



# *Congratulations on your New Scottish Terrier!*

Dear New Scottish Terrier Owner:

Welcome to the Scottish Terrier family! There is more to learn about the breed, and the more you know the better you will be able to enjoy and care for your Scottie. The Scottish Terrier Club of America would like to help you in this process. Our common bond is love for the Scottish Terrier. The STCA is an active AKC club over 100 years old, comprised of 20 Regional clubs spanning the USA with more than 1,000 members from all walks of life. We invite you to contact us. Visit our website at:

**[www.stca.biz](http://www.stca.biz)**

If you live near a regional club, you're in luck. Visit a meeting to become part of a group of fun loving Scottie fanciers in a variety of educational programs, grooming workshops, health clinics, specialty shows and matches, go-to-ground events, obedience training, and agility, collecting, Canine Good Citizen® tests, rescue activities, micro-chipping, and parties to celebrate the love of the Scottie. Most publish newsletters. Call AKC Customer Service, (919) 233-9767 or visit the STCA website to find a regional club or any AKC affiliated club. If you don't live near a regional club, ask for a local contact person in your area.

## **Breed Description**

The Scottish Terrier is a small, sturdy dog of good bone. His head is long for his size. He has a hard, wiry, coat, and thickset short body, which is hung between short heavy legs. These characteristics with his very special keen expression, and erect ears and tail, make the Scottie what he is today. Height from the withers (where the neck joins the body at the back) to the floor should be 10 inches.



Normally, a male should weigh between 19 and 22 pounds, and a female, between 18 and 21 pounds. The size is important for the "go to ground" hunting activities for which the breed was developed. The color of the Scottish Terrier can be brindle, wheaten or black. The coat requires regular grooming by brushing and clipping or hand stripping (induced shedding) to keep the characteristic outline that makes the breed recognizable as a Scottish Terrier.

## **Breed or Spay/Neuter?**

To become a breeder is a huge responsibility, and there is much to consider. A responsible breeder seriously considers good health and temperament, genetic concerns and available DNA testing, soundness, and appearance when breeding dogs. Responsible breeders also take life long interest in the puppies they produce by keeping in touch with the new owners, following the development, advising buyers on problems and either taking the dog back or finding a new home if needed. If you do decide to breed, an experienced Scottie breeder will help you make the best decisions.

To view the Scottish Terrier Health Databases  
visit the  
Canine Health Information Center "CHIC" site  
**[www.caninehealthinfo.org](http://www.caninehealthinfo.org)**  
and the  
Orthopedic Foundation for Animals at  
**[www.offa.org](http://www.offa.org)**  
For information and a DNA test kit for vWD,  
contact:  
VetGen 1-800-4-Vetgen  
or  
**[www.vetgen.com](http://www.vetgen.com)**

Contribute *today* to the  
**STCA's Health Trust Fund**  
to help support health education and research.

For information visit the HTF website at:

**[www.stca.biz](http://www.stca.biz)**  
Then, click on **Health**

A new puppy needs a series of shots and checkups from a veterinarian. Choose a vet you like and trust. To prevent unwanted litters and to avoid some health and behavior problems, many owners elect to spay or neuter their Scotties. Spaying a female before her first heat cycle can help protect her against mammary cancer, but new research is showing a positive relationship between longevity in females and spaying at a time later in life. When and if to spay or neuter your dog is an important decision and should be discussed with your veterinarian.

Scotties thrive as house pets. They want to be indoors with their family not only as a daily joy but a good canine citizen, a good neighbor, and a well-behaved companion. Exercise and play with training and a lot of love are as important as good food, shelter and health care. Enroll your Scottie in obedience classes.

That beautiful and distinctive Scottie outline does not grow automatically. The profile is clipped that way. Introduce your Scottie to grooming as a baby. Set aside the time every two days to brush and comb your Scottie and remove all mats. With trimming every month or two, your Scottie will keep that true Scottie look. Bathing with a good commercial brand of dog shampoo will keep him smelling very nice too.

## More tips about living with Scotties

- Scotties are not good swimmers due to their heavy torso weight vs. leg length. Protect your Scottie from swimming pools and avoid the risk of drowning.
- Exercise Scotties on a lead or in a fenced area only. Scotties have a very strong chase instinct and may be lost if they are free to run.
- Maintain a flea-free environment to reduce skin problems due to flea allergy.

## Rescue

Rescue is one activity for which we wish there was no need. Many concerned Scottie owners help find homes for lost or abandoned pets. Sometimes owners who cannot keep their Scottie any longer contact a Scottie Rescue group and give the dog up for placement with a new family. It is the better alternative to a local shelter or humane society. Rescue information is available through the regional clubs, through local breeders, internet rescue lists, and on the STCA website at:

**[www.stca.biz](http://www.stca.biz)**

*Then, click on **Rescue***

## AKC'S Reunite (formerly CAR)

Protect your Scottie in case he is lost. Identify your Scottie with a collar and tags; of course, a permanent identification with a microchip and or tattoo from your veterinarian can be registered with AKC's Reunite. A 24-hour toll-free hotline helps locate the owners. There is a 100% re-homing rate with enrolled animals. For information call (800) 252-7894.

## Read More About Scotties

There are many good materials available from the Scottish Terrier Club of America. A good starter is the STCA information packet. Other materials for purchase on the STCA website at **[www.stca.biz](http://www.stca.biz)** include a grooming manual, handbooks, an illustrated explanation of the Scottish Terrier standard, and the award winning magazine, the *Bagpiper*, available by subscription. Look at the library or bookstore for *The Official Book of the Scottish Terrier*, Muriel Lee author, TFH Publications, 1994, and *The New Scottish Terrier*, Cindy Cooke author, Howell books, 1996. These two comprehensive editions cover all aspects.

***Scottish Terrier Club of America members are united in a common love of the Scottie.  
Please join us in encouraging responsible dog ownership.***

Sincerely,

STCA Corresponding Secretary

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**STCA Breeder Referral**

**Sonya Neve**

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Subscribe to the

***Bagpiper***

\$40 US Bulk Mail - 4 issues

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