

The Right Dog for a Small House With Cats

The Cavalier, Lhasa Apso, and Shih Tzu are three of several mellow breeds with little prey drive.

By Allan Reznik

Q. I'm debating which dog breed I should get. I have a small house (rules out large dogs), two cats (rules out Greyhounds, etc.), and not a lot of time for exercise (rules out high-energy dogs). I also prefer more hair and less bark. What do you recommend?

A. You may want to consider smaller, longhaired breeds such as the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Tibetan Spaniel, Lhasa Apso, Shih Tzu, Bichon Frise and Toy and Miniature Poodles. These are all fairly mellow dogs, with little to no prey drive (unlike Hounds, Sporting dogs and Terriers) and not requiring much exercise.