The Tibetan Mastiff

This primitive and ancient breed has been bred for thousands of years to focus on his working abilities which include guarding, alerting through barking, patrolling and basic territorial / dominant behavior.

Committed and interactive owners are required to teach boundaries and guide a dog through the steps of basic dog manners.

The Tibetan Mastiff is considered to be a challenging breed to care for and lifelong training requires dedicated work.

For the love of the breed...

The Tibetan Mastiff Breeders Response Network (TMBRN) is a fellowship made up of breeders and volunteers who are dedicated to the well-being and safety of the Tibetan Mastiff breed worldwide. We are an international community without club/organization affiliation, and, therefore, requires no membership dues.

TMBRN Mission Statement

In keeping with the spirit of the Eternal Knot, the participants of the Tibetan Mastiff Breeders Response Network commit themselves and their breeding programs to the worldwide preservation and protection of the breed. We promote cooperation, communication and respect among breeders to encourage a wise and common sense approach to every aspect of breeding and ownership. We accept the lifetime accountability for the well being of all Tibetan Mastiffs within our breeding programs and pledge to support others when in need.
The Tibetan Mastiff is a primitive GUARDIAN breed.

For many, there is simply no other breed that captures the beauty, nobility or the magic of the Tibetan Mastiff breed. But the TM is NOT for everyone so please ensure that you thoroughly investigate the true character and requirements of the breed. Acquiring a TM is a lifetime commitment so it is important that you prepare yourself before making the huge decision to welcome one of these dogs into your home.

The powerful Tibetan Mastiff is a breed that is naturally protective and territorial. This means he will instinctually guard your property (house, yard, car, other pets, etc.) and your person. It also means that he will be typically suspicious and reserved with new people and situations.

The Tibetan Mastiff exhibits an extremely independent, stubborn temperament and a wondrous depth of intelligence and character.

The Tibetan Mastiff is SENSITIVE to change. He thrives on routine and familiarity.

Tibetan Mastiff females normally only reproduce once a year in the fall/winter and puppies are typically available in the winter/early spring months. Reservations are strongly suggested.

The average price is typically around the $2000.00 US mark but a sliding scale of costs would include a range of $1500.00 - $3500.00 US. Canadian costs would be equivalent.

Respect and patience are the essential keys to this breed.

The Tibetan Mastiff is a SLOW-MATURING breed.

Although the Tibetan Mastiff is a large-to-giant breed, it has a relatively long lifespan. Ten to fourteen years is typical. The breed is very slow to mature. While it is usually agreed upon that females mature quicker than males, both genders can take up to 4-7 years to fully mature to their physical potential.

While different breed lines from kennels around the world may produce a variation in size, it is typical for females to weigh 85-120 pounds and between 100-140 pounds for the males.

The Tibetan Mastiff has a double coat and the woolly undercoat sheds out only once a year. Vigorous grooming at this time is a must. The Tibetan Mastiff coat is generally easy to care for. A weekly brushing will keep his dirt resistant coat in glorious condition.

He may become very inactive during the warmer months and his feeding patterns may change with the seasons. The Tibetan Mastiff eats surprisingly little in relation to their large size. Naturally, growing puppies will require more food, but most adult Tibetan Mastiffs can maintain a healthy weight on less food than other breeds of similar size. For example, an adult would need approximately 4-5 cups of premium kibble or 1-2% of the dogs' body weight for a raw or home prepared diet.

Because his guarding tendencies are instinctual, the Tibetan Mastiff needs a great deal of socialization. He needs to be introduced to many people, places and different situations right from early puppyhood and well into the first two years of his life. Appropriate socialization leads to confident, well-adjusted and reliable dogs.
The Tibetan Mastiff can be DESTRUCTIVE, an ESCAPE ARTIST and a nuisance BARKER.

Destructive behavior due to boredom or anxiety is not uncommon for the Tibetan Mastiff. Solid and secure containment areas are a must with this breed. When left outside overnight, nocturnal barking is a common complaint.

Crate training is a Must!
Leash training is a Must!
Secure fencing is a Must!

Learn More About The Tibetan Mastiff

Learning about this primitive breed is an on-going process for newcomers and breeders alike so the volunteers at the TMBRN invite you to explore the informative web pages of the TMBRN. We will make available and continually build upon such items as a quick facts checklist of the breed, FAQs, updated news in the breed, a searchable pedigree database, informative articles written by experienced breeders, documented historical references, suggested readings, access to a global TM Breeder Locator list, TM pictures from around the world, physical descriptions and characteristics, health issues, helpful links and advice for modern-day caregivers.