



# Read about the Breed

Dachshund

Hound Group



**The Dachshund's build was designed for maneuvering through tunnels**

### Breed History:

- Dachshund ancestors were developed in Germany over 300 years ago to hunt badgers in their burrows.
- They were later bred in smaller sizes to hunt foxes and rabbits.
- Dachshunds were first brought to the U.S. in 1887, and became popular rapidly.
- Dachshunds were the fifth most registered AKC dog in 2003.



### Keys to the Breed:

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

### Breed Characteristics:

- **Appearance** — Dachshunds have a long, straight body with short, but powerful legs. They are low to the ground and have three coat types (smooth, longhair, and wirehair) and two recognized sizes (miniature and standard). Coat color is typically black, red, brindle, gray, brown, or fawn.
- **Grooming** — They have little doggy odor and are moderate shedders. Weekly grooming will suffice for smooth coats, while longhaired and wirehaired varieties should be brushed several times per week.
- **Exercise** — Dachshunds need modest amounts of exercise through regular walks.
- **Temperament** — They are very intelligent dogs that can be somewhat stubborn to train and house-break. Dachshunds have a lively attitude, and are playful and fun-loving. Early socialization will typically make them compatible with children and other animals.

### Vital Stats:

- **Size** — Minis stand 5-9 inches, standards 9-10 inches
- **Weight** — Minis are under 11 lbs, standards average 16-32 lbs
- **Life span** — 10-12 years on average, though some live up to 16 yrs
- **Common Health Issues** — Pet shop puppies should be avoided due to spinal issues, hypothyroidism, Cushing's syndrome, and kidney disease
- **Breed Clubs** — Dachshund Club of America

Go to [www.northwestpets.com](http://www.northwestpets.com) for more breed profiles!

**AKC Standard Says:**  
*"For effective underground work, the front must be strong, deep, long, and cleanly muscled."*