

Ready to find your
perfect match?



From figuring out if a Frenchie is more likely to be a fling or a forever kind of love to deciding if a Great Dane will break your stuff... and your heart, these pooch profiles will help you explore the pros and cons of puppy-parenting and help you find the One.

◀ Start swiping! ▶

\$17.99 U.S.

ISBN-13: 978-1-4236-6354-6

5 1799

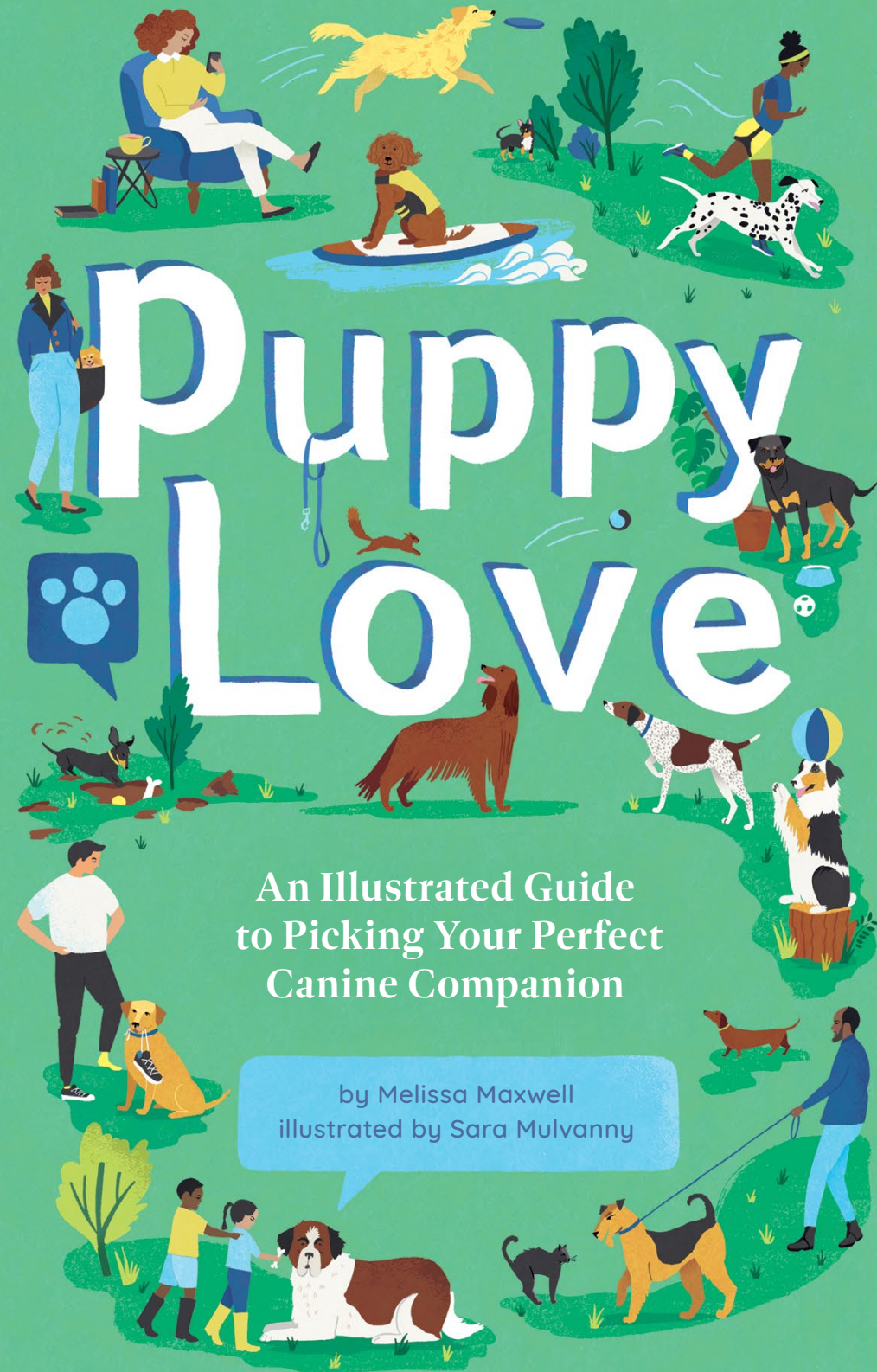


9 781423 663546



PUPPY LOVE

Maxwell / Mulvanny



An Illustrated Guide
to Picking Your Perfect
Canine Companion

by Melissa Maxwell
illustrated by Sara Mulvanny

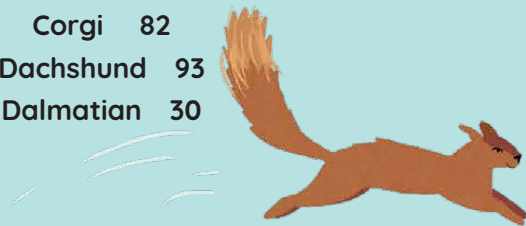
Contents

Looking for Love? 6

- Are You Ready to Put Yourself Out There? 8
 - Where to Meet Cute Singles 10
 - Setting Your Age Range 12
 - The Doggy Dating Scene 14
 - The Cohabitation Starter Pack 15

Start Swiping 17

- The Bare Bones 19
- Airedale Terrier 77
- American Pit Bull Terrier 34
- Australian Shepherd 46
- Basset Hound 26
- Beagle 73
- Bernese Mountain Dog 42
- Boston Terrier 29
- Boxer 81
- Brussels Griffon 21
- Bull Terrier 90
- Cavalier King Charles Spaniel 66
- Chihuahua 74
- Chow Chow 58
- Cocker Spaniel 57
- Corgi 82
- Dachshund 93
- Dalmatian 30



- Doberman Pinscher 97
- English Bulldog 37
- French Bulldog 45
- German Shepherd 54
- German Shorthaired Pointer 65
- Golden Retriever 70
- Great Dane 78
- Greyhound 50
- Irish Setter 25
- Komondor 94
- Labradoodle 53
- Labrador Retriever 22
- Miniature Schnauzer 98
- Old English Sheepdog 86
- Pomeranian 38
- Pug 61
- Rottweiler 33
- Saint Bernard 101
- Samoyed 49
- Shar-Pei 41
- Shiba Inu 69
- Shih Tzu 85
- Siberian Husky 62
- Standard Poodle 89
- Yorkshire Terrier 102

Pawfect Match Quiz 104

Quick Rufference Guide 108

Looking for Love?

...

Looking for love can be hard.

Sometimes it feels like all the good ones are taken, and you start to wonder if you'll ever find the One. And then, when you do catch feelings, how do you make it last? What if they don't get along with your family and friends? What if they're jealous and possessive? What if they drink from the toilet bowl, chew up your favorite shoes, and eat their own vomit?

Oh, did you think we were talking about humans? Then you're barking up the wrong tree. This book is all about making a meaningful match with an un-fur-gettable pooch. Being single doesn't have to be ruff. There are a lot of good boys and girls in this great big dog park we call life! Whether you're looking for pointers on Pointers (page 65) or the inside scoop on amount of poop you'll have to scoop, this book has you covered. You'll find where to meet the love of your life, tips for keeping a healthy relationship, and how to avoid furry fails. There are also 42 profiles of some of the most popular breeds to give you a glimpse of what's out there.

When it comes to puppy love, anything is paws-ible!

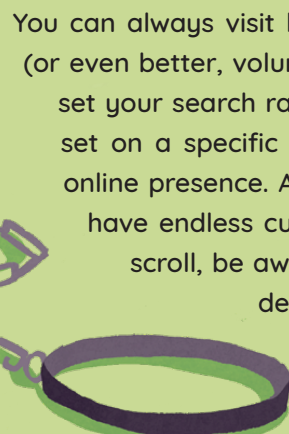


Where to Meet Cute Singles

Once you know what you're looking for and the doggy deal breakers you're not, it's time to start your search. Nowadays, you have many options for finding Fido, but here are some of the hottest spots to spot a Spot.

SHELTERS & RESCUES

The best way to ensure you're getting your permanent plus-one from a trusted source is to find an animal shelter or animal rescue. Most cities, towns, and counties have a shelter or humane society that takes in stray doggos and pooches who have been relinquished by their erstwhile owners. The folks who devote their time to rescues are dedicated and passionate matchmakers, and they usually have a more rigorous screening process than the other places on this list.



You can always visit local rescues and shelters in person (or even better, volunteer at one!), but if you're willing to set your search radius wider or if you have your heart set on a specific breed, many places have an active online presence. Animal shelter social media accounts have endless cute pics of unhousted hounds. As you scroll, be aware that the heart-wrenching stories designed to make you fill out an adoption application can trigger a tear or two. (Cue Sarah McLachlan singing "In the arms of the angel . . .")

BREEDERS

Widespread spay and neuter policies have reduced the number of unwanted litters, which means many areas have too few dogs for the adoption market demand. If you find yourself in this position, you may choose to purchase a dog.

Pet stores typically rely on mass breeding facilities known as puppy mills, which are crowded and unsanitary, and they don't screen for health issues. So if you decide to buy a dog, skip the pet stores and find an ethical breeder. Some breeders have only a few dogs that produce a small number of litters every year, and they make the best efforts to ensure the pups are happy and healthy. Choosing the right breeder is all about doing your due doggy diligence because there isn't a perfect directory that lets you easily find a reputable source. Signs of a responsible breeder include years of experience and willingness to bring the receipts. The documents you should expect from a legit breeder include a contract for sale, a registration certificate, an ID tag, a full medical history, including vaccination certificates, and breeding records. When you visit the facility in person, it's a good sign if the mother is present and interacting with her babies. Don't settle for less before you settle down.

FOSTERING

If you're not ready for a long-term commitment but want to dip your toes in the water bowl, fostering is a great way to care for a dog for a few days, weeks, or months. Many shelters at full capacity rely on foster parents to provide temporary homes. Fostering doesn't have to be a one-night stand, either. Fostering to adopt is a common way for people to test out compatibility before they say "I do" and their dog says "I awooooooooo."

Setting Your Age Range

Do you like 'em young, or do you want a silver fox-(hound)? Although age is just a number, it can make all the difference—especially when those numbers are multiplied in dog years! When you're looking for a canine companion, think about what stage they're at in life—and what stage you're at, too. Keeping these things in mind can help keep both of you happy for years to come.

PUPPIES

Oh so cute, but oh so much work—and money! The first years of a dog's life are a critical time in their development, so you'll need the best quality food you can afford to ensure your little one grows healthy and strong. The American Kennel Club suggests that puppies get at least three square meals a day. Try to fight the urge to feed them table scraps. Begging for food is a hard habit to break!

When it comes to accessories, an adjustable collar and leash are best because pups grow fast. A heating pad that is pet safe is a comforting accessory that can mimic the warmth and closeness of littermates. Finally, one of the most important things you'll need is a training plan. It takes a lot of time and specific gear to housebreak a puppy. You may want to find a trainer or attend a class to show you the ropes.

ADULTS

If you'd like to bypass the puppy stage, consider looking for a partner with a bit more life experience. While that uncontrollable

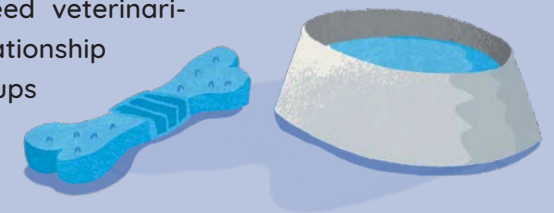
puppy energy may wear off after a year or two, moving into a new home can still be stressful for a more mature mutt and cause them to act out. Even if you rescue an adult from an undesirable environment, that setting was filled with familiar sights and smells. Make them feel safe and secure as they transition into their new life by establishing a routine.

It also helps to designate a small, controlled area in the beginning. Pet gates, pens, or crates can create a safe haven during the adjustment period. The best mindset for dealing with an adult rescue is to treat them like a puppy. Assume they haven't been trained and be ready to deal with cheeky behavior or naughty habits they may have picked up.

SENIORS

Everyone deserves to be loved, no matter their age or background. This is especially true for older pooches and great-great-granddogs. The plus side is that you *can* teach an old dog new tricks. It may even be easier than with a puppy because they're much more chill and have a better attention span.

Senior pet care is all about focusing on health and mobility. Hardwood floors and tiles can be slippery for seniors, so covering these areas with rugs or mats is helpful. Depending on the dog, your home or car may need pet steps, ramps, lifting harnesses, and extra dog blankets to keep Really Old Yeller as comfy as possible. Just like humans, joint pain and weakened muscles are a reality of old age for graying greyhounds, aging affenpinschers, and every other oldie. Some dogs may need special food, supplements, and multivitamins. Veterans need veterinarians, so establish a good relationship with a vet. Regular checkups will ensure happiness in their twilight years.



Dalmatian

101 REASONS TO LOVE



MEDIUM



11 TO 13
YEARS



MEDIUM



HIGH



3 / 5

I attract a lot of attention when I'm strutting my stuff, so get used to being in the *spotlight* when I'm by your side. You'll also have to get used to keeping up with me when I'm by your side. I have a LOT of energy I need to burn, and there's nothing I love more than running, roaming, and staying active.

A trait I inherited

I have an outgoing personality and I'm friendly, but I can be wary—and even a little aggressive—toward strangers. My kind were bred as guard dogs back in the day, and I still embody the protective tendencies of my ancestors unless I'm socialized to new people and places from a very young age.

How to keep the spark alive

When you've been with someone for a long time, it can be difficult to keep things exciting. Because I have so much energy, I get bored really easily. I'll need lots of toys, lots of space, and lots of attention to keep me stimulated and prevent me from getting destructive.

We probably won't get along if

You're a homebody. If we're not moving, we're not living!





French Bulldog

NETFLIX & NUZZLES



SMALL



10 TO 12
YEARS



LOW



LOW



5 / 5

Bonjour! I'm a bite-sized bulldog with a smiley smush face. I'd be the pawfect pal for a city dweller who wants a cuddle buddy. Small apartments are my kind of home. (A big doghouse? In this economy?) Plus, I rarely bark, so you'll never have to deal with passive-aggressive noise complaints from the grumpy guy who lives down the hall.

My ideal first date

A very leisurely walk around the block. Do you only have the time and energy for short walks? Me too! My little legs and flat face make me run out of breath easily, so I prefer casual strolls around the neighborhood over high-octane physical activities.

You'll have to get used to

Blaming the dog. Frenchies are flatulent and we toot all day long. If the foul stench of frequent farting is a deal breaker, I might not be the pooch for you.

My attachment style

Although I'm easygoing, I get really attached to my family, so I can get pretty anxious if you leave me alone for too long.

Golden Retriever

EAGER 2 PLEASE



LARGE



10 TO 12
YEARS



HIGH



HIGH



5 / 5

Hello! Hi! Hiiiiiiiiiiii!!!! I'm REALLY EXCITED to meet you! And your family! Can I please meet your family? For real though, I know it's not cool to have no chill, so beneath my big, bro-y personality, you'll find a quiet, cuddle-loving pup who's up for anything and easy to train.

Three words to describe me

DTF: Down to Fetch. I'm a retriever after all!

Never have I ever

Met someone I didn't like. I'm a people-pleasing pup who gets along with everyone! I'm especially great with kids because I'm just a big kid myself—my sweet, silly puppy energy stays with me into my adult years.

My karaoke song

"You've Got a Friend in Me"

You should not message me if

You've got a super sensitive sniffer. I have a very distinct doggy odor, and you'll need a high tolerance for *eau de retriever* if we're going to be spending all our time together.



Great Dane

GENTLE GIANT



EXTRA-
LARGE



7 TO 10
YEARS



MEDIUM



MEDIUM



4 / 5

It seems like everyone is lying about their height on their profile. But believe me, there's no *dogfishing* going on here. When I stand on my hind legs, I'm taller than most people. But there's so much more to me than that. I'm a gentle, patient, affectionate creature who is easygoing and mild-mannered.

I have a reputation for

Being a homewrecker. No, I'm not here to break up your marriage. But I might break your wedding china.

When I lumber through your home, things will get knocked off tables and shelves. Despite this, I'm perfectly comfortable in small homes and apartments.

You just need to make sure I have enough space to move around without damaging your stuff.

I'm all about

That bass. My voice is so deep that you could call me a subwoofer. Some people get intimidated when I hit those low notes, but my bark is much worse than my bite. In fact, I don't even have a bite to speak of—I'm not naturally aggressive, and I can even be a little shy.

My favorite TV show is

Scooby-Doo. A talking Great Dane who solves mysteries? Name a more beautiful work of staggering genius. I'll wait.

