# Concept: Cerberus Match Guide

## **Purpose**

This guide outlines Cerberus's care needs, temperament, and compatibility to help determine if you and Cerberus are a good match. A strong match ensures long-term success for both dog and caregiver.

#### **Ideal Home Environment**

Cerberus thrives in calm, structured environments. He benefits from consistent routines and companionship throughout the day. A house with a secure yard works best. Cerberus is not suited to apartment living.

#### **Best fit:**

- Access to outdoor space
- Quiet, predictable routines
- · Human presence during most of the day

## **Energy Compatibility**

Cerberus brings enthusiasm and a strong working drive. He needs regular movement, stimulation, and shared purpose. Daily walks, play, and short training sessions help him feel settled and engaged.

#### Care includes:

- 60+ minutes of activity each day
- Toys and games that challenge his mind
- · Consistent feedback and clear direction

#### **Experience Level**

Cerberus responds to steady, confident leadership. With guidance, he adapts well and enjoys learning. Experienced handlers and new adopters who commit to structure and support can succeed with him.

#### **Caregiver strengths:**

- Clear boundaries and consistency
- · Commitment to ongoing training
- · Calm and attentive presence

## **Household Compatibility**

Cerberus does best in adult-only homes or with children over 5 years old. He prefers environments free from overstimulation. His high prey drive makes cat-free homes ideal. He may live well with a calm, balanced dog after a careful introduction.

#### Additional needs:

- Time and space to decompress
- Consistent structure to build trust

#### **Medical and Health Overview**

Cerberus maintains overall good health. Gentle care helps him continue to build confidence and strength.

- · Treated for fleas on intake
- Not neutered yet; recommended at 12-18 months
- Healing paw scrapes (as of July 6, 2025)
- · Sensitive to hot pavement
- · Recovering from kennel cough
- · Healed bite on ear

For Cerberus's full medical and health overview, see the Health and Vaccination Record

## **Feeding and Food Habits**

Cerberus eats well and responds to food as a training tool. He enjoys a steady routine and a balanced diet.

- Two meals daily of dry kibble
- · Likes yogurt, peanut butter, broths, and watermelon
- Fast eater and drinker (slow feeder recommended)
- Begs at the table but is not fed from it

#### **Temperament and Activity**

Cerberus is alert, affectionate, and playful. He builds bonds quickly and shows joy when given shared tasks.

- Active and eager to engage
- Protective instincts; good alertness

- · Needs structured walks and mental games
- Enjoys treat balls, squeaky toys, beach balls
- Not responsive to frisbees
- Supervision recommended during soft toy play

## Socialization and Daily Life

Cerberus connects deeply and thrives in homes with structure. He values routine, activity, and companionship.

- Wakes up at 6 a.m., potty break, fetch, breakfast at 7 a.m., then bowel movement
- Loves children (above 5-8 years old)
- Trained to give hugs, doesn't jump up
- Learning personal boundaries
- Pack-oriented; enjoys daycare and dog companions
- · Dislikes crates and long periods alone
- · Not compatible with cats

## **Training Needs**

Cerberus shows strong potential and benefits from structured, positive reinforcement.

- Currently in formal training with \_\_\_\_\_
- · High prey drive (squirrels, rabbits, small dogs)
- Can jump up on cue

### Training success depends on:

- Positive reinforcement
- Daily, clear communication
- · Avoidance of punishment-based methods

## **Lifestyle Fit Scenarios**

- Remote or hybrid worker: Excellent match for consistent engagement
- · Active adult or couple: Good fit for shared activity and bonding
- · Retiree with routine: Works well if structured and attentive
- High-traffic or chaotic home: Not a good match
- Confined living space (i.e., apartment): Not a good match

## Summary

Cerberus is energetic, trainable, and full of heart. He builds trust with presence, structure, and mutual respect. Cerberus is a loyal and intelligent companion ready to grow alongside you.