

Goldendoodle

- Lifespan: 10–13 years
- Group: Not Applicable
- Best Suited For: Families with children, singles and seniors, houses with yards
- Temperament: Intelligent, lovable, energetic, friendly

Goldendoodle Basics

Fun-loving and playful, the Goldendoodle is an active and energetic athlete. He loves to run around, play fetch and swim. With a little work, this intelligent guy will learn to catch a Frisbee or jump through a hoop. Highly trainable, Goldendoodles are great for first-time pet owners. This crossbreed loves everybody, especially kids. He'll keep the kids busy and active for hours and even try to get guests involved in a game of chase. Goldendoodles will warn their families when someone approaches and then welcome them as if they were long lost friends. They do not make good guard dogs.

After a hard day of play, the Goldendoodle will gladly relax on the sofa and chill with the family. Beware at dinner time; this guy will make every attempt of getting your plate. He is cordial though and will be happy to swap his dish for yours! To learn more about the Goldendoodle, please read on.

Origin

There is some controversy as to where the Goldendoodle originated. Those in England assert that the Goldendoodle originated there however; breeders in the United States swear that the first Goldendoodle was bred in America. This hybrid was created to be a hypoallergenic and active family pet.

Pedigree

The Goldendoodle came into existence by breeding a Golden Retriever to a Poodle. This combination is called a crossbreeding. Breeding those Goldendoodles to other crossbred Goldendoodles has resulted in a more uniform result. After seven generations have been bred, the Goldendoodle will become eligible for purebred dog registries.

Food/Diet

It is essential that the Goldendoodle be fed a high-quality diet of dry kibble. Foods that are specifically formulated for the dog's activity level are best and will ensure that he is getting the optimum nutrition. Dry food will help to prevent plaque buildup, tooth decay, tooth loss, gum disease and bad breath.

Training

Highly intelligent, the Goldendoodle is easy to train, even for a first time pet owner. Fun-loving and playful, the Goldendoodle is an active and energetic athlete. Positive training techniques work much better than harsh words or physical methods. Training sessions should last for around 20 minutes. Rewarding the dog with delectable treats and excited praise will help make for a successful training session.

Goldendoodles take well to obedience training and because they are so bright and eager to please, they also do well in agility. Agility courses are a great place for the Goldendoodle to burn up his energy as well as reinforce the bond he has with his owner. He'll also have time to socialize with other athletic dogs running the courses.

Weight

Goldendoodles come in a variety of sizes. The Standard Goldendoodle should weigh between 50 and 90 pounds and stand 20 to 29 inches tall at the withers. Mini Goldendoodles tip the scales between 25 and 50 pounds and are from 13 to 21 inches high at the shoulder. The Tiny Goldendoodle weighs between 10 and 30 pounds and is from 10 to 15 inches tall at the withers.

Temperament/Behavior

For the most part, Goldendoodles are pleasant dogs that are welcoming and accepting of strangers. He thinks that everybody should be his friend and take the time to play ball or go for a swim with him. Outgoing and playful, this hybrid dog is an exceptional companion for adults and children alike. Goldendoodles enjoy playing fetch, chase, tug of war, jogging and swimming however; they are also happy to lounge on the couch and watch TV with his family. The Goldendoodle will bark to alert his family when someone or something is around but he is not a problem barker. If left alone for too long outside, he will dig. Digging is a favorite pastime of the Goldendoodle. He will happily create holes all over your yard!

Common Health Problems

Goldendoodles can be predisposed to all of the health issues faced by Golden Retrievers and Poodles because they are a combination of the two breeds. Some of the most common health problems are hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, Von Willebrand's Disease, juvenile cataracts, progressive retinal atrophy, subaortic stenosis, sebaceous adenitis, patella luxation, hypothyroidism and ear infections.

Life Expectancy

The average Goldendoodle lives between 10 and 13 years.

Exercise Requirements

Goldendoodles require a fair amount of exercise each day. They need to be walked at least three times daily. Each walk should last for around half an hour. Time to stretch their legs and run is essential for the Goldendoodle. Living in the city is fine, provided they will have access to a dog park weekly. Those who have a fenced in yard will find that the Goldendoodle will get all the exercise he needs by playing ball with the kids in the backyard. Never let this dog exercise without being in a securely, fenced area or on a leash.

Recognized Clubs

The American Kennel Club doesn't recognize the Goldendoodle as a purebred dog. This hybrid dog is recognized by the American Canine Hybrid Club, Designer Dogs Kennel Club, Dog Registry of America, Inc., International Designer Canine Registry and Designer Breed Registry.

Coat

Because it is a crossbreed, the Goldendoodle can have a variety of coats. Mixing breeds means that the puppy can have coats that resemble either parent's breeds. The coats can be wavy or curly and they may or may not be hypoallergenic and non-shedding. Coat colors can be apricot, red, gold, black, silver, blue, chocolate, fawn, white or parti-colored.

Goldendoodles require a fair amount of grooming. They must be brushed everyday or their coats will become matted. This crossbreed must be professionally groomed at least every other month. The groomer will trim and clip his coat as well as give him a good bath.

Puppies

Goldendoodle puppies are wonderful balls of fluff, but don't let their cuteness fool you. These young pups can chew up your furniture, demolish your favorite slippers and leave excessive amounts of excrement everywhere! Goldendoodles should be watched carefully and should be placed in a crate or other safe and secure area when unattended.

Early socialization and Puppy Kindergarten classes are beneficial to the Goldendoodle. He will learn to play nicely with other pets as well as obtain the foundation for all of the training he will need throughout his life.