



Labrador Retriever a Perfect Apartment Dog: A Review

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ABSTRACT

Dogs are considered to be the most loyal companion of Mankind since ages. They are considered to be the decedents of wolfs. They hold their decent from antient extinct species of wolfs and recently available grey wolfs. Owing to its loyalty and affectionate nature they are the first domesticated animal in man's world for 15000 years ago. Firstly, they were used by hunters during the time of hunting and were used as to gather the hunts, as in those days' agriculture was not in practice. This long relationship between human and dogs made them quite loyal and adaptable to human needs. They can eat anything which a man can provide to them and happily accommodates with Human. There are large number of dogs breed which is available in various countries having their own individual traits. They vary in their shape, size, colours, behaviour and their sensory capabilities. Some of dogs are calm and some are aggressive in nature, due to which their utility changes, as they perform many roles for mankind, such as hunting, herding, pulling loads, protection, assisting police and the military, companionship, therapy and aiding disabled people. This relationship with mankind has earned them a title "Man's best friend". There are many popular dog breeds in India such as 1) Beagles 2) German Shepherd 3) Great Dane, 4) Labrador Retriever, 5) Boxer, 6) Rottweiler, 7) Pug, 8) Golden Retriever, 9) Cocker Spaniel 10) Dachshund etc.

Key words: Adaptable, Affectionate, Breed, Dog, Labrador.

Labrador Retriever is one of the most popular Dog breeds in most of the countries in the world (John. 1896), perhaps it's the favourite pooch of America. They are also known as apartment dogs due to their adaptability to all conditions (Fédération Cynologique Internationale 2020). Their friendly and affectionate nature makes them the most loved dogs above all, children of all ages simply love them as they are playful and non-aggressive in nature. They have some behavioural issues too and sometimes can create problems in house, destroying home articles, artifacts etc. They can adapt to all food conditions whether home food or dog food available in the market, but still loves to eat meat and chicken. They are intelligent, easy to train and an excellent family companion and needs to be taken for walk or exercise on daily basis as they tend to develop obesity rapidly [Hibert (1903); Hawker (1846)].

Labradors as a breed are curious and exploratory and love company, following both people and interesting scents for food, attention and novelty value. It is a medium and large size dog which fisher men in Canada uses to catch fish. Recognizing their skills, utility and their versatile nature, English people brought them to their country. Hence, we can say that Labrador are the developed Canadian breed dog by English people. It is a strong and well-built dog and its height while standing is 21.5 to 24.5 inches and its weight is between 29 to 36 kg. They have a beautiful blend of colours which comes in yellow, black and a luscious

chocolate. The head is broad as compared to any other dog breed, the eyes reflecting affection and have beautiful tale [Hawker (1846); American Kennel Club (1994)].

In 1880 the duke of Buccleuch and Earl home collaborated to develop and establish the Labrador Retriever breed. The dogs Buccleuch Avon and Buccleuch, were mated with female dogs carrying blood from those which are brought by 5th Duke and the 10th Earl of home. The outcome of it are the ancestors of modern Labradors, [American Kennel Club (1994); The Kennel Club (2011)].

Labrador have a tendency of losing hairs biannually and it varies dog to dog, many of them loose regularly throughout the year, frequency of hair loss among all the Labrador breed varies as per the climatic change. Their hairs are normally short and straight and the tail is quite broad and strong. They possess excellent skill in swimming due to their webbed toes. The webbing between their toes can also serve as a snowshoe in winter season. It keeps snow from balling up between their toes, a condition that can be painful to other breeds with hair between toes. The interwoven coat is also relatively waterproof, providing more assistance for swimming.

Temperament

The Labrador temperament can be explained as kind, pleasant, outgoing and tractable nature, (The American Kennel Club, 2014). Labrador sense of smell allows them

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to home in on almost any scent and follow the path of its origin. They generally stay on the scent until they find it. Military, Navy and Police forces use them as sniffer dogs to track down thieves, terrorist, gangster and smugglers (The American Kennel Club, 2014). They are known to have a very soft feel to the mouth as a result of being bred to retrieve game such as waterfowl (The American Kennel Club, 2014). They have a habit of chewing objects (though they can be trained to abandon this behaviour). Their fun-loving boisterousness and lack of fear may require training and intelligent handling at times to ensure it does not get out of hand, an uncontrolled adult can be quite problematic (The American Kennel Club, 2014). Female dogs could be slightly more independent than dogs. Labrador matures at around three years of age, before this time they have a puppy like energy, often classified as being hyperactive. Because of their enthusiasm they are allowed to play with balls.



Breed	Labrador
Common names	Lab
Country	United Kingdom and Canada
Foundation stock	St Johns water dog
Height	Dogs 57-58 cm Females 55-57 cm
Coat	Short, dense, weather resistant double coat.
Colour	Black, chocolate, yellow
Life span	10-12 years
Weight: Male	29-36 kg
Female	25-32 kg

CONCLUSION

They are loyal protective, good with other dogs, and love children of all ages. They love to play and run, as they are very affectionate dogs, whether you choose yellow, chocolate or black, male or female. Due to their affectionate nature and loving attitude, they make best apartment dogs. Though it is considered to be Americans most loved pooch, but perhaps it is very popular worldwide.

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