# [Mongrel](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/mongrel/" \o "Mongrel):

A mixed-breed [dog](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/), also called a mutt, mongrel, tyke, cur, bitzer, feist or random-bred [dog](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/), is a [dog](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) that has characteristics of two or more [types](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-types) of breeds, or is a descendant of [feral](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-feral) or pariah [dog](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) populations.  
  
This term, along with the term purebred [dog](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) stems from a fundamental misunderstanding of the genetics and misinterpretation of Darwinian theory, and should be viewed with the same scepticism as we view the concept of pure races in [human](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/human/) populations. The term crossbreed refers to puppies produced by the breeding technique of breeding known [dogs](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) of two different purebred [dog](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) breeds for some specific reason.  
  
The term mutt generally refers to a [dog](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) of unknown descent. [Dogs](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) interbreed freely, except where extreme variations in [size](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-size) exist, so mixed-breed [dogs](https://a-z-animals.com/animals/dog/) vary in [size](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-size), shape, and [colour](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/" \l "jump-colour), making them hard to classify physically.

# Dog Facts:

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| [**Kingdom**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-kingdom)**:** | Animalia |
| [**Phylum**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-phylum)**:** | Chordata |
| [**Class**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-class)**:** | Mammalia |
| [**Order**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-order)**:** | Carnivora |
| [**Family**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-family)**:** | Canidae |
| [**Genus**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-genus)**:** | Canis |
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| [**Scientific Name**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-scientific-name)**:** | Canis lupus familiaris |
| [**Type**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-type)**:** | Mammal |
| [**Diet**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-diet)**:** | Carnivore |
| [**Size**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-size)**:** | 50cm (20in) |
| [**Weight**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-weight)**:** | 30kg (65lbs) |
| [**Top Speed**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-top-speed)**:** | 50km/h (31mph) |
| [**Lifespan**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-lifespan)**:** | 15 years |
| [**Lifestyle**](https://a-z-animals.com/reference/glossary/#jump-lifestyle)**:** | Solitary |