

Shih-Tzu



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 Shih-tzu 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: This breed dates back to the 16th century. In the 17th century they were brought to Peking from Tibet. Shih-Tzu was a favorite of the Imperial Chinese court and they refused to trade them or give them away. They came to the U.S. in 1969.

BREED APPEARANCE: Shih-Tzu's are 10" – 11" and weigh 9 – 16 pounds. This is a sturdy compact breed. They have long silky hair with a wooly undercoat in a variety of colors. They have a short face, upward nose, profuse beard, and mustache. They have large round wide set eyes.

WHY YOU WOULD LOVE THIS BREED:

They're a lively, spunky companion with lots of character. They love their owner and enjoy a lot of attention. They easily adapt to being home alone.

WHY YOU WOULD NOT LOVE THIS BREED:

Shih-Tzu's can be stubborn and they are not good with children. They can be snappy. They snore and wheeze and require lots of grooming. They love to eat and can pack on the pounds quickly.

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: Shih-Tzu's are a very loving and charming.

MINUSES: They can be a bratty breed and are hard to housebreak.

WHO SHOULD NOT OWN THIS BREED?

Families with young children should not own this breed.

DO THEY SHED?

They shed a minimal amount, but need professional grooming often.

WILL THIS BREED BITE MY CHILD?

This breed can be snappish toward children. **EXTREME CAUTION AND SUPERVISION IS ALWAYS RECOMMENDED WHEN CHILDREN AND DOGS ARE TOGETHER!**

WOULD THEY KILL OTHER ANIMALS?

They are fine with other animals if socialized properly.

WHAT IS THEIR ENERGY LEVEL?

They are an active dog. They can be spunky and like to romp indoors. A daily walk or a fifteen minute run in the backyard is sufficient exercise for this breed.

ARE THEY EASY TO TRAIN?

This breed can be stubborn and therefore difficult to train.

WHAT ARE THE HEALTH CONCERNS?

Their eyes are vulnerable to injury and dryness. Spinal discs, ear infections, and kidney problems are common. They may overheat in hot weather. Buying from a reputable breeder is always advisable and will help to lessen the chances for health problems and congenital defects.

