

Congratulations on your new **Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier**

The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, Inc. (SCWTCA) is very pleased to welcome you to the wonderful world of Wheatens! SCWTCA is the national organization of Wheaten fanciers, founded on St. Patrick's Day in 1962. Its mission is to preserve and protect the breed and to help Wheaten owners in every way possible.

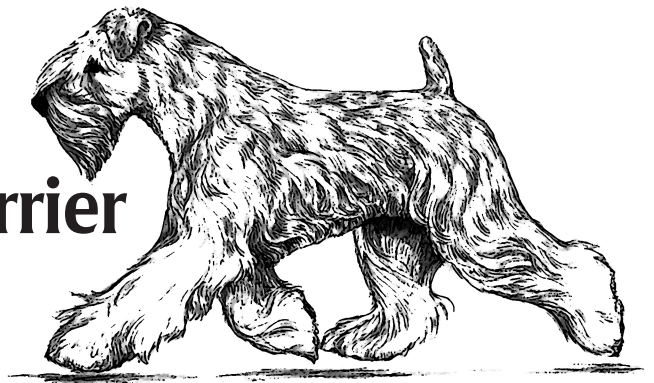
The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier is a medium sized terrier (when fully grown, 17-19 inches tall, weighing 30-40 pounds), originally bred by Irish cottagers as an all-purpose farm dog. The breed is distinguished by its soft, flowing, gently waving coat. Shedding is minimal. They do not have the dog odor common to some breeds, but they do require more than average brushing and combing to keep their coats free from mats. Adult Wheaten coloring varies from pale beige to shimmering gold.

In disposition, Wheatens are steady and fun loving. They are not yappy and tend to be less quarrelsome than other terriers but they are true terriers and will be more active than many other breeds. Wheatens are adaptable to city, country, and suburban life. Because a happy Wheaten jumps, giving the "Wheaten greetin'", they relate well to families with older children and usually make good watch dogs, barking to announce the arrival of strangers and exuberantly greeting whoever walks in.

This does not mean the Wheaten is everyone's perfect pet. The Wheaten is a lively, inquisitive, and clever dog. A fenced yard is recommended, and they love to go on walks, always on leash. A regular grooming schedule with brush and comb is essential to maintain a lovely coat in shining, mat free condition. While basically a healthy breed that lives to 14, 15 and even beyond, like most breeds there are some health issues; annual blood work and urinalysis are highly recommended. Details can be found on the website:

scwtca.org

Wheatens are a sensitive breed. Puppies must be carefully raised and socialized with gentle, but firm and consistent training. A Wheaten is also a house dog whose personality and



temperament require human companionship and a stable home environment. They don't do well if left alone for extended periods and do best when kept busy. With proper care, the well-bred Wheaten makes a strikingly handsome, loving, loyal, and intelligent companion. They make wonderful therapy dogs and enjoy a wide variety of activities such as conformation, obedience, agility, scent work, herding, flyball, and more. Wheatens respond well to positive training methods. No one should purchase a Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier who does not have the time to train intensively or to do the brushing and combing needed to keep the coat in proper condition.

Do consult with your breeder immediately if a problem arises. A reputable breeder should be your primary resource whenever you have a question. Also, seriously consider taking your pup to a Puppy Kindergarten Class. These are readily available in most communities. When your pup is older treat yourself and your dog to obedience school and perhaps even agility training. You won't regret it!

If you want to breed your Wheaten, you need to talk with your breeder and answer several questions first: Have you done all the health clearances and testing required? Is your puppy an excellent example of the breed, of sound health, and of good temperament to pass on to progeny? Can you afford the significant financial investment required to breed a litter? Do you have sufficient time each day to feed, groom, clean up after and socialize each individual pup? Are you prepared to pay for additional veterinary care? Do you have proper facilities for delivering, housing and exercising newborn pups until they are eight weeks or older? Are you prepared to take back a puppy that doesn't work out?

Equally important is the essential process of finding and educating families who will adopt the puppies. You want to make certain no puppy of yours ever ends up in a shelter! It is also important to maintain contact with your Wheaten's breeder over the years. Ask for advice about breeding and help finding a suitable mate. A responsible breeder will be very helpful. You might also want to refer to **www.scwtca.org/code.html** for Breeding Guidelines under SCWTCA's Code of Ethics.

For most pet owners who are not interested in breeding, spaying the female is preferred. Coming into heat twice

each year can be bothersome. Additionally, spaying will lessen the risk of mammary tumors and other reproductive diseases later in your dog's life. The male also benefits from being neutered. It diminishes possible aggression levels and calms his desire for nearby females in heat. Spayed and neutered animals may not compete in AKC Conformation classes but can still participate in Obedience, Agility, Tracking, Scent work, Field, and Hunt events.

Resources. . .

To help you learn more about our breed, SCWTCA offers breed specific publications available at nominal prices. All items can be ordered on the form below or on the SCWTCA webpage at:

www.scwtca.org/pubs.htm

Illustrated Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Breed Standard and Amplification The ultimate tool for understanding the breed. Beautiful illustrations and clear explanations demonstrate the ideal Wheaten as defined in the AKC Breed Standard. The essence of type is discussed along with size, proportion, substance, and all other aspects of the breed standard. You don't have to be a judge or a breeder to find this useful and informative. © 1992

The *Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Owner's Manual* contains everything you ever wanted to know about the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. A brief breed history starts out the manual, followed by chapters on temperament, and how to care for a puppy and an adult Wheaten. Information on routine maintenance and grooming takes up a large part of the manual. The *SCWTCA Code of Ethics* is also included. Revised 2015.

The *Grooming Chart* is a 23"x26" chart describing grooming for the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. Drawings of correct and incorrect grooming are displayed along with brief explanations of how to achieve the "Wheaten look." The grooming chart is ideal for placing on the wall in your grooming area for easy reference. Revised 2005.

Pet Grooming Pamphlet is a 5-page document that discusses and illustrates basic trim and grooming techniques for the companion dog with notes on show trimming a Wheaten. Routine care is also well documented in this pamphlet.

Benchmarks is the quarterly magazine of the SCWTCA. Available online at no cost:

www.scwtca.org/benchmarks/

Find a Trainer? If you need help finding a trainer in your area, try the Association of Pet Dog Trainers' search function at:

www.apdt.com



More Reading. . .

Other works recommended for increasing your knowledge of Wheatens and general puppy training:

Shoemaker, Marjorie C.

- *Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, A Complete and Reliable Handbook*

Vesley, Roberta

- *The Complete Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier*
- *The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Coat of Honey – Heart of Gold*

Additional recommended training books for puppies and adult dogs are listed online at:

scwtca.org/resources/



Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Materials Order Form

Description	Cost@	Check	Description	Cost@	Check
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