



Wagging Tails

The Newsletter of Vegas Valley Dog Obedience Club

PAGE 1

VOLUME 50, ISSUE 1

JANUARY, 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dog Anatomy	1
Officers & Directors	2
Contact	2
Upcoming Meetings	2
Events Calendar	2
Dog Structure	5
Best Dog Products	7
Top 10 Declining Names	8
Breed of the Month	8
Teach Trade	9
A Fluffy Journey	10
AKC News	11
From the Editor	12
Here Comes the Judge	12
Braggs & Photos	12
Advertisements	12
Tidbits	13
About Us	13

Understanding the Anatomy of Dogs:



January 3, 2024 By [dogsintl](#)

Skeletal Structure and Musculature of Dogs

Dogs have a fascinating skeletal structure and musculature that allows them to move, run, and play with ease. Understanding the anatomy of dogs can help owners and veterinarians alike in caring for these beloved pets.

Skeletal Structure:

- Dogs have 319 bones in their body, including the tail. Their skeleton provides support, protects vital organs,

and allows for movement.

Musculature:

- Dogs have over 600 muscles, enabling them to perform a wide range of physical activities.
- The muscles work in conjunction with the skeletal system to provide strength, agility, and flexibility.

Body Part	Number of Bones
Legs	30 bones each
Skull	39 bones

- **Internal Organ Sys-**

tems and Functions in Canine Anatomy

In canine anatomy, the internal organ systems play crucial roles in maintaining the health and well-being of dogs. Each system has specific functions that are essential for the overall functioning of the body. Understanding these systems and their functions is important for pet owners and veterinarians to ensure the proper care and treatment of dogs.

(See *ANATOMY* Page 4)

Dog Facts

Amazing Dog Facts & Trivia by Ryan O'Meara

1. The two countries with most dog populations are the U.S. and France, with an average of one dog per three families.
2. The two countries with the fewest dogs per household are Switzerland and Germany, with an average of one dog per ten families.
3. There are more dogs in London, England than there are people in Norway.
4. The World Dog Show, sponsored by the Federatoni Cynologique Internationale, is held in a different country every year
5. "Fido" means "I am faithful" in Latin.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Marina Pavlovsky
Vice President	Susie Osburn
Treasurer	Nancy Swords
Corresponding Secretary	Kathy Mondragon
Recording Secretary	Kristina Klingler
Director	Marti Siska
Director	Geri Hunt

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MONTH	DATE
JAN	7
FEBRUARY	4
MARCH	4
APRIL	1
MAY	6
JUNE	3
JULY	NO MEETING

Board Meeting begins 6:30pm

General Meeting begins 7:00pm

Attendance via Zoom is also available.

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 1600 E. Desert Inn Rd. Suite 240 , Las Vegas NV

Contact Us

Vegas Valley Dog Obedience Club
P.O. Box 80695
Las Vegas NV 89180-0695
Phone: (702) 368-0656
E-mail: info@vvdog.org

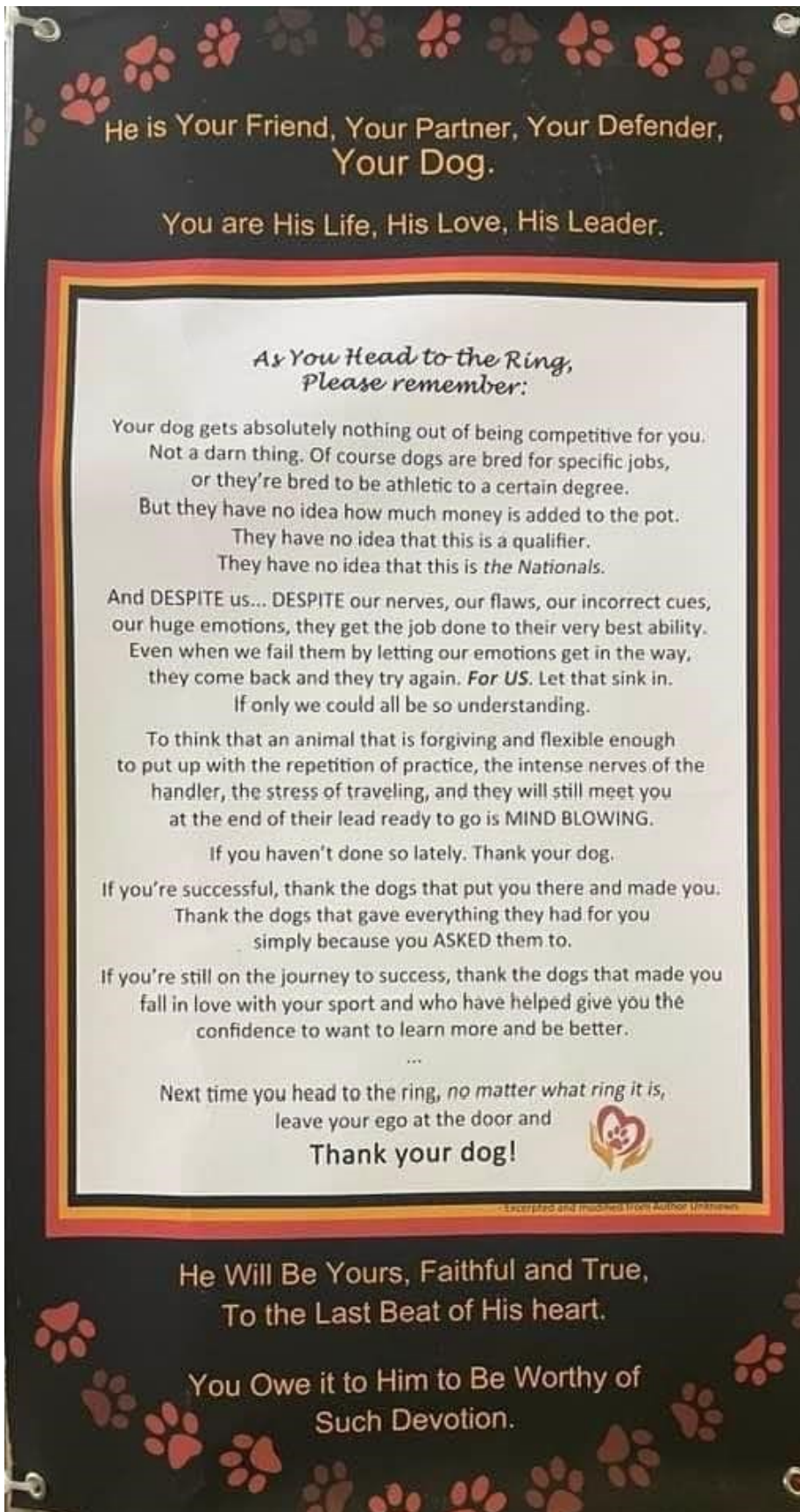


We are on the Web!



Upcoming Events Calendar

- January 2-5, 2025** Palm Springs Kennel Club Show & Trials, California
- January 9, 2025** **VVDOC** Winter Class Registration
- January 11, 2025** **VVDOC Awards Dinner**
- January 16, 2025** **VVDOC** Winter Class session begins
- January 18-19, 2025** Phoenix Field & Obedience Club Trials, Arizona
- Jan. 30-Feb. 3, 2025** Heart of the Desert Classic Show & Trials, Arizona
- February 1, 2025** SSKC Handling Class
- February 7-9, 2025** **VVDOC** Trials
- February 28-March 2, 2025** Superstition Kennel Club Trials, Arizona
- March 15, 2025** SSKC "B" Match
- April 4, 2025** **VVDOC** Spring Class Registration
- April 11, 2025** **VVDOC** Spring Class session begins
- April 25-27, 2025** Apple Valley Kennel Club Show & Trials, California
- May 2-4, 2025** Beehive Cluster Shows & Trials, Utah
- June 12-15, 2025** Nut Farm Classic Show & Trials, California
- July 11-14, 2025** Truckee Meadows Dog Training Club Trials, Nevada
- July 17-18, 2025** **AKC Rally National Championship**, Ohio
- July 19-20, 2025** **AKC Obedience National Championship**, Ohio
- July 26-27, 2025** Flagstaff Kennel Club Show & Trials, Arizona
- September 5-7, 2025** Red Canyons Kennel Club Show and Trials, Utah
- September 11, 2025** **VVDOC** Fall Training Class Registration
- September 12-14, 2025** Great Salt Lake Kennel Club Show & Trials, Utah
- September 18, 2025** **VVDOC** Fall Training Classes Begin
- September 20-21, 2025** Prescott AZ Kennel Club Show and Trials
- October 4-5, 2025** Chino Valley Canine Training Club of AZ Trials
- October 11-12, 2025** Bakersfield Obedience Training Club Trials, California
- October 24-26, 2025** Pahrump Valley Obedience Club Trials
- November 14-16, 2025** Poodle Club of Las Vegas Show & Trials
- December 14, 2025** **VVDOC** Obedience Trial



SAVE THE DATE!

VVDOC OBEDIENCE & RALLY TRIALS

February 7-8-9, 2025

Clark County Fairgrounds

Logandale NV

PET FOOD DRIVE

We will be participating in a pet food donation drive for feeding [Pets of the Homeless.org](https://www.petsofthehomeless.org) at our February VVDOC Obedience

& Rally Trials

February 7-8-9, 2025.

Please bring either a pet food or cash donation to the Trials if you would like to help.

(ANATOMY Page 1)

The major internal organ systems in canine anatomy include:

– **Cardiovascular System**: Responsible for circulating blood and delivering oxygen and nutrients to the

Some common health issues related to a dog's anatomy include hip dysplasia, ear infections, dental problems, and musculo-skeletal issues. It's important for dog owners to be aware of these potential health concerns and seek proper veterinary care.

body's tissues.

– **Respiratory System**: Facilitates the exchange of oxygen and carbon dioxide, allowing for proper breathing and gas exchange.

– **Digestive System**: Processes food and absorbs nutrients to provide

energy for the body.

– **Urinary System**: Filters and removes waste products from the blood, maintaining a healthy balance of fluids and electrolytes.

– **Reproductive System**: Enables reproduction and maintains hormonal balance in the body.

Each of these systems works in harmony to ensure the proper functioning of a dog's body. It's important to monitor the health of these organ systems and seek veterinary care if any abnormalities are observed. Understanding the internal organ systems and their functions is essential for providing the best care for canine companions...

Common Health Issues Related to Canine Anatomy

Dogs are incredible creatures with their own unique set of health issues

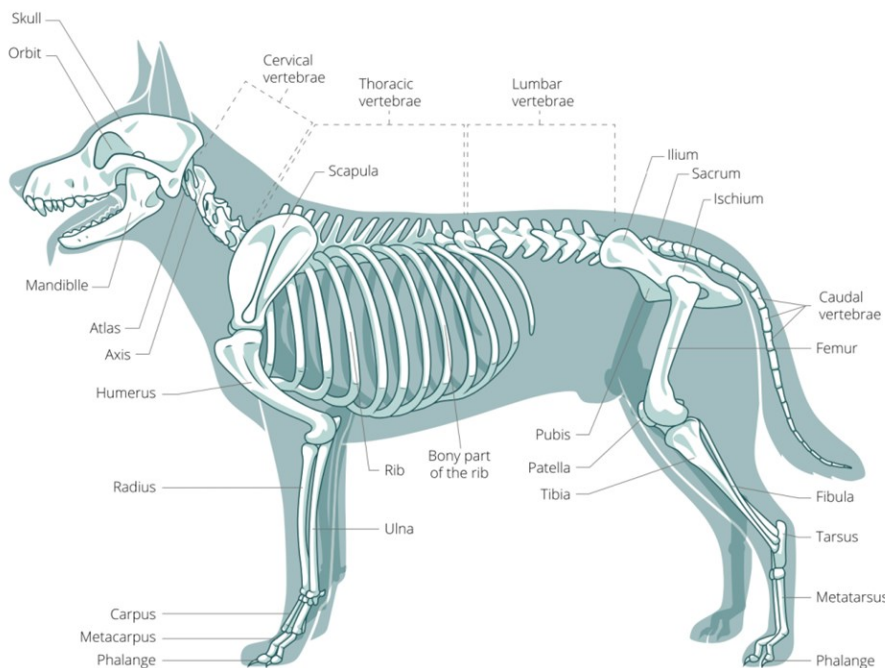
related to their anatomy. Understanding can help dog owners provide better care and recognize potential problems early on.

Some of the most include:

- **Hip Dysplasia**: a condition where the hip joint doesn't develop properly, leading to arthritis and lameness
- **Ear Infections**: dogs' long and floppy ears can trap moisture and debris, leading to painful infections
- **Obesity**: excess weight can cause strain on joints and lead to other health issues

Issue	Effect
Hip Dysplasia	Arthritis and lameness
Ear Infections	Painful and uncomfortable
Obesity	Joint strain and other

Bones of the Dog

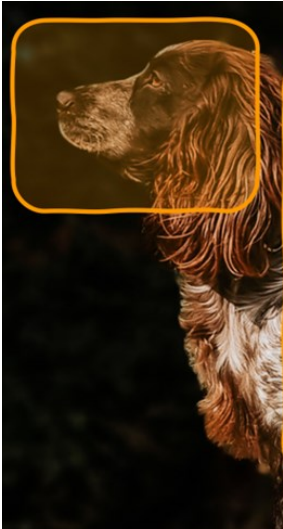
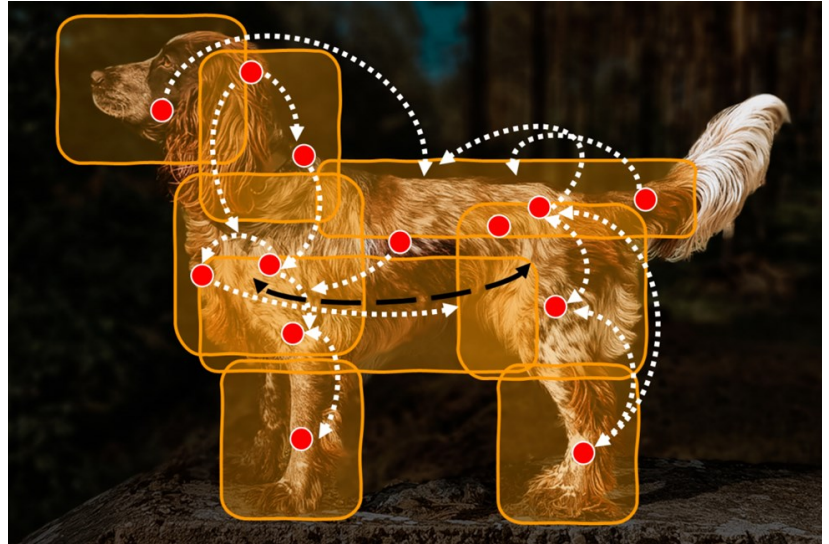


How to Analyse Your Dog's Structure

Author [Kennel de Zeta Centauri](#)

STRUCTURE

A dog's interconnected structure functions as a system of levers and pulleys, with the back forming a vital bridge between the front and rear assemblies.



What structural weaknesses in the HEAD area might look like...

Refusing to jump over obstacles while carrying an object, or dislikes carrying objects in general

For agility, obedience and hunting dogs, undershot jaws can increase stress on their lower backs when they hold their heads at elevated angles. Undershot jaw makes it particularly difficult to jump with an object in the mouth (like in obedience) as well as carry heavy things in the mouth. Incorrect dentition can also seriously impact a dog's ability to carry objects.

Frequently dropping bars in agility or suboptimal jumping technique can be due to poor depth vision

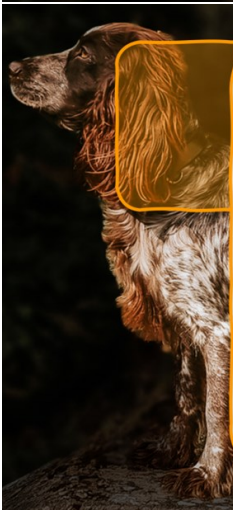
Positioning of the eyes is dependent on the skull shape, which in turn impacts the dog's vision – in short, closer together equals better depth vision (like most predators, e.g. cats), more on the sides means wider field of vision (e.g. prey animals like horses) which is good for vigilance but reduces depth vision.

Overheating easily

Longer nose means larger nasal cavity, which in turn means better ability to regulate temperature.

**HOW TO ANALYSE YOUR
DOG'S
STRUCTURE**

it would benefit every dog owner by helping them understand their dog's structure and the impact of the dog's conformation on well-being



What structural weaknesses in NECK AND WITHERS might look like...

Dog tires easily

Short neck limits the reach of the dog's steps, which means they need more steps to cover the same amount of distance – this tires them out more quickly.

Difficulties in achieving the correct form when jumping over obstacles (e.g. in agility)

Short neck causes this problem

Balance and coordination issues OR difficulties in swimming

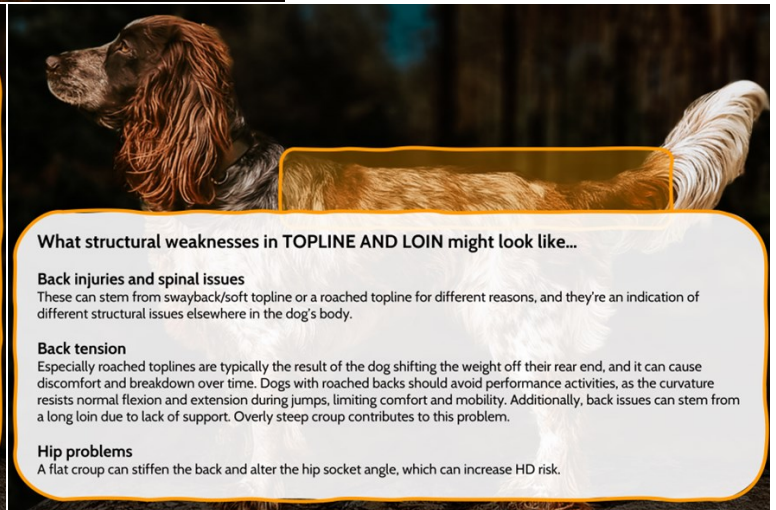
A long neck means weaker neck muscles and instability of the head, which significantly hinders balance and coordination - essential for agility dogs, swimmers, retrievers and other active breeds.

Difficulties with swimming or retrieving

Ewe-necked dogs find swimming difficult so they often avoid it completely. Retrieving is also difficult because an ewe-necked dog lacks the structure to support the weight.

Front limb injuries or tension in the thoracic vertebrae

Flat withers can't support sufficient shoulder muscle mass and therefore the dog's shock absorption is reduced, which increases the pressure on the upper thoracic spine.



What structural weaknesses in TOPLINE AND LOIN might look like...

Back injuries and spinal issues

These can stem from swayback/soft topline or a roached topline for different reasons, and they're an indication of different structural issues elsewhere in the dog's body.

Back tension

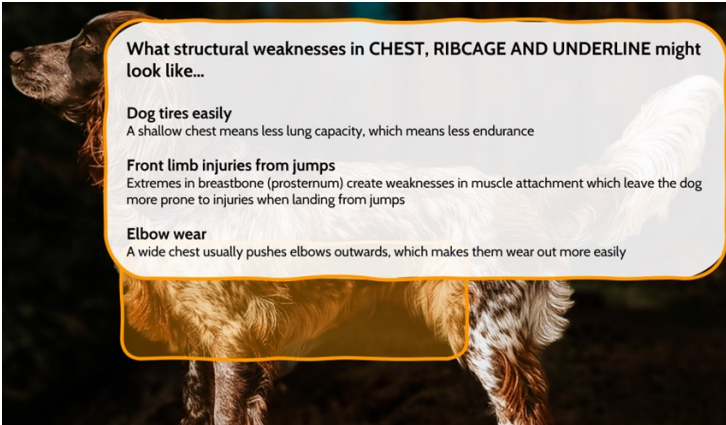
Especially roached toplines are typically the result of the dog shifting the weight off their rear end, and it can cause discomfort and breakdown over time. Dogs with roached backs should avoid performance activities, as the curvature resists normal flexion and extension during jumps, limiting comfort and mobility. Additionally, back issues can stem from a long loin due to lack of support. Overly steep croup contributes to this problem.

Hip problems

A flat croup can stiffen the back and alter the hip socket angle, which can increase HD risk.

(See **STRUCTURE** Page 6)

(DOG STRUCTURE Page 5)



What structural weaknesses in CHEST, RIBCAGE AND UNDERLINE might look like...

Dog tires easily

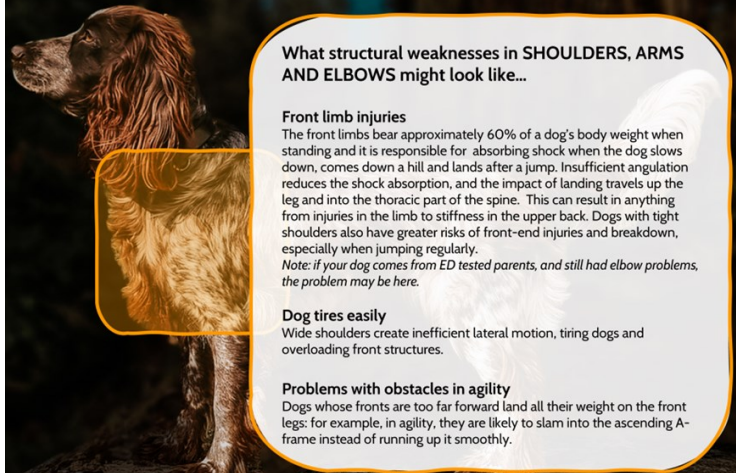
A shallow chest means less lung capacity, which means less endurance

Front limb injuries from jumps

Extremes in breastbone (prosternum) create weaknesses in muscle attachment which leave the dog more prone to injuries when landing from jumps

Elbow wear

A wide chest usually pushes elbows outwards, which makes them wear out more easily



What structural weaknesses in SHOULDERS, ARMS AND ELBOWS might look like...

Front limb injuries

The front limbs bear approximately 60% of a dog's body weight when standing and it is responsible for absorbing shock when the dog slows down, comes down a hill and lands after a jump. Insufficient angulation reduces the shock absorption, and the impact of landing travels up the leg and into the thoracic part of the spine. This can result in anything from injuries in the limb to stiffness in the upper back. Dogs with tight shoulders also have greater risks of front-end injuries and breakdown, especially when jumping regularly.

Note: if your dog comes from ED tested parents, and still had elbow problems, the problem may be here.

Dog tires easily

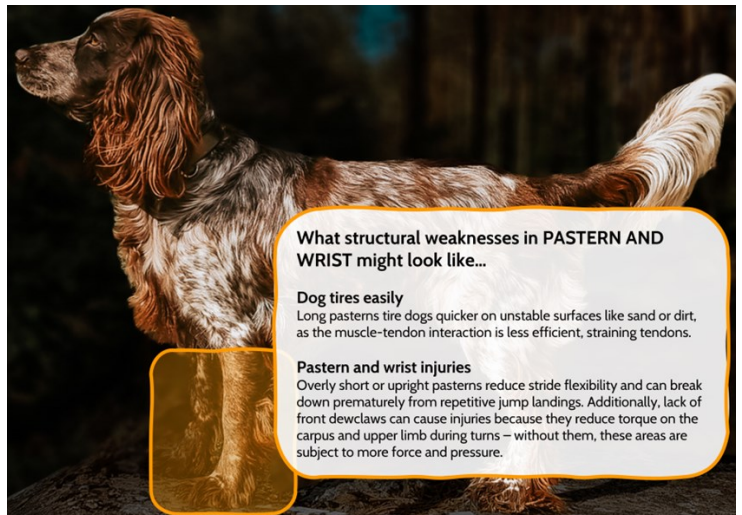
Wide shoulders create inefficient lateral motion, tiring dogs and overloading front structures.

Problems with obstacles in agility

Dogs whose fronts are too far forward land all their weight on the front legs: for example, in agility, they are likely to slam into the ascending A-frame instead of running up it smoothly.



Well-angled shoulders
Straight shoulders



What structural weaknesses in PASTERN AND WRIST might look like...

Dog tires easily

Long pasterns tire dogs quicker on unstable surfaces like sand or dirt, as the muscle-tendon interaction is less efficient, straining tendons.

Pastern and wrist injuries

Overly short or upright pasterns reduce stride flexibility and can break down prematurely from repetitive jump landings. Additionally, lack of front dewclaws can cause injuries because they reduce torque on the carpus and upper limb during turns – without them, these areas are subject to more force and pressure.



What structural weaknesses in PELVIC AREA, THIGHS AND KNEES might look like...

Injuries or increased wear & tear in the back

Improper leg placement accelerates joint capsule/cartilage deterioration and arthritis even though dogs may compensate by overloading the spine, back, and pelvis, leading to spinal discomfort or injuries worsened by jumping, swimming, etc.

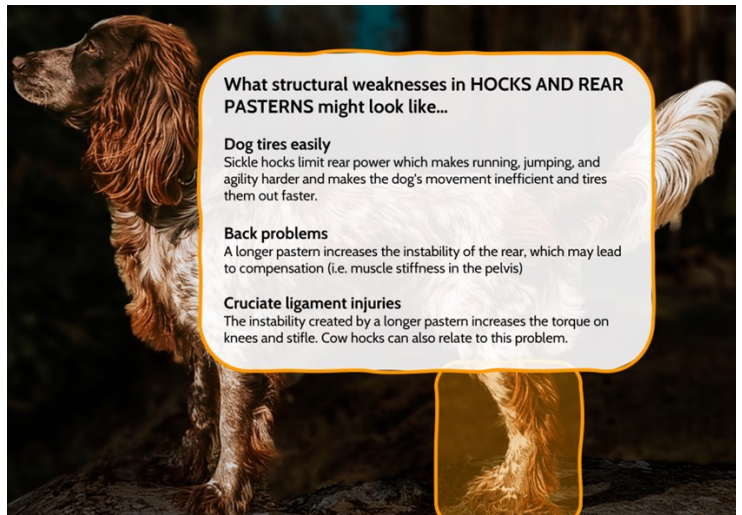
Lack of sufficient angulation strains joints, restricts performance, and risks spinal issues from compensation. Long lower thighs increase spinal injury risks from compensation while the excessive fatigue and joint stress can lead to arthritis.

Cruciate ligament injuries

Dogs with straighter rears are more likely to develop cruciate ligament injuries because the impact of torque on a straight rear causes the stifle to get twisted and injured.

Hock injuries

Too much angulation at the back makes it less stable, which causes the dog to make wider turns. This is particularly a problem for dogs who run through puddles or muddy ground.



What structural weaknesses in HOCKS AND REAR PASTERNS might look like...

Dog tires easily

Sickle hocks limit rear power which makes running, jumping, and agility harder and makes the dog's movement inefficient and tires them out faster.

Back problems

A longer pastern increases the instability of the rear, which may lead to compensation (i.e. muscle stiffness in the pelvis)

Cruciate ligament injuries

The instability created by a longer pastern increases the torque on knees and stifle. Cow hocks can also relate to this problem.

Note: this article was originally created as [an exercise to analyse the Polish Hunting Spaniel breed standard](#), and as such written from the perspective of a spaniel audience. If you have a very different type of breed, please keep this in mind. I have used pictures of my own dog, a Polish Hunting Spaniel, as illustration largely to avoid copyright issues ...

Read the full article here:

<https://busydoggie.com/home/blog/knowledge-hub/how-to-analyse-your-dogs-structure/>

SAVE THE DATE!

VVDOC Annual Awards Dinner

Saturday January 11, 2025

Bonefish Grill Las Vegas, 6527 S. Las Vegas Blvd.

Best Dog Products

Julian Vittorio Updated on Apr 2, 2022

Have you ever wondered what your dog is thinking? Besides the known behavior of a wagging tail or baring his or her teeth, it can be hard to know what your furry pal likes or doesn't like. With such a wide breadth of dog supplies on the market, it feels daunting to narrow it all down to the best of the best. Luckily, we did the legwork and came up with a great list of our favorite dog products. Please note, however, that the dogs we reached out to for feedback were not able to comment at this time, as they were too busy playing. From dog chew toys to dog puzzles, the best dog treats to even pet cameras, we've covered all the dog stuff.

The best dog products to keep your pup happy, entertained, and safe

Best dog treats: Zuke's dog treats

Best dog games: Joansan Dog Puzzle Toy

Best affordable dog toy: KONG Classic Dog Toy

Best vacuum for dog hair: Bissell Pet Hair Eraser Turbo Vacuum Cleaner

Best pet location tracker: Jibot Next

Let's face it, there are a *lot* of dog products available for dog owners. It can be quite overwhelming as you begin to look for dog supplies—the best dog treats, dog chew toys, dog games, even things like the best dog DNA tests, etc. If you get a puppy, there is an entirely different set of dedicated puppy supplies you will need as you potty train and crate train, and as he/she is teething and chews through the couch (yikes!).

As a rule of thumb, no matter what dog accessories you need, look for the best quality products so they will last the longest and, especially if it's food or treat related, keep your dog healthy. While it may be a bit more costly, know you are making an investment in your dog's life and that's important. For the best dog treats and best dog food (wet or dry), look for brands that are grain-free and don't use fillers such as corn, wheat, or soy. The first ingredients on the ingredient list should be things you've heard of, like chicken or beef. Of course, diets change as dogs grow older and they begin to need different things, but the ingredient list is certainly something to look at when purchasing food-related items.

In terms of best dog toys, again look for smart materials, like non-toxic plastic or rubber. For many dog games, there are pieces that are moved with your pup's nose or paws and if they are of a cheaper quality, they could potentially fall off and become a choking hazard. And while you're adding dog supplies to your cart, take a moment to consider the things that would make you happy, like a vacuum for dog hair or a location tracker to know where your dog is at all times. If your interest is piqued, keep reading!

What to consider when looking for the best dog accessories.

The best place to start when you want to narrow down which dog accessories to buy is your dog. Every dog is unique and has his or her own needs, likes, dislikes—and no one knows that better than you, their human. If you notice that they're eating their food too quickly and struggle with weight management, a dog food puzzle might be just what they need. Lots of dogs need a lot of exercises and can get bored quickly, which can lead to anxiety. Some things to consider when (See **BEST PRODUCTS** Page 9)

TOP 10 DECLINING PET NAMES			
DOG		FEMALE	MALE
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brandy 2. Casey 3. Misty 4. Lucky 5. Sheba 6. Samantha 7. Sandy 8. Cassie 9. Cleo 10. Katie & Shadow (tie) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dakota 2. Pepper 3. Casey 4. Taz 5. Scooter 6. Scooby 7. Spike 8. Sampson 9. Bubba 10. Rudy
CAT		FEMALE	MALE
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Katie 2. Sabrina 3. Tigger 4. Samantha 5. Snowball 6. Miss Kitty 7. Sheba 8. Tabitha 9. Tabby 10. Sweetie 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bailey 2. Salem 3. Baxter 4. Bubba 5. Merlin 6. Whiskers 7. Alex 8. Snowball 9. Sebastian 10. Thomas

by Kristen Seymour

AKC Toy Group Breed of the Month

Height

7-11 inches

Weight

4-8 pounds

Life Expectancy

16 years



About the Breed from the AKC

The Biewer Terrier is an elegant, longhaired, tri-colored toy terrier whose only purpose in life is to love and be loved. They maintain a charming, whimsical attitude well into adulthood. Carrying around a toy or two is not surprising.

The Biewer Terrier is a very dedicated, loyal family member and friendly with strangers. A large percentage of the Biewer Terriers are happy-go-lucky dogs, smiling when asked if they are happy. In spite of its small stature, the Biewer is a very hearty, athletic dog and an excellent hunter of vermin. They are lighthearted, have a childlike attitude and like to carry toys in their mouths. He is quick to alert you to company, but is not a constant barker. How do you pronounce Biewer Terrier? Beaver, exactly like out little dam building friends.

The Biewer Terrier is a rather mellow, easy-going dog. Their playful attitudes provide



Biewer Terrier

them with a natural means of self-exercising, along with the time spent playing with their human families. Indoor activities could include hide-and-seek, chasing a ball rolled along the floor, or teaching them new tricks. Biewers are also excellent on walks, quite agile and love to go on outings. If you live in an apartment, even short walks in the hallways can give your dog some exercise, especially during inclement weather. It was recognized by the AKC in 2021.

(BEST PRODUCTS Page 7)

you aren't able to take your dog to the dog park or on a hike are dog games to increase mental stimulation or perhaps a chew toy to help entertain themselves.

The dog products you purchase will also depend on the space you're living in. If you have a backyard and a wandering dog, you'll want a wireless dog fence or a location tracker to ensure your dog's safety. If you have a shedder, a really good vacuum cleaner will keep you sane and your home clean. Always look at your situation and your dog's specific needs to inform you what products you need to keep you and your pup happy.

Best dog treats: [Zuke's dog treats](#)



Best dog games: [Joansan Dog Puzzle Toy](#)



Best affordable dog toy: [KONG Classic Dog Toy](#)



Best vacuum for dog hair: [Bissell Pet Hair Eraser Turbo Vacuum Cleaner](#)



Best pet location tracker: [Jibit Next](#)



How to Teach Your Dog to Trade Items With You

By [Stephanie Gibeault, MSc, CPDT](#)

Published: Aug 29, 2024

The following steps will teach your dog to happily trade items with you:

With your dog on a leash or tethered, say the words "take it" and offer something from low on your dog's rewards list. Let them take the object in their mouth.

Offer your dog some treats from higher on the rewards list. Consider using meat rather than kibble or cookies. You might initially have to hold the treats to your dog's nose to entice them to drop the first item. Never force your dog to take the treats. If your dog is unwilling to drop the first object, you likely picked the wrong pair of objects to trade. Either

choose a lower object for your dog to take or offer a higher-value treat in exchange.

When your dog drops the first item, mark the moment with a clicker, marker word, or praise, then let them eat the treats from your hand. Be sure you have enough treats to keep your dog busy for several seconds. As they eat, pick up the first object with your other hand and place it out of sight, such as in your pocket or behind your back. If your dog tries to race you for the first object, toss some treats to the side to redirect your dog while you pick it up.

1. As soon as your dog finishes eating, say, "Take it," and offer the first object back again. Let your dog take the object in their mouth. Your dog is learning that trading earns them some treats and gives them the original item back. What's not to love about a game like that? But if your dog won't return the first object, you likely chose one from too low on the rewards list. Instead, work with something a bit more appealing to your dog.

2. Repeat the above steps until your dog will predictably drop the first object. At (See **TRADE** Page 10)

(TRADE Page 9)

that point, say “trade,” “swap,” or a similar verbal cue right before your dog lets the object go. Then, mark the moment and offer the treats. Again, pick up the first object with your other hand and return it once your dog finishes eating.

3. Say “trade,” then wait a few seconds before showing your dog the treats. You want them to drop the first object based

on the cue rather than the food. If you’ve done enough repetitions, your dog will understand what’s expected. If not, go back a few steps and repeat before trying again.

4. Once your dog is happy to trade low-value objects, slowly work your way up the hierarchy of objects until they trade higher-value items, too. Remember, when training, always give your dog back the first object after a successful trade.

Now, if your dog gets a hold of something off-limits, you can use your “trade” cue to get the object back. Of course, you won’t ever give forbidden objects back to your dog after the swap, but if you play the trade game often enough, your dog will still relinquish their prize rather than guarding it or running off with it.

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/teach-dog-to-trade-items-with-you/>

A "Fluffy" Journey

Originally written in September, 1999, and published in the MCOA Journal, 1999, #4, below, is the edited version for the AKC Gazette. “Published on this site with the permission of the AKC GAZETTE; this article appeared in the Jan. 2001 issue.”

Mastiffs The following column was submitted by **Tina Keith** of Las Vegas for the AKC GAZETTES October 2000 issue on service dogs, but due to space restrictions was held for this month. I hope you enjoy it.



I'm in my late 40's and had never owned a pet— never owned anything that had to be housed, clothed or fed, my husband, Alan grew up with Rottweilers and Dobermans, and although he loved those breeds, he was ready for a change. Alan knew he wanted a large dog, and in fairness to me, we went to a library to research together to find a breed that would please both of us. I remember the very first sentence I read on the Mastiff that stood out in my mind was about the slobbers on the walls that sometimes reached up to the ceiling. My enthusiasm waned. However, reading on, I could slowly visualize sharing my life and home with a Mastiff. A few weeks later an AKC show was held in Las Vegas and we went to look at the Mastiffs; I was taken aback by the actual size of these dogs. No description truly prepares one for the breed's proportion and grandeur. And I actually touched one. It wasn't as bad — or as wet — as I thought it would be. Our Mastiff journey began.

(See **FLUFFY** Page 11)

(**FLUFFY** Page 10)

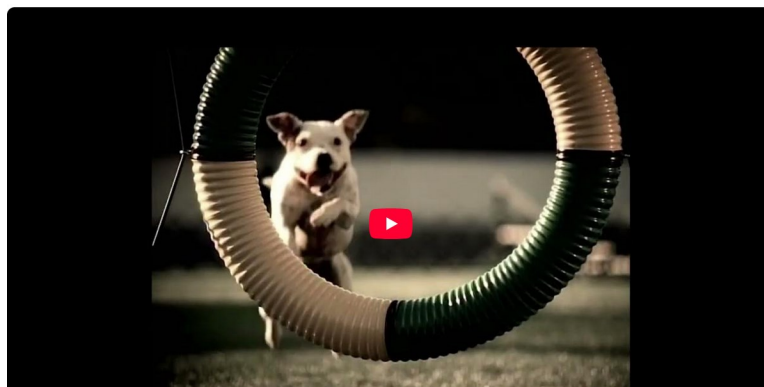
Four months later, we went to pick up our 11-week-old puppy. We had decided to use a witty name, the kind of name that brings a smile to your face upon introduction. This big fawn bundle of joy was very fluffy, which was lucky for her as we already decided to name her Fluffy. It was love at first sight. Fluffy was definitely going to be my dog. Right away I started taking her to training classes once a week. For months I'd wake up an hour earlier than usual just to play with her before I got ready for work. My social life went down the drain. I couldn't wait to get home — and stay there. When Fluffy was six months old and had received all her shots, we went to organized obedience classes. Nobody in our class had ever seen a Mastiff before, and the instructor enjoyed the novelty of having such a breed in the class, Fluffy graduated first in her class. When she was 9 months old, we went to watch a local fun match, and someone suggested I enter Fluffy. What a ridiculous suggestion, I thought. But she won! One instructor noted Fluffy's wonderful temperament and said she would make a great therapy dog. Meanwhile, Fluffy graduated from all her classes in first place and won two more first-place ribbons in Fun matches. She received her Canine Good Citizen® certificate at 10 months. When I received the list of facilities asking for therapy dogs, I noticed that few volunteers were going to any of the hospices in Las Vegas. We signed on with Nathan Adelson Hospice, a facility where many patients live their final days, I wasn't sure how I would handle being around patients who knew they were dying. On our first visit to the Adelson facility, we entered a room where a patient had just died. I was terrified. On seeing Fluffy in the room, the family members started to kiss and hug her in silence while their tears rolled down their cheeks onto her face. They were so touched that I had brought her to them at that moment in their lives. Fluffy is an excellent therapy dog. It is so gratifying to hear a person whose days are numbered tell us how we've made their day.

At age 2, Fluffy weighs 182 pounds and is 33 inches at the shoulder. She can give patients kisses as they rest in their beds. She is always the conversation piece and the "icebreaker." It takes us 15 minutes to get past the nurses' station before we see the first patient. Nurses need therapy too! My supervisor asked if I would take Fluffy to Sunrise Children's Hospital Foundation as well, knowing that Fluffy loves kids. The children think Fluffy is cool. In the cancer ward, I let her lay on their beds and they soon become friends. Nurses have said that after our visits, the children sleep better at night and don't require as much pain medication. Fluffy is a wonderful ambassador for her breed. The representative for MCOA Rescue in Nevada has contacted us, asking if we could be counted on to help. Our immediate response; "With pleasure," Fluffy and I have yet another mission on our Mastiff journey. — T.K. Thanks, Tina. — Joan Hahn

AKC News

Please watch this short video from the AKC titled "Don't lose what you love". To view, click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceCIPzFjllM>





From the Editor

*Do you have a brag? Did you get a new puppy?
Do you have other dog-related news, photos, articles, humor, or upcoming events to share?
Do you have a canine product or service you'd like to promote?
Send your information to Pam Chadwick at
Goldenz1@centurylink.net
Submission deadline is the 10th of each month*

Here Comes the Judge...

Do you have a question you'd like to ask an AKC judge? Each month, one of our members who is an AKC judge will answer your questions. **Please send your questions to Pam Chadwick,**

goldenz1@centurylink.net. Take this opportunity to communicate with an expert. We are waiting for your questions!

Braggs and Member Photos



Marti Siska reported that **Daffy** earned her Rally Advanced title at the **Poodle Club Trial**. Daffy also had a perfect score of 100 on Sunday with a second place in her class.

Bonnie Lee provided this update:

November 23-24, 2024, I judged ASCA obedience & rally for the 6th time in Europe (5th time in Germany).

November 2, 2024, I judged a special Invitational event 'Crufts Style Heeling' for the Border Collie Society of America's National Specialty. It was 4 minutes of heeling and was well received.

AKC/ASCA Obedience & Rally Judge,
ATT Evaluator,
ARC Carting Judge, Accredited
Beauty Pageant Judge
OTCh.10 'Hello Dolly' of Arbeitsheim
UDX12, AXP, AJP, RE
OTCh.2 Mardon's Autumn Mist
UDX7, AX, AXJ, RE, ASCA UD

Tidbits

Many of you will remember having had the pleasure of showing or stewarding under AKC Judge John Cox. He left us recently, but his "tidbits" deserve repeating. Below are some of his valuable and timeless tips.

50 — Does Your Equipment Get the Green Light to Enter the Ring?

You have trained your dog and have now entered a show. You are ready to go, **or are you?** Have you taken the time to check the equipment you will be using to see if it conforms to the AKC Obedience Regulations? It would not be a good thing to get to the ring and find out the equipment you planned to use does not conform to the Regulations. ...Take a close look at the Regulations in regards to the equipment used in the various classes (+ Chapters 1 & 2).

What does it take to get the green light and past the ring gate?

Chapter 1, Section 10 "Identification."...

Chapter 1, Section 17 "Disqualification, Ineligibility, Excusal and Change in Appearance of Dogs."...

Chapter 2, Section 3 "Qualifying Performance."...

Chapter 2, Section 16 "Use of Leash."...

Chapter 2, Section 17 "Collars."...

DID YOU KNOW?

January is **National Train Your Dog Month**

ABOUT US



P.O. Box 80695

Las Vegas NV 89180-0695

Phone: (702) 368-0656

E-mail: info@vvdoc.org

Vegas Valley Dog Obedience Club was founded in 1962. We are licensed by the American Kennel Club. Our purpose is to promote responsible dog ownership, humane training methods, and to further the sport of canine Obedience through AKC Obedience & Rally Trials. We offer Training Classes to the public and our members three times each year.

Please contact info@vvdoc.org for more information about our organization.