

AUSTRALIAN KELPIE



Average size, weight & lifespan

43cm – 51cm

17kg – 22kg

14 – 16 years

General Appearance

The Kelpie is a smooth-coated, medium sized dog generally with prick ears and an athletic appearance.

Background

Last century the Kelpie came into Australia because Australian shepherds needed a special type of dog that could work sheep on the vast outback properties. In the 1860's the Kelpie came from two black and tan short coated, pricked eared Collies imported to Australia.

Grooming

As with all dogs they need to be brushed and bathed regularly. Grooming your Kelpie regularly will keep their coat in top condition and will remove any dead hair.

Characteristics/Temperament

The Kelpie is extremely alert, eager and highly intelligent and will want to be your constant companion, but must have clear defined boundaries. Kelpies require appropriate stimulation to meet their individual highly driven needs. If the breed is not stimulated in the controlled proper environment and kept couped up in a backyard, all sorts of behaviour problem may develop i.e. problem barking or aggression.

Exercise

Obedience provides a great way of getting to know and share the needs of this highly intelligent dog. The Kelpie needs about the same amount of exercise as other healthy dogs. The Kelpie adapts well to being a family pet, a jogging companion and children's mate.

Health

The Kelpie is generally a healthy dog with very few problems but they are susceptible to disorders common in most breeds, like Hip Dysplasia and Laxating Patella.

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.

