



ABOUT THE BREED



The Golden Retriever was developed in Scotland and England in the late 19th century for retrieving wildfowl on land and water. Its physical attributes teamed with its willing, trainable nature have led to its use as an excellent obedience and tracking dog.

Its size, intelligence and temperament make it one of the few breeds acceptable for use as guide, service, hearing and other assisting capacities. When combined with a high work drive and energy level, this breed has been found to be a suitable choice for working in areas such as search & rescue, and detection of drugs, explosives, and accelerants.

The Golden Retriever is as a beloved, lifelong loyal family companion, is friendly, easygoing, relaxed, tolerant and obedient, goes out of their way to please, loves to play, gets along wonderfully with children and other pets and will usually be the clowns of the family! It is people-oriented and miserable being away from its family.

Goldens are NOT guard dogs! An invitation to a burglar to “come in and help yourself” would be more the Golden’s point of view. They may alert their owners by barking or showing signs of uneasiness.

The Golden Retriever is **not** intended to be an outside dog, living in a kennel or chained to a doghouse.

A Golden's thick coat, in addition to a water repellent undercoat, makes weekly brushing a requirement. Goldens shed, their coat can collect small sticks, leaves, burrs and bring it into your house and are not for fussy or fanatical housekeepers.

The adult male usually stands 23 to 24 inches at the shoulder and can range in weight from 65 to 85 pounds. Females are usually 21 to 22 inches and weigh between 55 and 65 pounds. A Golden's coat color can vary from a very light blonde to a red/gold and can be wavy or straight.

The Golden Retriever is a "sporting" breed, requiring daily activity as an outlet for its supply of energy. A short trip to the nearest tree from the front door for a potty break does not count as exercise.

The Golden's size in combination with their frolicsome playfulness, make basic obedience training a necessity. Golden retrievers, without knowledge of basic obedience commands, can lead to uncontrollable playfulness, exuberant jumping, and other undesirable behaviors which are not only annoying, irritating and rude, but potentially dangerous for a child or elderly person.



If there is water, a Golden will find it . . . muddy or not!



Goldens are retrievers. They will bring you treasures such as sticks, slippers, children's toys, or anything else they can pick up and carry in their mouths.

Some of the larger head Goldens bred for conformation tend to have a looser lip resulting in drooling.

Goldens are referred to as "Velcro dogs". If you can't find your golden, turn around, and most likely he is behind or next to you. Take your last trip to the bathroom alone or shut the door, as you will have canine companionship wherever you go.

Remember, every dog has the potential to bite, even a Golden. It is imperative that all interactions between dogs and children be supervised at all times. If this is something that your family is not prepared to do, it might be in your best interest to wait until you do have the time before you add a dog to your family.

For those willing to take the responsibility and commit to own a Golden Retriever, you will not find a more loving, sweet, affectionate and devoted member of your family.