

Socialising the Dogue de Bordeaux

His size can be inclined to intimidate, thus making him an excellent Guardian of Home and Family. Socialization early in life is extremely important. Ample amounts of both human and canine attention and interaction during critical phases of their personality and behavioral development is necessary. Depriving a DDB of this interaction can create fears in the animal later in life, when it is confronted by either lifeform. This fear can lead to can lead the dog to be a fear bitter or attacker, and with the DDB's considerable size this would not be a good thing.

If the Dogue de Bordeaux is raised around other animals it usually adapts well to them there is always the chance that the a dog may turn and attack other dogs, animals or people. The DDB is very patient and tolerant of children more so then most breeds but it is a mistake to fully trust any dog regardless of its size, breed, age, sex or normal temperament. A responsible person should never leave any dog and a child unattended. Careful observation of a dogs behavior around children is of vital importance. A dog that displays aggression towards children should never be trusted around children again.

Gentle Giants: Dogue de Bordeaux

The Dogue de Bordeaux is gentle, obedient and patient with a tremendous amount of affection and loyalty to his master and has trainability similar to German Shepherd. They are devoted to their friends and family. They make an excellent family dog and should be viewed as a permanent member of the family as they will soon become one. The DDB is not generally hyperactive but as pups and young adults they are full of energy. The adult may seem lethargic but don't be fooled by the size, they are quick on their feet. They make a lot of noise breathing and are not endless runners. They are a quiet and subdued animal. They have a high energy threshold although they do not display it on a twenty four hour basis, making them easier to live with than many dogs a fraction of their size. In Europe they are commonly kept in apartments.

Adaptation of the Dogue de Bordeaux or DDB

The Dogue adapts to its master's temperament as well. If the family is outgoing the dogue will be too. The same is true if the family is shy. The DDB is very sensitive to people's moods and events. They notice when change is coming or if there is stress in the family. Typically friends of the family may question the Dogue's ability as a guardian in response to his congenial nature. In contrast to its congeniality towards friends, this is amongst the world's most determined of guardian dogs. Often described as the ultimate intruder's nightmare". Intruder's to the home that contains a DDB will undoubtedly encounter a package of size, strength and fiercely protective nature that is unexcelled in the world of dogs.

The Dogue de Bordeaux has a keen sense of smell and hearing and are very intelligent and balanced. When bored it will be mischievous. Safe toys to chew on are recommended instead of your furniture. They are a product of their environment. If you force it to fight, it will fight. If you abuse it, it will be shy aggressive. If you kick it, it will fear shoes. They are stubborn and arrogant yet once they learn a command they rarely forget it. They will respect you but only if you give them the respect they deserve.

DESCRIPTION & INFORMATION

Dogue de Bordeaux

Photo Courtesy of:

Nobelgaze's Dogue de Bordeaux Kennel

Breed Registries:

Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) - Not recognized

Canine Federation of Canada (CFC) - Rare Breed Registry in Canada

American Kennel Club (AKC) * - Working Group

United Kennel Club (UKC) - Guardian Dogs

Fédération Cynologique Internationale (FCI) ** - FCI Breed Standard No. 116

The United States Bordeaux Corporation (USBC)

Note: The breed registries indicated above are the most recognized all-breed registries (except for the USBC which is breed-specific). The breed may also be recognized by other registries not indicated here. For further details about dog registries, please see the document: Dog Breed Registries in North America as well as information on Dogue de Bordeaux registries, see: A Simple Guide to Dogue de Bordeaux Registries.

* — The Dogue de Bordeaux is the American Kennel Club's 158th breed and has been assigned the Working Group designation. The Dogue de Bordeaux has been recorded in the Foundation Stock Service since 1996. On 1 July 2006, the Dogue de Bordeaux moved to the Miscellaneous Class. From the October 2007 AKC Board Meeting, the Dogue de Bordeaux became eligible for AKC registration on October 1, 2007 and was eligible to compete in the Working Group at shows held on and after July 1, 2008. There will be an open registry for the breed until August 31, 2012.

** — The FCI is the World Canine Organization, which includes 84 members and contract partners (one member per country) that each issue their own pedigrees and train their own judges. The FCI recognizes 339 breeds, with each being the "property" of a specific country. The "owner" countries

of the breeds write the standards of these breeds in co-operation with the Standards and Scientific Commissions of the FCI, and the translation and updating are carried out by the FCI. The FCI is not a breed registry nor does it issue pedigrees.

Origin:

France

Height:

Males: 23½ to 26½ inches

Females: 22½ to 25½ inches

Weight:

Males: Ideal weight is at least 110 lbs

Females: Ideal weight is at least 99 lbs

The Dogue de Bordeaux is similar in size and conformation to the Bullmastiff

Breed Profile:

He is a well-balanced, massive, powerfully-built dog with a very muscular body and a short coat. He has an attractive colouring of mahogany (red-brown), fawn or golden. He may or may not also have either a red or black mask.

The Dogue de Bordeaux (also known as the French Mastiff) was originally used as a guardian, hunter, and as a fighter of bears, bulls and wolves. The breed's history is filled with various theories but what is known is by the late 1800s, there was much diversity in the breed with three different styles — the Toulouse, the Paris and the Bordeaux. Today's Dogue is a mixture of the different types but primarily Bordeaux. During the 1960s, Dr. Raymond Triquet was responsible for heading up the rebuilding of the breed and, in 1970, he wrote the new standard for the breed as he is known today.

In 1986, after the release of the movie "Turner and Hooch" starring Tom Hanks as Turner and a Dogue as Hooch, a small increase in popularity occurred in the United States. Today, the breed is still considered rare in North America but with selective and careful breeding, some of the finest Dogues in the world are now found on this continent.

The Dogue is even tempered, protective by nature, and extremely devoted to his family. With the Dogue's original purpose being to fight and protect, he can be aggressive by nature; however, throughout the years, breeders have been trying to breed this characteristic out. The Dogue is intelligent and can also be stubborn, arrogant, and dominant. Early socialization for this breed is an absolute must.

Today, the Dogue is most commonly used as a guardian of the home. He assumes this responsibility with vigilance and courage but without aggressiveness. He enjoys human companionship with a fierce loyalty to his family; he is affectionate, devoted to his master and excellent with children.

TOP

Health Issues

Like all breeds of dogs, the Dogue de Bordeaux is susceptible to certain health problems. See the Health Issues in the Dogue de Bordeaux document for details on some of the health concerns found in this breed. If you are considering the purchase of a Dogue de Bordeaux puppy, or any breed, it is very important to be selective in choosing a responsible and reputable breeder. Ensure that the prospective puppy's parents have all health clearances. Breeding of any dog should not be done until after they have been proven to be free of evidence of significant hereditary diseases.