

Utility

Akita

The largest breed in the group originates in Japan where he was originally used as a fighting dog but his courage was diverted into hunting for bear, deer and wild boar. The Akita as we see it today was developed in America, becoming stronger in bone and substance and makes an impressive sight. Like many of the Japanese breeds, brilliant and clear coat colours are much valued. The Akita is known in some countries as the Great Japanese Dog.

Breed Group	Utility
Vulnerable Breed	No
Size	Large
How much exercise?	More than 2 hours per day
Length of coat	Short
How much grooming?	Once a week
Supposedly sheds?	Yes
Town or Country	Either
Type of home	Large House
Minimum garden size	Large
Lifespan	Under 10 Years

Health Information

You may be aware that some breeds of dog and their crosses can be susceptible to inherited disease. Of course you want to be sure that the dog you choose is as healthy as possible, and you would like to know that it has not inherited any undesirable disease-causing genes from its parents. There is some help in that DNA tests for diseases in purebred dogs are available for some conditions in some breeds, but there are not very many such tests just yet! There are also, however, a number of clinical veterinary screening schemes that dog breeders can use to increase the probability of producing healthy puppies.

Details of the various screening schemes, both veterinary and DNA, that are available to breeders in the UK can be found at www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth

Potential dog owners should be aware that, at present, the application of various health screening results to breeding programmes is not always straightforward, and breeders may make choices for various reasons. A responsible breeder though, will always be willing to discuss relevant health issues with you. Breed clubs are often useful sources of breed-specific information.

What Screening is relevant for the Akita?

Kennel Club Assured Breeders must use the following screening schemes for sires and dams BVA/KC

- BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme

Kennel Club Assured Breeders are strongly recommended to use the following screening schemes and/or advice for sires and dams

- BVA/KC/ISDS Eye Scheme

The list above is not necessarily comprehensive. Breed clubs and experienced breeders are useful sources of information on health issues in the breed. All breeds have a Breed Health Coordinator.

Breeding Restrictions

The Kennel Club will not accept an application to register a litter when:

- 1) The dam has already whelped 4 litters (as of the 1st January 2012 the limit changed from 6 litters to 4 litters). As of this date the Kennel Club will no longer register any further litters from any bitch which our records show has already whelped 4 litters. Therefore for any litter born on or after the 1st January 2012, the system will automatically check to see how many previous litters the Kennel Club has an account of. Where the number previously recorded is 4 or more, the application will be rejected, or
- 2) The dam has already reached the age of 8 years at the date of whelping, (relief from this restriction may be considered normally provided an application is made prior to the mating, the proposed dam has previously whelped at least one other registered litter, and the application is supported by veterinary evidence as to the suitability of the bitch involved in the proposed whelping), or
- 3) The dam was under one year old at the time of mating, or
- 4) The offspring are the result of any mating between father and daughter, mother and son or brother and sister, save in exceptional circumstances or for scientifically proven welfare reasons, or
- 5) (From 1st January 2012) The dam has already had two litters delivered by caesarean section, save for scientifically

proven welfare reasons and this only normally provided the application is made prior to the mating, or

6) The dam was not resident at a UK address at the date of whelping.

There are further Kennel Club Rules and Regulations that may prevent a litter from being registered; the full Kennel Club Rules and Regulations are contained in the Kennel Club Year Book.

Breed Specific Breeding Restrictions

Accepted Registration Colours

- Black
- Black & White
- Brindle
- Brindle & White
- Brown & White
- Fawn & White
- Fawn & White Black Overlay
- Fawn With Black Mask
- Pinto
- Red
- Red & Black
- Red & White
- Red & White With Black Overlay
- Red Black & White
- Red With Black Mask
- Silver & Black
- Silver & White
- Silver & White Black Overlay
- Silver Fawn & White
- Silver White & Black
- Silver With Black Mask
- White
- White Fawn & Black
- White With Coloured Mask
- White With Markings

Akita Clubs

Name	Telephone
Akita Association	01253 810235
Akita Club Of Scotland	01383 514 633
Akita Club Of Wales	01685 844993

Akita Rescue Organisations

Name	Telephone
Akita Rescue & Welfare Trust (UK)	0845 260 2206
Akita Rescue & Welfare Trust (UK)	0121 552 9397

Name	Telephone
Friends of Akitas Trust (UK)	07922 665152
Friends of Akitas Trust (UK)	07738 638091
Japanese Akita Welfare Trust (JAWT)	0844 225 3878
Japanese Akita Welfare Trust (JAWT)	0844 225 3878
Japanese Akita Welfare Trust (JAWT)	0844 225 3878
Japanese Akita Welfare Trust (JAWT)	0844 225 3878