



Congratulations!

Welcome to the wonderful world of Pharaoh Hound ownership. You join a great group of people who love their hounds and enjoy every facet of the breed's fun-loving personality.

You and Your Pharaoh Hound

You will find that the Pharaoh Hound is remarkably versatile. His keen intelligence, curiosity, playfulness, and physical abilities all combine to make a fun, though sometimes challenging, dog to live with and a great partner for many different activities.

Besides the pleasure of his company, there are many activities available to enjoy with your Pharaoh Hound. If your dog is show quality, conformation showing is fun and interesting. Obedience and Rally Obedience training can develop a great rapport with your Pharaoh Hound, if you have the gentle patience to work with a dog who is smart and has a temperament more inclined to independence than service. Agility's fast pace and fun atmosphere is well suited to the breed's lively nature. Lure coursing can appeal to the instinct to run and chase that most Pharaoh Hounds inherently possess. Though Pharaoh Hounds are Sighthounds, they do have excellent noses; tracking can be a rewarding challenge.

Pharaoh Hound Personality

The Pharaoh Hound has a lively, complex personality. You will often find yourself laughing at his antics. This independent thinker can be both charming and trying. Raise him with love, affection, and gentle, consistent discipline and he will blossom into a wonderful companion.

The Pharaoh Hound loves to play. Unlike many breeds, this playfulness lasts a lifetime. It's not unusual for our senior dogs to bring us toys in an effort to begin another play session! They are quite active and resourceful at play but also like nothing better than a cozy nap in a comfortable spot.

The Pharaoh Hound can stand cold temperatures when he is busy, but prefers a warm place out of the rain and weather. Because of his lack of coat and strong desire to be near his family, the Pharaoh Hound must be an indoor dog.

The Pharaoh Hound adores his family, but can be aloof with strangers. He prefers to be allowed the courtesy of making the first overtures in a friendship. He is very capable of making human and dog friendships outside the family, but prefers to do it on his own terms.

This breed is very alert and will bark to announce visitors. However, he is not an aggressive dog - this makes an exceptional alert dog, but he is not suited to be a guard dog. This breed is known for its barking. If you are aware of this and gently dissuade him, or distract him, beginning in puppyhood, you will find you can mostly control this tendency. A house with a Pharaoh Hound, though, is never bark-free.

Your Pharaoh Hound will need plenty of exercise to enable him to develop properly and also to prevent boredom; a bored dog can be a destructive dog!

The Pharaoh Hound cannot be allowed to run loose. When he is on the trail of a rabbit or a squirrel, he has no thought for dangers like vehicular traffic. A stout fence or a strong leash will help him lead a happy life.

PHCA and its members are willing to provide help and advice to owners of Pharaoh Hounds. However, your breeder should always be your first contact and source for help. When in doubt about any phase of your Pharaoh Hound's life, please contact your breeder first.

Pharaoh Hound Health

The breed has no major health problems. We are thankful that we have a very healthy breed and do all that we can to maintain that. PHCA breeders will test our breeding dogs, and often their siblings, for the diseases that might crop up in our breed. This can include many tests and most often consist of x-rays for hip health, blood tests for thyroid, and veterinary examinations for knee health - all reviewed and rated by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (www.offa.org). In addition eyes are checked by veterinary ophthalmologists for inheritable eye diseases with results listed on the Canine Eye Registration Foundation (www.vmdb.org/cerf.html).

PHCA breeders have signed a Code of Ethics that include the requirement to microchip each puppy they produce before it joins their new family. Hopefully, your puppy is microchipped. It's easy to ensure this by asking your veterinarian to check with a microchip reader. This permanent identification can be registered with AKC's Companion Animal Recovery. In the event your Pharaoh Hound becomes lost, a 24-hour toll-free hotline can help locate the owners. For information, visit the AKC website at www.akc.org or call (800) 252-7894. If your puppy does not have a microchip, your veterinarian can easily implant one during your well puppy visit. It is an important tool in identifying and recovering a lost Pharaoh Hound.

Breed or Spay/Neuter

Today, with the increased awareness of pet overpopulation, the question of whether to breed or not has become a serious and complex issue.

Dedicated breeders spend years learning about their breed, studying pedigrees and genetics and striving to avoid breedings that may produce inherited health and temperament problems. They are prepared to feed, house, socialize and provide essential veterinary care for their puppies for months or even years, as well as cope with any unforeseen problems that may arise before, during or after the birth of the litter. They carefully screen potential homes, educate new owners and are willing to be responsible for every dog of their breeding for its lifetime.

Breeders who utilize the AKC's limited registration coupled with a spay/neuter non-breeding agreement are expressing their concerns about pet overpopulation and their dedication to the successful future of the breed.

Recent studies have concluded that companion animals are usually happier and more polite and stable when altered. Males are less likely to exhibit territorial marking and aggression, and females often live longer with fewer health problems. Their temperaments remain the same. Altered animals can participate in most American Kennel Club performance events, but they cannot participate in conformation events at dog shows.



The Pharaoh Hound Club of America is the American Kennel Club Parent Club for Pharaoh Hounds. We take this responsibility to our breed very seriously. The PHCA has committees that work on health, Pharaoh Hound rescue, breeder ethics, judge education, breeder education and other important areas. In addition, we host three Specialty shows a year and provide a quarterly newsletter for our members.

We invited you to join us! Please visit our website for more information and to find contact information:

www.ph-club.org