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The Boston Terrier -- A True American Gentleman

By Blake Kritzberg

The Boston terrier, one of the few breeds that can claim to be truly American, is a lively, curious and smart companion that's always ready to play. At one time, Boston terriers were actually the most popular breed in the US. Today, they're still a clear favorite among the thousands of dog lovers who want a medium-sized, intelligent pet.

Because of its Bull terrier or Bulldog background, the Boston (classed with the non-sporting breeds by the AKC) is alert and keen to learn new tricks and jobs. Bostons like children and will play games with them for hours on end. A well-bred Boston isn't vicious, but pretty able to take care of himself. Boston fanciers like to call this breed the "American Gentleman," obviously because of his formal, tux-like markings, but also because his personality is gentlemanly and even as well. The Boston's friendliness, alertness and courage make him an ideal pet and companion dog. Always alert, he'll also let you know of any strange sounds in the night.

For many families, the Boston terrier is a terrific choice not only because of his compact size and pleasant temperament, but because of his low-maintenance coat. Smooth and short-coated, the Boston goes easy on your carpets and furniture and does well in smaller spaces. It's good to remember, though, that Bostons don't take well to extremes in temperature. They're inside dogs, as their coat affords little protection. On cold days, you may want to get out some warm booties or a coat for your Boston.

A well-bred Boston terrier will look like the active, intelligent, short-headed and short-tailed dog that he is. The ones that conform to type will have symmetrical white markings, ideally against a brindle color. Black with white markings are also conforming, although brindle is preferred.

Bostons come in a variety of sizes. Naturally, some owners prefer the small ones, while others like a more romping, substantial-sized dog. Either one will make a great pet with very little grooming required, all of which can be done at home. If you think you want a Boston but aren't quite ready to make the commitment, you can get a hilarious Boston Terrier screensaver from Warner Brother's Must Love Dogs, here:

<http://www2.warnerbros.com/mustlovedogs/downloads.html>

Blake Kritzberg is proprietor of Poodle-oo, your source for dog clothes. Stop by for small dog couture and home decor, designer dog collars and luxury dog beds.

<http://www.poodle-oo.com>

The Costs Of Owning A Boston Terrier

By Abhik Sarkar

The Costs Of Owning A Boston Terrier by Abhik Sarkar

Having a dog is a little like having a baby. Before you rush out to the nearest breeder or shelter you must consider the costs of ensuring that your new pet remains contented and happy with his home life.

Cost not only refers to finances but to your time as well. You should remember that Boston Terriers are animals that thrive on attention and need regular exercise. If your plan is to tie your dog up outside and only go out to give him food and water, then forget it! This is not the dog for you! If you are incapable, for whatever reason, of taking part in physical activity, then a Boston Terrier is a very bad idea.

Below, you will find some points to consider before you decide upon getting a Boston Terrier:

Financial Implications:

Your terrier will require regular vaccinations and booster, which can be quite expensive.

Your terrier may need regular health checks and/or treatment for illnesses, which can also be very expensive.

You will need to purchase a variety of items for your dog, such as bedding, toys, bowls, leash, collar, grooming items, pet carrier, and crate.

The costs of buying food for your terrier can mount up. He will basically be an extra mouth to feed.

You may incur fees such as: training, boarding kennels if you are going away, and grooming.

Time Implications:

Boston Terriers need a lot of attention. You will need to provide this, no matter how busy you are.

They also need regular exercise. You will have to put aside time to get involved with play and take your dog for walks every day.

Your Boston Terrier will need training. Whether you do this yourself or take him along to professional

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classes, you will need to dedicate your time to helping him and practising his training.

He will require regular grooming to ensure good health. Again, this can be time consuming.

Bearing in mind the above main points you should have a clear idea of whether this dog is the right one for you.

Abhik Sarkar is the author of an invaluable resource for both new and current Boston Terrier owners – <http://www.boston-terrier-secrets.com> You can also sign up for an 8 part email course on this special breed by sending a blank email to boston-optin@getreponse.com



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