

How to Choose the Right Dog Based on Temperment

When choosing a dog, one of the most important things you can do is learn more about its temperament so that you can make sure its personality meshes with yours.

One of the most important things to consider when buying your next dog is its temperament. Depending on the personality of your own home, a dog could either fit right in or cause contention for years to come. Before you buy your puppy, give some serious thought to what type of home you live in. Do you have small children? What about other animals? Are you just looking for quiet companion? Worried about the safety of your home? Or do you need a playmate?

Once you've decided which temperament would fit best into your home, your next step is to find a dog that has that temperament. Below, we've grouped the American Kennel Club's top twenty dog breeds into temperaments. Many breeds have multiple temperaments.

Active

- Yorkshire Terrier
- Dachshund
- Chihuahua
- Pomeranian
- German Shorthaired Pointer
- Shetland Sheepdog
- Boston Terrier

Cheerful

- Golden Retriever
- Pomeranian
- Beagle

Courageous

- German Shepherd

Easy Going

- Boxer
- German Shorthaired Pointer
- Pug

Friendly

- Beagle
- Boxer
- Golden Retriever
- Shih Tzu
- Boston Terrier

Inquisitive

- Yorkshire Terrier
- Maltese

Intelligent

- Labrador Retriever
- German Shepherd
- Poodle
- Doberman Pinscher
- Shetland Sheepdog

Kind

- Labrador Retriever
- Pug
- Shetland Sheepdog
- Boston Terrier

Loyal

- Labrador Retriever
- Dachshund
- Chihuahua
- Rottweiler
- Boston Terrier

Outgoing

- Labrador Retriever
- Boxer

Patient

- Golden Retriever

Playful

- Beagle
- Boxer
- Golden Retriever
- Poodle
- Boston Terrier
- Shetland Sheepdog
- Maltese

Protective

- Rottweiler
- Doberman Pinscher

Quiet

- Bulldog
- Shih Tzu

Stubborn

- Dachshund

- Beagle
- Shih Tzu

This article has been presented by [Pawsitively Clean Pet](#), a leader in pet grooming products. The following resources were used to gather these facts:

- http://www.akc.org/reg/dogreg_stats.cfm
 - <http://www.yourpurebredpuppy.com/dogbreeds/>
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