

Spaniel (Cocker)



The breed's name comes from its original function, as he was used to hunt woodcock. The breed was not recognised as a separate variety until 1893 and until that time all the spaniels, collectively known as Land Spaniels, were bred together and later classified depending on size and colour. They were selectively bred for suitability for their work and for the terrain. It was a requirement that a Cocker Spaniel should be simply be under 25lbs in weight. Whilst blacks dominated the rings in the early shows, Welsh Springer outcross was used to establish parti-coloured lines.

The Cocker Spaniel earns the epithet 'the merry cocker' for his ever wagging tail denoting his happy temperament. In the early 20th century the breed was at its height of popularity and it remains hugely popular as a family pet.

What health screening is currently relevant?

Kennel Club Accredited Breeders must use, or are strongly recommended to use, the following screening schemes and/or advice for sires and dams:

- **Eye testing**
- **DNA test - prcd-PRA**
Progressive Retinal Atrophy (prcd-GPRA) Optigen
www.optigen.com
- **DNA test - FN**
Familial Nephropathy (FN) Antagene
www.antagene.com
- **BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme**
- **BVA/KC/ISDS Gonioscopy**
- **DNA test - AON**
- **DNA test - AMS**



ACCREDITED BREEDER SCHEME