

## Hound

### Beagle

The Beagle is the smallest of the British pack hounds bred to hunt hare, and to be followed on foot, hence appealing to those who could not follow the larger scent hounds on horseback. The breed was established in England by the 15th century. Queen Elizabeth kept a pack of miniature Beagles small enough to be carried in a saddle pannier or a pocket. The miniature version has fallen out of favour in the UK but in the USA the breed is shown in two varieties and the smaller one is known as the Pocket Beagle.

Breed Group	Hound
Vulnerable Breed	No
Size	Small
How much exercise?	Up to 1 hour per day
Length of coat	Short
How much grooming?	Once a week
Supposedly sheds?	Yes
Town or Country	Either
Type of home	Small or Large House
Minimum garden size	Small/Medium
Lifespan	Over 12 Years

## Health Information

You may be aware that some breeds of dog and their crosses can be susceptible to inherited disease. Of course you want to be sure that the dog you choose is as healthy as possible, and you would like to know that it has not inherited any undesirable disease-causing genes from its parents. There is some help in that DNA tests for diseases in purebred dogs are available for some conditions in some breeds, but there are not very many such tests just yet! There are also, however, a number of clinical veterinary screening schemes that dog breeders can use to increase the probability of producing healthy puppies.

Details of the various screening schemes, both veterinary and DNA, that are available to breeders in the UK can be found at [www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth](http://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth)

Potential dog owners should be aware that, at present, the application of various health screening results to breeding programmes is not always straightforward, and breeders may make choices for various reasons. A responsible breeder though, will always be willing to discuss relevant health issues with you. Breed clubs are often useful sources of breed-specific information.

## What Screening is relevant for the Beagle?

Kennel Club Assured Breeders must use the following screening schemes for sires and dams BVA/KC

- DNA test - MLS
- DNA test - Lafora's

Kennel Club Assured Breeders are strongly recommended to use the following screening schemes and/or advice for sires and dams

- DNA test - NCCD
- Bitches under two years not to produce a litter

The list above is not necessarily comprehensive. Breed clubs and experienced breeders are useful sources of information on health issues in the breed. All breeds have a Breed Health Coordinator.

## Breeding Restrictions

The Kennel Club will not accept an application to register a litter when:

- 1) The dam has already whelped 4 litters (as of the 1st January 2012 the limit changed from 6 litters to 4 litters). As of this date the Kennel Club will no longer register any further litters from any bitch which our records show has already whelped 4 litters. Therefore for any litter born on or after the 1st January 2012, the system will automatically check to see how many previous litters the Kennel Club has an account of. Where the number previously recorded is 4 or more, the application will be rejected, or
- 2) The dam has already reached the age of 8 years at the date of whelping, (relief from this restriction may be considered normally provided an application is made prior to the mating, the proposed dam has previously whelped at least one other registered litter, and the application is supported by veterinary evidence as to the suitability of the bitch involved in the proposed whelping), or
- 3) The dam was under one year old at the time of mating, or
- 4) The offspring are the result of any mating between father and daughter, mother and son or brother and sister, save in

exceptional circumstances or for scientifically proven welfare reasons, or

5) (From 1st January 2012) The dam has already had two litters delivered by caesarean section, save for scientifically proven welfare reasons and this only normally provided the application is made prior to the mating, or

6) The dam was not resident at a UK address at the date of whelping.

There are further Kennel Club Rules and Regulations that may prevent a litter from being registered; the full Kennel Club Rules and Regulations are contained in the Kennel Club Year Book.

## Breed Specific Breeding Restrictions

### Beagle Clubs

Name	Telephone
Beagle Association	01283 732377
Beagle Club	01249 782423
Beagle Club Of Northern Ireland	02891 463340
Devon, Cornwall & South West Beagle Society	07872 644005
Four Counties Beagle Club	01325 320960
Northern & Midland Counties Beagle Club	01226 390199
Scottish Beagle Club	01698 359036
Southern Counties Beagle Club	01474 814796
Welsh Beagle Club	01291 421567
West Mercia Beagle Club	01905 345755

### Beagle Rescue Organisations

Name	Telephone
Beagle Welfare Scheme	01283 575175
Beagle Welfare Scheme	01260 299033