

## Are you a Boxer person?

### **Find out if this compassionate dog breed is for you.**

The Boxer never fails to impress his audience, whether trotting in the show ring or walking in the neighborhood. His regal bearing and striking silhouette naturally command the respect and admiration of experienced dog fanciers as well as ordinary dog lovers. It is said to know one is to love one. However, if you want to own a Boxer, you should definitely have an in-depth knowledge of the breed before you add one to your family.

Despite his famous tuxedoed silhouette, the Boxer's most notable characteristic is his highly affectionate nature. He is a "people" dog who is happiest when he is with his human family. He is playful with his own family and known for his stoic patience when playing with children.

Although a medium-sized breed, the male Boxer weighs 65 to 80 pounds and is considered large by some. The adult Boxer is neither nervous nor hyper-active. He can be rambunctious as a youngster, and thus needs training and supervision. Boxers are very trainable, but are known to harbor a stubborn streak. Early training from puppyhood and beyond is essential to a healthy relationship between the Boxer and his master. He needs to learn at an early age who is in charge or he will assume that role himself. A natural guard dog, he needs obedience instruction to channel his protective instincts into a safe demeanor. These needs should be addressed before you decide to bring a Boxer puppy home. Are you ready to assume these duties?

The Boxer coat is relatively care-free and requires little maintenance other than a weekly brushing to keep it clean and shining. The balance of good grooming still takes toenail trimming, ear and teeth cleaning as prerequisites for a healthy dog of any breed. The Boxer needs a fenced-in yard for safe exercise and play. The Boxer should never be allowed to run loose for any reason. A loose Boxer is a danger to himself and to other people who may regard him as a threat. Invisible electrical fences can work well if the dog is properly trained to observe the boundaries and wears the battery-powered collar.