

Dog

Dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*) were the first animals domesticated by humans, likely over 15,000 years ago. Originating from wolves, dogs evolved into loyal companions that now come in more than 300 different breeds, ranging from tiny Chihuahuas to massive Great Danes. Dogs have been bred for various purposes, such as herding, guarding, hunting, and companionship. They are highly social animals that thrive on interaction, both with humans and other dogs. Dogs' senses are remarkable: their sense of smell is tens of thousands of times more sensitive than humans', and they can detect certain diseases, such as cancer, just by scent. Dogs communicate through barks, growls, whines, and body language. Their loyalty, trainability, and emotional sensitivity have made them essential partners in roles like search-and-rescue, therapy, and law enforcement. Dogs need regular exercise, mental stimulation, and socialization to maintain their health and happiness. Their close bond with humans has earned them the nickname "man's best friend." Modern science continues to explore the deep emotional connection between dogs and humans, confirming that this partnership is built on trust, cooperation, and mutual affection.