Czech out your New Cesky Terrier!

Welcome to the wonderful world of the Cesky Terrier. The 20th Century terrier!

The American Cesky Terriers Fanciers Association, Inc., the AKC Parent Club, is happy you have embraced our breed. You are now part of a very exclusive group; currently there are about 500 Cesky Terriers in the USA.

Gaining knowledge about your new terrier means that you will be better able to care for and enjoy your Cesky. We at the ACTFA are here to help you on that exciting journey, for there is always more to learn about your new companion. Although the ACTFA is a small group at this time, we all have one thing in common: our love and devotion to these delightful dogs.

The Cesky Beginning

The Cesky Terrier was developed by Czech geneticist Fratisek Horak (1909-1996), who whelped the first Cesky litter in 1949.



Breed Description

The Cesky Terrier is a well-muscled, short legged and well-pigmented hunting terrier that can be worked in packs. It has natural drop ears and a natural tail. The Cesky is longer than it is tall and has a topline that rises slightly higher over the loin and rump. It sports a soft, long, silky coat in shades of gray from charcoal to platinum. The correct coat is clipped to emphasize a slim impression.

A Cesky should have a lean body and graceful movement. These terriers may be reserved towards strangers, but they are loyal to their owners and ever keen and alert during the hunt.

Ideally, the height from the withers (where the neck joins the body at the back) is 10 to 13 inches. Cesky males should weigh between 16 and 22 pounds, with bitches weighing slightly less. The length of the body, measured from sternum to buttocks, should be between 15 and 17 inches. The girth of the chest, measured behind the elbows, should be 17 to 18 inches. The overall balance is more important than any single specification.

Breed or Spay/Neuter

If you chose to breed your Cesky, understand that this is a huge personal responsibility and investment in both time and money. In a breed with such a small gene pool, extra attention needs to be spent reviewing pedigrees and valuing good health, temperament, soundness and appearance before breeding your Cesky.

Responsible breeders take a lifetime interest in the puppies they produce and will take the dog back or find them a new forever home. We encourage all pet owners to spay/neuter their dogs as advised by their veterinarian.

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Health

First and foremost, Ceskys are chowhounds. Control their food intake and keep it light on treats (baby carrots are an excellent alternative!). In general, the Cesky is a very healthy breed, and the ACTFA is doing regular health surveys to stay on top of the health of our breed. For more specific information, refer to the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals at:

www.offa.org

Your new puppy will need checkups and a series of shots. Talk to other pet owners you know, and pick a veterinarian you like and feel you can trust. During its initial inoculation period, the "city" Cesky needs some extra attention. Because you should not bring a "city" puppy outside until they have all their shots at 16 weeks, the ACTFA recommends that you use this period to acclimate your new Cesky to the people, sights and sounds of city life. An easy and fun way is by taking your dog out daily in a tote. Your puppy will get a **lot** of attention!



Enroll your puppy in a Kindergarten Puppy training class as soon as you can; this experience will help overcome the breed's natural reticent tendencies.Ceskys are house pets; they want to be inside sharing the family fun. They also like a nice walk, a romp in the yard, an endless game of fetch, and some even like a dip in a lake or the ocean. Keep your Cesky exercised and engaged and you will have a very happy companion. We encourage you to keep your dog on a lead/leash or in a fenced area only. Ceskys like to chase all kinds of critters and could get lost in that chase.



If your breeder has not done so already, get your Cesky microchipped ASAP. It is the best insurance of a missing dog being found.

Grooming

Lucky us! The Cesky is clipped to emphasize its slim body shape. This is accomplished by use of an electric hand trimmer and not by hand stripping, as with many other terriers. Puppies must be combed daily as they can have a "cottony" coat that mats quickly. Have no fear: as their coat matures, they only require a good combing two or three times a week. They should be fully groomed every 8 weeks, or as desired.

Rescue

Since the breed is so rare, we have happily had very few rescue situations. But they have happened. Our rescued dogs have been happily placed at new forever homes; it is our mission to insure that this always happens. Rescue contact information is on the ACTFA website.

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Join us at the A.C.T.F.A.

Visit our website:

americanceskyterrierfanciersassociation.org

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