



All about
**Airedale
Terriers**

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The Airedale Terrier

About the Airedale Terrier

If you often associate Terriers with a small breed, the Airedale Terrier will surprise you. Standing an average of 23 inches high, this breed will keep you moving with its active lifestyle and playful spirit.

Airedale Terrier Characteristics

The Airedale Terrier is a loving breed that enjoys playing games and having your full attention when they are puppies. As they grow older, they can become much more independent and do just fine entertaining themselves. Strict but not too harsh training will do well for Airedales. They can tend to become very dominant, particularly with submissive owners, if not trained early on.

Their wiry, thick coat covers a softer, fuzzy undercoat that gives the Airedales their curly locks. Most Airedale Terriers will have a docked tail. The head, ears, chest, and down the legs, should all be tan. The back is usually both tan and black, with some mixtures of red.

Average Weight	50-65 pounds	Temperament	Playful and sensitive; can have a high dominance.
Average Height	22-24 inches	Good with Children?	Older children are best. Large breeds can be too rough with young children.
Coat	Short, wiry coat w/ a soft, curly undercoat. Black/Tan coloring	Health Concerns	Hip Dysplasia Autoimmune Disease Metabolic Bone Disease

Selecting Your Airedale Terrier Puppy

Thinking about adopting your Airedale Terrier? There are numerous resources available when you are ready to start searching. Checking online is a great place to start. Here, you can learn more about the breed, requirements for adoption, and even search through photos of available Airedales. People that operate adoption and rescue centers are searching for the very best home for these dogs. They will want to get to know you and understand your needs as well as educate you about the needs of an Airedale Terrier.

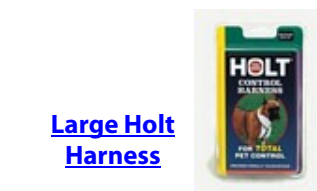
If working with a breeder is more your style, there are plenty of options for that as well. Airedales have an average of nine puppies per litter, which makes finding your Airedale much easier. Breeders can be located by searching the Internet, checking with a local vet, or even talking with someone who already owns an Airedale and obtaining a personal referral. Just like adoption and rescue owners, breeders care a great deal about their dogs and want to ensure the best home for them.



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If you contact a breeder before a litter is born, make an appointment to stop by and see the Airedale parents. Many breeders will take a deposit in advance to reserve your puppy, once it is born. It's also a good idea to visit more than one breeder just to compare and be sure that you are getting the best Airedale Terrier.

A Few Words About Adoption

Every year, thousands of animals are either captured or turned in by their owners to be adopted. These pets can make wonderful companions and desire a loving home to call their own. When considering adoption, you should choose an animal shelter or rescue in your nearby community that you trust and one that has a long-standing reputation for providing exceptional care to the animals. Shelters that have an on-site vet clinic are a plus. Many facilities will require the pet to be spayed or neutered before the adoption is complete. This fee will be included in the adoption costs.

A Few Words About Breeders

Some people prefer that their Airedale Terrier come from a reputable breeder. This can be the best choice for owners wishing to show their dog or become breeders themselves. Breeders can provide you with a wealth of knowledge including health issues, family history, and the various breed characteristics. Airedale Terrier breeders can easily be found by going to the AKC website and searching by location. You can also search newspaper classifieds or locate breeder websites on the Internet. You should have a list of questions ready to ask the breeder when you visit or call. It is good to inquire about the length of time the breeder has been in business, if the parents will be available for you to see, and what kind of health guarantees and records will be provided. Expect a good breeder to have several questions for you as well such as the environment in which the dog will reside and how much time you will be able to spend with the dog.

Purchasing your Airedale Terrier from a breeder or adopting are both good choices. You need to be sure to do your research first and to avoid making a quick decision based on immediate availability. Sometimes it is better to build a relationship first with a chosen breeder and plan for an upcoming litter.

How to Choose your Airedale Terrier

Whether you choose to purchase your new Airedale Terrier directly from a breeder or go through the adoption/rescue process, you'll be sure to make a new best friend right away.

If you are purchasing a new puppy, it is always a great advantage to see the majority of the litter. Spend some time observing the puppies and their interaction with one another and with you. While it can be difficult to predict the behavior of your Airedale Terrier in the future, some of these early characteristics can be signs of whether they will be overly dominant. Some people who like larger breeds, yet want the in-between, might prefer the smallest of the litter. This will give you a chance to compare sizes.

With older Airedale Terriers, look for proper coloring and markings, a well-kept coat, and good dental hygiene. Talk with the previous owner or guardian about the current diet and any behavioral issues or past injuries that you should be made aware of. If your Airedale Terrier has had a history of neglect or abuse, you will want to know this so that you are sensitive in your discipline and responses.



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You'll need these basics before your Terrier comes home. Click the items below to go to CheapPetStore.com to find the best prices for online pet supplies.

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EXPERT TIP

Selecting a Crate

A dog should be able to stand and turn around inside a closed crate. If you have a puppy, consider the average height and weight and choose a crate based on those specifications. The average size of an adult Airedale Terrier is 50 lbs and 22 inches tall. Choose a sturdy steel or plastic crate for medium sized breeds.

[Click here to see our crates.](#)

Bringing Your Airedale Terrier Home

Airedale Terriers are large dogs that need plenty of room to run and exercise. If your yard is fenced, check that it is secure and that there are no areas where the dog can easily escape. All it takes is a teasing chipmunk to put your Airedale on the chase, right out that loose gate. Both puppies and adult dogs will require the basics that can be obtained from your local pet store. Some things to have on hand are:

- Dog or puppy food
- Collar/Leash (take with you when you pick up your new Airedale)
- Grooming supplies (a pin brush works best; sensitive skin shampoo)
- Crate
- Various chew toys
- Treats

Dog doors are always nice but not required. They come in handy for adult dogs that have to be home for long periods of time, or senior dogs that need to visit the yard more frequently.

The Airedale Terrier Pup

Each stage of your pet's life is characterized by special needs. Puppies' lives are full of learning experiences. Enjoy the time you spend with your puppy by using chew toys or balls to keep your puppy active and knowing that each time that you use these toys, you are training your pet. It is always a good idea to enroll your Airedale in a training class. A new pet owner has as much to learn as the new pet does of its owner. If you set boundaries when the puppy is young and always use a loving hand and voice with your pet, your Airedale Terrier pup will learn good habits, unlike a puppy not played with or taught what is acceptable by its owner.

The Airedale Terrier Adult

If you've raised your Airedale Terrier from a puppy, your now adult should be well-trained and obedient, right? Well, hopefully. Airedales take a lot of patience in training. If you've grown frustrated, don't give up! There are numerous books and other resources available as well as professional trainers that are educated to know all the tricks for this breed.

When brushing the coat becomes difficult or the skin is very dry, you may need to consider an alternative food with more oils in it. There are also liquid additives available through your pet store, if your Airedale won't switch foods.

The Airedale Terrier Senior

Continued regular exercise and attention are what older dogs need most. Your Airedale Terrier still needs just as much love and attention as it did in the very beginning. Dental care can become important, as your pet ages. Be sure to continue with regular visits to your vet to monitor potential health issues. The life expectancy for this breed is around 10-12 years.

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