

history of the chihuahua breed

The Fascinating History of the Chihuahua Breed

history of the chihuahua breed is a captivating journey that takes us through ancient civilizations, cultural significance, and the evolution of one of the smallest yet most spirited dog breeds in the world. Often recognized for their tiny size and big personalities, Chihuahuas have a rich background that extends far beyond their modern-day image as fashionable lapdogs. If you've ever wondered where this petite pup originated and how it became so popular worldwide, this article will guide you through the intriguing story behind the Chihuahua breed.

The Ancient Origins: Tracing Back to Pre-Columbian Times

The history of the Chihuahua breed can be traced back thousands of years to ancient Mexico, where early civilizations such as the Toltecs and Aztecs held small, dog-like animals in high regard. Archaeologists have uncovered artifacts and pottery depicting tiny dogs that resemble today's Chihuahuas, suggesting that these little companions were already cherished by indigenous peoples.

The Techichi: The Chihuahua's Ancestral Predecessor

Before the modern Chihuahua existed, there was the Techichi—a small, mute dog favored by the Toltecs around the 9th century AD. The Techichi was believed to have spiritual significance, often associated with guiding souls to the afterlife and serving as a loyal companion. These dogs were not only pets but also played important roles in burial ceremonies, as remains of small dogs have been found in ancient tombs.

Despite their small size, Techichis were thought to possess protective powers, and their presence was symbolic of loyalty and affection. While the exact lineage connecting the Techichi to the Chihuahua is not fully documented, many historians agree that the modern breed descended from these ancient dogs, refined over centuries through selective breeding.

European Influence and the Emergence of the Chihuahua

When Spanish explorers arrived in the Americas in the 16th century, they encountered the native peoples and their unique animals, including the tiny Techichi. It is believed that these explorers either brought some small European dog breeds to the New World or allowed European dogs to interbreed with indigenous dogs, contributing to the Chihuahua's development.

From Mexico to the World: The Chihuahua's Rise in Popularity

The breed gets its name from the Mexican state of Chihuahua, where the first modern specimens were found in the 19th century. American tourists and dog enthusiasts visiting Mexico in the late 1800s began to notice these miniature dogs and brought them back to the United States, sparking interest in the breed's unique traits.

By the early 20th century, the Chihuahua officially entered the American Kennel Club's registry, cementing its place as a recognized breed. Its small size, distinctive apple-shaped head, and lively personality quickly made it a favorite among city dwellers and celebrities alike.

Cultural Significance and Symbolism in Mexican History

Understanding the history of the Chihuahua breed also means appreciating its cultural importance in Mexico. These dogs have long been associated with various legends and folklore, often symbolizing loyalty, protection, and even mystical powers.

Spiritual Beliefs and Folklore

In some indigenous cultures, small dogs like the Techichi were believed to have the ability to ward off evil spirits. They were often kept close to provide comfort and protection to their owners. The Chihuahua's ancestors were thought to be companions on both physical and spiritual journeys, bridging the gap between the living and the afterlife.

The Chihuahua in Modern Mexican Culture

Today, the Chihuahua remains a national symbol of Mexico, celebrated for its heritage and uniqueness. The breed appears in popular media, art, and tourism, representing a link to the country's rich indigenous past. Mexican artists and filmmakers sometimes feature Chihuahuas to emphasize cultural identity and pride.

Physical Evolution and Breed Characteristics

The journey through the history of the Chihuahua breed also reveals how breeders have refined the dog's appearance and temperament over time. From the ancient Techichi to today's compact and alert canine, the physical traits have evolved to suit companionship and adaptability.

Distinct Features of the Chihuahua

Modern Chihuahuas are renowned for several key characteristics:

- **Size:** Among the smallest dog breeds, usually weighing between 2 to 6 pounds.
- **Head Shape:** The iconic “apple head” with a rounded skull is a hallmark of the breed.
- **Coat Variations:** They can have either short or long coats, with a variety of colors and patterns.
- **Temperament:** Despite their diminutive stature, Chihuahuas are known for being bold, loyal, and sometimes feisty.

Breeding and Standards

Breed standards established by kennel clubs emphasize these traits to maintain the Chihuahua’s distinct identity. Responsible breeders focus on health, temperament, and physical characteristics to preserve the breed’s legacy, ensuring that new generations maintain the qualities that have made Chihuahuas beloved around the globe.

The Chihuahua in Contemporary Society

The history of the Chihuahua breed is not only a tale of ancient roots but also a story of adaptation and enduring popularity. In today’s world, Chihuahuas continue to captivate dog lovers with their charm and versatility.

Chihuahuas as Companion Dogs

Their small size and affectionate nature make Chihuahuas ideal pets for urban living and apartment dwellers. They require relatively little exercise compared to larger breeds but thrive on social interaction and mental stimulation. Understanding their history helps owners appreciate the breed’s needs, including gentle handling and early socialization to balance their sometimes protective instincts.

Pop Culture and Media Influence

Chihuahuas have been featured prominently in movies, television, and advertising, further boosting their fame. From animated characters to celebrity pets, the breed’s recognizable appearance and spirited personality make it a favorite choice for media representation.

Preserving the Legacy: Tips for Chihuahua Enthusiasts

If you're drawn to the Chihuahua because of its fascinating history and lively nature, it's important to care for the breed with knowledge and respect for its origins.

- **Health Care:** Regular veterinary check-ups are essential, especially since small breeds can be prone to dental and heart issues.
- **Socialization:** Early exposure to different environments and people helps curb excessive shyness or aggression.
- **Training:** Positive reinforcement techniques work best for this intelligent and sensitive breed.
- **Nutrition:** Providing a balanced diet appropriate for small breeds supports longevity and vitality.

Embracing the history of the Chihuahua breed enriches the experience of owning one, connecting you to centuries of human-canine companionship that transcends borders and generations.

From its ancient roots as a sacred companion in Mexican civilizations to its modern role as a beloved pet worldwide, the Chihuahua's history is a testament to its resilience and charm. This tiny dog's journey through time highlights not only its adaptability but also the deep bond shared between humans and their canine friends across cultures and eras. Whether you're a longtime Chihuahua lover or newly curious about the breed, understanding its past adds a whole new dimension to appreciating these spirited little dogs.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the origin of the Chihuahua breed?

The Chihuahua breed originated in Mexico and is believed to be descended from an ancient dog called the Techichi, which was kept by the Toltec civilization.

How did the Chihuahua get its name?

The Chihuahua is named after the Mexican state of Chihuahua, where the breed was first discovered by American tourists in the 19th century.

What ancient civilizations are connected to the Chihuahua's history?

The Toltec and Aztec civilizations are connected to the Chihuahua's history, as they kept small dogs

similar to Chihuahuas for companionship and religious purposes.

When was the Chihuahua first recognized as a distinct breed?

The Chihuahua was first recognized as a distinct breed in the early 1900s, with the American Kennel Club officially recognizing it in 1904.

What role did the Techichi dog play in the development of the Chihuahua?

The Techichi was a small companion dog kept by the Toltecs, and it is considered the direct ancestor of the modern Chihuahua breed.

How did the Chihuahua become popular outside of Mexico?

The Chihuahua became popular outside of Mexico in the early 20th century when American tourists brought them back from Mexico, and their small size and lively personality appealed to many dog lovers.

What historical uses did Chihuahuas have in ancient cultures?

In ancient cultures like the Toltecs and Aztecs, dogs similar to Chihuahuas were used for companionship, religious ceremonies, and were sometimes believed to guide souls in the afterlife.

How has the appearance of the Chihuahua changed over time?

The appearance of the Chihuahua has evolved from the larger, more robust Techichi to the smaller, more varied coat and ear styles seen today, due to selective breeding for companion traits.

Additional Resources

History of the Chihuahua Breed: Origins, Evolution, and Cultural Significance

history of the chihuahua breed traces back to ancient times, revealing a fascinating journey of one of the world's smallest yet most spirited dog breeds. Known for their diminutive size, large expressive eyes, and distinctive personality, Chihuahuas have captured the hearts of many dog enthusiasts globally. However, beyond their modern-day charm lies a rich historical tapestry intertwined with ancient civilizations, cultural symbolism, and evolving breeding practices.

Origins of the Chihuahua: From Ancient Roots to Modern Recognition

The history of the Chihuahua breed is believed to originate from Mexico, with roots that potentially reach back to pre-Columbian times. Archaeological findings suggest that small canine companions resembling Chihuahuas appeared in the region centuries ago. One of the most intriguing aspects of

the breed's early history involves the Techichi, a small dog favored by the Toltec civilization that flourished in Mexico between the 9th and 12th centuries.

The Techichi Connection

The Techichi is often considered the direct ancestor of the modern Chihuahua. Descriptions from historical records and artifacts portray the Techichi as a small, mute dog used for companionship and spiritual purposes. The Toltecs believed these tiny dogs possessed mystical qualities, including the ability to guide souls through the afterlife. This cultural reverence contributed to the breed's prominence in Mesoamerican societies.

Aztec Influence and Symbolism

Following the Toltecs, the Aztec civilization inherited the tradition of keeping small companion dogs. The Aztecs saw dogs not only as pets but also as sacred beings with ritual significance. They used small dogs for religious ceremonies and believed these animals offered protection and good fortune. The symbolic role of these dogs in Aztec culture further cemented their place in history, laying the groundwork for the Chihuahua's enduring legacy.

Evolution and Recognition in the Modern Era

The journey from the ancient Techichi to the modern Chihuahua involved centuries of natural and selective breeding, adapting the breed to diverse environments and human preferences. When European settlers arrived in the Americas, they encountered small dogs that resembled the Techichi. These dogs gradually became known as Chihuahuas, named after the Mexican state where they were first prominently found and identified.

Discovery by Europeans and Introduction to the United States

The Chihuahua breed gained international attention in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. American tourists and dog enthusiasts visiting Mexico were captivated by these tiny dogs and began bringing them back to the United States. The breed's introduction to the U.S. led to the establishment of breeding programs aimed at standardizing its characteristics.

American Kennel Club Recognition

In 1904, the American Kennel Club (AKC) officially recognized the Chihuahua as a distinct breed. This recognition marked a significant milestone in the breed's history, prompting increased popularity and refined breeding standards. The AKC's breed standard emphasized features such as the apple-shaped head, large ears, and compact body, which remain defining traits of the Chihuahua today.

Characteristics and Features Defining the Chihuahua Breed

Understanding the history of the Chihuahua breed also involves examining its physical and behavioral traits that have been shaped over centuries of breeding.

- **Size:** Chihuahuas are one of the smallest dog breeds, typically weighing between 2 to 6 pounds.
- **Appearance:** The breed features a characteristic apple-shaped head, large, round eyes, and erect ears.
- **Coat Types:** There are two primary coat varieties—smooth coat and long coat—each requiring different grooming considerations.
- **Temperament:** Despite their small size, Chihuahuas are known for their bold, confident personality and strong attachment to their owners.

Behavioral Traits and Suitability as Companions

Chihuahuas have a reputation for being alert, lively, and loyal. These traits make them excellent watchdogs, as they are quick to alert owners to unfamiliar sounds or visitors. However, their sensitivity and social needs require attentive care to prevent behavioral issues such as excessive barking or anxiety.

Comparative Analysis: Chihuahuas and Other Toy Breeds

When placed alongside other toy breeds like the Pomeranian or Yorkshire Terrier, Chihuahuas stand out due to their unique blend of ancient heritage and modern adaptability. Unlike breeds developed primarily in Europe, the Chihuahua's lineage is deeply rooted in indigenous American cultures, which imparts distinctive genetic and behavioral characteristics.

- **Historical Context:** Chihuahuas carry a legacy linked to Mesoamerican civilizations, unlike many toy breeds with European aristocratic origins.
- **Physical Differences:** While many toy breeds share small stature, Chihuahuas' pronounced apple head and large eyes are distinctive.
- **Temperament:** Chihuahuas often exhibit a more assertive demeanor compared to the generally more docile nature of some other toy breeds.

Challenges and Considerations in Chihuahua Ownership

The history of the Chihuahua breed also highlights some challenges associated with their care. Their small size makes them vulnerable to injury, and their temperament can sometimes lead to behavioral issues if not properly managed.

Health Concerns

Chihuahuas are prone to certain health problems such as dental issues, patellar luxation, and heart conditions. Responsible breeding and regular veterinary care are essential to minimizing these risks.

Behavioral Management

Owing to their bold nature, Chihuahuas require consistent training and socialization. Without proper guidance, their protective instincts can translate into excessive barking or aggression toward strangers and other animals.

The Cultural Impact and Popularity of Chihuahuas

From their ancient spiritual roles to their status as fashionable companions, Chihuahuas have significantly influenced popular culture. Their small size and big personality have made them stars in movies, advertisements, and as symbols of luxury and urban pet ownership.

Media Representation

Iconic appearances in films and commercials have propelled Chihuahuas into the global spotlight, contributing to their ongoing popularity. Their image as glamorous, yet loyal pets resonates with diverse audiences worldwide.

Global Popularity Trends

Today, Chihuahuas are among the most popular toy breeds internationally. Their adaptability to apartment living, combined with their distinctive appearance, makes them a preferred choice for city dwellers and small families.

The journey encapsulated in the history of the Chihuahua breed reveals more than just the evolution

of a dog; it uncovers a connection between ancient civilizations and modern pet culture. Their resilience and unique traits continue to endear them to dog lovers, ensuring the breed's legacy endures for generations to come.

History Of The Chihuahua Breed

history of the chihuahua breed: CHIHUAHUA: History, Habits, Care, Legends and Training of the World's Smallest Dog Bill Edwards, 2012-05-22 Bill Edwards is a professional writer, author, speaker, business consultant and life skills expert in his fifties. Bill has appeared on many national and international radio shows, television and web broadcasts, and been featured in a number of well-known newspapers, periodicals and publications. This book offers amazing facts about the Chihuahua Dog Breed and helpful hints about their care, feeding, training and breeding learned from years of experience with the world's smallest dog.

history of the chihuahua breed: Dog Breeds A to Z part II Diaa, 2025-05-20 Discover the rich history and fascinating characteristics of over 60 dog breeds in this comprehensive guide! Whether you're a seasoned dog owner or considering your first puppy, The Ultimate Guide to Dog Breeds is the perfect companion to help you choose the best breed for your family. From loyal German Shepherds to playful Golden Retrievers, each breed comes with its unique personality, physical traits, and training needs. This book covers everything from breed origins and temperaments to training tips and health care, helping you provide the best care for your furry friend. Learn the history of each breed Explore key physical traits and behavioral characteristics Discover tips for successful training and proper care Understand common health issues specific to each breed Packed with essential insights and practical advice, this guide is perfect for anyone looking to understand the diverse world of dogs. Whether you're interested in small companion dogs like the Chihuahua or larger working breeds like the Siberian Husky, this book offers something for every dog lover. The breeds covered in this part of the book Chinook Chow Chow Clumber Spaniel Cocker Spaniel Collie Rough and Smooth Curly Coated Retriever. Dachshund Dalmatian.. Dandie Dinmont Terrier Doberman Pinscher Dogue de Bordeaux. English Cocker Spaniel English Foxhound English Setter Traits English Springer Spaniel English Toy Spaniel Entlebucher Mountain Dog. Field Spaniel Finnish Spitz Flat-Coated Retriever. French Bulldog German Pinscher. German Shepherd Dog German Shorthaired Pointers. German Wirehaired Pointer Giant Schnauzer Glen of Imaal Terrier. Golden Retriever Gordon Setter. Great Dane Great Pyrenees Greater Swiss Mountain Dog. Greyhound Harrier Havanese Ibizan Hound Icelandic Sheepdog Irish Red and White Setter Irish Setter Irish Terrier Irish Water Spaniel Irish Wolfhound Italian Greyhound.. Japanese Chin Keeshond Kerry Blue Terrier. Komondor Kuvasz. Labrador Retriever Lakeland Terrier. Leonberger Lhasa Apso Löwchen Maltese. Manchester Terrier . Mastiff Miniature Bull Terrier Miniature Pinscher Miniature Schnauzer Neopolitan Mastiff Newfoundland Norfolk Terrier Norwegian Buhund Norwegian Elkhound Norwegian Lundehund. Norwich Terrier Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever. Old English Sheepdog Otterhound

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history of the chihuahua breed: Mastering the Paws and Plays , 2024-11-26 Mastering The Paws & Play: Everything You Need to Know for 19 Top Breeds is your all-in-one guide to caring for America's most beloved dogs. Whether you're a first-time pet owner or a seasoned enthusiast, this comprehensive book is tailored to meet your needs, with breed-specific tips and expert advice that ensure you'll provide the very best for your furry friend. Inside, you'll find detailed care guides for 19 of the most popular dog breeds, including Golden Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, French Bulldogs, and Poodles. Each breed has its own dedicated section, offering: Tips for New Owners:

Essential information on feeding, grooming, training, and socializing your dog. Advanced Care for Experienced Owners: In-depth guidance on health maintenance, specialized training, and advanced grooming techniques. Expert Insights for Enthusiasts: Breed history, fun activities, and expert tips to deepen your connection with your dog. From playful Pomeranians to majestic Great Danes, this book covers it all. Learn how to handle breed-specific challenges, keep your dog happy and healthy, and build a strong, lasting bond with your canine companion. Get ready to master the art of dog care with *Mastering The Paws & Play*—because your dog deserves nothing less than the best. □ Perfect for dog lovers, new pet parents, and experienced dog owners alike, this guide will quickly become your go-to resource for everything you need to know about raising a happy, well-cared-for dog.

history of the chihuahua breed: Who's Who in Chihuahuas Now Betty Stallard, 2019-04-16
Who's Who in Chihuahuas Now is the current volume of the breeders and their lines impacting the well-bred Chihuahuas of today. Trace the beginnings of these kennels from their foundation dogs to their current stars. The pictorial history follows the progress and development of the dog who has won hearts and minds across borders and cultures and who lives in apartments and mansions. Meet breeders from the New World and the Old who have given their lives, hearts, and fortunes to raising and showing Chihuahuas. This is the story of breeders who seek to improve the breed by reaching for the perfection outlined in the official standard of the Chihuahua Club of America and the Fédération Cynologique Internationale. *Who's Who in Chihuahuas Now* is a volume you will want to share with your friends and family who also love the tiniest breed of dogs.

history of the chihuahua breed: Medical, Genetic & Behavioral Risk Factors of Chihuahuas ROSS D. CLARK DVM, 2014-07-15 This book provides you with a thorough description and positive attributes of this breed including origin, purpose, history, normal heights and weights, acceptable colors and behavioral traits. Our books differ from most books on dog breeds because this book also provides you with a comprehensive and authoritative source of all the known predisposed hereditary health syndromes for the breed. You will find extensive references for each problem described. We also provide the breed club address for this breed and a list of laboratories and organizations that can provide professional help and information. As a small animal veterinarian, I have always been intrigued by the way dogs have been bred to fill a purpose in life and further impressed that they also tend to love performing that service. Greyhounds and other sight hounds are built for speed with aerodynamic bodies consisting of small head, deep chest, narrow waist and large leg muscles. On the other hand Dachshunds take their name from German words meaning “badger dog” and they use their long nose, long body and short legs to both track, enter and dig into badger dens. After developing a practice that catered to clients with show dogs, my interest in each breed continued to grow as I studied and observed more and more about the unique predisposition and incidence of health problems in each breed. Breeders of purebred dogs for show were a challenge and inspirational for me to research and help them with their unique health problems. Historically references to hereditary problems are scattered throughout various Veterinary medical texts and journals such as ophthalmology, neurology, gastroenterology, cardiovascular and dermatology. This book, as well as the other books and articles I have written, is researched and compiled with the intention to provide both veterinarians and dog owners with comprehensive and authoritative predisposition information under the breed name. At the date of this publication, The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation and the The Kennel Club of England reports over 400 known hereditary health syndromes throughout the dog kingdom. At the writing of my first book in 1983, less than 50 hereditary issues are able to be predicted and or diagnosed. Sequencing of the canine genome, DNA tests, metabolic testing including blood tests and urine testing; plus, phenotypic examinations such as radiographs, ultrasound, and CERF or OFA eye registry exams by a Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist have advanced the science of breed related health and behavioral problems. This book will provide veterinarians, researchers, pet owners and breeders with a comprehensive guide to all the known problems veterinarians and dog owners should consider during pet selection and throughout each life stage of our canine friends.

history of the chihuahua breed: Encyclopedia of Dog Breeds Caroline Coile Ph.D., 2015-08-01

The perfect dog book for dog lovers! Encyclopedia of Dog Breeds is the definitive guide for information on purebred history, health, and pet care. Updated with the latest information on canine breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club, this lavishly illustrated volume has an all-new design and features a treasure trove of information for dog lovers, owners, breeders, and prospective buyers. From discussions of breed evolution to individual breed profiles, this incredible resource includes: Profiles on more than 175 different dog breeds—including 27 new breeds Information on the categories specified by the AKC—Sporting Group, Hound Group, Working Group, Terrier Group, Toy Group, Non-Sporting Group, and Herding Group Tips for choosing a breed that's compatible with your lifestyle and needs Advice for dog training and puppy training Each breed's health problems, longevity, exercise needs, compatibility with children, and more! Full of striking photographs, essential information, and valuable advice, this is a comprehensive, invaluable guide for dog people.

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history of the chihuahua breed: The Complete Dog Book American Kennel Club, 2007-12-18 For more than seventy-five years, The Complete Dog Book has been the premier reference on purebred dogs. Now in its twentieth edition, this treasured guide is an essential volume for every dog owner and owner-to-be. Comprehensive and thoughtfully organized, The Complete Dog Book features all 153 breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club, the official breed standards, breed histories, and photographs. Also included are the twelve most recently recognized breeds: Anatolian Shepherd Dog, Black Russian Terrier, German Pinscher, Glen of Imaal Terrier, Havanaes, Löwchen, Neapolitan Mastiff, Nova Scotia Duck Tolling Retriever, Parson Russell Terrier, Polish Lowland Sheepdog, Spinone Italiano, and Toy Fox Terrier. Along with AKC registration procedures and current forms, The Complete Dog Book includes sections on • choosing the dog that's right for you • training • nutrition • grooming • responsible breeding • canine first-aid • joining a dog club • Canine Good Citizen® program • every AKC sport: Agility, Conformation, Coonhound, Earthdog, Field Trials, Herding, Hunt Tests, Junior Showmanship, Lure Coursing, Obedience, Rally, and Tracking Concluding with an extensive glossary of terms and line drawings, The Complete Dog Book is a reference that dog aficionados will turn to again and again.

history of the chihuahua breed: Directory of Web Sites Graham Bennett, 1999 Overloaded with the mass of information on the Internet? Frustrated by how difficult it is to find what you really want? Now you don't need to spend hours browsing around the Internet or grappling with the huge number of hits from an Internet search engine: the Directory of Web Sites will take you straight to the best educational sites on the Internet. From archaeology to zoology, from dance to technology, the Directory provides information more than 5,500 carefully selected Web sites that represent the best of what the Internet has to offer. The sites are grouped by subject; each one features a full description; and the text is complemented throughout by screenshots and fact boxes. As well, sites have been selected purely on educational merit: all sites with overtly commercial content and influence from Internet providers have been excluded.

history of the chihuahua breed: How To Pick The Perfect Puppy Linda Whitwam, This book

is an absolute must for anyone thinking of getting a puppy. Canine author Linda Whitwam provides a step-by-step guide to selecting the unique puppy most likely to fit in with you and your family. This latest book in the acclaimed Canine Handbooks series steers anyone thinking of getting a puppy or rescue dog around the many pitfalls and arms them with the expert knowledge to select the one puppy which is right for them. Written in an easy-to-understand manner, this 224-page manual is packed full of invaluable information you won't find elsewhere and makes a great gift. It includes:

- The insider's guide to the 25 most popular breeds registered with the Kennel Clubs – and one that isn't
- Choosing a crossbreed or mixed breed
- Suitable breeds and crossbreeds for allergy sufferers
- Current health issues with various pure breeds
- How to find a good breeder – and the right questions to ask
- How to reduce the risk of buying a puppy with health problems
- How to pick the puppy with the temperament and energy levels to suit you

The book is full of tips on what to do before and after you bring your new arrival home, covering:

- Puppy proofing your home
- A checklist of things you'll need before your pup arrives
- Bringing your puppy home
- Feeding schedules, charts and types of food, including a raw diet
- House training and crate training
- Basic obedience and collar and lead training
- Puppy biting
- Spaying, neutering and vaccinations
- Getting a puppy from a rescue centre
- The signs of a healthy puppy
- How to spot if your puppy is unwell

One of the main reasons puppies are given away or end up in rescue centres is owners' unrealistic expectations of their dog. Pick the puppy that's right for you and look forward to a decade or more of happiness with the perfect companion – who turned out to be all that you'd hoped for.

Reviews for *How To Pick The Perfect Puppy*: “This book is not just another handbook, more an owner's manual for choosing the right furry addition to the family. Breeds and cross-breeds are discussed at length, helping you choose the right temperament, size and exercise requirements for your pooch, including advice for those with allergies to choose a pup with a coat to suit. Also choosing a rescue pup or dog is covered too with sensitive insight into the extra requirements they may need for helping them settle. Feeding, positive training tips and advice on helping your new furry settle into your environment along with lovely pics make this a good read,” J. C. VICKERMAN, YORKSHIRE, UK “Extremely helpful and informative. Planning to purchase a puppy soon and will continue to use the guidance given,” HEATHER FISHER, UK “What a great resource for those considering acquiring a family pet. It contains lots of practical information and tips. I have owned dogs as pets all my life and I learned a lot from this book. I have 14 year old dog now who has had separation anxiety issues and I wish I had this book when she was young. It will, unfortunately, not be long until she is no longer with us (still healthy, but showing her age) and I will definitely rely on this book when it is time to bring a new puppy into the house. I would highly recommend this to anyone thinking about choosing a family pet, N. CLARK, USA “I bought this book for my son who is considering buying a puppy. I made the mistake of flicking through it before I gave it to him. I just couldn't put it down, so now it looks as though it's been read from cover to cover, which it has! Linda Whitwam writes in the most down to earth, readable fashion and the book is packed full of really useful information. She outlines the pros and cons of all the most common breeds and even the crossbreeds and mixed breeds. And when you've decided upon your puppy there's loads of advice on how to look after and train it,” S. E. KAYE, UK

history of the chihuahua breed: The Original Dog Bible Kristin Mehus-Roe, 2011-10-04 The woofasticsecond edition. “This attractive, copiously illustrated easy-to-understand volume covers every aspect of responsible dog ownership.” —Library Journal The revised and expanded second edition of the bestselling *The Original Dog Bible* remains the most comprehensive dog lover's resource on the market! The book is divided into eight parts—each fully illustrated and designed for easy reference—plus helpful, entertaining sidebars covering hundreds of related topics. With detailed chapters on the requirements of caring for a dog, health, training, and so much more, this book will prepare you for a wonderful life with a dog. Also included is a catalog of over 250 purebred dog breeds with insightful articles for each! “Being a veteran veterinarian of twenty five years and a lifetime pet lover, I can enthusiastically say ‘this old doc learned new tricks’ upon reading the consummate book on all things dogs . . . I highly recommend it!” —Dr. Marty Becker, former

resident veterinarian on ABC's Good Morning America and coauthor of *Chicken Soup for the Dog Lover's Soul* "This comprehensive book certainly lives up to its subtitle . . . The best part of the book, however, covers 'life with a dog,' with sections on pet care partners like sitters and walkers, emergencies, lost dogs, biting, traveling with a dog, and a fantastic chapter on activities one can do with one's dog." —Publishers Weekly

history of the chihuahua breed: Veterinary Medical Guide to Dog and Cat Breeds Jerold Bell, Kathleen Cavanagh, Larry Tilley, Francis W. K. Smith, 2012-02-01 This book provides the veterinary practitioner, student, breeder and pet owner with a complete but quick reference to the diagnosis and management of breed-related medical conditions of dogs and cats. 171 recognized dog breeds and 42 cat breeds are included, organized alphabetically, with all information fully referenced and based on the most

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history of the chihuahua breed: TALKING GOD'S HOUSE PET Susan Fadler, 2015-06-05 R.U.F.F. is an acronym that stands for Reservations' Unwanted Four-Footed Friends and started by Susan Fadler in the early 1990s. Organized for establishing homes for the unwanted and neglected animals on the Navajo Reservation, Susan began taking rescued animals into classrooms to help teach the children about animal behavior, care and health. She soon found out that using an animal helped extrapolate expressions of emotions which would otherwise be harbored or unexpressed by the child. It also incorporated self-esteem where all else had failed. Using a natural catalyst, puppies and kittens, to teach responsible behavior proved to be extremely effective. Teachers began requesting materials to help teach history, geography, culture, and language. The Wilson Foundation was instrumental in providing the necessary funding to get Susan's curriculum written. It was nominated by teachers and administrators in 1996 and went on to win the 1st place Golden Bell award from the ASBA as a best new curriculum that year.

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