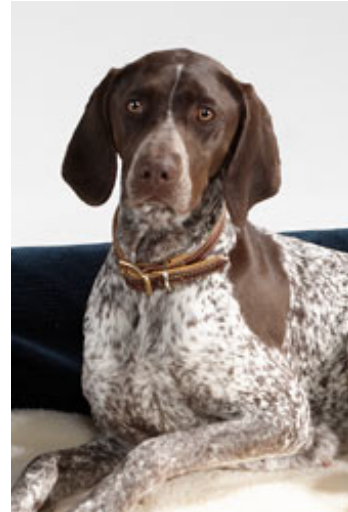


German Shorthaired Pointer

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

The German Shorthaired Pointer (or GSP) originated in Germany as the name suggests. However, the heritage involved in the development is somewhat a mystery. It is known that at least a mix of pointing and scent hound breeds were used. Commonly portrayed as having a keen enthusiasm for work, the GSP is friendly, intelligent, and willing to please, making him an excellent all-purpose hunting companion. The breed was also the 2005 Westminster Best of Show winner.

The GSP is athletic and generally easy to train. This breed prefers to spend time outside in the field. He is very energetic and requires a good deal of physical and mental stimulation. Training, play, or a day in the field is a good outlet for the high energy and exercise requirements this breed possesses. The German Shorthaired Pointer's grooming requirements consist of occasional brushing to remove loose hair.



Interesting Breed Facts:

Popularity:	16th in 2008; with 11,110 registered with the American Kennel Club (AKC).
First recognized as a breed:	The German Shorthaired Pointer was first recognized by the AKC in 1930. The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America was established in 1938.
AKC Grouping:	Sporting.
Size:	Height at shoulder: males: 23"-25", females: 21"-23". Weight: males: 55-70 lbs., females: 45-60 lbs.
Appearance:	The GSP has an intelligent and animated expression. This medium-sized breed has a long muzzle and dark, almond-shaped eyes, and a brown nose. Ears are broad and set fairly high and lie flat. Tail is docked and the haircoat is short, thick, and feels rough to the touch. AKC-approved coat colors are solid liver or a combination of liver and white such as liver and white ticked, liver patched, and white ticked, or liver roan.



#1 preventable health problem:	Hip dysplasia may be a problem for this breed. In order to prevent your dog from developing hip dysplasia, only purchase from OFA (Orthopedic Foundation for Animals) Certified breeding stock.
Preferences:	To be in the field during the day and inside with his owner at night.
Best features:	All-purpose field dog capable of high performance on land and in the water.
Biggest challenge to owners:	Controlling energy. To avoid possible destructive behavior, make sure to exercise this breed both mentally and physically every day.