

Congratulations on your new German Pinscher!



The German Pinscher Club of America (GPCA) would like to help you welcome your new German Pinscher into your life by personally inviting you to join our club. Membership in the GPCA is a great way to learn more about the German Pinscher, to get to know other German Pinscher enthusiasts, and to help promote the future of the breed.

The GPCA has been an AKC National Parent Club since 2002 and an AKC Member Club since 2005.

New members receive a welcome packet full of information. All members also receive our official quarterly publication – *The Pinscher Press*.

The GPCA Awards Program recognizes the achievements of members and their dogs in all AKC events. New title certificates and special award plaques are presented each year at the National Specialty's Awards Banquet.

For information on joining the GPCA contact our Corresponding Secretary

membership@germanpinscher.org

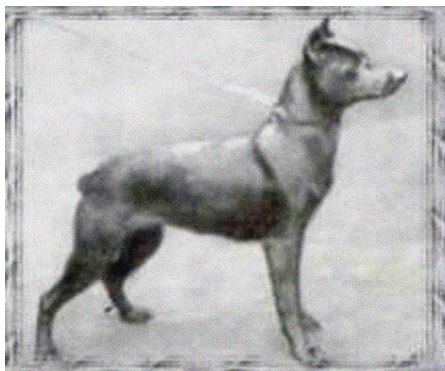
or visit our website

germanpinscher.org

The German Pinscher

Affectionately referred to as the GP, the German Pinscher is a medium-sized, short-coated dog, elegant in appearance with a strong square build and moderate body structure. It is muscular and powerful for endurance and agility. Energetic, watchful, alert, agile, fearless,

determined, intelligent and loyal, the GP has the prerequisites to be an excellent watchdog and companion.



A German Pinscher – 1912

Breed History

The German Pinscher originated in Germany and is included in the origins of the Doberman Pinscher, the Miniature Pinscher, Affenpinscher, Miniature Schnauzer and the Standard Schnauzer. The Wire Haired and Smooth Haired Pinschers, as the Standard Schnauzer and German Pinscher were originally called, were in dog books as early as 1884.



Following both World Wars, the breed was nearly lost. Werner Jung is credited with single-handedly saving the breed.

Temperament

German Pinschers have highly developed senses, intelligence, aptitude for training, fearlessness and endurance. They are alert, vigilant, deliberate and watchful of strangers. They have fearless courage and tenacity if threatened. They are vivacious but do not bark excessively. They should never show unwarranted aggression.

Health

Since today's German Pinscher has a relatively small gene pool, attention to potential health concerns is vital to

ensure healthy dogs for the future. The GPCA strongly encourages its breeders to health test their dogs before breeding, at minimum, with these core tests:

- Eye Exam – *for Hereditary Cataracts and other eye diseases*
- Hip Dysplasia
- von Willebrand Disease
- Cardiac Disease

For additional health information, view the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals website at

www.offa.org

Care and Training

Your German Pinscher should be taken to a veterinarian soon after you bring him home. In addition to providing immunizations and medical care for your GP, your vet can also be a source of information on the general care of your puppy throughout its life. This includes weight management, feeding, grooming, parasite control and microchipping.



As with all puppies and dogs, it is highly recommended that you teach your German Pinscher basic obedience skills such as sit, down, stay and come. Not only does training ensure the safety of your puppy but also helps him become a well-behaved member of your family. Training establishes you as the pack leader and will curtail behavior problems by setting up a line of communication between you and your puppy.

Many areas have local dog training clubs and schools dedicated to helping you train your new puppy. Puppy classes are a great way to socialize your puppy and expose them to new environments, situations and sounds. You can continue your puppy's education by enrolling in basic and advanced basic obedience classes.

It is best to crate train your German Pinscher puppy right from the start. Your puppy's crate will serve as a safe haven when he needs to be left alone. Crates make

housebreaking easier because it establishes a routine for your puppy. Crates are also a great way to safely transport your GP when riding in a car.



Exercise is vital to the health of your German Pinscher. Long walks or runs on a leash are optimal. Even when running in a fenced-in yard, your GP should be supervised since digging is a favorite pastime.

Showing Your German Pinscher

German Pinschers have proven themselves worthy in the conformation ring, as well as in agility, obedience, rally, tracking, scentwork, coursing aptitude and barnhunt.



The AKC's website (**www.akc.org**) is a great source of information on competing in the various dog sports with your German Pinscher.

Additional information relating to the German Pinscher can be found on the GPCA's website at

germanpinscher.org

