

# Dachshund

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*



## Dachshund

The Dachshund is a curious and adventurous breed that is able to adapt to apartment and city life as well as take on the countryside. There are three different coat types and two sizes associated with this breed that were

developed for hunting in different conditions. Now mainly serving as a companion pet, the Dachshund remains one of the most popular household breeds.

### Interesting Breed Facts:

**Popularity:** 7th in 2008; with 26,075 registered with the American Kennel Club (AKC).

**First recognized as a breed:** These German-bred dogs were first brought to the United States, and entered into the AKC stud book, in 1885. The current breed standard was approved on April 7, 1992.

**AKC Grouping:** Hound

**Appearance:** The head tapers to the tip of the nose, which is most commonly black. The eyes are medium-sized, almond shaped, and very dark colored. The nose color is dependent on coat color, but is either brown or black. The ears are set near the top of the head, moderate in length, and rounded. The trunk of the Dachshund is long and muscular. A deep chest and straight topline (outline from just behind the



withers to the tail) are very desirable in the Dachshund. The legs are short and the feet are compact with thick, tough pads. There are three different coat types: smooth, longhaired, and wirehaired.

**Medical conditions to watch for:**

With their elongated and sometimes weighty bodies, some Dachshunds are prone to back problems. Regular veterinarian exams, proper [diet](#), and suitable exercise are essential.

**Preferences:**

The Dachshund is an active and energetic breed. Her exercise requirements can be met with brisk walks or games in the yard, which makes it possible for the Dachshund to occupy a city apartment or a home in the countryside. The Dachshund is able to tolerate heat and cold equally and is able to live outdoors in warm weather. However, she does best when she can be inside with her family.

**Best features:**

A Dachshund is typically good with children in her own family due to her protective nature. As with all dogs, early supervised exposure and socialization with children is key. Most Dachshunds perform very well as a watchdog, barking loudly at unfamiliar people.