



AKITA, TREASURE OF JAPAN

Should You Have An Akita

Will you enjoy owning an Akita? If you are looking for a bright, sensitive, responsive dog with whom you will be able to spend time, some training, a bit of grooming, keep its facilities clean, perhaps you would enjoy owning an Akita. In return for these few items, he will be protective, loyal and devoted to your home and family for the rest of his/her life.

The Akita is an extremely intelligent, large, energetic and strongly territorial dog whose life is oriented toward his owners. If this is the dog for you, they are the most rewarding breed to have, but this is also a demanding breed, and should not be casually added to the household on a whim.

Before you buy an Akita puppy, **THINK**: What do I want my dog to be like? How will this dog fit into my lifestyle? What is my living situation? Consider what **YOUR WANTS** and what the **DOG'S NEEDS** will be. Do they conflict? Think of dogs you have enjoyed in the past. What was their disposition?

The Akita is a working dog. A working dog enjoys life most when he is given responsibility and a job to do, whether the job is obedience, baby-sitting, back-packing or hunting. You'll be amazed at how quickly he learns, and the number of things you can teach him. This intelligence, however, carries an obligation with it. An Akita will not be happy if left alone in a pen or house all day, he demands your attention, and thrives on it when worked with regularly.

The Akita feels that one of his jobs is to protect his family, small children especially. You needn't train him to do this, it comes naturally to him. He will be watchful of people on your property, expressing suspicion or disapproval with a low rumble; Akitas are normally not barkers. They quickly learn to differentiate between friends and strangers. As such, they are prone to have the "situation in hand" perhaps before the owner was aware of a problem. Akitas are not very tolerant of other dogs, especially those of the same sex. Under no circumstances should an Akita be allowed to "roam" freely throughout a neighborhood.

DON'T BUY AN AKITA because they are the "**IN THING**" or because you feel you can return a "Quick Profit" on your investment, think again. There is a huge difference between the cute 7-week old ball of fur and the mature dog. **MEET THE DOGS**, at shows, but preferably at their home in natural surroundings. Most Akita Breeders are more than happy to explain a few of the Akita traits and spend some time "Showing Off" their **PROUD AKITAS**.