

# American Miniature Schnauzer Club

## *Congratulations!*

*You now have a new Miniature Schnauzer. The more you know about this wonderful breed, the more you will appreciate your dog and will be able to provide the care it needs.*



You have done your homework and decided on adding a miniature schnauzer to your family. Good for you! Miniature Schnauzers are sweet, smart, loving and loyal. Their signature eyebrows and beards give them a very distinct look. They are hardy little dogs, originally bred to be ratters and companions on German farms.

They make excellent companions because they are obedient and quick to learn, extremely devoted, very playful and very affectionate. Their alertness and sometimes vocal nature makes them an excellent watch/alert dog. They delight in chasing (and sometimes catching) small prey; therefore, a fenced yard or on-leash walks are recommended.

## **The Standard**

The Breed Standard calls for the Miniature Schnauzer to stand not more than 14 inches tall, or less than 12 inches, then measured at the withers. Their ears can either be cropped or uncropped.

There are three accepted coat colors, “Salt and Pepper” which is characterized by banded hair, and may be any shade of gray, “Solid Black,” and “Black and Silver.” The Black and Silver color pattern generally follows the same pattern as the Salt and Pepper; however the entire Salt and Pepper section must be black.

## **Characteristics**

They are much at home in the city with a moderate amount of exercise as in the country where they appears tireless. They adapt easily to any change of condition or climate. They need to be part of the family, going where they go, doing what they do. The Miniature Schnauzer does not shed, so they can often be enjoyed by those who are allergic to other breeds of dogs. In return, you must keep them groomed to maintain their handsome appearance.

## **Diet and Vet Care**

It is best to feed your Miniature Schnauzer high quality, lower fat dog food. While an occasional healthy table scrap is fine, high quality dog foods are designed to give the best nutrition and to help your dog live a long and healthy life. Your new Miniature Schnauzer should have had the best in a well-balanced diet, proper

medical attention, exercise, and immunizations while with his breeder. This should have included an eye examination by a veterinary ophthalmologist.

## **Spaying and Neutering**

More and more studies are indicating that spaying or neutering your pets at a later age helps prevent certain health problems later in the dog's life. Hormones are important for proper development. Talk to your breeder and vet about their recommendations on the appropriate age to spay or neuter your pet.

## **Breeding**

Please understand that the American Kennel Club registration is not an indication of a Miniature Schnauzer's breeding quality or health background.

Before you consider breeding a litter, compare your Miniature Schnauzer to the official standard, and learn about what its structure, size, color, and temperament should be.

Health issues are important too, and responsible breeders work to avoid inherited conditions. Visit us at

**[www.amsc.us](http://www.amsc.us)**

A variety of subjects are listed for education about the breed. See the back page for additional resources.

## **American Miniature Schnauzer Club (AMSC)**

The American Miniature Schnauzer Club (AMSC) has more than 500 members from all walks of life. Our bond is a love for the Miniature Schnauzer. The club has three national specialty shows per year—one in the Spring in a different location each year, one in June in Southern CA, and one in October in the Philadelphia, PA area.

If you live near a regional Miniature Schnauzer club, you are in luck. Visit a meeting to meet other Miniature Schnauzer fanciers. Regional club contact information is listed on the club website.

However, most Miniature Schnauzer owners live far away from a regional club. Should that be your case, ask the national club for individual contacts in your



area. You will discover that AMSC members love to “talk Miniature Schnauzers” are very willing to answer questions about the breed.

## Rescue

You can help! Volunteer at an animal shelter, be a temporary foster home, or donate money to your local or regional shelters or rescues. Many regional Miniature Schnauzer clubs have rescue programs, as well as private rescue groups in some areas. The AMSC has a national rescue coordinator who can be reached at

[rescue@amsc.us](mailto:rescue@amsc.us)

## AKC Reunite Canine Support and Relief Fund

An important initiative, of which all dog owners should be aware, is the AKC Reunite Canine Support and Relief Fund. It has been established as a permanent charitable fund with assistance to:

1. *Not-for-profit Search and Rescue* animals and handlers participating in rescue and recovery efforts in connection with natural or civil disasters.
2. The *not-for-profit veterinary units* providing support to the canine rescue teams.
3. *Not-for-profit animal shelters* and similar not-for-profit organizations providing care for domestic animals orphaned or displaced as a result of natural or civil disasters.

## AKC Reunite Can Help Protect Your Miniature Schnauzer

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

Microchipping a dog is relatively painless and inexpensive. Other national registries offer similar recovery services.

They include:

- National Dog Registry: (800) 637-3647
- Microchip ID Systems: (800) 434-2843

## Training

Miniature Schnauzers are easily trained. Taking your new dog to puppy kindergarten and beginning obedience classes will help make him a better pet. You could also use this training to show your Miniature Schnauzer in obedience, rally, earthdog, barnhunt or agility at AKC events.

## Education

Many educational materials are available from the American Miniature Schnauzer Club. These AMSC publications include handbooks, grooming guides, an illustrated version of the Miniature Schnauzer Standard, and a breed standard CD.

To order the Miniature Schnauzer Grooming Chart, the Illustrated Discussion of the Miniature Schnauzer Standard and the breed standard CD, please contact:

[publications@amsc.us](mailto:publications@amsc.us)

or order from the AMSC store:

[www.amsc.us/amsc-store/](http://www.amsc.us/amsc-store/)

## Additional Reading

Additional good Miniature Schnauzer reading can be found in books like:

- Dan Kiedrowski's, *The New Miniature Schnauzer*
- A.K. Nicholas', *The Complete Miniature Schnauzer*
- Dan Kiedrowski's, *From Ruffy to Rep*

## For more Miniature Schnauzer Information, contact

AMSC Public Awareness Committee  
[information@amsc.us](mailto:information@amsc.us)

AMSC Secretary  
[secretary@amsc.us](mailto:secretary@amsc.us)

American Miniature Schnauzer Club members are united in a common love of the Miniature Schnauzer. Please join us in encouraging responsible dog ownership.

***Our website is loaded with tons of great information!!!***

**Visit us at**

**[www.amsc.us](http://www.amsc.us)**

