

WHITE SWISS SHEPHERD BREED FACT SHEET

ANKC Group: Working Dogs - Group 5

Original Function:

Herding sheep, working and draught dog

Modern Function:

Family companion, protector

Appearance:

An elegant medium-size, medium-boned dog with erect ears. Snow white coat and black points. Well-balanced, rectangular-shaped. Long or short double coat.

Weight:

Dogs: 30-40 kg

Bitches: 25 – 35 kg

Height:

Dogs: 60-66cm

Bitches: 55-61cm

Coat Colour:

White only.

Coat Type:

Short or long coat with abundant undercoat

Grooming:

Regular brushing and grooming, particularly when shedding.

Personality/Temperament:

Gentle, loyal, alert, keen learner, lively. Should not be nervous or aggressive, but may be aloof towards strangers.

Compatibility with other dogs:

Very compatible - if socialized from a young age

Compatibility with cats and other animals:

If raised with cats they get on with them and all other animals.

Compatibility with people/children:

Very compatible, but must be socialized from an early age to ensure that natural aloofness with strangers does not turn to shyness. The WSSD has a natural affinity for children.

Living Space Indoors/Outdoors:

Both – like most dogs, shedding hair will be more noticeable indoors.

Space and Exercise:

Fair space is required outdoors for free exercise – even if kept in an average garden, they should be taken for regular walks and runs.

Trainability:

Excellent – very keen learner and wants to please owners. Responds to a very light hand with rewards.

Suitability as Watchdog:

Excellent – without aggression. When mature they should protect what is theirs.

Noise Factor:

If the WSSD barks you can be sure there is a reason.

Average Lifespan:

13 years

Feeding:

Feed a good quality, balanced & reputable dog food. Fresh meat & bones are vital as well.

Health:

Very good - generally a very healthy breed.

Availability:

Be prepared to wait for a well-bred & ANKC registered puppy! Breeder listing www.dogsonline.com.au

Some questions to ask Breeders:

Ask to see the Sire & Dam. Are the Sire & Dam hip & elbow x-rayed & MDR1 tested? Ask to see the results. Are the puppies ANKC registered?

NO ANKC PAPERS

= **Not a White Swiss Shepherd Dog!**

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