



All About the Beagle

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The Beagle

About the Beagle

Perhaps you've fallen in love with that famous dog that sleeps on top of his doghouse and answers to Snoopy, or perhaps you just can't resist soft, gentle eyes and a friendly disposition. Whatever the reason, beagles have become one of the most popular breeds in the US. A member of the hound family, beagles first originated in Europe and were used to hunt foxes and rabbit. Their keen sense of smell and stamina make them excellent in the field.

Average Weight	18-30 Lbs	Temperament	Alert, lively & active. Very friendly.
Average Height	13-15 inches	Good with Children?	Very good with children, and other animals.
Coat	Short & coarse	Health Concerns	Cataracts, arthritis.



- [Toys for Your Beagle](#)
- [Treats for Your Beagle](#)

Beagle Characteristics

Its cheerful disposition makes a Beagle a very loving breed. While small in stature, beagles are very sturdy animals, with a muscular frame. They are very alert, active, yet show little to no aggression. Unlike the basset hound, beagles do not drool, have slightly shorter ears, and do not possess the typical "hound smell". The beagle's coat is very short and coarse, and shedding can be a problem. A good brushing once a week will help get rid of dead hair. If there is excessive flaking, it might be necessary to purchase a special shampoo that will help condition the dry skin.

Selecting Your Beagle Puppy

Making the decision to either adopt or purchase your puppy from a breeder is a matter of personal choice. Both options are presented with pros and cons in the succeeding discussions, which should be thoroughly reviewed and considered by any prospective owner before a decision is made.

A Few Words About Adoption

Pet adoption can be a great experience for someone looking to own an older pet, or to help out a local shelter that is in need of good homes for their animals. There are also several beagle rescue organizations that can be wonderful to work with. Just like purchasing from a pet owner or reputable breeder, there are precautions that you should take. Make sure that the shelter is clean and well-maintained. Ask for information about the pet, such as any known family history, characteristics, or illnesses. The more information you have, the better prepared you will be in providing the best care for your new beagle.



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A Few Words About Breeders

If you choose to purchase your Beagle from a breeder, you will have many options. Breeders can be found by visiting the AKC website and doing a search for Beagles, then searching by location. Once you have made contact with your breeder of choice, be prepared to have the breeder ask you several questions. In turn, you should ask the breeder your own questions as well. Look for a breeder that has either one or both parents onsite, or can provide a complete family history on both. If you are purchasing an AKC- registered Beagle, carefully review the provided paperwork from the breeder and be certain you understand all the terms and conditions. Oftentimes, a puppy may be fully AKC registered; however, size and other circumstances may void this registration if you choose to breed your puppy.

Choosing to adopt your new puppy or purchase directly from a breeder can each have positive outcomes, and some issues, as well. Just be sure to ask questions and make a thoughtful decision.

How to Choose your Beagle

Beagle puppies have faces that can sell you instantly. Their deep brown eyes and long ears can soften even the coldest heart. To ensure that your puppy is off to a good start, look for the following:

- A clean, healthy coat that is free of bugs, excessive flaking, etc.
- Clean and clear eyes
- Proper weight/size
- Clean ears; no ticks or other obstructions

If you choose to purchase your Beagle from a breeder, plan to spend some time at the site observing the puppy and its behavior and with its litter mates. At an adoption or rescue facility, make some of the same observations, and watching for any possible ailments or difficulties in movement.

Bringing Your Beagle Home

Before you bring home a new pet, you want to be fully prepared. Most new puppies want to explore and chew on anything they might encounter. The smart owner will have already gone through his home and removed any potential chewing targets, replacing them instead with the proper chew toys. If you have children, you will need to train them to keep their toys away, or they might become a victim of the puppy's sharp little teeth. Establish an area in the home where the puppy can sleep at night and be able to retire when it needs a break from all the daily excitement. Having a special blanket or pad for the puppy in the living room is an easy way to create this special area where your puppy feels safe and will allow you to can keep a watchful eye.

A trip to your local pet supply store will provide you with all the necessary items you will need for your new puppy. Some of the essentials include: pet food, a crate (for sleeping and while you are away), grooming supplies (brush, tearless shampoo), a collar/leash, various chew toys, treats, puppy pads (for housebreaking), and something for the accidents that will happen).

Be sure to make an appointment to take your new Beagle to the vet. Most likely, your puppy will need shots within the first few weeks after it has been home.



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

- [Crate](#)
- [Crate Pad](#)
- [Dog Bed](#)
- [Food Dish](#)
- [Squeaky Toy](#)
- [Dry Food](#)
- [Collar](#)
- [Lead](#)
- [Puppy Pads](#)
- [Chew Toy](#)
- [Shampoo](#)
- [Brush](#)
- [Toothbrush](#)
- [Nail Trimmer](#)

EXPERT TIP

Selecting a Crate

A dog should be able to stand and turn around inside a closed crate. If you have a Beagle puppy, consider the average height and weight of an adult Beagle and choose a crate based on those specifications. The average size of an adult Beagle is 15 lbs and 16 inches tall. Choose a sturdy steel or plastic crate for medium-sized breeds such as the Beagle.

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

The Beagle Pup

Just like a newborn baby, your puppy will mainly eat and sleep in the beginning – although it won't be long before it goes running around with the energy of a two-year-old child. If you have other pets at home, be sure to supervise the initial greetings of the new puppy. While Beagles are very friendly and enjoy other dogs, the same might not be true for your existing pet/s. Little nails should be clipped to prevent snagging or tearing. It is best to introduce grooming routines early on to lessen resistance. Once your puppy has grown a little, consider your options for obedience school. Several pet stores now offer “puppy kindergarten” and other classes to help get your pet off to a great start.

The Beagle Adult

Beagles have a lot of energy and need plenty of exercise to burn it off. Because Beagles are part of the hound family, their need to search out a scent can get them into trouble. Be sure that your Beagle is either contained in a fenced yard, or kept on a leash when you are out walking. Your Beagle may also enjoy barking or howling a little too much, which can be an issue with nearby neighbors. Keep your Beagle busy with chew toys and plenty of activity to discourage boredom or loneliness, which are often reasons for the restlessness.

The Beagle Senior

Since your Beagle has spent many of its younger years playing hard and staying very active, you may begin to notice a slower movements and difficulties in walking. Older dogs often develop arthritis and joint stiffness. Luckily, there are several remedies that you can find either through your vet or online pet stores, such as glucosamine supplements that can help ease the pain.

Beagles can live for 10-15 years, making them an excellent choice for a family pet. They are very friendly animals with good temperaments. But just like other older pets, your senior Beagle may be more irritable than usual. So if you have children at home, it is best to always caution them not to agitate the pet particularly when eating or resting.

Medical Considerations

Most health issues for Beagles are associated with their eyes. As they age, they can develop cataracts, and retinal dysplasia, which can lead to blindness. Epilepsy and kidney failure may also occur in older Beagles. Arthritis will limit your pet's ability to exercise regularly, which in turn can lead to your pet being overweight. A Beagle that is properly bred can help reduce many of these hereditary conditions. Carefully follow feeding amounts for your pet's age and size. If necessary, a veterinarian can provide your pet with special diet food whenever food sensitivities or allergies emerge.



Can't miss gifts for the Beagle owner:

- [Book About Beagles](#)
- [Decorative Dog Treat Jar](#)
- [Decorative Coffee Mug](#)
- [Dog Training Guide](#)
- [Blank Dog Themed Note Cards](#)



Items to suit your senior Beagle:

- [Vitamins](#)
- [Senior Formula Food](#)
- [Orthopedic Bed](#)
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- [PetSafe Bark Control Collar](#)
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