

AUSTRALIAN CATTLE DOG



Characteristics/Temperament

Naturally suspicious of strangers and will protect the family and possessions with their life. They are not naturally aggressive, but if provoked they will not back down without a fight.

Exercise

Obedience training is a must, as their brain needs stimulation of the right sort so they don't think things up for themselves – such as digging, pulling washing from the clothes-line, pruning trees and jumping fences.

Grooming

The short-haired, weather-resistant coat needs little care and is very easy to groom, so a wash and brush once a fortnight will keep the coat clean and healthy.

Health

The breed is prone to Hip Dysplasia, PRA and Deafness.

Average size, weight & lifespan

43cm – 51cm

14kg – 16kg

12 – 15 years

General Appearance

The “Blue Heeler” as it is affectingly known; has a weather-resistant double coat and it comes in blue or red speckled.

Background

The Australian Cattle Dog breed began evolving in the early 1830s through the need for a dog that could withstand travelling long distances over rough terrain in hot weather and could control cattle without barking. Five breeds of dog have gone into “the making” of the Australian Cattle Dog; the Dingo, German Coolie, Dalmatian, Kelpie and the Bull Terrier.

Contacting Council

If you require any further information about this or any other responsible pet ownership issue, please call Council on 1300 878 001 or visit the Townsville City Council website at www.townsville.qld.gov.au and follow the links to Pets and Animals.

