

Labrador Retriever



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 a Labrador Retriever 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: Records show Labradors to originate in Newfoundland. Newfoundland was settled almost entirely by fisherman that jumped ship. It is reported that the settlers brought dogs to Newfoundland from several countries. The fishermen used dogs to retrieve fish that fell off hooks and to help haul in swimming lines or fishing nets. Over time, the dogs became two distinct breeds; the Newfoundland and the Labrador. The Labrador was recognized as a breed by the Kennel Club (England) on 7th July, 1903.

BREED APPEARANCE: A medium sized dog; height is 21 to 25 inches and weighs from 55 – 80 pounds. His coat is short, dense and weather resistant. Its tail is an "otter" tail, and its "kind," friendly eyes, expressing character, intelligence and good temperament. The ears should hang moderately close to the head. Its body is well balanced. The Labrador colors are black, chocolate, and yellow.

WHY YOU WOULD LOVE THIS BREED?

The Labrador has a kind disposition, is outgoing, tractable nature, eager to please and non-aggressive towards man or animal. They are versatile in hunting, obedience, tracking, Search and Rescue, Service dogs, and make excellent companion dogs.

WHY YOU WOULD NOT LOVE THIS BREED?

Puppy Mills and backyard breeders have bred indiscriminately and because of this, some Labradors are hyperactive, aggressive or have multiple health problems.

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 friendly; love to retrieve game or toys and make an excellent family companion dog.

MINUSES: They like to leave muddy footprints on their owners or strangers. Meaning, they like to jump on people when they become excited. They can also be very active and require training and exercise.

WHO SHOULD NOT OWN THIS BREED?

If you are a couch potato, don't like romps in the park, being brought sticks to throw or having a dog constantly on the go than this breed isn't for you.

DO THEY SHED?

This dog is a moderate shedder.

WILL THIS BREED BITE MY CHILD?

With a well bred dog you would have to work very hard to get them to bite. This is one of the best breeds for a family pet. They love playing with kids, however, EXTREME CAUTION AND SUPERVISION IS ALWAYS RECOMMENDED WHEN CHILDREN AND DOGS ARE TOGETHER!

WOULD THEY KILL OTHER ANIMALS?

Most Labs that are trained and socialized will be fine with other animals.

WHAT IS THEIR ENERGY LEVEL?

They are very energetic so you need to take an active roll in exercising and have adequate room for them to run.

ARE THEY EASY TO TRAIN?

Labs can be easy learners, but get professional help right away if you have problems.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH CONCERNS?

Some concerns are: EIC - a syndrome of exercise intolerance and collapse, Hip Dysplasia, Cold Water Tail aka Swimmers Tail and Progressive Retinal Atrophy. Buying from a reputable breeder is always advisable and will help to lessen the chances for health problems and congenital defects.