

BEFORE YOU BUY - RESEARCH THE BREED

Anyone looking to buy or adopt a dog/puppy should always research the breed of dog to make sure it is a good fit into their lifestyle. Below are 5 things to consider when looking for a dog, **these are just a guideline and there are always dogs that are exceptions to the rule.**

1-ENERGY LEVEL

Different dog breeds will have different energy levels, it's important to pick the right energy level as the home they are going to. Dogs expel energy by **barking, chewing, running, and digging**. If they are unable to expel this energy the dog may become **destructive** (because they are bored) and/or develop a **barking issue**. A healthy balance of exercise and good chewing toys will help keep the energy level in check.

Below are the 4 energy levels and typical breeds associated with each. Whatever the energy level it's always important to provide lots of chew toys, so the dog doesn't get bored, and regular exercise to stay in shape and stay healthy.

HIGH-ENERGY

These breeds of dogs require a lot of exercise and attention. They are bred for long days of running/hunting/herding. Long or multiple walks every day.

- Cattle/herding dogs – Border Collie, Australian Shepherd, Corgi, German Shepherd
- Dalmatian
- Labs, Lab crosses
- Golden Retriever
- Jack Russell Terrier
- Greyhounds

MEDIUM-HIGH ENERGY

Not as demanding as high energy but still require long or multiple walks every day.

- Most Terriers
- Beagle
- Spaniels
- Schnauzers
- Husky

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- Smaller Sheepdogs (Shelties)
- Rottweiler

MEDIUM ENERGY

Medium/long walks every day.

- Collie
- Smaller Terriers
- Smaller Spaniels
- Yorkies
- Dachshund
- Pug

LOW ENERGY

These dogs in general don't require too much exercise, short/medium length walks everyday is usually enough.

- Basset hound
- English Bulldog
- Shih Tzu
- Pekingese
- Most Mastiffs

2-FUR TYPE & GROOMING

Grooming involves not only **brushing**, but **bathing, tooth care, and nail trimming**. Depending on the breed of dog this can be quite extensive. Grooming can be done by the owners or the dog can be taken to a professional groomer, it all depends on the time and money you want to put in. (We will get more detail of grooming tools later on in this manual)

HYPO-ALLERGENIC

These are generally small dogs (**Shih Tzu**, Bichon, Poodles, Maltese, Havanese, Lhasa Apso, Airdales, Soft Coated Wheaton Terrier, Bouvier des Flanders) whose fur is more like human hair. Generally people who are allergic to dogs won't have a reaction to these types. The best way to tell is to actually touch and handle the perspective dog.

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These dogs will require daily brushing and a clipping every 2 months since their fur grows continuously. Use of combs, slickers, and rakes is recommended.

LONG & THICK COATS

Require daily brushing and multiple brushings during the day when they are shedding (generally twice a year), using combs, rakes, and/or slickers. Bathing shouldn't be too often, only about twice a year as it removes the oils in their fur.

Ex. Akitas, Newfoundlands, Great Pyrenees, Malamutes, Huskies, **Pomeranians**



LONG SILKY COATS



These breeds should be brushed with a pin brush after a weekly bath. Clipping should be done every 2 months.

Ex. Maltese, **Lhasa Apso**, Shih-tzu, Irish Setter, Afghan Hound

WIRY COATS

These breeds should be brushed about 3 times a week with a grooming glove and/or a shed blade, and bathed every 3 months.

Ex. Dachshunds, **Schnauzers**, most Terriers



SMOOTH COATS



These breeds are the easiest to maintain, a weekly grooming with a grooming glove and bathing 2-3 times a year.

Ex. Boxer, Labs, Pit-bull, **Rottweiler**

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3-SIZE OF DOG AND TEMPERMENT

The adult size of the dog should fit the provided environment that they will live in. The size of the dog in some cases will impact the life expectancy, socialization with kids, cost of chew toys, cost of enclosures, and ease of travel.

Training is important for any dog. It is especially important to large dogs so that they can be controlled for both the owners and others safety. Training will require time, money, and especially patience.

Also with large/giant breeds in later stages of their lives hips and joints should be checked regularly as they are prone to problems in these areas.

Temperament should be researched as well. Certain breeds may have characteristics that may not fit into the home they are going into. For example some breeds are not good with children (Cane Corso) and some are known barkers.

4-CLIMATE

Different breeds are accustomed to different climates. For example you would not keep a Chihuahua outside during the winter. Winter wear for some dogs and summer grooming for heavy coated dogs should be a consideration.

5-AVAILABILITY

Once the research is done the availability of certain breeds might be an issue. Paradise gets its puppies from local rescue shelters. Check our website for what is currently available and for upcoming adoption days.

There is legislation in Canada that restricts certain breeds; this should also be researched before any purchase.