

Bear, Lady Are Most Popular Dog Names

American Kennel Club unveils a list of the 20 most popular names for dogs.

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The American Kennel Club on Wednesday unveiled the most popular names for dogs, according to a survey of 2007 AKC registrations, and "Fido" was nowhere to be found among the top 20.

Instead, "Bear" and "Lady" top the list of most common male/female dog names in the United States. In addition to Lady and Bear, rounding out the top 10 dog names are Belle/Bell/Bella, Princess, Mae/May, Blue, Max/Maximus/Maxwell, Rose, Daisy, and Duke.

Traditionally, dog owners have chosen names based on a puppy's appearance or personality, such as "Spot" or "Sassy," according to Lisa Peterson, AKC spokeswoman. "Today we are seeing human names, such as 'Jack' and 'Molly,' and names that reflect a pet's stature in the home, such as 'King' and 'Princess,' gain popularity as more people consider their dog a valued member of the family," she said.

Top male dog names

Top female dog names
1. Bear
2. Lady
3. Blue
4. Belle/Bell/Bella
5. Max/Maximus/Maxwell
6. Princess
7. Duke
8. Mae/May
9. Buddy
10. Rose
11. Jack
12. Daisy
13. Prince
14. Grace/Gracie
15. King
16. Baby
17. Bailey
18. Molly
19. Rocky
20. Maggie
21. Harley
22. Sadie
23. Jake
24. Ann/Annie
25. Shadow
26. Star
27. Lucky
28. Lily/Lilly
29. Hunter
30. Angel
31. Dakota
32. Coco/Cocoa
33. Lou
34. Sophie/Sophia
35. Midnight
36. Lucy
37. Cooper
38. Abby/Abigail
39. Buster
40. Marie

When naming a dog, the AKC also offers the following tips: Keep it short and sweet to get your dog to be responsive. Use a name that is one or two syllables, ending with a vowel, such as "Sadie" or "Rocky." Avoid a name that is too long or difficult to say. A name such as "Sir Barks A Lot" will confuse your dog. Avoid names that sound like commands. Names like "Joe" sound like "no" when called. Try a name for a day or two. Remember any dog name will be a 10- to 15-year commitment. After you choose a name, make sure you use it often so he learns it quickly.