



Congratulations on welcoming your new BOERBOEL into your home and heart; neither will ever be quite the same

You have opened the door to a wonderful friend and companion who will fit well into your home if you provide the needed love, care and training.

History

BoerBoel (Pronunciation - Bor Bull)



Boer,' a Dutch word meaning 'farmer,' was the name given to Dutch, German, and Huguenot settlers of South Africa who began arriving in the mid-1600s. To protect their remote homesteads from predators, they brought along large guarding dogs, bull types and mastiff types among them.

The interbreeding of these and other European bloodlines in South Africa resulted in something called the Boer Dog, which was used by Boer settlers as a big-game hunter and protector.

Further refinements eventually gave rise to the Boerboel ('farmer's dog'), a fearless mastiff who specialized in protection of hearth and home. Their agility and prodigious strength came in handy when running off or tangling with ferocious wildlife, whether lions or packs of marauding baboons.

Boerboels are intimidating but discerning guardians of home and family who learned their trade while protecting remote South African homesteads from ferocious predators. They are dominant and confident, also bright and eager to learn.

There's a no-frills, no-nonsense quality to this sleek-coated avenger, who might stand as high as 27 inches at the shoulder and weigh as much as you do. A broad and blocky head, powerful jaws, and thick muscles from neck to rump, known as the "Farmers Dog" and a descendant of several different "molosser" working and protection dog species. In

motion, the Boerboel just might be the most agile of all mastiff types.

The imposing Boerboel is devoted to protecting the family, farm land, and places he is assigned. (Remaining closer to the homestead and owners than left out in the field or kennel alone.) Training and socialization should begin early, before a pup becomes a dominant adult. This is a trainable, versatile breed, eager to spend time with their adored humans. They proudly carry the nickname 'Velcro-dogs' as they thrive with happiness when close to family. The Boerboel will become depressed quickly and destructive if left alone for many hours without stimulation or a task to complete. Still, a Boerboel might be way too much dog for the novice owner or young family to handle on a first time basis.



Exercise

The strong, athletic Boerboel needs daily exercise, such as long walks on a leash or play sessions in a securely fenced area with his owner. Boerboels need mental stimulation and interaction with their owners along with physical activity. They

will not take kindly to challenges from other dogs, and visiting dog parks is not recommended. Because of their protective instinct, the Boerboel should never be allowed off leash when away from its owners property. The breed often enjoys participating in obedience, rally, weight pull, and agility competitions, as well as protection sports and stock work.

Protective



The Boerboel is a protective, territorial breed, NOT a breed for a novice dog owner. He is steadfast, calm, highly intelligent, and incredibly loyal. Boerboels must be with their people

and will not thrive unless kept as an integral part of their human family. Their inborn guarding instincts make early socialization a must, as is structured, long-term obedience training, started at a young age. They are not really suited for the Dog Park. Care must be taken to introduce new dogs properly Boerboel puppies are easygoing and pliant, and inexperienced owners may be lulled into thinking the dog will remain that way, when in fact consistent training must be well underway before those qualities fade.

Grooming

The Boerboel has a short, dense coat that sheds a moderate amount. Weekly brushing with a soft-bristle brush, a rubber grooming mitt, or a hound glove will help to remove any loose hair and keep the dog looking his best. A good brushing also promotes new hair growth and distributes skin oils throughout the coat to help keep it healthy. Boerboels need a bath only occasionally. As with all breeds, the Boerboel's nails should be trimmed regularly, as overly long nails can cause the dog pain as well as problems walking and running.

Nutrition

The Boerboel should do well on a high-quality dog food, whether commercially manufactured or home-prepared with your veterinarian's supervision and approval. Any diet should be appropriate to the dog's age (puppy, adult, or senior). Some dogs are prone to getting overweight, so watch your dog's calorie consumption and weight level. Treats can be an important aid in training, but giving too many can cause obesity. Learn about which human foods are safe for dogs, and which are not. Check with your vet if you have any concerns about your dog's weight or diet. Clean, fresh water should be available at all times.

Training/Showing

Early socialization and obedience training (Canine Good Citizen, Trick Dog) will go a long way to ensuring success with your boerboel. The Boerboel is both clever and smart and is capable of learning many useful tricks.

If your interest lay outside the show ring (Conformation), there are other competitions you and your Boerboel can compete in. A multitude of other performance-oriented activities the AKC offers are: Agility, Farm Dog, Obedience Trials, Rally Trials and Temperament Testing. Including many more supported opportunities such as Scent work Lure Coursing, Dock Diving competitions, Barn Hunt, and FAST CAT.



Important Links:

AKC Board Contacts:

americanboerboelclub.org/contact/

AKC Social Media Connections:

(Facebook): www.facebook.com/americanboerboelclub/about