

Pastoral

German Shepherd Dog

The first breed club was formed in 1881 after Max von Stephanitz and his followers developed and promoted the breed as a herding dog, and later as a working dog used by the police and the armed forces. From the First World War the bravery and temperament of the German Shepherd has gained the breed worldwide recognition and praise and he has shown his worth in other disciplines too:- as a guide dog for the blind, as a tracking dog, and in obedience.

The evolution of the breed and its changed appearance in the last fifty years has provoked fierce debate: the German Shepherd has a marked division of breed "type".

In recent years the long haired variety, once frowned upon in its native country has been officially recognised in the Breed Standard.

Breed Group	Pastoral
Vulnerable Breed	No
Size	Large
How much exercise?	More than 2 hours per day
Length of coat	Short
How much grooming?	More than once a week
Supposedly sheds?	Yes
Town or Country	Either
Type of home	Large House
Minimum garden size	Large
Lifespan	Over 10 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

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 German Shepherd Dog?

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

- BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme

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

- BVA/KC Elbow Dysplasia Scheme
- Eye testing
- Breed Club - Haemophilia testing for males
- Bitches under two years not to produce a litter
- No stud dog to be used under 18 months of age
- DNA test - DM

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

Current Registration Colours

- Bi-Colour
- Black
- Black & Gold
- Black & Red
- Black & Red Gold
- Black & Silver
- Black & Tan
- Black Gold & Silver
- Black Sable
- Black Tan & Gold
- Blue
- Blue & Gold
- Blue & Tan
- Blue Sable
- Dark Sable
- Gold
- Gold Sable
- Grey
- Grey Sable
- Liver
- Liver & Tan
- Liver Sable
- Red Sable
- Sable
- Silver Sable
- White

German Shepherd Dog Clubs

Name	Telephone
Aberdeen & District German Shepherd Dog Training Club	07813 551971
Aylesbury German Shepherd Dog Training Club	01296 681245

Name	Telephone
Birmingham & District German Shepherd Dog Association	01922 457 615
Bolton & District German Shepherd Dog Club	0161 368 4928
British Association For German Shepherd Dogs	07445 801650
British German Shepherd Dog Training Club	01744 810100
Clyde Valley German Shepherd Dog Club	07920 111035
Crewe & North Staffs German Shepherd Dog Club	01782 388 402
Derbyshire German Shepherd Dog Club	01226 204273
Dundee Alsatian & Training Club	01383 502 626
Fife German Shepherd Dog Club	07591451520
German Shepherd Dog (Alsatian) Club Of The United Kingdom	01302 338441
German Shepherd Dog Club Of Devon	01626 833260
German Shepherd Dog Club Of Essex	01708 342194
German Shepherd Dog Club Of Kent	01843 846572
German Shepherd Dog Club Of Northern Ireland	02838871630
German Shepherd Dog Club Of Scotland	01236 873543
German Shepherd Dog Club Of Suffolk	01473 719 514
German Shepherd Dog Club Of Wales	02920 219253
German Shepherd Dog League Of Great Britain (Limited)	01630 638 540
Grampian German Shepherd Dog Association	
Heads Of The Valleys German Shepherd Dog Club	01443 412 975
Iceni Dog Training Club	
Jersey Dog Training Association	01534 862 643
Leicestershire German Shepherd Dog Club	01162 223970
Midland Counties German Shepherd Dog Association	07885 045080
North Eastern German Shepherd Dog Club	07920 499788
North Wales GSD Club	01257 265 994
North Yorkshire & South Durham GSD Club	07791 993390
Preston & Fylde German Shepherd Dog Club	01942 867010
Sheffield German Shepherd Dog Society	01777 703417
South Of Scotland GSD & All Breeds Training Club	07876 210243
South Western German Shepherd Dog Club	
South Yorkshire Alsatian Association	01302 721015
Southern Alsatian Training Society	01795 890415
Southern GSD Training Club	07940 204779
Tyne Valley German Shepherd Dog Club	01207 543439
West Yorkshire German Shepherd Dog Club	01924 443838
Wigan Alsatian & All Breeds Training Club	01942 226606

German Shepherd Dog Rescue Organisations

Name	Telephone
ARAS Dog Rescue	01234 743797
Garbo's GSD Rescue	020 8546 4943
Garbo's GSD Rescue	07483 225071
Garbo's GSD Rescue	07950 260362
German Shepherd Dog Rescue	01568 797957
German Shepherd Dog Welfare Fund	07714 245446
German Shepherd Dog Welfare Fund	07908 879223
German Shepherd Dog Welfare Fund	01342 842902
German Shepherd Dog Welfare Fund	01375 405589
German Shepherd Dog Welfare Fund	07724 150525
German Shepherd Dog Welfare Fund	01622 717173
German Shepherd Rescue Elite - ADCH	07710 276250
German Shepherd Rescue Elite - ADCH	01277 840204
German Shepherd Rescue Elite - ADCH	01623 798943
German Shepherd Rescue Scotland	07391 531106
GSD 2000 Rescue & Re-home	0117 953 7124
Lancashire German Shepherd Rescue	01772 633860
Lancashire German Shepherd Rescue	07742 277304
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	07487 809343
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	01444 453302
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	01403 262758
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	01483 532765
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	01737 244030
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	07517 561004
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	01932 243686
Vigil German Shepherd Dog Rescue	01403 891550