



A dog breed is a group of dogs that have very similar or nearly identical characteristics of appearance or behavior or, usually, both, primarily because they come from a select set of ancestors who had the same characteristics. See the many breeds in a directory of breed of dogs. The [AKC](#) will always have up to date directories.

Dogs have been selectively bred for specific characteristics for thousands of years. Initially the selections would have centered on domestication and useful behavior such as hunting ability. Later, dogs were also selected for attractive and distinctive forms, resulting in a vast variety of types.

People seem to have a fascination with Poodle mixed breeds. Poodles are very intelligent and do not shed. Many different Poodle mixes are emerging.

A Labradoodle is a crossbred dog created by crossing the Labrador Retriever and the Poodle. Their temperament makes them good service dogs.

The impetus behind experiments with this type of cross was the desire to achieve a service dog that would not shed and so produce a hypoallergenic dog that is suitable for people with allergies to fur and dander. This has not yet been reliably achieved, as Labradoodles have varying coat lengths and textures, and crosses beyond the first generation do not yield a predictable coat type.

And its not just Poodle mixes, many different “designer” dogs (as the media has labeled them) are emerging.

Designer Dog? What s a designer dog you ask? A “designer” dog, as the media has labeled them, is a cross between two pure bred dogs.

Whether or not you choose a pure bred dog or a “designer” hybrid mix, do your homework and research, research, research. Remember, adopting a dog is a life long commitment and not something that should be taken lightly. Before you adopt a dog ask yourself exactly what it is you are looking for in your dog.

How many breeds of dogs are there? Well, that depends on whom you ask. The American Kennel Club, which registers purebred dogs, officially recognizes 150 different breeds of dogs. As of the time of writing this article. This can change.

Dog breeds can be divided into different categories, such as:

Hunting



Hounds, including Sight hounds and Scent hounds

Gun dogs, including Pointers, Retrievers, and Spaniels

Terrier

Curs and Feists

Working (or Utility)

Pastoral dogs, including Livestock guardian dogs, Herding dogs, Sheepdogs, and Drovers

Sled dog

Bulldogs

Extinct dog breeds

Fighting dogs

Toy

Dog breeds can also be grouped into similar types such as mastiff types, spitz types, pit bulls, or Lurchers.

Fourteen ancient breeds of dog have recently been identified through advances in DNA analysis. These breeds of domesticated dog show the fewest genetic differences from wolves. The breeds are geographically diverse, including dogs from Siberia, Japan, Alaska, China, Tibet, and Africa.

The identification of the fourteen "Ancient" dog breeds was established in the article "Genetic Structure of the Purebred Domestic Dog" in the journal Science Volume 304 (May 21, 2004).

The following are the dog breeds listed as ancient in the published study and their countries of origin:

[Afghan Hound \(Afghanistan\)](#)

[Akita \(Japan\)](#)

[Alaskan Malamute \(United States\)](#)

[Basenji \(Congo\)](#)

[Chow Chow \(China\)](#)

[Lhasa Apso \(Tibet\)](#)

[Pekingese \(China\)](#)

[Saluki \(Egypt\)](#)

[Samoyed \(Siberia\)](#)

[Shar Pei \(China\)](#)

[Shiba Inu \(Japan\)](#)

[Shih Tzu \(China/Tibet\)](#)

[Siberian Husky \(Siberia\)](#)



## [Tibetan Terrier \(Tibet\)](#)

### Controversy:

There is some controversy over the results of the study, as some have noted that breeding between wolves and specific breeds in recent times may have led to inaccurate results. As a result of these breeding, the offspring would have gained genetic similarities with wolves and may mask the truth about the real differences between the breed and wolves before these inter-breeding.



## [AKC Recognized Breeds:](#)

[Affenpinscher](#)

[Afghan Hound](#)

[Airedale Terrier](#)

[Akita](#)

[Alaskan Malamute](#)

[American English Coonhound](#)

[American Eskimo Dog](#)

[American Foxhound](#)

[American Staffordshire Terrier](#)

[American Water Spaniel](#)

[Anatolian Shepherd Dog](#)

[Australian Cattle Dog](#)

[Australian Shepherd](#)

[Australian Terrier](#)

[Basenji](#)

[Basset Hound](#)

[Beagle](#)

[Bearded Collie](#)

[Bedlington Terrier](#)

[Belgian Malinois](#)

[Belgian Sheepdog](#)

[Belgian Tervuren](#)

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[Bergamasco](#)

[Bernese Mountain Dog](#)

[Bichon Frise](#)

[Black and Tan Coonhound](#)

[Black Russian Terrier](#)

[Bloodhound](#)

[Boerboel](#)

[Border Collie](#)

[Border Terrier](#)

[Borzoi](#)

[Boston Terrier](#)

[Bouvier des Flandres](#)

[Boxer](#)

[Boykin Spaniel](#)

[Briard](#)

[Brittany](#)

[Brussels Griffon](#)

[Bull Terrier](#)

[Bulldog](#)

[Bullmastiff](#)

[Cairn Terrier](#)

[Canaan Dog](#)

[Cane Corso](#)

[Cardigan Welsh Corgi](#)

[Caucasian Mountain Dog](#)

[Cavalier King Charles Spaniel](#)

[Cesky Terrier](#)

[Chesapeake Bay Retriever](#)

[Chihuahua](#)

[Chinook](#)

[Chinese Crested](#)

[Chinese Shar-Pei](#)

[Chow Chow](#)

[Clumber Spaniel](#)

[Cocker Spaniel](#)

[Collie](#)

[Coton de Tulear](#)

[Curly-Coated Retriever](#)

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[Dachshund](#)  
[Dalmatian](#)  
[Dandie Dinmont Terrier](#)  
[Doberman Pinscher](#)  
[Dogue de Bordeaux](#)  
[English Cocker Spaniel](#)  
[English Foxhound](#)  
[English Setter](#)  
[English Springer Spaniel](#)  
[English Toy Spaniel](#)  
[Estrela Mountain Dog](#)  
[Field Spaniel](#)  
[Finnish Lapphund](#)  
[Finnish Spitz](#)  
[Flat-Coated Retriever](#)  
[French Bulldog](#)  
[German Pinscher](#)  
[German Shepherd Dog](#)  
[German Shorthaired Pointer](#)  
German Wirehaired Pointer  
[Giant Schnauzer](#)  
[Glen of Imaal Terrier](#)  
[Golden Retriever](#)  
[Gordon Setter](#)  
[Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen](#)  
[Great Dane](#)  
[Great Pyrenees](#)  
[Greater Swiss Mountain Dog](#)  
[Greyhound](#)  
[Harrier](#)  
[Havanese](#)  
[Hovawart](#)  
[Ibizan Hound](#)  
[Icelandic Sheepdog](#)  
[Irish Red and White Setter](#)  
[Irish Setter](#)  
[Irish Terrier](#)  
[Irish Water Spaniel](#)



[Irish Wolfhound](#)  
[Italian Greyhound](#)  
[Japanese Chin](#)  
[Kai Ken](#)  
[Keeshond](#)  
[Kerry Blue Terrier](#)  
[Komondor](#)  
[Kuvasz](#)  
[Labrador Retriever](#)  
[Lakeland Terrier](#)  
[Leonberger](#)  
[Lhasa Apso](#)  
[Löwchen](#)  
[Maltese](#)  
[Manchester Terrier](#)  
[Lagotto Romagnolo](#)  
[Mastiff](#)  
[Miniature Bull Terrier](#)  
[Miniature Pinscher](#)  
[Miniature Schnauzer](#)  
[Mudi](#)  
[Neapolitan Mastiff](#)  
[Newfoundland](#)  
[Norfolk Terrier](#)  
[Norwegian Elkhound](#)  
[Norwegian Bunhund](#)  
[Norwegian Lundehund](#)  
[Norwich Terrier](#)  
[Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever](#)  
[Old English Sheepdog](#)  
[Otterhound](#)  
[Papillon](#)  
[Parson Russell Terrier](#)  
[Pekingese](#)  
[Pembroke Welsh Corgi](#)  
[Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen](#)  
[Pharaoh Hound](#)  
[Plott Hound](#)



[Pointer](#)

[Polish Lowland Sheepdog](#)

[Pomeranian](#)

[Poodle](#)

[Portuguese Water Dog](#)

[Portuguese Podengo](#)

[Pug](#)

[Puli](#)

[Pumi](#)

[Pyrenean Shepherd](#)

[Rat Terrier](#)

[Redbone Coonhound](#)

[Rhodesian Ridgeback](#)

[Rottweiler](#)

[Saint Bernard](#)

[Saluki](#)

[Samoyed](#)

[Schipperke](#)

[Scottish Deerhound](#)

[Scottish Terrier](#)

[Sealyham Terrier](#)

[Shetland Sheepdog](#)

[Shiba Inu](#)

[Shih Tzu](#)

[Siberian Husky](#)

[Silky Terrier](#)

[Skye Terrier](#)

[Sloughi](#)

[Smooth Fox Terrier](#)

[Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier](#)

[Spanish Water Dog](#)

[Spinone Italiano](#)

[Staffordshire Bull Terrier](#)

[Standard Schnauzer](#)

[Sussex Spaniel](#)

[Swedish Vallhund](#)

[Tibetan Mastiff](#)

[Tibetan Spaniel](#)



[Tibetan Terrier](#)  
[Toy Fox Terrier](#)  
[Vizsla](#)  
[Weimaraner](#)  
[Welsh Springer Spaniel](#)  
[Welsh Terrier](#)  
[West Highland White Terrier](#)  
[Whippet](#)  
[Wire Fox Terrier](#)  
[Wirehaired Pointing Griffon](#)  
[Yorkshire Terrier](#)  
[Xoloitzcuintli](#)

## Miscellaneous Class Breeds

The Miscellaneous Class is intended as an interim stage. Under current policy, dogs would become eligible for registration at the time that the breed is brought into the Miscellaneous Class. After a limited time in the Miscellaneous Class a date would be set, at which time the breed would become eligible to compete in a variety group at all-breed dog shows.

[Azawakh](#)  
Belgian Laekenois  
[Dogo Argentino](#)  
[Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen](#)  
[Nederlandse Kooikerhondje](#)  
[Norrbottnenspets](#)  
[Peruvian Inca Orchid](#)  
[Portuguese Podengo](#)

## Foundation Stock Service Breeds

The Foundation Stock Service (FSS); was created by the American Kennel Club to answer the needs of today's rare breed fanciers. The Foundation Stock Service is an optional record keeping service for all purebred breeds not currently registered with the American Kennel Club.

[Appenzeller Sennenhunde](#)  
[Argentine Dogo](#)

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[Azawakh](#)  
[Bolognese](#)  
[Bracco Italiano](#)  
[Catahoula Leopard Dog](#)  
[Central Asian Shepherd Dog](#)  
[Cesky Terrier](#)  
[Czechoslovakian Wolfdog](#)  
[German Spitz](#)  
[Kooikerhondje](#)  
[Lancashire Heeler](#)  
[Perro de Presa Canario](#)  
[Rafeiro do Alentejo](#)  
[Stabyhoun](#)  
[Thai Ridgeback](#)  
[Tosa](#)  
[Treeing Tennessee Brindle](#)  
[Treeing Walker Coonhound](#)

Ruth is the owner of three dogs. She is married to Chris for 27 years. Chris is battling MS. Ruth's passion is in people and pet health care. Visit her blog:

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