**Afghan Hound**

* **Appearance:** Tall and elegant (25–27″ tall, 50–60 lb). Long, flowing silky coat in various colors. Narrow head, long muzzle, arched neck, and feathered tail.
* **Personality:** Aloof, independent, and dignified. Affectionate with family but often reserved with strangers. Has a strong prey drive and a cat-like personality — graceful yet stubborn.
* **Health:** Lifespan ~12–15 years. Generally healthy but prone to hip dysplasia, hypothyroidism, cataracts, and sensitivity to anesthesia. Monitor joints and eyes.
* **Grooming:** High. Daily brushing to prevent tangles and mats in long coat. Regular bathing and professional grooming. Clean ears, trim nails, and brush teeth regularly.

**Akita**

* **Appearance:** Large and powerful (24–28″ tall, 70–130 lb). Thick double coat, curled tail, broad head, and erect ears. Common coat colors include white, red, brindle, and sesame.
* **Personality:** Brave, dignified, and loyal. Naturally protective and reserved with strangers. Bonds strongly with one family. Not usually dog-friendly; early socialization and experienced ownership are essential.
* **Health:** Lifespan ~10–13 years. Prone to hip dysplasia, hypothyroidism, progressive retinal atrophy, and autoimmune disorders like VKH. Needs regular checkups and exercise.
* **Grooming:** Moderate to high. Heavy seasonal shedders ("blow coat" twice a year). Weekly brushing (daily during shedding). Bathe monthly or as needed. Maintain ears, nails, and dental hygiene.

**Alaskan Malamute**

* **Appearance:** Large and powerful (23–25″ tall, 75–100+ lb). Thick, dense double coat (gray/white, red/white, black/white). Plumed tail curls over back. Wolf-like face with erect ears.
* **Personality:** Energetic, friendly, and strong-willed. Pack-oriented, loyal to family, and good with children. Not a guard dog but can be independent and vocal. Needs strong leadership.
* **Health:** Lifespan ~10–14 years. Prone to hip/elbow dysplasia, hypothyroidism, cataracts, and inherited polyneuropathy. Avoid overheating and provide ample exercise.
* **Grooming:** High. Sheds heavily, especially seasonally. Brush several times/week (daily when shedding). Bathe only as needed. Routine nail trimming and ear cleaning are necessary.

**American Bully**

* **Appearance:** Medium-sized (16–20″ tall, 30–85 lb depending on type). Muscular build, broad chest, and strong stance. Short, smooth coat in various colors. Blocky head with short muzzle.
* **Personality:** Confident, loyal, and affectionate. Gentle with family and children. Not aggressive when well-socialized. Social, people-loving, and eager to please.
* **Health:** Lifespan ~10–13 years. Can be prone to hip dysplasia, skin allergies, cherry eye, heart conditions, and brachycephalic breathing issues in some lines. Regular vet care helps manage risks.
* **Grooming:** Low. Weekly brushing to manage shedding. Occasional bathing. Regular nail trimming, ear checks, and dental care are needed.

**American Cocker Spaniel**

* **Appearance:** Small-to-medium (13.5–15.5″ tall, 20–30 lb). Silky, medium-length coat with feathering on ears, chest, legs, and belly. Round eyes, long ears, and a charming expression. Coat colors include buff, black, parti, and more.
* **Personality:** Happy, gentle, and affectionate. Loves to please, sociable with people and pets. Enjoys play and family life. Sensitive — responds well to positive reinforcement.
* **Health:** Lifespan ~12–15 years. Prone to ear infections, eye issues (cataracts, PRA), allergies, and hip dysplasia. Clean ears regularly and monitor joints/skin.
* **Grooming:** High. Brush 3–4x/week. Regular professional grooming every 4–6 weeks. Clean ears frequently to prevent infections. Maintain dental and nail care.

**American Staffordshire Terrier**

**Appearance:** The American Staffordshire Terrier is a medium-sized, muscular dog standing 17–19 inches tall and weighing 40–70 pounds. They have a broad head, pronounced cheek muscles, and a short, glossy coat that comes in various colors and patterns.

**Personality:** Known for their intelligence and confidence, AmStaffs are affectionate and loyal companions. They are eager to please and thrive on human interaction. Early socialization and consistent training are essential to harness their energy and strength positively.

**Health:** With a lifespan of approximately 12 years, they are generally healthy but can be prone to hip dysplasia, skin allergies, and certain heart conditions. Regular veterinary check-ups and a balanced diet are recommended.

**Grooming:** Their short coat requires minimal grooming. Weekly brushing will help remove loose hairs and keep their coat shiny. Regular dental care and nail trimming are also important.

**Belgian Shepherd Dog (Groenendael)**

**Appearance:** The Belgian Shepherd Dog, specifically the Groenendael variety, is a medium-sized, elegant dog standing 22–26 inches tall and weighing 60–75 pounds. They have a long, black double coat, erect ears, and a proud carriage.

**Personality:** Highly intelligent and trainable, they are known for their versatility and strong work ethic. They form close bonds with their families and require regular mental and physical stimulation to prevent boredom.

**Health:** Their lifespan ranges from 12 to 14 years. They can be susceptible to hip and elbow dysplasia, epilepsy, and certain eye conditions. Regular health screenings are advisable.

**Grooming:** Their long coat requires regular brushing, at least once a week, to prevent matting and control shedding. During heavy shedding periods, more frequent grooming may be necessary.

**Boston Terrier**

**Appearance:** Boston Terriers are compact, short-tailed dogs weighing no more than 25 pounds. They have a distinctive tuxedo-like black and white coat, a square head, and large, expressive eyes.

**Personality:** Known for their friendly and affectionate nature, Boston Terriers are gentle companions. They are intelligent, lively, and enjoy being part of family activities.

**Health:** With a lifespan of 11–13 years, they can be prone to respiratory issues due to their short snouts, as well as eye problems. Regular veterinary care and monitoring are important.

**Grooming:** Their short coat is easy to maintain with weekly brushing. Regular cleaning of facial folds and eyes is recommended to prevent infections.

**Bull Terrier**

**Appearance:** Bull Terriers are muscular dogs with a distinctive egg-shaped head and small, triangular eyes. They stand 21–22 inches tall and weigh 50–70 pounds. Their short, dense coat comes in various colors.

**Personality:** Playful and affectionate, Bull Terriers are known for their mischievous nature. They are loyal companions but require consistent training and socialization from an early age.

**Health:** They have a lifespan of 10–14 years. Common health issues include deafness, skin allergies, and heart problems. Regular health check-ups are essential.

**Grooming:** Their short coat is low-maintenance, requiring only weekly brushing. Regular dental care and nail trimming are also important.

**Bulldog**

**Appearance:** Bulldogs are medium-sized dogs with a distinctive wrinkled face, short muzzle, and muscular build. They weigh around 40–50 pounds and have a smooth, short coat.

**Personality:** Known for their calm and friendly demeanor, Bulldogs are loyal and affectionate companions. They are good with children and adapt well to apartment living.

**Health:** With a lifespan of 8–10 years, Bulldogs can be prone to respiratory issues, hip dysplasia, and skin infections. Regular veterinary care and monitoring are crucial.

**Grooming:** Their short coat requires minimal grooming. Regular cleaning of facial wrinkles is important to prevent infections.

**Bullmastiff**

**Appearance:** Bullmastiffs are large, muscular dogs standing 24–27 inches tall and weighing 100–130 pounds. They have a short, dense coat and a broad head with a wrinkled forehead.

**Personality:** Gentle and affectionate with family members, Bullmastiffs are protective and make excellent guard dogs. They are calm indoors but require regular exercise.

**Health:** Their lifespan is around 7–9 years. Common health issues include hip and elbow dysplasia, bloat, and certain cancers. Regular health screenings are recommended.

**Grooming:** Their short coat is easy to maintain with weekly brushing. Regular dental care and nail trimming are also important.

**Bully Kutta**

**Appearance:** The Bully Kutta is a large, muscular dog standing 28–44 inches tall and weighing 130–170 pounds. They have a short, smooth coat, often white or brindle, and a powerful build.

**Personality:** Confident and strong-willed, Bully Kuttas are loyal to their families but can be aggressive if not properly trained and socialized. They require experienced handlers.

**Health:** With a lifespan of 8–10 years, they are generally healthy but can be prone to hip dysplasia and skin issues. Regular veterinary care is important.

**Grooming:** Their short coat requires minimal grooming. Weekly brushing and regular bathing are sufficient.

**Cane Corso**

**Appearance:** Cane Corsos are large, muscular dogs standing 23.5–27.5 inches tall and weighing 90–120 pounds. They have a short, dense coat and a broad head with a strong jaw.

**Personality:** Intelligent and protective, Cane Corsos are loyal to their families and make excellent guard dogs. They require consistent training and early socialization.

**Health:** Their lifespan is around 9–12 years. Common health issues include hip dysplasia, bloat, and eye problems. Regular health screenings are advisable.

**Grooming:** Their short coat is low-maintenance, requiring weekly brushing. Regular dental care and nail trimming are also important.

**Caucasian Shepherd Dog**

**Appearance:** Caucasian Shepherds are large, powerful dogs standing 23–30 inches tall and weighing 99–170 pounds. They have a thick double coat, which can be short or long, and a robust build.

**Personality:** Bold and fearless, they are protective of their families and wary of strangers. Early training and socialization are crucial to manage their strong guarding instincts.

**Health:** With a lifespan of 10–12 years, they can be prone to hip dysplasia and obesity. Regular veterinary care and a balanced diet are important.

**Grooming:** Their thick coat requires regular brushing, at least twice a week, to prevent matting and control shedding.

**Cavalier King Charles Spaniel**

* **Appearance:** Small (12–13″ tall, 13–18 lb). Graceful and compact with a silky, feathered coat. Big, dark eyes and long, drooping ears. Common colors: Blenheim (chestnut & white), tricolor, ruby, and black & tan.
* **Personality:** Gentle, affectionate, and eager to please. Excellent companion dog. Loves cuddling, very social, and typically friendly with all. Great for families, seniors, and apartment living.
* **Health:** Lifespan ~12–15 years. Prone to mitral valve disease (heart), syringomyelia (neurological), hip dysplasia, and ear infections. Genetic screening and regular vet visits are important.
* **Grooming:** Moderate. Brush 3–4x/week. Bathe every 4–6 weeks. Clean ears weekly. Trim nails and brush teeth regularly.

**Central Asian Shepherd Dog**

* **Appearance**: Large, powerful, and rugged. Males can reach 27.5–31.5″ in height and weigh 110–170 lb. Dense, coarse coat varies in length; common colors include white, fawn, brindle, or black. Broad head with heavy bone structure.
* **Personality**: Strong-willed, protective, and calm. Bred for guarding livestock, they're natural guardians, wary of strangers, and loyal to family. Needs firm, experienced handlers due to independence and territorial nature.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Generally healthy but may suffer from hip/elbow dysplasia, heart disease, and bloat. Early screening and proper exercise help manage risks.
* **Grooming**: Moderate. Weekly brushing helps manage seasonal shedding. Occasional bathing, nail trimming, ear cleaning, and dental hygiene are essential.

**Chihuahua**

* **Appearance**: Smallest dog breed, 5–8″ tall and 3–6 lb. Comes in two coat types (smooth and long) and many colors. Has large eyes, upright ears, and a domed "apple" skull.
* **Personality**: Alert, lively, and loyal. Big personality in a tiny body. Bonds closely with one or two people. May be suspicious of strangers and reactive to other dogs.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~14–17 years. Prone to patellar luxation, dental issues, tracheal collapse, and hydrocephalus. Dental care and gentle handling are critical.
* **Grooming**: Low for smooth coats; moderate for long coats. Regular brushing (2–3 times/week for long coats), nail trimming, ear checks, and brushing teeth 3–4 times/week.

**Chow Chow**

* **Appearance**: Sturdy, square-built dog, 17–20″ tall and 45–70 lb. Dense double coat (smooth or rough) and signature mane-like ruff. Bluish-black tongue and scowling expression.
* **Personality**: Reserved, dignified, and loyal to family. Aloof with strangers. Independent and cat-like; not overly affectionate. Needs early socialization.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~9–15 years. Susceptible to entropion (eyelid rolling), hip/elbow dysplasia, thyroid issues, and heat intolerance. Needs regular vet checks and cool climates.
* **Grooming**: High. Daily brushing, especially during seasonal shedding. Regular baths, eye care, and thorough coat maintenance are vital.

**Dachshund**

* **Appearance**: Small and long-bodied, 8–9″ tall, 16–32 lb (standard size). Smooth, wirehaired, or long-haired coats. Variety of colors and patterns, with floppy ears and deep chest.
* **Personality**: Brave, curious, and stubborn. Can be clownish and independent. Strong prey drive from hunting background. Loyal and sometimes vocal.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–16 years. Prone to intervertebral disc disease (IVDD), obesity, dental disease, and epilepsy. Avoid stairs/jumping and keep weight down.
* **Grooming**: Depends on coat type. Smooth coats are low-maintenance; long and wire-haired need more frequent brushing. Regular nail trims, dental care, and ear cleaning are necessary.

**Dalmatian**

* **Appearance**: Medium-large dog, 19–24″ tall, 45–70 lb. Sleek white coat with black or liver spots. Strong, athletic build and long tail. Born white; spots develop with age.
* **Personality**: Energetic, intelligent, and playful. Loyal and protective. Needs daily mental and physical exercise. Good with families but needs training.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~11–13 years. Prone to deafness (congenital), urinary stones (due to uric acid issues), hip dysplasia, and skin allergies. Hearing tests are recommended.
* **Grooming**: Low-to-moderate. Frequent shedding despite short coat. Weekly brushing and occasional baths help. Routine ear, teeth, and nail care are essential.

**Dobermann**

* **Appearance**: Sleek, powerful, and elegant. 24–28″ tall, 60–100 lb. Short coat in black, blue, red, or fawn with rust markings. Muscular frame with cropped ears and docked tail (varies by region).
* **Personality**: Alert, loyal, and intelligent. Excellent guard dog with a loving side. Requires early socialization and training. Bonds closely with owner.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–13 years. Prone to dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM), von Willebrand’s disease (bleeding disorder), hip issues, and hypothyroidism.
* **Grooming**: Easy. Short coat needs weekly brushing. Clean ears and trim nails regularly. Dental care is also important.

**Dogo Argentino**

* **Appearance**: Large, muscular breed. 24–27″ tall, 80–100 lb. Pure white short coat; occasionally a dark spot near one eye. Strong jaw and athletic body.
* **Personality**: Confident, courageous, and protective. Originally bred for big game hunting. Needs experienced handler due to strong guarding instincts. Loyal to family.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–12 years. Prone to deafness (especially in all-white lines), hip dysplasia, and skin allergies. Hearing tests and early health screening recommended.
* **Grooming**: Low. Occasional baths and weekly brushing. Ear, teeth, and nail care are routine needs.

**Dogue de Bordeaux**

* **Appearance**: Stocky and powerful. 23–27″ tall, 100+ lb. Loose skin, massive head, short fawn coat, and a wrinkled face with undershot jaw.
* **Personality**: Calm, affectionate, and loyal. Gentle giant with family, but needs early training and socialization due to guarding instincts. Protective yet mellow.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~5–8 years. Short lifespan; prone to heart disease, hip/elbow dysplasia, bloat, and skin issues. Needs careful monitoring and health screening.
* **Grooming**: Moderate. Weekly brushing and wrinkle cleaning. Bathe monthly or as needed. Maintain ears, teeth, and nails.

**English Bulldog**

* **Appearance**: Medium-sized (40–55 lb), heavily built with short limbs, loose skin, and distinctive wrinkled face. Short coat, typically fawn, white, brindle, or piebald.
* **Personality**: Gentle, calm, and affectionate. Low energy but stubborn. Loyal and people-oriented. Great with children and urban living.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~8–10 years. Brachycephalic breed (shortened snout), prone to respiratory problems, overheating, skin infections, hip dysplasia, and heart disease.
* **Grooming**: Low-maintenance coat, but high wrinkle care. Clean folds daily to prevent infection. Weekly brushing, nail trimming, and teeth brushing recommended.

**English Cocker Spaniel**

* **Appearance**: Medium-sized, 15–17″ tall, 26–34 lb. Long, silky coat with feathering on ears, legs, and chest. Coat colors vary: solid, roan, or parti-colored. Long, floppy ears.
* **Personality**: Cheerful, affectionate, and playful. Sociable and intelligent. Good with families and responsive to training. Enjoys moderate exercise and games.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Prone to ear infections, hip dysplasia, PRA (eye disease), and hypothyroidism. Regular vet checks help maintain health.
* **Grooming**: Moderate to high. Brush several times a week to prevent mats. Regular ear cleaning and grooming of feathered areas. Bathing every 4–6 weeks.

**English Pointer**

* **Appearance**: Lean and athletic, 23–28″ tall, 45–75 lb. Short coat in liver, lemon, black, or orange (solid or with white). Graceful stance with a long muzzle and high-set tail.
* **Personality**: Energetic, alert, and intelligent. Bred for hunting; needs active lifestyle. Friendly and eager to please. Good with families if exercised adequately.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Generally healthy. Watch for hip dysplasia, epilepsy, allergies, and hypothyroidism.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing to control shedding. Occasional baths. Routine nail trimming and ear/teeth care.

**English Springer Spaniel**

* **Appearance**: Medium-sized, 19–20″ tall, 40–50 lb. Medium-length coat with feathering; liver-and-white or black-and-white coloring common. Floppy ears, expressive eyes.
* **Personality**: Friendly, obedient, and enthusiastic. Bred for retrieving; loves water and outdoor activity. Great with kids and other pets. Needs stimulation and companionship.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–14 years. Prone to hip dysplasia, ear infections, and eye disorders (like PRA or cataracts). Some lines may exhibit "rage syndrome" (rare).
* **Grooming**: Moderate. Brush 2–3 times a week. Regular ear checks to prevent infection. Trim coat and feathering areas as needed. Bathe every 4–6 weeks.

**French Bulldog**

* **Appearance**: Small, muscular, and compact (11–13″ tall, 16–28 lb). Features include a flat face (brachycephalic), bat-like ears, and a short, smooth coat in various colors (brindle, fawn, cream, pied).
* **Personality**: Adaptable, affectionate, and playful. Great companions for apartments and families. Sociable and loves attention. Can be stubborn but typically friendly.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–12 years. Prone to breathing problems due to flat face, skin issues, intervertebral disc disease, and heat sensitivity. Avoid overexertion in hot weather.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing and regular facial wrinkle cleaning. Bathe as needed. Clean ears and trim nails regularly.

**German Shepherd Dog**

* **Appearance**: Large, athletic build (22–26″ tall, 50–90 lb). Dense double coat (medium or long) in black and tan, sable, or solid black. Upright ears, strong muzzle.
* **Personality**: Intelligent, loyal, and protective. Highly trainable and often used in police/military work. Needs mental stimulation and exercise. Devoted to family, wary of strangers.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~9–13 years. Prone to hip/elbow dysplasia, degenerative myelopathy, bloat, and allergies. Ethical breeding and regular vet care are vital.
* **Grooming**: Moderate to high. Brush several times a week (daily in shedding season). Bathe occasionally. Maintain nails, ears, and dental hygiene.

**German Short-Haired Pointing Dog (GSP)**

* **Appearance**: Medium-to-large (21–25″ tall, 45–70 lb), sleek and athletic. Short coat is liver or liver/white with ticking or patches. Long ears and tapered muzzle.
* **Personality**: Energetic, intelligent, and friendly. Bred for hunting; needs lots of physical and mental activity. Loyal, eager to please, and gets along with children and other pets.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–14 years. Generally healthy. Watch for hip dysplasia, bloat, and certain eye conditions (like PRA).
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing and occasional baths. Maintain nails and check ears regularly, especially after outdoor activity.

**German Spitz (Pomeranian)**

* **Appearance**: Small (6–7″ tall, 3–7 lb), fluffy toy dog with a fox-like face and plume tail curled over the back. Thick double coat in many colors, including orange, black, cream, and white.
* **Personality**: Lively, alert, and bold. Very loyal and confident. Can be vocal and territorial. Good watchdogs despite size. Socialization helps reduce small-dog syndrome.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–16 years. Prone to dental issues, luxating patella, tracheal collapse, and coat loss (Alopecia X).
* **Grooming**: High. Brush 2–3 times/week to avoid matting. Regular dental care and nail trimming. Occasional bathing.

**Golden Retriever**

* **Appearance**: Large, friendly-looking dog (21–24″ tall, 55–75 lb). Dense water-repellent golden coat with feathering on legs, tail, and chest. Dark eyes and friendly expression.
* **Personality**: Gentle, affectionate, and eager to please. Excellent family dogs and easy to train. Friendly with everyone, including kids and other pets.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–12 years. Prone to hip dysplasia, cancer (especially hemangiosarcoma and lymphoma), heart issues, and skin allergies.
* **Grooming**: Moderate to high. Brush several times/week (more during shedding). Regular ear cleaning and bathing every few weeks. Nail and dental care are essential.

**Great Dane**

* **Appearance**: Giant breed (28–34″ tall, 110–175 lb). Short coat in various colors (fawn, brindle, blue, black, harlequin). Long legs, deep chest, noble face.
* **Personality**: Gentle giant — friendly, affectionate, and good with children. Calm indoors but requires space. Protective without being aggressive.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~7–10 years. Common issues include bloat (GDV), cardiomyopathy, hip dysplasia, and bone cancer (osteosarcoma). Monitor heart and digestion.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing and occasional bathing. Keep nails short and clean ears regularly.

**Greyhound**

* **Appearance**: Tall and slender (27–30″ tall, 60–70 lb). Built for speed with long legs and a narrow waist. Short, fine coat in many colors.
* **Personality**: Calm, gentle, and affectionate. Contrary to belief, they’re couch potatoes indoors. Shy with strangers but devoted to family. Can be sensitive.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–14 years. Generally healthy; watch for bloat, dental disease, osteosarcoma, and sensitivity to anesthesia.
* **Grooming**: Very low. Occasional brushing and bathing. Regular dental care and nail trimming. May need a coat in cold weather.

**Havanese**

* **Appearance**: Small (8.5–11.5″ tall, 7–13 lb), sturdy dog with a silky, flowing coat. Coat comes in many colors and can be corded. Long tail curls over back.
* **Personality**: Playful, cheerful, and loving. Great with children and thrives on human companionship. Adaptable and intelligent, often used in therapy.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~14–16 years. Prone to luxating patella, eye problems (like cataracts), heart murmurs, and deafness. Good breeders screen for multiple conditions.
* **Grooming**: High. Daily brushing (unless clipped short) to prevent mats. Regular bathing, eye/ear cleaning, and nail trimming.

**Hungarian Short-Haired Pointer (Vizsla)**

* **Appearance**: Medium (21–24″ tall, 45–65 lb), lean and muscular with a short, smooth golden-rust coat. Sleek build with long ears and expressive eyes.
* **Personality**: Energetic, affectionate, and sensitive. Very people-oriented and thrives with attention and exercise. Intelligent and quick to learn.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Generally healthy. Can suffer from hip dysplasia, epilepsy, hypothyroidism, and eye disorders.
* **Grooming**: Very low. Weekly brushing to remove loose hair. Occasional bath. Regular dental, ear, and nail care.

**Italian Cane Corso**

* **Appearance**: Large and muscular (23–28″ tall, 88–120 lb). Short coat in black, gray, fawn, or brindle. Broad chest, powerful jaw, and expressive face.
* **Personality**: Protective, intelligent, and loyal. Natural guardian with strong territorial instincts. Needs experienced owner for socialization and training.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~9–12 years. Prone to bloat, hip/elbow dysplasia, eyelid issues (entropion), and heart problems (like cardiomyopathy).
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing and regular bathing. Keep nails short and clean ears. Dental care is key.

**Jack Russell Terrier**

* **Appearance**: Small (10–15″ tall, 13–17 lb), compact and athletic. Smooth or rough coat, typically white with black or tan markings. High-set ears and alert eyes.
* **Personality**: Bold, energetic, and intelligent. Loves action, digging, and chasing. Needs consistent training and stimulation. Can be a handful but deeply loyal.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~13–16 years. Generally healthy, though can have lens luxation, deafness, patellar luxation, and dental issues.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing (more if rough-coated). Bath when needed. Maintain dental care and trim nails regularly.

**Labrador Retriever**

* **Appearance**: Medium-to-large (21.5–24.5″ tall, 55–80 lb). Strong, athletic build. Dense double coat (short) in black, yellow, or chocolate. Broad head and otter-like tail.
* **Personality**: Friendly, intelligent, and eager to please. Excellent family pets and service dogs. Playful, loyal, and good with children, strangers, and other pets.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–12 years. Prone to hip/elbow dysplasia, obesity, progressive retinal atrophy, and heart issues. Monitor joint health and weight.
* **Grooming**: Moderate. Brush 1–2 times/week (daily during shedding). Bathe occasionally. Routine ear cleaning (due to floppy ears), nail trimming, and dental care needed.

**Lhasa Apso**

* **Appearance**: Small (10–11″ tall, 12–18 lb). Long, straight, dense coat in various colors (gold, white, black, etc.). Beard and mustache give a lion-like appearance. Tail curls over the back.
* **Personality**: Confident, independent, and alert. Loyal to family but wary of strangers. Intelligent but stubborn. Makes a good watchdog.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Prone to eye issues (like PRA), patellar luxation, kidney disease, and allergies. Annual checkups help.
* **Grooming**: High. Daily brushing or professional grooming every few weeks. Frequent eye cleaning, nail trimming, and bathing. Can be clipped short for easier care.

**Maltese**

* **Appearance**: Toy breed (7–9″ tall, under 7 lb). Long, silky white coat without an undercoat. Black nose and expressive dark eyes. Graceful build.
* **Personality**: Playful, affectionate, and charming. Loves attention and human companionship. Can be fearless despite size. Good with older children and indoors.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Prone to dental disease, luxating patella, liver shunt, and tear staining. Monitor for breathing issues if coat is long near nose.
* **Grooming**: High. Daily brushing to avoid mats (especially in full coat). Tear stain cleaning, frequent baths, ear care, and regular grooming are essential.

**Neapolitan Mastiff**

* **Appearance**: Giant (24–31″ tall, 110–150+ lb). Massive body with thick, loose skin and deep wrinkles. Short, dense coat (blue, black, mahogany, tawny). Broad, wrinkled face with droopy lips.
* **Personality**: Protective, loyal, and calm. A natural guard dog, devoted to family. Tends to be wary of strangers but not aggressive without reason. Needs space and experienced handling.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~7–9 years. Prone to hip/elbow dysplasia, cherry eye, cardiomyopathy, and bloat. Skin folds require cleaning to prevent infection.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing. Regular wrinkle cleaning is critical. Bathe monthly or as needed. Routine ear, dental, and nail care.

**Pekingese**

* **Appearance**: Small (6–9″ tall, 7–14 lb). Compact body with a flat face, long flowing coat, and a rolling gait. Coat comes in various colors, often golden or sable. Large, dark eyes.
* **Personality**: Regal, independent, and affectionate. Loyal to family, may be aloof with strangers. Not very playful but enjoys lounging and cuddling.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–14 years. Brachycephalic issues (breathing), eye ulcers, herniated discs, and dental disease are common. Avoid overheating.
* **Grooming**: High. Daily brushing (especially around legs and tail). Bathe regularly. Clean eyes and facial folds frequently. Trim nails and brush teeth often.

**Poodle (Standard/Miniature/Toy)**

* **Appearance**: Elegant and athletic in all sizes:
  + Standard: 18–24″ tall, 40–70 lb
  + Miniature: 10–15″, 10–20 lb
  + Toy: Under 10″, 4–6 lb  
    Curly, dense coat in many colors (black, white, apricot, etc.). Long muzzle, oval eyes, and high tail carriage.
* **Personality**: Highly intelligent, alert, and trainable. Social and loving. Active and eager to please. Great with families, kids, and other pets.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Common issues include hip dysplasia, Addison’s disease, epilepsy, and eye disorders. Toy/miniature: dental and joint concerns.
* **Grooming**: High. Coat requires regular clipping every 4–6 weeks. Brush 2–3x/week to prevent mats. Clean ears and trim nails routinely.

**Presa Canario**

* **Appearance**: Large and powerful (22–26″ tall, 85–130 lb). Muscular build, short coat in brindle, fawn, black, etc. Broad head and deep chest. Natural or cropped ears.
* **Personality**: Protective, confident, and calm. Strong guardian instincts. Needs early socialization and firm, experienced handling. Not ideal for first-time owners.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~9–11 years. Watch for hip dysplasia, elbow issues, bloat, and demodectic mange. Proper training and exercise are essential.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing and monthly bathing. Check ears and trim nails regularly. Maintain oral health.

**Pug**

* **Appearance**: Small and sturdy (10–13″ tall, 14–18 lb). Flat face, curled tail, and large round eyes. Short, smooth coat (fawn, black, apricot, silver).
* **Personality**: Comical, affectionate, and loving. Great with children, other pets, and apartment life. Seeks human companionship and enjoys cuddling.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Brachycephalic syndrome, obesity, eye issues (proptosis, ulcers), and skin fold infections are common. Avoid overheating.
* **Grooming**: Moderate. Brush 2–3x/week to manage shedding. Clean facial wrinkles regularly. Bathe as needed. Trim nails and brush teeth routinely.

**Rottweiler**

* **Appearance**: Large, muscular (22–27″ tall, 80–135 lb). Black coat with distinct rust markings. Strong head, broad chest, and short, dense double coat.
* **Personality**: Loyal, intelligent, and confident. Natural protector. Calm and affectionate with family, but needs consistent training and early socialization.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~9–10 years. Prone to hip/elbow dysplasia, aortic stenosis, cancer (especially bone), and obesity. Regular checkups and a healthy diet are key.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing (more during seasonal shedding). Bathe monthly or as needed. Routine nail, dental, and ear care.

**Saint Bernard**

* **Appearance**: Giant (26–30″ tall, 120–180 lb). Long or short dense coat in white with red/brown patches. Massive head, droopy lips, and expressive eyes. Strong frame.
* **Personality**: Gentle, calm, and patient. Great with children and families. Friendly but not overly active. Loyal and affectionate.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~8–10 years. Prone to hip/elbow dysplasia, bloat, heart problems, and bone cancer. Needs joint support and monitored diet.
* **Grooming**: Moderate to high. Brush 2–3x/week (daily if long-haired). Regular baths and ear cleaning. Trim nails and maintain dental care.

**Saluki**

* **Appearance**: Medium to large (23–28″ tall, 40–65 lb). Graceful and slim with long legs and feathered ears/tail. Silky, smooth coat in various colors (white, fawn, cream, black & tan, etc.).
* **Personality**: Gentle, reserved, and affectionate with family. Quiet and sensitive. Independent yet loyal. Aloof with strangers. Needs calm environments and soft handling.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–14 years. Generally healthy. Watch for heart disease, eye disorders, and sensitivity to anesthesia due to low body fat. Prone to injuries if over-exercised.
* **Grooming**: Low to moderate. Brush 1–2x/week. Occasional baths. Check and clean ears regularly. Trim nails and maintain dental hygiene.

**Shiba Inu**

* **Appearance**: Small to medium (13.5–16.5″ tall, 17–23 lb). Fox-like face, curled tail, upright ears. Dense double coat (red, sesame, black & tan, or cream).
* **Personality**: Alert, spirited, and bold. Independent and sometimes aloof. Clean and quiet. Strong-willed and clever. Loyal but not overly cuddly. Needs consistent training.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Generally robust. Watch for allergies, patellar luxation, glaucoma, and hip dysplasia. Some can be sensitive to vaccines.
* **Grooming**: Moderate. Sheds heavily 2x/year ("blows" coat). Brush 2–3x/week during shedding. Bathe as needed. Keep ears and nails clean.

**Shih Tzu**

* **Appearance**: Small (9–10.5″ tall, 9–16 lb). Compact body with a long, flowing double coat. Short muzzle and round eyes. Tail curls over the back.
* **Personality**: Affectionate, outgoing, and friendly. Bred to be companion dogs. Gets along well with kids, other pets, and strangers. Loves attention.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–16 years. Prone to brachycephalic issues (breathing), eye problems, dental disease, and intervertebral disc disease. Monitor diet and activity.
* **Grooming**: High. Daily brushing (especially in long coat). Regular bathing and trimming. Clean ears, face, and eyes regularly. Routine dental and nail care.

**Siberian Husky**

* **Appearance**: Medium (20–24″ tall, 35–60 lb). Athletic build, erect ears, and thick double coat (common colors: black/white, gray/white, red/white). Blue or heterochromatic eyes.
* **Personality**: Energetic, playful, and independent. Friendly and gentle, not ideal as guard dogs. Needs lots of exercise and stimulation. Strong prey drive.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–14 years. Prone to hip dysplasia, eye conditions (cataracts, PRA), and hypothyroidism. Typically hardy in cold climates.
* **Grooming**: Moderate to high. Sheds heavily 2x/year. Brush frequently during shedding; otherwise 1–2x/week. Occasional baths. Clean ears and maintain nails.

**Staffordshire Bull Terrier**

* **Appearance**: Medium (14–16″ tall, 24–38 lb). Muscular, compact body with a short, smooth coat. Broad head and expressive eyes. Coat colors include red, blue, black, fawn, or brindle.
* **Personality**: Brave, loyal, and affectionate. Known as “nanny dogs” for being gentle with children. Friendly with people, but can be dog-reactive if not socialized.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–14 years. Watch for skin allergies, hip dysplasia, and cataracts. Genetic testing for hereditary diseases is advised.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing. Bathe as needed. Regular dental, nail, and ear care recommended.

**Tibetan Mastiff**

* **Appearance**: Giant (24–30″ tall, 70–150+ lb). Massive and powerful. Heavy double coat with thick mane-like ruff. Coat colors include black, gold, blue, and red. Plumed tail curls over back.
* **Personality**: Independent, protective, and territorial. Natural guardian—aloof with strangers, loyal to family. Not ideal for first-time owners. Needs space and early socialization.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–12 years. Prone to hip/elbow dysplasia, hypothyroidism, and entropion. Monitor joint health and diet.
* **Grooming**: Moderate. Sheds seasonally. Weekly brushing (daily during shedding). Occasional bathing. Regular ear cleaning and nail trimming.

**Weimaraner**

* **Appearance**: Large (23–27″ tall, 55–90 lb). Sleek and athletic with short, smooth silver-gray coat (sometimes called “gray ghost”). Docked tail, long legs, and amber/light eyes.
* **Personality**: Energetic, intelligent, and loyal. Very attached to people (“Velcro dogs”). Needs lots of exercise and mental stimulation. Can develop separation anxiety.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~10–13 years. Watch for bloat (gastric torsion), hip dysplasia, and thyroid issues. Needs daily activity to prevent destructive behavior.
* **Grooming**: Low. Weekly brushing to remove loose hair. Occasional baths. Clean ears and trim nails regularly. Good dental care is important.

**Yorkshire Terrier**

* **Appearance**: Toy breed (7–8″ tall, ~7 lb). Long, silky blue and tan coat. Compact body with an upright tail and small, perky ears.
* **Personality**: Bold, lively, and affectionate. Big-dog attitude in a small frame. Very loyal to owner. Alert and vocal—good watchdogs. Can be bossy if not trained.
* **Health**: Lifespan ~12–15 years. Common issues include dental disease, luxating patella, collapsing trachea, and hypoglycemia in puppies.
* **Grooming**: High. Daily brushing in long coat. Frequent baths and professional trims. Clean ears and eyes, trim nails, and maintain dental hygiene.