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# Breed Temperament Guide





# Breed Temperament

One of the things that makes a specific breed of dog unique is not only the dog's physical appearance, but each breed also has its own distinct temperament.

Each AKC breed has a national parent club (see [akc.org](http://akc.org)).

Parent clubs describe their breed's ideal temperament in the written breed standard.

A summary of the temperament (as per the parent club's breed standards for each breed) follows.

*Where an asterisk (\*) appears, it indicates that there was not a specific section on temperament in the parent club's breed standard. The description in this guide for these breeds was based on information about the breed written by parent clubs.*



# AKC Groups

## Part 1

AKC has grouped all of the breeds that it registers into 7 categories or groups.

These are: Sporting, Hound, Terrier, Working, Toy, Herding and Non-Sporting.

These groups are based on function and heritage. They share traits of form and function or a common heritage.

## Sporting Group - Temperament as Described in AKC Breed Standard

BREED	TEMPERAMENT
American Water Spaniel	Intelligent; eager to please; friendly, happy, upbeat. Aloof with strangers; can be a bit stubborn.
Boykin Spaniel	Friendly,intelligent; easy to train; gets along well with other dogs and children.
Brittany	Happy and alert; upbeat, neither mean nor shy.
Chesapeake Bay Retriever	Bright, happy, intelligent, courageous,affectionate.
Clumber Spaniel	Gentle, affectionate, intrinsic desire to please, intelligent. Aloof with strangers; should not be aggressive.
Cocker Spaniel	Equable (calm and even tempered) not timid. Other: Gentle, smart, happy.
Curly-Coated Retriever	Confident, intelligent, may appear aloof with strangers-should not be shy; courageous; calm, affectionate.
English Cocker Spaniel	Merry, affectionate, equable (calm, even-tempered); willing worker; engaging companion.
English Setter	Gentle, affectionate, friendly. Not shy, fearful, or aggressive.
English Springer Spaniel	Friendly, eager to please, willing to obey. Should not be timid or aggression (to people or dogs).
Field Spaniel	Sensitive, docile (willing), fun-loving, independent, intelligent. Should not be shy, fearful or aggressive.
Flat-Coated Retriever	Responsive, sensible, bright,confident, happy, outgoing. Should not be nervous, shy or aggressive.
German Shorthaired Pointer	Friendly, intelligent, willing-to-please; keen enthusiasm to work. Should not be nervous.
German Wirehaired Pointer	Affectionate, eager to please; at times aloof but not unfriendly towards strangers.
Golden Retriever	Friendly, reliable, trustworthy. Shouldn't be timid, nervous or quarrelsome toward people or other dogs.
Gordon Setter	Affectionate, alert, interested, confident; fearless, willing, intelligent.
Irish Red & White Setter	Kindly, friendly; determined, courageous, high-spirited.
Irish Setter	Outgoing stable temperament is the essence of the breed. Should not be shy or timid.
Irish Water Spaniel	Alert, inquisitive, active; stable; may be reserved with strangers; should not be aggressive or shy.
Labrador Retriever	Outgoing, intelligent, adaptable,eager to please, should not be aggressive or shy.
Lagotto Romagnolo	Affectionate, easy to train; good companion; excellent watchdog; should not be aggressive or shy.
Nederlandse Kooikerhondje	Cheerful, confident, good-natured, friendly with owners-may be reserved with strangers, attentive.
Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever	Intelligent, alert, but not nervous or hyperactive; affectionate, may be reserved but not shy.
Pointer	Loyal, hard-working, courageous. Even temperament, congenial companion; should not be timid.
Spinone Italiano	Naturally sociable, docile, affectionate, patient.
Sussex Spaniel	Friendly, cheerful, tractable (easy to deal with).
Vizsla	Lively, gentle, affectionate, sensitive but fearless with protective instincts; should not be shy, timid, or nervous.
Weimaraner	Friendly, fearless, alert, obedient.
Welsh Springer Spaniel	Active, affectionate; reserved with strangers, not timid or shy; not timid, shy or unfriendly; devoted family member.
Wirehaired Pointing Griffon	Friendly, intelligent; easily trained, outgoing, willing to please, trustworthy; excellent family dog.
Wirehaired Vizsla	Confident,sensitive, stubborn, affectionate with owner; can be aloof with strangers; keen protective instinct.

## Hound Group - Temperament as Described in AKC Breed Standard

BREED	TEMPERAMENT
<b>Afghan Hound</b>	Aloof and dignified, yet gay. Faults: Sharpness or shyness.
<b>American English Coonhound</b>	Sweet, sociable with people and dogs. Mellow but tenacious when hunting.
<b>American Foxhound*</b>	Independent, easy-going, sweet tempered, good natured.
<b>Azawakh</b>	Affectionate, attentive, reserved with strangers. Should not be timid or aggressive.
<b>Basenji</b>	Independent, poised. Intelligent, alert, and affectionate but can be aloof with strangers.
<b>Basset Hound</b>	Charming, patient, low-key. Extremely devoted, should not be timid or aggressive.
<b>Beagle</b>	Friendly, curious, works cheerfully, loyal companion, generally easy-going.
<b>Black &amp; Tan Coonhound</b>	Easy-going, brave, outgoing, and friendly. Reserved, but should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Bloodhound</b>	Friendly, inquisitive. Gets along with people & dogs. Somewhat shy, sensitive.
<b>Bluetick Coonhound*</b>	Smart, devoted, affectionate. Prey drive, reserved but not shy or aggressive, independent.
<b>Borzoi*</b>	Affectionate, dignified, calm and agreeable. Reserved; not shy or aggressive.
<b>Cirneco dell'Etna</b>	Affectionate, friendly and gentle. Independent, strong and lively.
<b>Dachshund</b>	Friendly, curious, clever, lively, courageous, a good companion. Shyness is a fault.
<b>English Foxhound*</b>	Affectionate, gentle, sociable. Scent driven, can be stubborn.
<b>GBGV - Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen</b>	Happy, outgoing. Friendly, not easily agitated, can be stubborn, willing to please.
<b>Greyhound*</b>	Gentle, independent, sweet-tempered. Affectionate with family, reserved with strangers.
<b>Harrier</b>	Friendly, outgoing, people-oriented. Working pack breed so no aggression is tolerated.
<b>Ibizan Hound</b>	Family oriented, even-tempered, affectionate. Trainable, excellent as a family pet.
<b>Irish Wolfhound*</b>	Courageous but not aggressive, calm, sensitive. Serene, agreeable, not a fierce guard dog.
<b>Norwegian Elkhound</b>	Confident, bold, energetic, courageous. Effective guardian that is normally friendly.
<b>Otterhound</b>	Even-tempered, affectionate, amiable, boisterous. Perseveres in investigating scents.
<b>PBGV - Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen</b>	Bold, vivacious, confident, happy, extroverted, willing to please. Not aggressive or shy.
<b>Pharaoh Hound</b>	Friendly, intelligent, affectionate, playful. Alert and active, hunts by sight and scent.
<b>Plott</b>	Alert, confident, intelligent; mellow but an aggressive, bold, fearless hunter.
<b>Portuguese Podengo Pequeno</b>	Playful, charming, very lively, intelligent. A companion that willingly serves as a watchdog.
<b>Redbone Coonhound</b>	Even-tempered, amiable, eager to please. Mellow, amenable to training. Aggressive hunter.
<b>Rhodesian Ridgeback</b>	Even-tempered, independent, reserved with strangers. Prey drive, protective of family.
<b>Saluki*</b>	Gentle, dignified, independent. May be aloof with strangers.
<b>Scottish Deerhound*</b>	Confident, gentle, prey drive, sensitive but is not shy, fearful or anxious.
<b>Sloughi</b>	Reserved, graceful and noble. Attitude is noble and somewhat aloof. A dog with class.
<b>Treeing Walker Coonhound</b>	Alert, intelligent, courageous, energetic, extreme endurance and a desire to perform.
<b>Whippet</b>	Friendly, gentle, calm, but can be intense during sporting events.

## Terrier Group - Temperament as Described in AKC Breed Standard

Breed	Temperament
<b>Airedale Terrier*</b>	Confident, friendly, courageous. More reserved than other terriers. Should not be shy or spooky.
<b>American Hairless Terrier</b>	Energetic, curious, alert, intelligent; should not show aggression or extreme shyness.
<b>American Staffordshire Terrier*</b>	Smart, confident, good-natured. Keenly aware, very trainable.
<b>Australian Terrier</b>	Spirited, courageous, confident. Aggressive ratter. Friendly, affectionate. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Bedlington Terrier</b>	Courageous, watch dogs who will cuddle with you, can be stubborn but also eager to please. Not shy or nervous.
<b>Border Terrier</b>	Good-tempered, affectionate, obedient, easily trained. In the field is as "game as they come."
<b>Bull Terrier*</b>	Playful, charming, comical, gets into mischief, full of fire; sometimes stubborn, but sweet disposition.
<b>Cairn Terrier*</b>	Active, curious, alert, affectionate; dignified but tenacious and bold when working.
<b>Cesky Terrier</b>	Pleasant, cheerful companion. Reserved toward strangers, calm, kind disposition. Neither aggressive, nor shy.
<b>Dandie Dinmont Terrier</b>	Independent, determined, reserved. Affectionate & dignified but tenacious and bold when working.
<b>Glen of Imaal Terrier</b>	Spirited, courageous when called upon, gentle and docile otherwise. Active, agile, and silent when working.
<b>Irish Terrier</b>	Good-tempered, spirited; shows fire and animation, affectionate, loyal; will guard family.
<b>Kerry Blue Terrier*</b>	Alert, adaptable, bright, feisty, energetic, prey drive.
<b>Lakeland Terrier</b>	Bold, friendly, confident. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Manchester Terrier (Standard)</b>	Keenly observant, devoted but discerning, generally friendly with other dogs; not aggressive or shy.
<b>Miniature Bull Terrier</b>	Full of fire, courageous; even and amenable to discipline.
<b>Miniature Schnauzer</b>	Alert, spirited, obedient, friendly, intelligent, willing to please. Should never be aggressive or timid.
<b>Norfolk Terrier</b>	Alert, gregarious (sociable), fearless, loyal; never aggressive.
<b>Norwich Terrier</b>	Affectionate; adaptable, sporting; ideal companions. Also: sociable, curious.
<b>Parson Russell Terrier</b>	Bold, friendly, courageous, playful, affectionate; energetic; should not be quarrelsome, shy or aggressive.
<b>Rat Terrier</b>	Observant, energetic, easily trained, friendly with dogs, reserved with strangers; should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Russell Terrier</b>	Alert, lively, keen; spirited; playful, curious, loyal, affectionate.
<b>Scottish Terrier</b>	Spirited, steady-going; determined, thoughtful. Loving and gentle with people but can be aggressive with other dogs.
<b>Sealyham Terrier*</b>	Ideal companion, inquisitive; confident; humorous; outgoing, friendly, devoted.
<b>Skye Terrier</b>	Courageous; fearless, good-tempered, loyal. Friendly with those he knows. Reserved, cautious with strangers.
<b>Smooth Fox Terrier</b>	Must present gay (happy, cheerful), lively and active appearance. Also: friendly, sociable.
<b>Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier</b>	Happy, steady, confident. Alert; interested in surroundings. Should not be timid or aggressive. Friendly.
<b>Staffordshire Bull Terrier</b>	Courageous, high intelligence, tenacity; affection for friends (especially children), quiet and stable.
<b>Welsh Terrier</b>	Alert, aware, spirited, friendly, shows self-control. Intelligent, desires to please. Should not be aggressive or shy.
<b>West Highland White Terrier</b>	Alert, gay (cheerful), courageous, and self-reliant but friendly; Should not be timid, aggressive or belligerent.
<b>Wire Fox Terrier</b>	Alert, quick of movement, "on the tip-toe of expectation at the slightest provocation." Also: social and confident.

## Working Group - Temperament as Described in AKC Breed Standard

Breed	Temperament
<b>Akita</b>	Alert, responsive, dignified, and courageous. May be intolerant of dogs, especially of the same sex.
<b>Alaskan Malamute</b>	Affectionate, friendly, loyal, devoted, playful in invitation, not a one person dog.
<b>Anatolian Shepherd</b>	Calm, protective, courageous, territorial, may be reserved with strangers.
<b>Bernese Mountain Dog</b>	Confident, alert, good-natured, never sharp or shy; may be aloof to strangers.
<b>Black Russian Terrier</b>	Courageous, calm, confident. intelligent, instinctively protective, fearless; not shy or excessively excitable.
<b>Boerboel</b>	Dominant, intelligent, strong protective instinct. Can be aggressive or belligerent towards other dogs.
<b>Boxer</b>	Self-assured; social, wary with strangers but fearlessly courageous if threatened; affectionate, should not be shy.
<b>Bullmastiff</b>	Fearless, confident, docile (cooperative), reliable, intelligent, willing to please, dependable, protector.
<b>Cane Corso</b>	Protective of property and owners; intelligent, easily trained, docile and affectionate with family.
<b>Chinook</b>	Affectionate, playful companion. Eager to please, dignified, may be reserved with strangers. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Doberman Pinscher</b>	Energetic, watchful, fearless, loyal, obedient. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Dogue de Bordeaux</b>	Courageous but not aggressive. Good companion--attached to and affectionate with master. Calm, balanced temperament.
<b>German Pinscher</b>	Intelligent, fearless, vigilant, watchful of strangers. Tenacious if threatened; should not be aggressive or shy.
<b>Giant Schnauzer</b>	Composed, watchful, courageous. Sound, reliable temperament. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Great Dane</b>	Spirited, courageous, friendly, dependable. Should not be timid or aggressive.
<b>Great Pyrenees</b>	Confident, gentle, affectionate. Protective of flock or family; quiet composure; strong-willed, reserved yet attentive, fearless.
<b>Greater Swiss Mtn Dog</b>	Bold, faithful, willing; alert and vigilant; should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Komondor</b>	Calm, steady, intelligent; affectionate (family & friends). Wary of but accepts strangers; protective and a guardian.
<b>Kuvasz</b>	Intelligence, determination, courage, curiosity. Gentle, protective, suspicious with new people, bold, courageous, fearless.
<b>Leonberger</b>	Gentle, even temperament; confident. Willing to please, playful. Should not be timid, nervous, or quarrelsome (dogs).
<b>Mastiff</b>	Good natured, dignified, courageous, docile (accepts instruction). Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Neapolitan Mastiff</b>	Steady, calm, loyal to owner, not aggressive or apt to bite without reason; protective (property & owner); always watchful, yet wary.
<b>Newfoundland</b>	Sweetness of temperament is the most important single characteristic of the breed.
<b>Portuguese Water Dog</b>	Spirited disposition, self-willed (stubborn), brave, exceptionally intelligent, loyal companion; obedient.
<b>Rottweiler</b>	Calm, courageous with self-assured aloofness; protective, intelligent, willing to work, should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>St. Bernard*</b>	Lovable companion, quiet. Perfect family dog, adaptable, calm, naturally curious.
<b>Samoyed</b>	Gentle, alert, eager to serve; friendly but conservative; not distrustful or shy, not overly aggressive.
<b>Siberian Husky</b>	Friendly, gentle, alert, outgoing. Not overly suspicious or aggressive with other dogs. Older dogs may be reserved.
<b>Standard Schnauzer</b>	Intelligent, fearless, high-spirited, extremely reliable. Should not be shy, nervous or aggressive.
<b>Tibetan Mastiff</b>	Intelligent, independent, strong willed, rather reserved; aloof with strangers; protective; should not be shy.

## Toy Group - Temperament as Described in AKC Breed Standard

Breed	Temperament
<b>Affenpinscher</b>	Alert, inquisitive; affectionate, generally quiet but excitable when threatened, fearless.
<b>Brussels Griffon</b>	Intelligent, alert, sensitive; full of self-importance. Also: loyal, curious.
<b>Cavalier King Charles Spaniel</b>	Friendly, affectionate, sweet, gentle. Should not be nervous, shy or fearful.
<b>Chihuahua</b>	Alert, with terrier-like qualities of temperament (confidence and self-reliance).
<b>Chinese Crested</b>	Gay, alert. Also: playful, entertaining, affectionate, lively.
<b>English Toy Spaniel</b>	Bright, interested, affectionate, willing to please. Charming, gentle, playful.
<b>Havanese</b>	Friendly, playful, alert, intelligent; sweet, non-quarrelsome disposition. Should not be aggressive or shy.
<b>Italian Greyhound</b>	Affectionate, happiest with family; aloof with strangers; sensitive, alert, intelligent, playful; can be timid or sensitive.
<b>Japanese Chin</b>	Sensitive, intelligent; purpose is to serve as companion; affectionate but reserved with strangers and in new situations.
<b>Maltese</b>	Trusting; affectionately responsive; gentle mannered; lively, playful and vigorous. Fearless.
<b>Manchester Terrier (Toy)</b>	Keenly observant, devoted but discerning (selective); friendly with other dogs; should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Miniature Pinscher</b>	Fearless, self-possession (calm, confident), spirited presence (full of energy). Also: fun loving.
<b>Papillon</b>	Happy, alert, friendly; not shy or aggressive. Also: quick, curious, upbeat.
<b>Pekingese</b>	Regal dignity, intelligent, and self-importance; good-natured, and affectionate.
<b>Pomeranian</b>	Extrovert, intelligent, vivacious (lively) spirit, great companion.
<b>Poodle (Toy)</b>	Proud carriage, active, intelligent, air of distinction and dignity; should not be shy or sharp.
<b>Pug</b>	Even-tempered; stable, playful, charming, dignified, outgoing and loving.
<b>Shih Tzu</b>	Outgoing, happy, affectionate, friendly and trusting. Also: playful.
<b>Silky Terrier</b>	Keenly alert, quick, friendly, responsive; should not be shy or nervous. Joy of life.
<b>Toy Fox Terrier</b>	Alert, friendly, eager to please, confident, not easily intimidated, animated, comical, entertaining, playful.
<b>Yorkshire Terrier</b>	Standard says: "Affectionate, sprightly, tomboyish". Tomboyish is active/energetic; sprightly is full of energy.

## Herding Group - Temperament as Described in AKC Breed Standard

Breed	Temperament
<b>Australian Cattle Dog</b>	Protective, guardian to stock and people; suspicious of strangers, but must be amenable to handling.
<b>Australian Shepherd</b>	Intelligent, even disposition, good natured, reserved in initial meetings; should not be shy, fearful, or aggressive.
<b>Bearded Collie</b>	Devoted, intelligent, stable, confident, should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Beauceron</b>	Self-assured, reserved with strangers but gentle and fearless; should not be fearful or show unjustified aggression.
<b>Belgian Malinois</b>	Confident, not shy or aggressive in new situations; may be reserved with strangers, affectionate with family; protective.
<b>Belgian Sheepdog</b>	Friendly, affectionate, courageous, alert, protective; watchful, attentive, should not be aggressive, fearful, or shy.
<b>Belgian Tervuren</b>	Confident; affectionate, friendly, observant, vigilant with strangers. Not apprehensive, fearful, shy or aggressive.
<b>Bergamasco Sheepdog</b>	Strong protective instinct, guard, naturally stubborn, persevere until task is complete. Courageous but not aggressive.
<b>Berger Picard</b>	Confident, alert, even-tempered; aloof with strangers but not timid or nervous. Should not be aggressive.
<b>Border Collie</b>	Intelligent, intense worker, alert, affectionate but reserved with strangers. Should not be shy, fearful, or resentful.
<b>Bouvier des Flandres</b>	Equable (even-tempered), steady, fearless; guardian and protector. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Briard</b>	Fearless, not timid; intelligent, faithful, gentle; guards home and master; reserved with strangers; independent.
<b>Canaan Dog</b>	Alert, docile with family; aloof with strangers; territorial, natural guardian. Very vocal. Should not be shy.
<b>Cardigan Welsh Corgi</b>	Even-tempered, loyal, affectionate, adaptable. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Collie*</b>	Intelligent, friendly, devoted, loving, sensitive; easily trained.
<b>Entlebucher Mountain Dog</b>	Confident, intelligent, may be reserved with strangers; lively, responsive to owner. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Finnish Lapphund</b>	Active & watchful when working; strong startle reflex with quick recovery; courageous; calm, friendly but can appear aloof.
<b>German Shepherd Dog</b>	Fearless, confident; aloof with strangers. Quietly stands ground; eager and alert; should not be timid or nervous.
<b>Icelandic Sheepdog</b>	Gives visitors an enthusiastic welcome; cheerful, friendly, inquisitive, playful, unafraid; confident & lively.
<b>Miniature American Shepherd</b>	Enthusiastic and persistent worker, reserved with strangers but not shy; protective but good natured, devoted and loyal.
<b>Norwegian Buhund</b>	Confident, alert, lively, and very affectionate with people.
<b>Old English Sheepdog</b>	Adaptable, intelligent, gentle, even disposition. Should not be aggressive, shy or nervous.
<b>Pembroke Welsh Corgi</b>	Bold but kind, affectionate, smart, alert. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Polish Lowland Sheepdog</b>	Confident, clever, loyal but aloof and suspicious of strangers. Should not be nervous, cowardly or aggressive.
<b>Puli</b>	Affectionate, intelligent; sensibly suspicious; excellent watchdog. Should not be shy or timid.
<b>Pumi</b>	Lively, alert, intelligent, bold, ready for duty; reserved with strangers.
<b>Pyrenean Shepherd</b>	Intelligent; adaptable; very attached to owner, enthusiastic; affectionate with family but can be distrustful of strangers.
<b>Shetland Sheepdog</b>	Affectionate, responsive to owner, reserved towards strangers. Should not be fearful, shy or timid.
<b>Spanish Water Dog</b>	Lively, hard-working, watchful, intelligent, protective. Not timid or shy, suspicious of strangers; affectionate with family.
<b>Swedish Vallhund</b>	Watchful, energetic, fearless, alert, intelligent, friendly. Eager to please, sound temperament. Neither aggressive nor shy.

## Non-Sporting Group - Temperament as Described in AKC Breed Standard

Breed	Temperament
<b>American Eskimo Dog</b>	Playful, perky, smart, alert, friendly, protective but does not threaten to bite, eager to please.
<b>Bichon Frise</b>	Gentle mannered, sensitive, playful, affectionate, a cheerful attitude is a hallmark of the breed.
<b>Boston Terrier</b>	Friendly, lively, excellent disposition, very intelligent.
<b>Bulldog</b>	Equable (even tempered), kind, courageous, pacific (peaceful), dignified. Not aggressive.
<b>Chinese Shar-Pei</b>	Alert, intelligent, dignified, independent, standoffish with strangers, calm & confident.
<b>Chow Chow</b>	Independent, dignified, intelligent, reserved & discerning with strangers. Should not be timid or aggressive.
<b>Coton de Tulear</b>	Happy, stable, sociable with humans and dogs, adaptable. Also: calm, gentle, intelligent, easygoing.
<b>Dalmatian</b>	Stable, outgoing, dignified. Should not be shy.
<b>Finnish Spitz</b>	Active, friendly, lively, eager, faithful, brave but cautious. Should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>French Bulldog</b>	Well behaved, adaptable, affectionate, even disposition, active, alert, playful. Not unduly boisterous.
<b>Keeshond</b>	Outgoing, friendly with people & dogs; lively, intelligent, affectionate. Should not be timid or aggressive.
<b>Lhasa Apso</b>	Gay, assertive; chary (means the same as wary) of strangers. Also: confident and smart.
<b>Löwchen</b>	Alert, intelligent, affectionate; lively, outgoing and inquisitive; loving companion dog.
<b>Norwegian Lundehund</b>	Alert, energetic, loyal, protective; can be wary of strangers but should never be aggressive towards people.
<b>Poodle (Miniature &amp; Standard)</b>	Proud, very active, intelligent, dignified, should not be shy or sharp.
<b>Schipperke</b>	Curious, interested in environment, watchdog; reserved with strangers; protective if necessary; confident.
<b>Shiba Inu</b>	Bold, good natured, dignified; independent; reserved toward strangers; affectionate to family.
<b>Tibetan Spaniel</b>	Gay, assertive, highly intelligent, aloof w/strangers; should not be nervous.
<b>Tibetan Terrier</b>	Intelligent, sensitive, loyal, devoted, affectionate. May be cautious or reserved but should not be shy.
<b>Xoloitzcuintli</b>	Calm, tranquil, aloof, attentive. Also: loyal and alert.



# FSS Breeds

## Part 2

Part 2 of this guide includes the breed temperament descriptions for FSS (Foundation Stock Service) breeds. AKC created the FSS record-keeping service to allow rare breed fanciers to continue their commitment to the improvement of their breed.

FSS is a requirement for fanciers of a breed who want to achieve full AKC recognition. FSS breeds may compete in AKC Family Dog and Companion and Performance events that AKC determines to be applicable.

## Sporting Group - Temperament - FSS Breeds

BREED	TEMPERAMENT
Barbet	Friendly, bright, sweet-natured, joyful, willing worker.
Bracco Italiano	Affectionate, intelligent, enthusiastic, docile, easy to train.
Braque du Bourbonnais	Affectionate, gentle, adaptable, kind.
Braque Francais Pyrenean	Friendly, smart, willing to please, should not be aggressive or overly shy.
Deutscher Wachtelhund	Friendly, determined, assured, should not be nervous or aggressive.
Drentsche Patrijshond	Loyal, intelligent, gentle, sensitive, adaptable, can be reserved, should not be fearful.
French Spaniel	Gentle, sociable, intelligent, calm, docile, sociable with other dogs.
German Longhaired Pointer	Versatile, calm, family oriented, easily trained, good natured.
Portuguese Pointer	Affectionate, smart, energetic, calm, sociable, kind.
Pudelpointer	Friendly, smart, willing to please, calm, even tempered, should not be shy or aggressive.
Slovakian Wirehaired Pointer	Obedient, easy to train, should not be aggressive or shy
Small Munsterlander Pointer	Intelligent, devoted, self-confident, alert, friendly, steady character.
Stabyhoun	Intelligent, responsive, loving, independent, affectionate, can be head strong. Reserved but should not be afraid.

## Hound Group (FSS) - Breeds known for hunting, scent, chasing quarry

BREED	TEMPERAMENT
<b>American Leopard Hound</b>	Sociable, energetic, intelligent, affectionate w/ family, protective of children.
<b>Basset Fauve de Bretagne</b>	Smart, cheerful, courageous, intelligent, affectionate, sociable, eager to please.
<b>Bavarian Mountain Scent Hound</b>	Reserved w/ strangers, calm, devoted, self-assured, biddable, should not be shy or aggressive.
<b>Carolina Dog</b>	Loyal, independent, reserved with strangers
<b>Drever</b>	Even tempered, determined, affectionate, sweet, good w/ other dogs, not shy or aggressive.
<b>Hamiltonstovare</b>	Versatile, friendly, even-tempered, should not be aggressive or overly shy.
<b>Hanoverian Scenthound</b>	Loyal, independent, calm, sensitive w/ owner, discerning with strangers, assured.
<b>Mountain Cur</b>	Intelligent, strong willed, reserved w/ strangers, courageous.
<b>Norbottenspets</b>	Self-confident, fearless, attentive, calm, kind, should not be shy, nervous or aggressive.
<b>Peruvian Inca Orchid</b>	Affectionate with family, loyal, smart, lively, alert, wary of strangers.
<b>Porcelaine</b>	Independent, energetic, loves family, should not be aggressive or overly shy.
<b>Portuguese Podengo</b>	Affectionate, independent, alert, intelligent, lively, playful, should not be aggressive or shy.
<b>Segugio Italiano</b>	Friendly, intelligent, eager to please, steady temperament, not very outgoing.
<b>Slovensky Kopov</b>	Courageous, alertm determined, hardworking, should not be aggressive or overly shy.
<b>Taiwan Dog</b>	Faithful, loyal, intelligent, bold, fearless, keen in senses, alert.
<b>Thai Ridgeback</b>	Loyal, independent, highly intelligent, tough and active.
<b>Transylvanian Hound</b>	Courageous, good natured, determined, brave, quiet but can be lively.
<b>Treeing Tennessee Brindle</b>	Friendly, alert, intelligent, great scenting and hunting ability.

## Terrier Group - Temperament - FSS Breeds

Breed	Temperament
Jagdterrier	Courageous, intelligent, sociable, trainable, full of temperament, takes pleasure in work, neither shy or aggressive.
Teddy Roosevelt Terrier	Playful, versatile, intelligent, friendly, affectionate, bold, kind, alert, easily trained, can be reserved with strangers.

## Working Group (FSS) - Temperament

Breed	Temperament
<b>Bohemian Shepherd</b>	Loving family dog, intelligent, lively, devoted, alert, fast reactions, not nervous.
<b>Broholmer</b>	Friendly yet watchful, loving, calm, good tempered, self-confident.
<b>Caucasian Shepherd Dog</b>	Fearless, bold, kind, steady, self-confident, independent.
<b>Central Asian Shepherd Dog</b>	Independent, courageous, self-confident, self-assured, quiet, fearless.
<b>Czechoslovakian Vlcak</b>	Alert, intelligent, loyal, docile but quick reactions, lively, fearless, courageous, loyal to owner, can be suspicious of strangers.
<b>Danish-Swedish Farm Dog</b>	Energetic, trainable, attentive, alert, lively, should not be aggressive or overly shy.
<b>Dogo Argentino</b>	Friendly, cheerful, humble, intelligent, faithful; and above all else, courageous.
<b>Estrela Mountain Dog</b>	Brave, alert, intelligent, loyal companion to shepherds, flock guardian, docile to master, may be distrustful of strangers.
<b>Hokkaido</b>	Dignified, alert, devoted, docile, faithful, bold.
<b>Hovawart</b>	Alert, faithful, intelligent, kind, even disposition, self-confident, protective instinct.
<b>Kai Ken</b>	Loyal, agile, keen, intelligent, quick learner, independent, devoted, very alert.
<b>Karelian Bear Dog</b>	Loyal, independent, courageous, persistent, self-confident, may be reserved, not aggressive.
<b>Kishu Ken</b>	Faithful, noble, docile, very alert.
<b>Perro de Presa Canario</b>	Self-confident, calm, strong-willed, a little distant, docile with family but can be suspicious of strangers, suited to guarding stock.
<b>Pyrenean Mastiff</b>	Gentle, brave, noble, calm, intelligent, courageous, independent, livestock guard dog, loving of family.
<b>Rafeiro do Alentjo</b>	Confident, calm, livestock protector, should not be aggressive or shy.
<b>Romanian Mioritic Shepherd Dog</b>	Loyal, independent, confident guardian, calm, stable, courageous, may be wary of strangers.
<b>Shikoku</b>	Energetic, highly alert, enthusiastic, keen in senses, docile toward master, enthusiastic hunter.
<b>Spanish Mastiff</b>	Intelligent, affectionate, kind, determined, protective of farms and livestock.
<b>Tornjak</b>	Steady, friendly, courageous, obedient, intelligent, self-confident, calm, devoted to master, may be suspicious of strangers.
<b>Tosa</b>	Fearless, vigilant, bold, courageous, has patience, tranquil, quiet, obedient, composed, can be a watchdog.
<b>Yakutain Laika</b>	Affectionate, intelligent,, active, bold, friendly, sociable, can be temperamental.

### Toy Group - Temperament - FSS Breeds

Breed	Temperament
<b>Biewer Terrier</b>	Charming, intelligent, devoted to family, amusing, friendly with other animals.
<b>Bolognese</b>	Playful, easygoing, devoted, calm, faithful, loves people, serene, generally not active.
<b>Russian Toy</b>	Smart, charming, active, cheerful, intelligent, desire to please, can be aloof to strangers, should not be timid or aggressive.
<b>Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka</b>	Playful, sweet, loving, charming, inquisitive, intelligent, friendly, willing to please.

## Herding Group - Temperament - FSS Breeds

Breed	Temperament
<b>Appenzeller Sennenhunde</b>	Agile, lively, trainable, willing, self-assured, fearless, slightly suspicious of strangers, will watch/guard house and family.
<b>Australian Kelpie</b>	Loyal, alert, intelligent, eager, tractable, outgoing, friendly, should not be cowardly.
<b>Australian Stumpy-Tail Cattle Dog</b>	Alert, trainable, comical, watchful, obedience, may be suspicious of strangers, natural working aptitude.
<b>Belgian Laekenois</b>	Affectionate, alert, intelligent, courage, devotion to master, observant with strangers, watchful; should not be fearful, shy or vicious.
<b>Catahoula Leopard Dog</b>	Loyal, independent, watchful, serious while working, affectionate, gentle & playful at home, can be territorial and protective.
<b>Croatian Sheepdog</b>	Loyal, active, alert, intelligent, brave, self-reliant & devoted to owner, courageous, easy to train, should not be aggressive or nervous.
<b>Dutch Shepherd</b>	Intelligent, lively, independent, can be obstinate w/ mind of own, alert, watchful; should not show fear, shyness or be vicious.
<b>Lancashire Heeler</b>	Affectionate, intelligent, alert, friendly, courageous, happy.
<b>Lapponian Herder</b>	Energetic, friendly, intelligent, docile, calm, problem solver, loves family-may be aloof with strangers, willing to serve.
<b>Mudi</b>	Loyal protector but not aggressive, intelligent, alert, biddable, adaptable, sensibly suspicious, enthusiastic about work.
<b>Portuguese Sheepdog</b>	Intelligent, devoted to master & herd but wary of strangers, lively.
<b>Schapendoes</b>	Friendly, watchful, lively, cheerful, funny, clever, brave, goof family pets, attentive, courageous, intelligent, desire to please.
<b>Slovensky Cuvac</b>	Courageous, alert, faithful, protective/guard dog for livestock.
<b>Swedish Lapphund</b>	Playful, intelligent, lively, alert, kind, affectionate, easy to train, willing to work.
<b>Working Kelpie</b>	Alert, eager, intelligent, friendly, devoted to work, should not be nervous, highly excitable or aggressive.

## Non-Sporting Group Temperament - FSS Breeds

Breed	Temperament
<b>Eurasier</b>	Confident, calm, family-oriented, loyal to family- reserved with strangers, alert, self-assured, even tempered.
<b>German Spitz</b>	Devoted, lively, attentive, very trainable, may be distrustful of strangers, watchdog for house and farm.
<b>Japanese Spitz</b>	Loyal, playful, smart, intelligent, cheerful, keen in sense.
<b>Jindo</b>	Alert, intelligent, bold, brave, watchful, discerning guardian, faithful to master, may not be fond of other dogs.
<b>Kromfohrlander</b>	Intelligent, sensitive, reserved with strangers, good natured, trainable, funny, should not be aggressive.