

# Tibetan Mastiff



This is the largest of the Tibetan breeds, and is regarded by some as one of the world's most ancient breeds, and as the ancestor of all the mastiff breeds. Bred in the Himalayan region to protect homestead and livestock, the Tibetan Mastiffs were often tethered at the entrance of the property to deter intruders. Early British explorers in the Himalayas spoke of the giant breed, with its great substance and its dense protective coat. In 1828 King George IV presented a Tibetan Mastiff to the London Zoo.

The Chinese invasion of Tibet in 1950 brought the compulsory slaughtering of dogs and only a few Tibetan Mastiffs living in remote areas escaped. It was this stock which formed the foundation of the modern breed.

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## 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:

- **BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme**
- **BVA/KC Elbow Dysplasia Scheme**



ACCREDITED BREEDER SCHEME