

The Special Yorkshire Terrier Report



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Part 1

The Advantages to Sharing your Life with a Yorkshire Terrier



Congratulations! You have chosen a Yorkshire Terrier to join your home. Whether you are new to the idea of sharing your life with a Yorkshire Terrier or you simply want to learn more about this fascinating breed, there is certainly plenty to learn and enjoy about this delightful breed.

Over the years, Yorkshire Terriers have become quite popular and are much beloved by their owners. Lovingly known as Yorkies, these delightful dogs offer a number of advantages. One of the primary advantages of this particular breed is that it is a small dog. Technically considered a toy breed, the small size of the Yorkie means that one need not spend an exorbitant amount of money in order to feed him or her healthy food. In addition, Yorkies are quite easy to carry around as well as keep clean. As a result, they are ideal pets for individuals who are not physically able to handle larger breed dogs.

Quite surprisingly, although the Yorkie is a toy breed, if you have ever had the joy of knowing a Yorkie, you will know that most Yorkies do not seem to be aware of

their small stature. They are quick to defend their territory and will readily chase any intruders from their yard.

Pet lovers who have grown tired of shedding problems with other breeds in the past will be delighted to learn that although Yorkies do have a beautiful long coat, they are not prone to shedding. Yorkies do need to be brushed in order to handle tangles, but this is a great opportunity to bond with your new friend.

Additionally, Yorkies are quite affectionate and will quickly accept their new family members as part of their pack. Individuals who experience problems with high blood pressure and stress are likely to find that interacting with their new Yorkie will help to relax them and even alleviate much of their stress.

While there are certainly numerous advantages to Yorkies, as with any other breeds, there are a few disadvantages that should be mentioned. First, it should be understood that the small size of a Yorkie means that they can be delicate in nature. As a result, special care must be provided to these gentle animals to ensure that they are not subjected to inclement weather or harm by children who may be a bit too affectionate. In addition, Yorkies do require a dedication to grooming in order to ensure their beautiful fur is kept in good condition.

History and Origins of Yorkshire Terriers



Although Yorkshire Terriers have been much beloved for many years as family pets, they were originally utilized in clothing mills in order to catch rodents. Eventually, the breed was able to leave the working class and finally made their way into the high society of Europe as a companion animal.

The breed was originally established through a crossing of Paisley and Clydesdale Terriers and Black and Tan English Terriers. Subsequently known as Scotch Terriers, this breed did not actually attain the name Yorkshire Terriers until they were brought to the Yorkshire area by weavers who had migrated from Scotland.

How to Choose a Healthy Yorkshire Terrier



When faced with the prospect of choosing a new dog, you may wonder what exactly you should look for in order to choose an animal that is healthy. Certainly you could view the litter and choose the puppy that just seems to melt your heart with those big brown puppy eyes. Or, you might choose the runt of the litter out of sympathy. In order to choose a healthy dog that will experience fewer health problems later on and enjoy a long and healthy life, it is important to understand what to look for.

First, you need to make sure that you look for an animal that has bright and clear eyes. This is true whether you are looking for a puppy or an adult animal. In addition, make sure you inspect the dog's ears to be sure they are clean of any parasites that can sometimes be present. Check the dog's coat and skin as well in order to determine whether there may be any skin conditions present.

The paw pads of the dog you are considering should be relatively clean and soft. This indicates that the dog has been well cared for. If you find that a dog's paw pads are dry and cracked, this is a clear indication that they have not been well maintained. As a result, the dog could experience other health conditions.

Consider whether the dog appears to be well-nourished. While you certainly do not want to choose an animal that is obese, neither should you choose an animal that is malnourished, as this is a sign of either disease or neglect.

Finally, make sure you pay attention to the dog's facial expressions and tail. This can give you a good amount of insight into the dog's personality and how he or she may interact with you and your family.

How to Choose a Good Breeder and Where to Look for One



Many people prefer to choose their Yorkshire Terrier from a breeder. There are certainly many solid reasons for this, including the fact that you will generally have more information about the animal's history and lineage as well as the fact that you can typically rely on the animal being healthier and displaying a better disposition. Of course, that is not always the case and that is why it is important that you spend some time looking for a good breeder.

There are several different ways you can go about looking for a Yorkshire Terrier breeder. You might look in your local newspaper, phone book or on the Internet. You might also think about checking with your local veterinarian. In order to

ensure that the breeder you select is a good breeder, check to see if the breeder has an association with the AKC.

Reliable breeders will be quite particular about the homes which adopt their puppies. Breeders who are just in the field for the money and who have no concern for their puppies will be glad to take your money and not worry about the type of home you will provide. Good breeders take the time to speak with you about the home you will provide, asking questions such as whether you have children in the home, the kinds of other animals may be in the home and whether you are able to provide a yard for the dog.

Finally, before choosing a breeder, make sure you take the time to perform your own interview and inspection. Consider the cleanliness of the breeder's facilities. In addition, always make sure you ask to see both the mother and father of the puppy when possible. Above all, never choose a breeder that cannot provide extensive records, including all shot records, and a guarantee of health.

Bringing your Yorkshire Terrier Home



Before you actually bring your new friend home, you need to make sure that your home has been properly prepared. If you are bringing home a puppy, you will need to puppy proof your home to avoid later problems. Taking the time to

educate yourself about the needs of your Yorkie will help to create a healthy start for your dog's new life with you. Some of the essentials you will need for your Yorkie include a grooming brush, toys, quality dog food, a dog bed, food dish, shampoo, collar, brush and nail trimmer. In addition, make sure that your home is free from clutter and that items you would not wish to be chewed up have been removed from areas where the dog will have access.

The most important aspect of welcoming your new pet home is to make sure that you are prepared. Purchasing a good quality Yorkshire Terrier book and educating yourself about this particular breed is an excellent place to start in order to assure a happy and healthy adjustment for your new family member to his or her new home.

Part 2

Grooming your Yorkshire Terrier



The beautiful long hair that is associated with Yorkshire Terriers is often one of the reasons that many pet owners choose a Yorkie for their next pet. While Yorkies are not prone to shedding, that lovely long hair must be groomed on a routine basis. When it is not combed regularly, it does tend to develop snarls and tangles, much like human hair. For the best results, Yorkies need to be groomed on a daily basis. This will keep tangles and mats from developing in your Yorkie's hair, which could lead to not only an unkempt appearance but make your Yorkie uncomfortable as well.

Beyond simply brushing your Yorkie's hair on a daily basis, it is important to know that there are actually many different ways in which a Yorkie's hair can be cut and styled to make grooming easier. The most common style for most Yorkies is to keep the hair tied up in a topknot. This will keep the hair out of your precious dog's eyes so they can clearly see where they are going. Keep in mind

that if you do choose this style, you will still need to be diligent about taking down the topknot each and every day and combing through it.

To create the topknot, begin by collecting your dog's hair beginning at the outer corner of the eye. Pull it back gently at an angle toward the middle of your dog's head. Perform the same action on the other side. Use a latex band to hold the topknot you have just gathered. Finish it off with a lovely bow.



It is important to point out that some Yorkshire Terriers have what is known as a soft coat. This type of coat does tend to mat and tangle much more easily and as a result, you will need to exercise additional grooming. You may even find it helpful to take your Yorkshire Terrier to a professional groomer for a puppy cut. This will make it much easier to keep your Yorkshire Terrier groomed and eliminate the need to comb out snarls on a daily basis, which can be painful.

The puppy cut is really a modified schnauzer cut in which hair is shortened on the dog's belly. This reduces the amount of hair on the dog's lowest areas, so that it is less likely to collect dirt and debris.



Bathing

Your Yorkshire Terrier will need to be bathed on a regular basis to ensure that his or her coat is free from dirt and debris. This will also help to keep your dog's hair from becoming tangled as well. Make sure you are using a good quality dog shampoo. Rinse out all of the shampoo to avoid your Yorkie's skin from becoming irritated.

After his or her bath, you will need to follow up with the conditioner to keep your Yorkshire Terrier's coat soft and silky. Many owners find it helpful to use a spray bottle consisting of a mixture of a light conditioner and water. This can be applied not only after the bath but also on a daily basis in order to assist with daily grooming. It is usually best to avoid brushing your Yorkshire Terrier with a dry

coat. Instead, try misting your Yorkie lightly with the conditioner and water mixture from the spray bottle in order to make grooming easier.

Your Yorkshire Terrier should be dried immediately. There are a couple of ways to do this. If you choose to blow dry your Yorkie, do be sure to take care with the heat level of the dryer as you do not want to running the risk of burning your Yorkie's sensitive skin.

You can also towel dry your Yorkshire Terrier. Avoid giving him or her a brisk rubbing. Instead, gently wrap your Yorkie in a towel and hold him or her for a few minutes. Squeeze his or her hair gently with the towel in order to remove any excessive water.

Teeth Brushing

In addition to regular grooming, you will also need to make sure that your Yorkie's teeth are brushed on a regular basis. Yorkshire Terriers, in particular, are prone to a large build-up of tartar. As a result, if it is not handled on a regular basis, Yorkshire Terriers tend to experience early tooth loss and that can make it difficult for them to eat and receive the nutrition they need.

Ear Care

It is also important that you check your Yorkshire Terrier's ears on a regular basis. In the event that you see any redness or discharge or you notice an odor, you should contact your vet and have him or her take a look. These signs could be symptoms of an infection that should be treated promptly.

Housetraining

If your new Yorkshire Terrier is to be a puppy, you will want to get started immediately with housetraining in order to prevent your puppy from developing bad habits and assure that you both get off to the right start. There are several ways in which you can approach housetraining. Two of the most common methods for housetraining are crate training and paper training.

Crate training refers to using a crate while housebreaking your dog. This can be effective because most dogs do not wish to urinate or defecate in the area which they consider to be their den. This process works by placing the puppy in the crate during those times when he or she cannot be supervised. Under no circumstances should the puppy be left in the crate for more than four hours at a time or beyond his or her ability to control their ability to urinate or defecate. Once the puppy has been taken out of the crate, he or she should be immediately taken out for a potty break.

Paper training is commonly used by individuals who live in apartments or by pet owners who are away from the home for extended periods of time during the day. Choose one area of the home and spread out newspapers. The idea is that the dog will begin by going potty on the newspapers and then eventually you will be able to train the puppy to go outside rather than going on the paper. This method does tend to take longer than the crating method in order to housetrain puppies.

Regardless of whether you choose to use paper training or crate training, the most important tip for housetraining your puppy is to make sure that you set up a schedule and that you are consistent. The entire process could take several weeks in order to ensure that your new puppy has learned his or her routine.

To assist in the process, make sure that you take out your puppy first thing every morning. Do not delay. Your puppy will have been holding it throughout the night, so you need to make sure that you take him or her to the appropriate spot first thing. Each potty break should be about five to ten minutes. Potty breaks need not be lengthy, but you do need to plan them ahead of time. In addition to the early morning potty break, your Yorkie will also need a break after breakfast, as well as a mid-morning and a mid-afternoon break. As soon as you return home for the day, provide another break and then another before you retire for the evening.

Always remember to praise your Yorkie and provide affection for a job well done. You can certainly offer a food reward if you wish, but that is not absolutely necessary as your Yorkie will be just as happy with receiving your approval. Remember, that it is never a good idea to punish your Yorkie when he or she makes a mess in the house. The more effective method is to show approval for a job well done. Keep in mind that puppies are prone to making mistakes and this will happen from time to time. Try to avoid becoming upset. Simply clean up the mess and get back on track with your schedule.

Health Problems

For the most part, Yorkshire Terriers are very healthy animals that experience few problems. All dog breeds are can be prone to certain types of health problems; however, and a responsible pet owner will take care to be on the lookout for these issues.

One of the more common problems that can be experienced by Yorkshire Terriers is fragile bones. This is due to their naturally petite build. In most

circumstances, this does not cause a problem. You can prevent problems by making sure that you supervise your Yorkshire Terrier carefully. When your dog is on a high surface, such as a bed, you should always be cautious. Either lift your Yorkie down so that he or she does not run the risk of a break or fracture by jumping or provide him or her with a specially constructed set of steps that are made for assisting small dogs on high surfaces, such as beds.

Hypoglycemia is another health issue which some Yorkshire Terriers can experience. This health condition is related to low blood sugar and it is actually an issue that can be a problem with many toy breeds. The problem occurs when there is a sudden drop in blood sugar levels. It is important to understand that when this health condition is caught in the early stages, it is completely treatable. If it is allowed to progress; however, it can be fatal. Listlessness is often the first sign of hypoglycemia. In many cases, the dog will then begin to shiver or tremble.

Further symptoms include confusion, weakness, wobbling and drooling. In some cases, this may progress to a seizure. When caught early, the puppy can benefit from having Nutri-Cal rubbed on his or her gums. If you do not have any Nutri-Cal on hand, you can also substitute Caro syrup. Be sure to rub it on the gums as well as on the roof of the mouth and under the tongue. Take care to slowly warm your Yorkie using a heating blanket or heating pad. Once the puppy has begun to recover, follow-up with a high quality food and contact your vet to let him know about the incident.

In most cases, a hypoglycemic attack is preceded by some type of stress. Common examples include teething, weaning, a change in environment, vaccinations, over-handling, etc. In some cases, a puppy may just play too hard and then have an attack. Try to avoid such stressful situations when possible.

Conclusion

Yorkshire Terriers are a wonderful small breed of dog that brings delight to their owners for many years. Not only are they intelligent but they are also affectionate and will happily accompany their owners anywhere. This particular breed may be small, but they are mighty in heart. Making the effort to educate yourself with information about this breed through a good quality book will help you to better understand Yorkies and how to best care for them.

All the very best.

Please visit us at <http://www.myorkiesecrets.com>

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