

## About The Breed



The English Springer-Spaniel is a dog for all seasons, an endearing energetic companion for the owner who is willing to give it the time that it deserves. Highly thought of by the police as sniffer dogs, well known in the field trial world for their tireless enthusiasm, many a rough shooting man's friend, a joy to behold when moving round the show ring in their own distinctive style, a wonderful family pet and a good companion for young and old alike.

Do not run away with the idea though that the breed is a paragon of virtue, the breed standard states "Symmetrically built, compact, strong, merry, active. He is the highest on the leg and raciest in build of all British land Spaniels". Strong, merry and active are three important words here and it should be remembered that this is a breed that was developed to work, therefore Springer's benefit from being trained, be it for a formal discipline or merely to take its place in the family home.

All puppies need time and patience and Springer's need as much as any other, perhaps a little more than some of the less energetic breeds, but they will reward you with love and devotion, not to mention a great deal of fun, if you give them the right grounding. They are equally well suited to living in the town or country providing that you have a well fenced garden and once they are grown, the time to exercise them both in body and mind. As with any other breed of dog English Springer Spaniels are not recommended to anyone who is planning to be out all day leaving the dog on its own; dogs are pack animals and therefore do not take kindly to solitary confinement.

Do remember that English Springer Spaniels vary considerably in size and appearance, dependant on the purpose for which they are bred. It is important, therefore, that you decide what you personally require from your English Springer-Spaniel and then purchase a puppy from a reputable breeder, whose dogs fit those needs as closely as possible. Details of puppies available (Show and Working type) can be obtained from the English Springer Spaniel Club..

As with any other breed there are a few [hereditary problems](#) which you should be aware of prior to purchasing a puppy. It should be quite easy to find a reputable breeder who will be only too happy to discuss these with you and whose stock has been tested for them.

The English Springer Spaniel is registered with The Kennel Club as being one of the 'Top Ten' most popular dogs in the world. It is a medium sized dog of moderate substance. He is loyal, relatively docile, but always willing to do anything asked of him. In general, he is of equitable temperament, with a willing heart, warm dark and appealing eyes and ever wagging tail. He can mean all things to all people from whatever walk of life they might come. His ability to work as a Gundog in the Field has always made the Breed appealing to the shooting fraternity, but he is equally as popular as a rough shooting companion or with his energetic and endearing personality, as a household pet, where his happy and very biddable temperament lends itself well to family life. For the most part, his main aim in life is to please, adoring as he does the company of both humans and other animals with whom he may work or live.

As the oldest of the sporting gundogs, the English Springer-Spaniel has long been admired by the sporting fraternity for his use to flush and retrieve game. He is a first class worker, combining agility and versatility to act on all types of land and in all weathers, with his excellent sense of smell, loyalty, balance, easiness of learning and permanent willingness to work in the field to the instructions of his owner.

Over the centuries the Breed has evolved so that it can now fit into any role chosen for it that suits its personality, however, as we mentioned earlier this also means that the [breed falls into two distinct types](#) of English Springer Spaniel i.e. the 'working type' and the 'show type' - both types make equally good family pets and are equally well suited to living in the town or the country, as long as there is a well fenced garden and they are regularly exercised.

- The 'show type' English Springer Spaniel (*head shown at the back in image below*) is a little larger than the 'working type' and with more substance to its make-up i.e. bone and body - conforming more towards the description in the Kennel Club Breed Standard. His popularity as a show specimen can be seen by the success of the Breed with several English Springer Spaniels having been winning for many years in top competition both in the UK, Europe, the USA and Australia.
- The 'working type' English Springer Spaniel appears smaller in size, has a high ear carriage with the length of ear appearing shorter than the 'show type' ESS, and is usually of a lighter overall substance showing its suitability for the agility and

versatility required as a s a working gundog. English bloodlines from top 'show' and 'working' kennels having been exported for many years all over the world.

- Both types of English Springer have the same coat coloring i.e. [liver and white, black and white or either of these colors with tan markings.](#)
- Average life expectancy of the English Springer-Spaniel is 12 - 14 years.

The Breed's versatility can be seen in many walks of life, other than the ones for which he was originally bred. He is the popular choice of the Emergency Services, Customs & Excise and Armed Forces for enhancing all aspects their work.