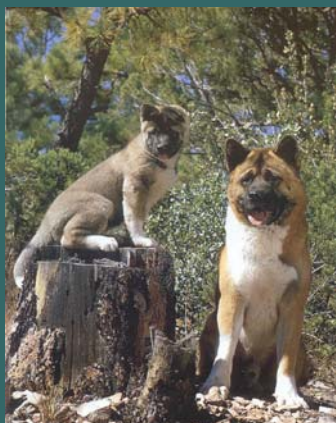




Read about the Breed

Akita

Working Group



The Akita is Best Kept by An Experienced Handler

Breed History:

- A national treasure in Japan, the Akita was once only owned by royalty and used for hunting large game,
- The Akita is an ancient breed that has influences of fighting dogs, Chow Chows, and European dogs such as Elkhounds in its lineage.
- The Akita is a symbol of health and wellness in Japan.
- AKC recognized in 1973.



Keys to the Breed:

- High Energy Indoors
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- Special Exercise Needs
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- Special Grooming Needs
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- Good Watchdog
- Good with Kids

Breed Characteristics:

- **Appearance** — Akitas are a large, powerful dog with a broad head, erect ears, a curled tail, and substantial bone. They have a medium length double-layered coat of many colors, consisting of either solid or multiple tone patterns.
- **Grooming** — Akitas are easy to care for, with use of a shedding rake and long-toothed comb helpful during twice yearly shedding cycles. Teeth and nails should also be cared for regularly.
- **Exercise** — Moderate exercise is sufficient through walks or playtime—they adapt well to city life.
- **Temperament** — They are highly intelligent and independent, making early obedience and an assertive and authoritative hand essential. Akitas have aggressive traits in their background, and while good with their own family, they may be highly protective and aggressive, particularly with other dogs.

Vital Stats:

- **Size** — Dogs (males) stand 26-28 inches, bitches (females) 24-26 inches
- **Weight** — 75-110 lbs on average
- **Life span** — 11-13 years on average
- **Common Health Issues** — Pet shop puppies should be avoided due to hip and elbow dysplasia, eye disorders, and potential aggressiveness
- **Breed Clubs** — Akita Club of America

Go to www.northwestpets.com for more breed profiles!

AKC Standard Says:
"Alert and responsive, dignified and courageous. Aggressive toward other dogs."