

Congratulations!



The addition of a Westie to your household will prove to be full of fun and surprises. Your new puppy's ancestors came from the highlands of Scotland where they were hunters. "Possessed of no small amount of self-esteem" is a good description of the terrier personality that will now be part of your home. We hope that the information provided in this brochure will be helpful. Answers to some of the most asked questions are included here and if there's something more that you need, there are additional sources for more specifics. We are here to help.

Enjoy!

*Officers, Directors and Members,
West Highland White Terrier Club of America*

What do I need to know about taking care of my Westie?

By registering your pup with the American Kennel Club (AKC), you have taken the first step in protecting the interests of the newest member of your family. You, your family, and your newest canine addition will have a lot to learn about each other.

One of the best resources to help you insure a happy and healthy pet is your local veterinarian. Choose one that has some knowledge of West Highland White Terriers. You can ask your breeder for a recommendation or check with your local kennel club or Westie club. Annual check-ups, routine vaccinations including rabies shots and tooth care are very important.

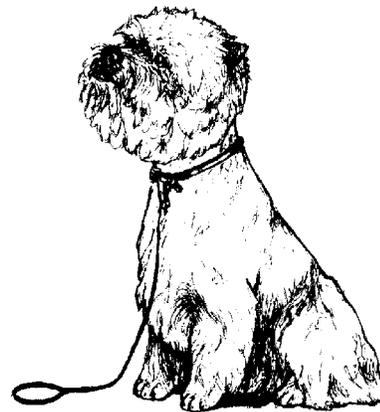
Westies thrive on a high quality food with lots of fatty acids to keep their dry coat and skin at their best. Your breeder will be able to give you tips on feeding. Some of the books listed elsewhere in this pamphlet can give you helpful suggestions as well. Diet is very important in skin and coat care.



How can I keep my Westie's coat looking good?

Westies have a stiff, dry coat. To keep it looking its best, regular grooming is a must. Stripping (or plucking) the old, dead hair is the traditional way of taking care of the terrier coat and is the grooming method that must be used if you're interested in showing your dog. Pet owners often have their dog's coats clipped for neatness. There are books, video tapes and lots of people that will help you learn if

you are interested in grooming your dog yourself. Most people find a professional groomer that will help keep that beautiful Westie look. Usually, a visit to the groomer every 4 to 6 weeks will work just fine. Daily brushing and combing is important. Remember, because Westies have such a dry coat, bathing too often can be more harmful than helpful. Once a month bathing with a non-detergent shampoo will be fine.



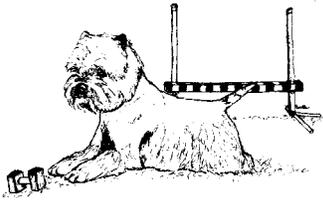
How can I become a more responsible Westie owner?

Although Westies are small, they still have a BIG desire to chase birds, rabbits, and even cats. Be sure that you have a sturdy leash and collar for your dog and a fenced area for play. Remember digging after all those varmints is just as much fun as chasing them so be sure your area is "dig proof." Never let your dog roam. Our Westies are small and quick and cars are lethal!

Inside your dog needs a safe haven. A crate, pen or small room works great, but remember a bored Westie can be destructive. Introduce a crate and exercise pen at an early age, and they can be a place of comfort and safety at home or while traveling.

Spending time now to socialize and train your young puppy will reap huge rewards later. Not only is a trained dog a happy dog, but you will form a close bond with your dog that will last a lifetime. Local all-breed kennel clubs, obedience training clubs, or your local Westie club can help with recommendations on training classes in your area.

Please identify your puppy with a safe form of identification such as a rolled leather collar and name tag. (Never leave a choke chain or slip collar on a puppy that is left alone.) Ask your vet about tattoos or one of the new high-tech microchip implants that are now available.



Westie Foundation of America, Inc.

This non-profit charitable corporation provides financial aid and other support towards medical research in order to benefit the health and quality of life of the Westie. For more information, write Westie Foundation of America, 33101 44th Avenue NW, Stanwood, WA 98292 or visit their home page: www.westiefoundation.org

Should I neuter my Westie or plan to breed?

Breeding a litter of puppies is a serious endeavor and should not be a casual undertaking. Every living creature deserves a good home. It is an important obligation that a breeder carefully place each dog in a responsible and loving home.

Learn all you can about Westies before breeding your dog. Responsible breeders give lots of thought and consideration to their breeding programs. They address health issues, genetic concerns, temperament, soundness and appearance before breeding dogs. More information is available from the West Highland White Terrier Club of America Health Committee. Contact the Club Secretary or Home Page for further information.

Spayed females are often healthier and live longer than unspayed females. Neutered males cannot develop testicular cancer and have a lower risk of developing prostate cancer. They are often less aggressive and more tolerant toward other males. Breast and uterine cancer are avoided in females. Also, if you would like to do more with your dog, neutering will not exclude a dog from many AKC events such as obedience, earthdog and agility trials.

If you are serious about becoming an educated breeder, there are many Westie owners that have taken this route and had a lot of fun producing and exhibiting top quality Westies. There are many people that will be ready to help you learn. Your breeder, local Westies clubs, or the WHWTCA are all good resources to help get you started.

You will find many rewards from breeding Westies, but don't expect to make money. Medical care, food, stud fees, and all the other expenses easily outpace the revenue generated from that average litter of two, three or four pups.

What is the West Highland White Terrier Club of America (WHWTCA) and what does it do?

This national club is made up of Westie fanciers from all over the country and has the responsibility of setting the standard that defines a Westie. All dog show judges use this guideline as a standard of excellence in order to evaluate each Westie. (You might want to see how your dog measures up.) You can get a copy of this standard from the WHWTCA secretary listed below.

Additionally, the Club sponsors shows and seminars, supports research and helps new Westie owners, like you, learn more about the unique ways of the Westie. A good resource that you might want to order is the magazine published by the WHWTCA, *The Westie Imprint*. It is printed quarterly and can be ordered from the Corresponding Secretary. Specific information about ordering is also listed below.

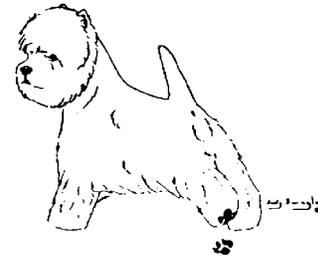
**For more information about
The West Highland White Terrier Club
of America:**

**Corresponding Secretary
Club & Membership Information:**

Nancy A. Staab
824 Hudson Street
Saint Albans, WV 25177
gaelforce@att.net

or Visit our Home Page

<http://www.westieclubamerica.com>



How can I learn more about Westies?

The WHWT Club of America publishes a quarterly magazine, *The Westie Imprint*. Subscriptions are \$35.00 per year and individual copies are also available for \$7.00.

Besides the national club there are regional clubs around the country that can offer many services including training, grooming and breeding help. To get a list of regional club secretaries write to the Corresponding Secretary, WHWTCA.

Books about Westies:

Faherty, Ruth. *Westies from Head to Tail*, 2nd Edition. 2000. Alpine Publications, P.O. Box 7027, Loveland, CO 80537. 800-777-7257.

Gentry, Daphne. *The New West Highland White Terrier*. 1998. Howell Book House, New York.

Martin, Dawn. *A New Owner's Guide to West Highland White Terriers*. 1996. T.F.H. Publications, Neptune City, New Jersey.

Marvin, John I. *The Complete West Highland White Terrier*. Fourth Edition. Howell Book House, New York.

Nicholas, Anna Katherine. *The Book of the West Highland White Terrier*. 1993. T.F.H. Publications, 1 T.F.H. Plaza, 3rd & Union Ave's, Neptune City, NJ 08075. 800-631-2188.

Weil, Marvin. *West Highland White Terriers*. 1983. T.F.H. Publications, 1 T.F.H. Plaza, 3rd & Union Ave's, Neptune City, NJ 08075. 800-631-2188.

Weiss, Seymour. *The West Highland White Terrier: An Owner's Guide to a Happy Healthy Pet*. 1996. Hungry Minds, Inc.

Wright, Roger. *West Highland White Terriers*. 1992. The Crowood Press, Ramsbury, England.

