

# Akita



Photo By: David Beart

The following information and opinions are based solely on *Vladae, Bonny, A.C.T. and The Dog Wizard Inc.*'s knowledge and experience and may not apply to every dog belonging to this breed. The overall temperament of an Akita is based on many variables, which include: genetics, environment and the behavior of its owner(s). These variables can have a dramatic effect on the outcome of a dogs' performance and behavior. Please do your research carefully before selecting any breed of dog for you or your family!

*The Dog Wizard Inc. and A.C.T. accept no responsibility for misinformation and are not liable for any injuries or actions that are a result of this information.*

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:** The Akita originated in Japan in the 17<sup>th</sup> century as a versatile hunting dog of large and small animals. He was owned by Aristocracy. In 1931 the Akita was declared a Japanese national monument due to his extreme loyalty. The Akita is revered as a spiritual symbol and people give statues to new mothers, or ill people for luck and long life.

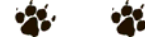
### BREED APPEARANCE:

The Akita is a large dog; height is 26 to 28 inches and weighs 80 – 110 pounds. He is large boned, muscular, bold and powerful. He has a bristly curled tail, erect ears, and a broad head. His face resembles a bear. His plush coat stands up from his body with undercoat being shorter than his top coat. His coat comes in colors of white, brindle, pinto and grey with well balanced markings.

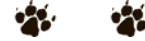
**WHY YOU WOULD LOVE THIS BREED:** They are sweet tempered, devoted and affectionate to family members. Akita's bark only when threatened and are great watch dogs and guard dogs. They clean themselves like a cat, and adapt well to apartment living as long as they receive daily walks. They are long-lived and don't eat large quantities of food.

**WHY YOU WOULD NOT LOVE THIS BREED:** They are territorial, protective and independent; they don't start fights, but never back down from one. This breed needs consistent training from puppy hood to control their aggression toward other animals.

# Perfect Pet Rating



## Overall Breed Rating



5 Paw Rating: 1 = Poor, 2 = Adequate, 3 = Average, 4 = Good, 5 = Excellent

*Rating system for perfect pet includes the following categories: Will this breed bite my child? Would they kill other animals? Are they easy to train?*

*Rating system for overall breed rating includes all categories.*

**PLUSES:** They are very loyal; good watch dog and guard dog.

**MINUSES:** Very territorial. Unfortunately, this breed will want to keep everyone from coming into your house.

### WHO SHOULD NOT OWN THIS BREED?

If you are a timid person and don't have the time to train this dog, please choose another breed. If you want to have lots of animals and people around you, this breed is not for you.

### DO THEY SHED?



Yes, lots! They should be brushed daily. They shed their undercoat twice a year.

### WILL THIS BREED BITE MY CHILD?



They are good with most family members, but do better with children thirteen years or older. EXTREME CAUTION AND SUPERVISION IS ALWAYS RECOMMENDED WHEN CHILDREN AND DOGS ARE TOGETHER! The Akita needs to be raised and trained around children to prevent problems.

### WOULD THEY KILL OTHER ANIMALS?



The Akita should be the only animal in the household, but with training they can learn to tolerate other animals. They can also be very aggressive to strange animals.

### WHAT IS THEIR ENERGY LEVEL?



Akita's need little exercise, but need to be walked daily.

### ARE THEY EASY TO TRAIN?



Akita's are intelligent and learn quickly if they want to, but are not good problem solvers and can become easily bored!

### WHAT ARE THE HEALTH CONCERNS?



Akita's can experience hip dysplasia, skin lesions, cancer, digestive upsets, genetic eye problems, thyroid problems and knee disorders. Buying from a reputable breeder is always advisable and will help to lessen the chances for health problems and congenital defects.