

## Akita Inu



**Average Height:** 61-71 cm  
**Average Weight:** 40-48 kgs  
**Average Life Span:** 8-10 yrs

### ORIGIN

The Akita originates in Japan where he is considered to be "tender in heart and strong in strength." Originally the Akita's job was to hunt, guard, and herd.

### CHARACTERISTICS

The Akita is a large, powerful dog with a decidedly sturdy appearance. Being only slightly longer than he is tall, the Akita's appearance is well balanced. The full, curled tail is proportionate with the large head. The Akita has small eyes and erect ears, giving the breed a very dignified expression.

### IDEAL COMPANIONS

The loyalty and devotion they display is well loved among Akita owners. Typically the Akita will follow you from room to room in your home, as if its only purpose in life is to protect you and keep you company. As for children in the home, the Akita will be as loyal toward them as any family member. In addition to their extreme loyalty, the Akita likes to keep very clean, and is easily housebroken. These two characteristics make them desirable to have in the home.

### CARE REQUIREMENTS

The large size of the Akita can make him difficult to control, and therefore he is not a breed suitable for everyone. Being an intelligent breed, however, the Akita can easily become bored with training. He thrives when challenged and given a job to do. He has extreme strength and endurance and needs dedicated training to help him properly channel energy. A weekly brush should keep your Akita's coat in good condition.

### EXTRA NEEDS

The Akita is happy to be an only dog, and can be aggressive toward other dogs not in his family group. Properly socialized, an Akita can learn to tolerate other animals, but will most likely try to keep his status as top dog at any cost.