

The Jack Russell Terrier Canine Companion Or Demon Dog

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The Fox terrier and Jack Russell terrier type dogs of today are all descended from dogs of that period, although documented pedigrees earlier than have not been found, although several records remain of documented breeding by John Russell between the s and s. The Fox Terrier Club was formed in with Russell as one of the founder members; its breed standard was aspiration, and not a description of how the breed appeared then.

By the start of the 20th century, the Fox terrier had altered more towards the modern breed, but in some parts of the country the old style of John Russell's terriers remained, and it is from those dogs that the modern Jack Russell type has descended. Many breeds can claim heritage to the early Fox terrier of this period, including the Brazilian terrier , Japanese terrier , Miniature Fox terrier , Ratonero Bodeguero Andaluz , Rat terrier , and Tenterfield terrier.

Following Russell's death, the only people who made serious efforts to continue those strains were two men, one in Chislehurst with the surname of East, and another in Cornwall named Archer. East, at one point, had several couples, all of which were descended from one of Russell's dogs. The type aimed for were not as big as the show Fox terrier and were usually less than 15 pounds 6. Arthur Blake Heinemann created the first breed standard and, in , he founded the Devon and Somerset Badger Club, the aims of which were to promote badger digging rather than fox hunting, and the breeding of terriers suitable for this purpose.

Terriers were acquired from Nicholas Snow of Oare , and they were likely descended from Russell's original dogs, as Russell would probably have hunted at some point with Snow's hunting club and is likely to have provided at least some of their original terriers. At the same time that a split was appearing between show and working Fox terriers, a further split was occurring between two different types of white terrier, both carrying Jack Russell's name. These classes were continued for several years by various judges, but Charles Cruft dropped the attempt as the classes were never heavily competed.

Following Heinemann's death in , the kennel and leadership of the club passed to Annie Harris, but the club itself folded shortly before World War II. Following World War II , the requirement for hunting dogs drastically declined, and with it the numbers of Jack Russell terriers. The dogs were increasingly used as family and companion dogs. Further crossbreeding occurred, with Welsh corgis , Chihuahuas , and other smaller breeds of terrier.

Size ranges for dogs were kept broad, with the ability of working dogs awarded higher than those in conformation shows. An open registry was maintained, with restricted line breeding. Registration for the club is made at adulthood for Jack Russells, rather than at birth, to ensure the breed's qualities remain, given the open registry.

In the late s, the American Kennel Club explored the possibility of recognising the Jack Russell terrier. Due to their working nature, Jack Russell terriers remain much as they were some years ago. A broken-coated dog may have longer hair on the tail or face than that which is seen on a smooth-coated dog. The head should be of moderate width at the ears, narrowing to the eyes, and slightly flat between the ears.

There should be a defined but not overpronounced stop at the end of the muzzle where it meets the head, and a black nose. The jaw should be powerful and well boned with a scissor bite and straight teeth. The eyes are almond shaped and dark coloured and should be full of life and intelligence.

Small V-shaped ears of moderate thickness are carried forward on the head. The tail is set high and in the past was docked to approximately five inches in order to provide a sufficient hand-hold for gripping the terrier. The Jack Russell should always appear balanced and alert. Red foxes vary in size, but across the world, they average from 13—17 pounds 5. The Jack Russell terrier and Parson Russell terrier breeds are similar, sharing a common origin, but have several marked differences — the most notable being the range of acceptable heights. However, the Parson Russell is a conformation show standard whereas the Jack Russell standard is a more general working standard.

The Russell terrier, which is also sometimes called the English Jack Russell terrier or the Short Jack Russell terrier is a generally smaller related breed. Jack Russells are first and foremost a working terrier. Their high energy and drive make these dogs ideally suited to a number of different dog sports such as flyball or agility. They have a tremendous amount of energy for their size, [49] a fact which can sometimes lead to trouble involving larger animals. While socialised members of the breed are friendly towards children, they will not tolerate abuse even if it is unintentional.

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The breed has a reputation for being healthy with a long lifespan. Jack Russells can live from 13 to 16 years given proper care. Being a hunt-driven dog, the Jack Russell will usually pursue most creatures that it encounters. This includes the skunk , and the breed is prone to skunk toxic shock syndrome. If sprayed underground, it can also cause chemical burning of the cornea.

Treatments are available to flush the toxin out of the dog's system. Lens luxation, also known as ectopia lentis is the most common hereditary disorder in Jack Russell terriers. Even so, this condition is not a common occurrence in the breed.

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Most frequently appearing in dogs between the ages of 3 and 8 years old, it is where the lens in one or both eyes becomes displaced. There are two types, posterior luxation where the lens slips to the back of the eye and anterior luxation where the lens slips forward.

Posterior luxation is the less severe of the two types, as the eye can appear normal although the dog's eyesight will be affected. In anterior luxation, the lens can slip forward and rub against the cornea , damaging it. Anterior luxation also has a high probability of causing glaucoma which can lead to partial or complete blindness.

Treatment is available and may include both medical and surgical options. Secondary lens luxation is caused by trauma to the eye and is not hereditary. Cataracts can affect any breed of dog and is the same condition as seen in humans. Here the lens of the eye hardens and is characterised by cloudiness in the eye.

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Patellar luxation , also known as luxating patella, is a hereditary disorder affecting the knees. It is where the kneecap slips off the groove on which it normally sits. The effects can be temporary with the dog running while holding its hind leg in the air before running on it again once the kneecap slipped back into place as if nothing has happened.

Dogs can have a problem with both rear knees, and complications can include arthritis or torn knee ligaments. Severe cases can require surgery. Prone to mast cell tumors. Nipper was a dog born in who was thought to be a dog of the Jack Russell terrier type. Owned by explorers Ranulph and Ginny Fiennes , he became the first dog to travel to both the north and south poles. To celebrate their achievement, a plane was sent out to take the two men champagne , along with Bothy.

On 29 April , a Jack Russell named George saved five children at a carnival in New Zealand from an attack by two pit bulls. He was reported to have charged at them and held them at bay long enough for the children to get away. A statue has been erected in Manaia , New Zealand in his memory. In the UK, one of the more recognisable canine stars was restaurateur and chef Rick Stein 's irrepressible terrier Chalky , [71] who frequently upstaged his owner on his various cookery series.

Wishbone , from the television show of the same name which aired from to in the United States, was a Jack Russell terrier. S film The Mask starring Jim Carrey. Mall Cop and Beginners. Dog Detective is a series of children's books by authors Darrell and Sally Odgers, and published by Scholastic. Uggie was an animal actor, appearing in commercials starting in and most notably cast in Water for Elephants and The Artist , both in Patrick McDonnell 's comic strip Mutts features a Jack Russell terrier named Earl who is a main character in the comic strip. A drawing of Trump, the dog purchased by the Reverend John Russell.

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