

# WHIPPET



## Average size, weight & lifespan

44cm – 56cm

10kg – 15kg

12 – 15 years

## General Appearance

The Whippet looks like a small Greyhound and is a combination of muscular power and strength with elegance and grace. The Whippet is basically built for speed and as they say, is able to turn on a “sixpence”.

## Background

The Whippet developed in Northern England during the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Greyhounds were crossed with small terriers, to produce a small, swift hound. During this era, the Whippet belonged to the working class people of England.

## Characteristics/Temperament

The Whippet is an ideal companion, gentle, affectionate and with even disposition. They love life whether its chasing a ball or being curled up

on your lap. They are however, still sight hounds, and as such, will instinctively chase rapid moving objects. Whippets do not cope being alone for long periods at a time, they love companionship. A loyal and loving breed like this begs to be a part of your family. If you leave him outside in a lonely backyard he will simply look for a way to “escape” to try and find a better place to live.

## Exercise

They are athletic enough to jump, and skinny enough to squeeze through, so your fencing needs to be in order and high enough to keep them in. Whippets love toys and will spend hours amusing themselves with their toys.

## Grooming

The Whippet has a fine single coat, which means, that he needs extra protection from the elements in the cooler months. Grooming is simple – a good rub over with a damp cloth, and if he comes in muddy, a damper cloth, followed by a dry one.

## Health

The Whippet is a fairly hardy breed with no known heredity health issues. Whippets are sensitive to flea bites, so these parasites must controlled, preferably eliminated.

## 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](http://www.townsville.qld.gov.au) and follow the links to Pets and Animals.

