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Working

Great Swiss Mountain Dog

As the name suggests, the Great Swiss Mountain dog is the largest of the Swiss herding breeds and the heaviest in build. He shares the same origins as the Bernese and carries the typical tricolour markings but he has a short dense coat and is perhaps a little heavier in head.

The breed was used for herding cattle, as a guard dog and as a carting dog. Often working in pairs, the Great Swiss Mountain Dog was used for pulling milk carts to the cheese factories and taking the cheeses to market.

Breed Group	Working
Vulnerable Breed	No
Size	Large
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	Country
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 Great Swiss Mountain Dog?

There are not currently any veterinary screening schemes or DNA tests for disease relevant to this breed under the Assured Breeder Scheme, however you should still ask breeders and refer to breed clubs about health issues in the breed.

Great Swiss Mountain Dog Clubs

Name	Telephone
Great Swiss Mountain Dog Club	

Great Swiss Mountain Dog Rescue Organisations

Name	Telephone
Great Swiss Mountain Dog Club Welfare	07870 674292



THE KENNEL CLUB

ACCREDITED BREEDER SCHEME

Assured Breeders

Name	Member since	Phone	Accolades
Mrs S Watkins Usk, Gwent	31/10/2010	01600 780478	BC B
Mrs E Highland East Grinstead, West Sussex	31/01/2009	07824 665628	BC B
Mrs S M & Mr S M Brailey Westbury, Wiltshire	31/01/2009	01380 830386	BC B



Accolade of Excellence

Denotes a significant contribution to a breed.



Studbook Achievement

Bred at least 3 dogs listed in the Studbook.



Breed Club Membership

Current member of one or more breed clubs



Breeder Experience

5 or more litters registered with the Kennel Club
