

Congratulations on your new American Hairless Terrier!

You are now a member of the growing community of owners who share their life with this amazing breed. The following information will be useful as you get acquainted with your new companion.

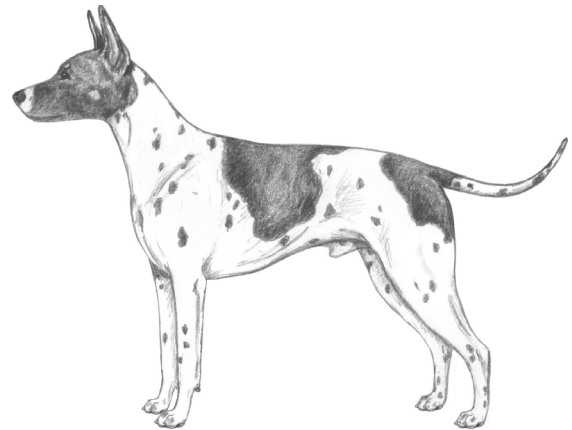
National Breed Club

The American Hairless Terrier Club of America, Inc. (AHTCA) was founded in 2009 by key breeders with the goal of moving our beloved breed towards American Kennel Club (AKC) recognition. The AHT breed standard was accepted in 2010 and we obtained Foundation Stock Service designation in October 2011. By January 2014, the AHT began competing in Miscellaneous Class and a short 2 years later we were fully recognized as a member of the Terrier Group. Yes, you can find the AHT competing in conformation but AHTs also excel in a wide variety of performance events. Watch for AHTs, including the coated variety, at a trial/show near you!

Breed Standard

The American Hairless Terrier is a small to medium sized, smoothly muscled and an active terrier. Ancestors of the breed were bred to hunt rats and other vermin. The lack of coat on the hairless variety of the American Hairless Terrier renders them unsuited for most hunting activities. They have, however, retained a strong hunting instinct and excel in many other activities and sports. The breed is energetic, alert, curious and intelligent. Given early socialization and training they excel as companions, displaying great affection for their owners and family. American Hairless Terriers should not be sparred during conformation judging.

The AHT is quite a bit different from most known hairless breeds (such as Chinese Crested, Xolo, etc.). The AHT does NOT have hair anywhere on the body (such as head, feet, tail) and should not have any excess body hair. Dentition in the AHT is full and strong, and skin problems are rare. Residual hair (longer wiry hair on an otherwise naked dog) does pop up now and again, but it is an undesirable trait. Vellus hair (fine, short hair) is normal and not to be faulted.



Responsible Breeding

The AHTCA protects and maintains the good health of the breed by establishing ethical breeding practices and promoting participation in a variety of health programs. We are proud to promote ethical breeding that includes extensive health testing. To read more about recommended testing please visit <https://ahtca.info/breed-health.html>.

Whether you plan to spay/neuter your puppy or pursue breeding, AHTCA recommends you work with your AHTCA member breeder or another experienced AHTCA member for guidance on when and how to approach those decisions.

American Hairless Terriers in Performance

From tricks to agility the AHT excels at performance. They are typically very biddable and love to learn new things with plenty of positive reinforcement. Early and frequently socialization of puppies will ensure you have a well-rounded pet. The AHTCA offers a Showcase at the yearly National Specialty for the Top 5 ranked performance dogs in Agility, Barn Hunt, Disc Dog, Fast Cat, Flyball, Dock Diving, Scentwork & Juniors. As well as the Top 25 Conformation & Top 10 Owner Handlers.

Now What?

You have your puppy and want to know the best way to make a smooth integration into your family. Most importantly, your puppy needs to be safe and experience some training on how to be a good family member.

Crate Train Your Dog: A crate will aid in housebreaking as well as provide a safe place for a puppy to be when you are not able to supervise. If left to their own devices, American Hairless Terriers will find their own sources of entertainment, not all of which would be welcomed. We have a saying, “Out of sight equals in trouble”.

Puppy Socialization: Puppies need training and socialization with other humans and dogs in a controlled environment, typically not a dog park. Look for dog training facilities in your area that use positive reinforcement training methods. A great way to socialize your puppy is participating in a Puppy Kindergarten class and/or training for the Canine Good Citizen certificate.

Chewing, Biting and Mouthing: These are predominant traits in almost every puppy, but can be more prevalent with American Hairless Terriers, as they have a high prey drive. Early control of these behaviors is key to a well-adjusted adult dog. Ask your trainer for help in dealing with these behaviors in a positive way. Terriers are known to be tenacious, so it is better to nip this behavior in the bud sooner rather than later. Play time should be supervised as they tend to destroy



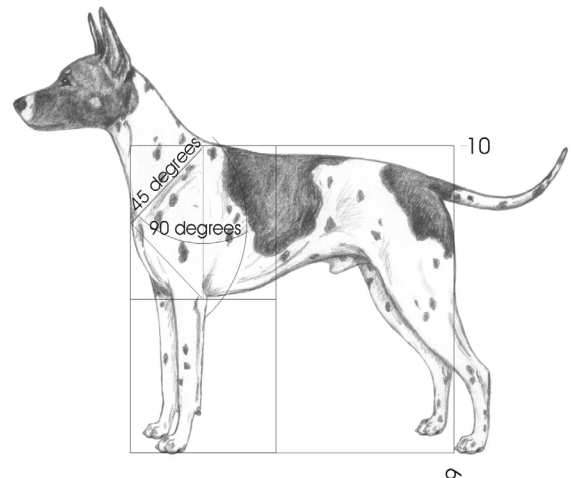
their toys and may swallow pieces of the toy which can lead to impactions.

Grooming: AHT's require little in the way of grooming. However, their nails tend to grow much faster than you would expect. Weekly nail trimming with a Dremel will help you maintain healthy nails. Nails that touch the floor will eventually cause the toe to break down and could lead to more serious issues. Sunscreen or protective clothing is a must to prevent serious sunburn. Like humans, AHT can develop skin cancer if the skin is not protected.

Health Testing: Even if you do not plan to breed your dog as an adult, it is important for the overall

protection of the breed to do health testing as recommended by the AHTCA. Your breeder or an AHTCA Member can help you with the types of tests and timeframe for each. Your dog's health statistics are important for all future generations of American Hairless Terriers. It is extremely important to report even the failed health tests. This helps give us accurate statistics to work with. Recommended test required to receive a CHIC:

- Cardiac Evaluation
 - Hip Dysplasia: OFA or Pennhip
 - Patellar Luxation
 - Legg-Calve-Perthes
 - Congenital Deafness
 - Primary Lens Luxation
- (Optional but recommended)
- ACVO Eye Exam
 - Elbow Dysplasia
 - Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA) DNA Test



For more information:

- www.ahtca.info
- <https://www.facebook.com/AmericanHairlessTerrierClub>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AmericanHairlessTerrier>

Get involved!

- Join the AHTCA. If you purchased your pup from an AHTCA member, ask them to provide you with a gift membership. If you do not have sponsors, please contact the club secretary to see how you can become a member.
- Attend a Show or performance event