



101 DOGS

*An Illustrated
Compendium of Canines*



*Romy Blümel
Nicola Jane Swinney*



Basenji



In its native Africa, the Basenji is known as ‘the dog that doesn’t bark’. While many dogs are often said to be ‘eager to please’, that just doesn’t apply to this one. It is lively, inquisitive and playful, but it does have a stubborn streak. The Basenji will easily learn what you want to teach it, but whether it will obey your commands depends entirely on its mood. That inquiring mind can be a problem, too, as anything you leave lying around is likely to be investigated by your Basenji – usually by means of chewing! All that said, the Basenji makes a lovely pet as it adores people and playtime.

Life Expectancy 10–12 years | Height 40–43cm | Trainability Intelligent, but may not obey! | Grooming Little needed | Exercise Plenty of stimulation | Most likely to say I wonder what those shoes would taste like... | Least likely to say Your wish is my command

Tibetan Mastiff



It may look like a giant teddy bear but this mighty mastiff is not the dog for everyone. While it has a gentle and loving nature, its sheer size can be a bit off-putting, and it is strong-willed. The Tibetan Mastiff sees itself as an equal, rather than a pet, and can be very stubborn. It is thought these amazing dogs lived in Tibet thousands of years ago and were used as guards (not many people would stand up to a 64kg dog!) for monks, known as ‘lamas’. This is where they developed their thick coat to cope with the harsh climate.

Life Expectancy 10–14 years | Height Up to 66cm | Trainability Clever but stubborn | Grooming Needs brushing but doesn’t shed much | Exercise Regular walks | Most likely to say I will not let anyone past | Least likely to say Can I sit on your lap?

Tibetan Spaniel



This little dog likes to climb! Almost cat-like, it will try to find the highest perch from which it can watch over everyone and everything. Resembling a small lion (a powerful symbol in Tibet), it was highly prized as a watchdog. This watchful quality has been bred into the Tibetan Spaniel for thousands of years and it takes its role very seriously – don't even think about farting and blaming it on someone else in its presence! But don't expect your dog to be happy on its own. Tibetan Spaniels like company and get bored quickly – left to themselves they are likely to bark.

Life Expectancy 12–15 Years | Height 25cm | Trainability Learns quickly if it wants to | Grooming Weekly brushing | Exercise An occasional walk | Most likely to say I bet I can get up there | Least likely to say No, I'm fine, you go off and leave me all alone...

Afghan Hound



With its slender, exotic face, long silky hair and lithe body, the Afghan Hound is surely the supermodel of the dog world. And as well as being one of the most beautiful breeds in the world, the Afghan is possibly the oldest. It comes from Afghanistan, where it was known as the Tazi, and was used to hunt dangerous animals, such as leopards. It was not only brave, but also extremely fast, capable of running at speed for many kilometres. Its independent nature means it does like attention, but on its own terms.

Life Expectancy 10–12 Years | Height 60–66cm | Trainability That independent mind can be challenging | Grooming Lots of brushing | Exercise It needs plenty of room to move | Most likely to say Look how beautiful I am! | Least likely to say Give me a cuddle

Shiba Inu



The smallest of six dog breeds native to Japan, the Shiba Inu greets the world with quiet dignity. But it's like a little ninja warrior, moving quickly and nimbly. The Japanese have three words to describe this breed, *kani-i* (spirited boldness), *ryosei* (good nature) and *soboku* (alertness). It also tends to be possessive – like a moody toddler, the Shiba Inu doesn't like to share and if it could speak, it's first word would be 'mine'. It's also a natural hunter, so if you let it off the lead while out on a walk, it will probably disappear in the direction of the nearest squirrel.

Life Expectancy 12–16 Years | Height 33–43cm | Trainability It has a stubborn streak | Grooming Very little | Exercise It needs a good daily workout | Most likely to say Paws off, that's mine! | Least likely to say Of course, I'm happy to share

Pharaoh Hound



This elegant hound was developed to hunt gazelle with pharaohs in ancient Egypt, more than 4,000 years ago. Despite its noble past, the Pharaoh loves people and simply loves life. It's a natural clown – you can even teach a Pharaoh to smile! And it's possibly the only breed that can blush – when it's happy or excited, its nose and ears will turn a deeper shade of pink. But as a hunting hound, it has a strong prey drive and is likely to chase anything it sees, so keep it on the lead at all times.

Life Expectancy 11–12 Years | Height 53–66cm | Trainability Easy | Grooming Very little | Exercise At least 30 minutes a day | Most likely to say Watch this! | Least likely to say I don't want to play, thank you

Saluki



Alaskan Malamute



Prized by the travelling people of the Middle East, this exotic breed is thought to take its name from the Arabian city of Saluk. To the sheikhs, it was a noble dog indeed and they kept precise records of breeding and hunting prowess. They hunted hare, fox and gazelle from horseback, so their hounds had to be fleet of foot. There were once two different types of Saluki – desert and mountain – but the two have merged into the modern breed. It has, however, retained its beauty and some of its speed, so be prepared to do a lot of jogging...

Life Expectancy 12–14 Years | Height 58–71cm | Trainability Intelligent but opinionated | Grooming Weekly brushing | Exercise Daily runs | Most likely to say Make sure you get my best side | Least likely to say It's okay, I'll sleep on the floor

This impressive breed is one of the oldest in the world and has changed very little, still resembling its wolf ancestors. It was used by the Mahlemut people to pull sleds and hunt seals. It is a strong and imposing animal, but it isn't much use as a watchdog – Malamutes regard everyone they meet as friends. They rarely bark, but make a charming 'woo-woo' noise. They're intelligent too, which means they can easily get bored... and a bored Malamute is trouble in waiting. They love to dig holes in the garden, or sniff across the kitchen counters for something tasty, so keep them busy!

Life Expectancy 12–15 Years | Height 53–64cm | Trainability Easy, but can get bored | Grooming Needed every day | Exercise Lots! This is an energetic breed | Most likely to say This looks like a good spot to dig! | Least likely to say (to anyone) You shall not pass