

The Australian Shepherd

My Favorite AKC Dog Breed: By Kiera Geeleher

My Favorite AKC Dog Breed



The type of Australian Shepherd I would want.

If I could choose any AKC pure-breed dog, I would choose the Australian Shepherd. I have no dogs, but I wish I did. My whole life I have wanted a dog, my favorite dog is the Australian Shepherd. I love the look of Australian Shepherds, my favorite things about them are their light blue and dark brown eyes, and the mixed colors of their coats. Along with this, I love their loving and energetic personality.

Looks and Features of the Australian Shepherd

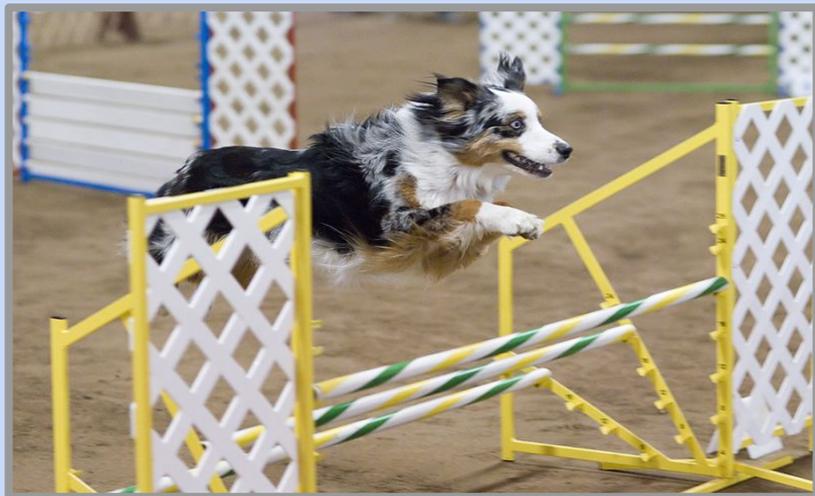
Australian Shepherds weigh around 40-65 pounds and are around 18-23 inches tall. Australian Shepherds are usually longer than they are tall, but only by a little bit. Their coats are medium length and can be straight and wavy. The colors of their coat can be black, red, red merle, and blue merle. As the dog gets older the Merles tend to get darker. The Australian Shepherd sheds year round, but extra in the spring because they shed their winter coat off.

Different Coat Types of Australian Shepherds



Care for the Australian Shepherd

Australian Shepherds are part of the herding dog group. They are very intelligent and require a lot of exercise. They should have at least half an hour to an hour of stimulating activities and exercise a day. For example throwing a ball or frisbee, going for a run or hike, dog puzzles and other stimulating activities and exercises. You can also give your Australian Shepherd a job such as herding, agility trials, and dock diving . Since Australian Shepherds have a waterproof and double layer coat, they should be brushed weekly in order to keep their fur from matting.



Australians Shepherds

History of Australian Shepherds

The Australian Shepherd is a herding dog and was bred to herd animals for ranchers. It all started in the early 1800 when Basques took his cattle and shepherd dogs and sailed to Australia in search of rich land for cattle farming. Basques left again for California in search of more land. All the Californian ranchers loved the shepherd dogs, assuming they were from Australia, this is how the Australian Shepherd got its name. Then the breeders made great efforts to enhance the shepherd dogs herding, hard working ethic, and intelligence. The breed then had a popularity boom during World War II, and was seen all over working next to cowboys. Finally the American Kennel Club recognised the Australian Shepherd in 1993 as the 135th breed.

A Few Fun Facts

Australian Shepherds live up to 12 years or more.



Australian Shepherds can also be called Aussies.

Australian Shepherds are an American born breed.

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