

# Shiba Inu



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 Shiba Inu 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 Shiba Inu is the oldest and the smallest breed of dog in Japan. They were used for hunting large and small animals through the brushy mountainous regions.

## **BREED APPEARANCE:**

This breed resembles a fox. The height is 13 1/2 to 16 1/2 inches and it weighs 17 - 23 pounds. This breed has small triangular ears that stand up. Its body is square with a bushy tail that curls up over his back. His outer coat is short stiff and straight with colors ranging from red, sesame (black tipped red), black or tan. He has a soft thick undercoat in buff, cream or grey.

**WHY YOU WOULD LOVE THIS BREED:** He's known for his untiring energy, vigor and agility. They have quick thoughts and actions. They are clean and generally quiet, but are bold and fearless watch dogs.

**WHY YOU WOULD NOT LOVE THIS BREED:** When they bark or scream it's a jolting unforgettable experience. They will never sit still for long, are independent and love games of "keep away." They need containment, even outdoors with a fence; otherwise they will climb or tunnel under. You need to supply them with lots of toys to keep up their interest. Shiba Inu's can be aggressive towards people and dogs if not properly socialized or managed.

# 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 small, not demanding.

**MINUSES:** They don't like to mind, are hard to catch if they don't want to come.

## **WHO SHOULD NOT OWN THIS BREED?**

If you are a couch potato, not very active and don't have the time to train this dog, please choose another breed. If you're looking for a dog that wants to please you, keep looking. If you don't have a strong personality this dog isn't for you.

## **DO THEY SHED?**



Yes, this dog is a moderate shedder. He needs to be brushed frequently by the owner.

## **WILL THIS BREED BITE MY CHILD?**



They are good with the family but don't like to be hugged or handled. If they feel threatened, some may bite. **EXTREME CAUTION AND SUPERVISION IS ALWAYS RECOMMENDED WHEN CHILDREN AND DOGS ARE TOGETHER!**

## **WOULD THEY KILL OTHER ANIMALS?**



An intact male should not live with other intact males or small pets. They need training at an early age, and socialization.

## **WHAT IS THEIR ENERGY LEVEL?**



They are a high energy dog. You need to have a backyard for them to run in and create interesting games. They should also have many toys to play with.

## **ARE THEY EASY TO TRAIN?**



The Shiba Inu is intelligent, but doesn't like taking direction. They need to be convinced it was their idea to learn. Early training is mandatory and socialization should be ongoing.

## **WHAT ARE THE HEALTH CONCERNS?**



Some experience hip dysplasia and some have knee problems. Picking a healthy pup and feeding him quality food will help keep vet bills low. Buying from a reputable breeder is always advisable and will help to lessen the chances for health problems and congenital defects.