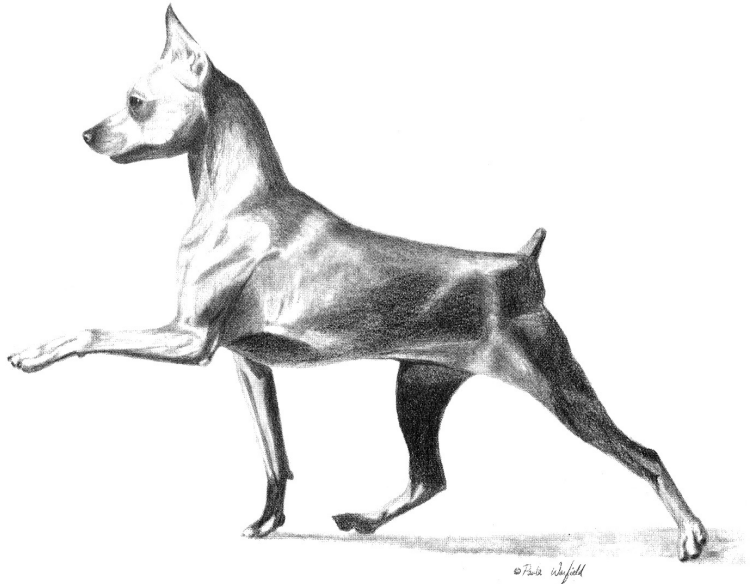
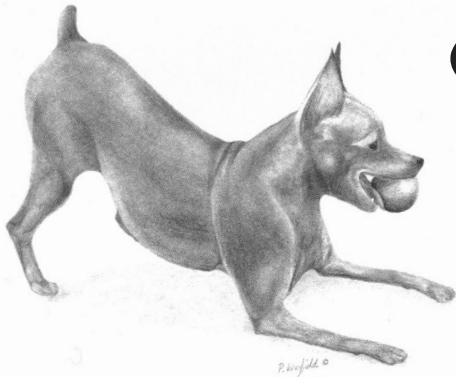


Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Miniature Pinschers



(...but were afraid to ask!)



WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

It is generally believed that the Miniature Pinscher evolved from the ancient German Pinscher family of dogs, by crossing the Dachshund and Italian Greyhound. In any event, Germany is undisputed as the home of origin where the Miniature Pinscher was known as the "Reh Pinscher" due its resemblance to a small red deer, the "Reh", which freely roamed the German forests many years ago.

ARE THEY BRED DOWN DOBERMAN PINSCHERS?

Absolutely not. In fact, the Miniature Pinscher is the older of these two breeds as it was not until 1890 that Louis Doberman bred his first Doberman Pinscher.

lustrous coat. The Miniature Pinscher is distinguished when moving by its "Hackney-Like" gait and its lively, animated attitude.

HOW DO THEY ACT?

A well-bred and properly socialized Miniature Pinscher is quite simply a character. Spending only a few minutes with one makes it immediately apparent why these dogs are known as the "King Of Toys". You will find the Min Pin to be fearless, animated, intensely curious and always full of vim and vigor. Because of their high energy levels and inquisitiveness, the Min Pin bears close watching in order to avoid trouble.

ARE THEY GOOD WITH KIDS?

Yes and no. If the Min Pin is raised around children who treat them in a gentle way and are taught responsible dog ownership, they will adore children. However, if children are allowed to grab at them, or treat them roughly in any way, the Min Pin will become fearful and defensive. It is important to realize that even as a full grown adult, the Min Pin is a very small dog.

WHAT SHOULD THEY LOOK LIKE?

The Miniature Pinscher is a small, compact dog, ideally between 10" and 12.5" at the shoulder. The AKC breed standard allows the following colors: Red, Stag-Red, Black & Rust, and Chocolate and Rust. The dog should appear well balanced, sturdy and short-coupled, with a smooth, hard, short and



The wrong type of play and handling can easily result in broken bones or worse. Patience, love, and good old common sense make a great recipe for raising a Min Pin with children (or adults).

HOW DO I TAKE CARE OF THEM?

Because the Miniature Pinscher has a short coat, grooming is minimal. It is wise to give them a good brisk brushing every few days to ensure a clean, shiny coat. Toenails need to be trimmed on a regular basis to avoid having them grow too long and cause nail trimming to become nail cutting – a very unpleasant experience for dog and owner. Frequent bathing is discouraged as it tends to dry out the coat. Basic veterinary care should include an annual wellness exam in addition to basic vaccinations. The Miniature Pinscher Club of America (MPCA) strongly encourages all dogs be microchipped and registered with the AKC CAR (Companion Animal Recovery). For information call 800-252-7894.

WHAT DO THEY EAT?

While the exact quantity may have to be adjusted according to specific needs, a rule of thumb follows: Growing puppies need about one half to one ounce of dry, premium dog food per pound of body weight every day. This is distributed throughout 3 to 4 meals depending on the age of the puppy. Adult dogs need less—one fourth to one half ounce of dry dog food per pound of body weight every day. Adult dogs can usually eat just one meal per day. In addition to the dry dog food, a small amount of canned dog food can be added. Nutritional supplements should not be necessary if your dog food is of the high quality.

WHAT ABOUT BREEDING THEM?

The MPCA recommends that you spay or neuter your dog. Spaying and neutering not only help control overpopulation issues, but can avoid health issues such as ovarian or testicular cancer later in the dog's life. Also, AKC registration is not inherently an indication of breeding quality. Breeding quality dogs is strictly a labor of love, and often times an expensive one at that. If you are devoted to the breed, and desire

to spend copious amounts of time, energy, and money to breed for quality only, then you might consider talking to other established Min Pin breeders for more detailed information.



WHAT ABOUT HEALTH ISSUES?

The Miniature Pinscher is a relatively healthy and hearty breed. The major health concerns in Min Pins are patellar luxation, Legg-Calve-Perthes (LCP), and demodectic mange. Min Pins affected with patellar luxation or Legg Calve Perthes should not be bred.

Many MPCA members support health research for the Miniature Pinscher through the AKC Canine Health Foundation—a nonprofit charitable organization whose mission is to help dogs live longer, healthier lives. Supporting the Canine Health Foundation will help ensure a healthy future for all dogs. For more information about ongoing health research to help Min Pins, see www.akcchf.org or call toll free 888-682-9696.

WHAT OTHER RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE?

We invite you to visit our Web site: www.minpin.org. There you will find more in-depth information about Miniature Pinschers. For additional information on dogs in general, including training tips, showing, and local club visit the AKC Web site at www.akc.org.

