



From the Wirehaired Vizsla Club of America...

The Wirehaired Vizsla

Congratulations! After researching the breed and finding a reputable, conscientious breeder, you have welcomed home your newest family member, a versatile Wirehaired Vizsla!

Bringing a dog into your life is a significant decision for you, your family, and your canine companion. Owning a dog is a long-term commitment that requires time, energy, and financial responsibility. Wirehaired Vizslas often live 12 to 14 years. For more detailed information about the breed and our club, visit our website:

www.wvca.club

A Versatile Hunting Dog and Companion

Bred to hunt fur or feather on land or in water, the Wirehaired Vizsla was developed after WWI, by hunters and falconers in Hungary and Austria. They sought a dog with the same outstanding traits as the Vizsla and the same coloring, but heavier and sturdier, with a thick wiry coat more resistant to extreme winter weather and rough field conditions. They are generally close-working, methodical hunters with keen noses, firm on point and excellent trackers and retrievers.



Strong swimmers, they enjoy the water & are determined to stay on scent, even while swimming. The Wirehaired Vizsla loves to hunt whatever you hunt, from upland

birds to waterfowl to furred game.

Their versatility extends beyond the field and your Wirehaired Vizsla can excel in many events, from Agility, Obedience, Tracking, to Dock Diving, Barn Hunting & Lure Coursing. With their easy-going temperament & intuitive intelligence, some may make excellent Therapy Dogs.

See the complete Wirehaired Vizsla standard at:

www.wvca.club/breed-standard

Health & Responsible Breeding

Breeding a litter is a serious responsibility, not to be taken lightly. Ethical breeders carefully plan their breeding programs, researching pedigrees, conducting DNA and health screenings to ensure the best possible start for puppies. While generally healthy, Wirehaired Vizslas can be susceptible to hip dysplasia, eye disease, and cancer. Responsible breeders prioritize health, temperament, soundness, and appearance.

Breeding Wirehaired Vizslas does have many rewards, but a monetary profit is not one. Medical care, food, stud fees, and all the other expenses easily outpace the revenue generated from an average litter. Breeders carefully

place each dog in a responsible and loving home, and re-home any puppies that do not work out. Responsible Wirehaired Vizsla breeders take this obligation very seriously.

If you want to become an educated breeder, there are Wirehaired Vizsla owners who have taken this route and had a lot of fun producing and exhibiting top quality Wirehaired Vizslas. They are anxious to help you learn more. Your breeder, books, local clubs, or the WVCA are all good resources to help get you started. Check the WVCA's website for further information:

wvca.club/health & wvca.club/breeder-resources

If you choose to spay or neuter your dog, please note that Dr. Jerry Klein, AKC's Chief Veterinarian Officer reported, "Due to recent studies funded by the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation, it may be prudent for the long-term health of the animal to delay spay/neuter until a dog reaches maturity as determined in conjunction with your veterinarian." Spayed or neutered dogs remain eligible for AKC Companion events such as Obedience, Rally, Tracking, Agility, and Hunt Tests.

Many Parent Club members support health research through the AKC Canine Health Foundation.

Supporting the Canine Health Foundation helps ensure a healthy future for all dogs. For more information about ongoing health research to help your breed, call toll free 1-888-682-9696, or see

www.akcchf.org



Pet Insurance

Owning a Wirehaired Vizsla comes with the responsibility of ensuring they receive the best possible veterinary care. Unexpected medical expenses can be costly, so we highly recommend pet insurance for all puppy owners.

Pet insurance helps cover accidents, illnesses, and even routine care in some plans, providing peace of mind and financial protection. There are many reputable insurance companies available including plans through AKC.

See www.akcpetinsurance.com

Raising a Wirehaired Vizsla Puppy

Socialization & Training

Wirehaired Vizslas can be calm, gentle, and loyal companions, but early and ongoing socialization and training are essential. Positive experiences with new environments, people, and animals help them develop confidence. Puppy kindergarten is highly recommended. As a sensitive breed eager to please, Wirehaired Vizslas respond best to positive reinforcement—harsh discipline is unnecessary and counterproductive. Keep training sessions short, fun, and always end on a positive note.

Physical Exercise

Bred to work in the field, your puppy will have plenty of energy. Provide frequent daily play and exercise but avoid strenuous activities like long-distance running, high-impact jumping, or excessive stair use until fully grown. Let your puppy regulate his activity and rest when he wants. Swimming is an excellent low-impact exercise, and most Wirehaired Vizslas take to the water naturally.



Mental Stimulation

Mental exercise is just as important as physical activity. Wirehaired Vizslas are intelligent and quick learners who thrive on interactive games and problem-solving tasks. Activities like retrieving, scent work, and obedience training keep them engaged and prevent destructive behaviors caused by boredom. Playing games in the house and yard, like fetching a toy, “wing on a string,” or finding a hidden treat gives your puppy fun mental and physical exercise— all good foundations for more advanced skills like tracking, nose work, retrieving and obedience. Bird work and learning manners in the field are important if your puppy is a hunting companion. The best time to start is now. Just remember that mental activity is tiring just like physical activity, so be sure to give your puppy a rest after lessons.

Microchipping & Identification

If your puppy isn't microchipped, it's highly recommended. One in three pets go missing in their lifetime. The AKC Reunite “Lost and Found” recovery service option is

available for a small, one-time charge with your puppy's registration. It includes a free AKC logo collar tag customized with its AKC Registration Number and a toll-free recovery service hotline number. The service works with any brand of microchip and charges no annual fees or record update fees. For more information, call 800-252-7894, or see



www.akcreunite.org

Grooming

Wirehaired Vizslas should have a dense, wiry coat, though it may vary depending on genetics. A proper coat requires regular care to maintain its texture and functionality. Routine brushing with a slicker brush helps remove dirt, loose hair, and debris while keeping the coat healthy. Some dogs may develop excess coat length and benefit from hand-stripping, a technique that removes dead hair to encourage proper coat regrowth and maintain its signature wiry texture.

Hand-stripping should be done periodically, focusing on small sections at a time rather than the entire coat in one session. Dogs with naturally shorter coats may require only occasional brushing. Keeping the ears clean, nails trimmed, and teeth brushed are also important aspects of regular grooming. Your breeder can provide guidance on coat maintenance techniques.

For more information, visit

www.wvca.club/grooming

Join the Wirehaired Vizsla Club of America

The WVCA is the official AKC Parent Club for the Wirehaired Vizsla. Our mission is to promote and protect the breed's quality and versatility. Membership provides access to a network of dedicated owners, valuable resources, and a private Facebook group for discussing training, health, hunting, and more.

Our annual meeting, National Specialty, and supported entry events are held in different locations each year. Membership dues support club activities and WVCA Rescue. Learn more and join us at:

www.wvca.club

We'd love to have you be part of our community!