dog is very recognizable. It has a long muzzle, drooping ears, and a smooth coat. Some have light or heavy speckles called ticking on the white areas of their coats.





FAMILY