

# West Highland Terrier



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 West Highland Terrier 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:** A Scottish hunter created a line of white terriers after mistaking one of his brownish ones for a fox and shot it. The Westie was originally bred to control rodents. It is one of the most popular show and companion dogs.

**BREED APPEARANCE:** West Highland Terrier's are 10" – 11" and weigh 15 – 22 pounds. They are a sturdy, stocky breed; with short muscular legs. They have small pointed erect ears and a deep chest. Their coat is a thick white double coat with wiry hair.

**WHY YOU WOULD LOVE THIS BREED:**

They are a robust, friendly breed even to strangers. They are a loving companion, good watchdog, and easy to travel with.

**WHY YOU WOULD NOT LOVE THIS BREED:**

They are a bit stubborn and they like to dig and chew. They like to bark and tend to be a bit snappy when something doesn't go their way.

# 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:** Westies are fun loving, eager, and active. They make great companions and they like people.

**MINUSES:** They tend to bark a lot, dig, and chase anything that moves and can be a bit snappy.

**WHO SHOULD NOT OWN THIS BREED?**

Families with small children should be cautious about this breed.

**DO THEY SHED?**



This breed sheds very little or none at all. They should be brushed and given a bath when necessary.

**WILL THIS BREED BITE MY CHILD?**



This breed may snap if irritated by a child. This dog is best suited for families with older children. However, EXTREME CAUTION AND SUPERVISION IS ALWAYS RECOMMENDED WHEN CHILDREN AND DOGS ARE TOGETHER!

**WOULD THEY KILL OTHER ANIMALS?**



They have a high chase drive but are not likely to kill. They should be fine with other dogs if socialized properly.

**WHAT IS THEIR ENERGY LEVEL?**



This breed does not require a lot of exercise but should be allowed to run in the yard or go for daily walks.

**ARE THEY EASY TO TRAIN?**



This dog can be stubborn but is not too difficult to train. They like to be rewarded for their efforts.

**WHAT ARE THE HEALTH CONCERNS?**



This breed may experience deafness, chronic skin problems and hip problems. Buying from a reputable breeder is always advisable and will help to lessen the chances for health problems and congenital defects.

