



# Black Russian Terriers

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# The Black Russian Terrier Dog

## Introduction

The Black Russian Terrier is a very rare breed, the result of nearly twenty different breeds. Strong and solid, loyal and affectionate, the Black Russian Terrier is definitely a family dog that enjoys plenty of love and attention.

## General Black Russian Terrier Characteristics

Black Russian Terriers have a very good disposition. As puppies, they are very playful and carefree, yet quick learners, making them fairly easy to housebreak. Because of their intelligence and desire to please their owner, training your Black Russian Terrier will have pleasing results.

Average Weight	80-143 pounds (Males are significantly larger than females)	Temperament	Protective, intelligent, close to their owners.
Average Height	23-29 inches	Good with Children	Yes. Females are more playful with children.
Coat	Short, wiry coat. Black color.	Health Concerns	Hip Dysplasia

## Selecting Your Black Russian Terrier – Adoption or a Breeder?

Choosing to either adopt or purchase your Black Russian Terrier from a breeder can be a matter of personal choice. Both options are presented with positives and negatives that should be carefully considered before you make a decision.

## A Few Words About Adoption

Adopting a pet can be a very good option for owners who are looking for an older pet, cannot afford the expense of purchasing from a breeder, or just like the idea of opening their home to a dog in need. There are numerous animal shelters that are overcrowded and in desperate need of good homes for their dogs. In order to reduce potential unwanted animals, shelters will spay or neuter the pets before they can be sent home. This cost is included in your adoption fees.



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In addition to animal shelters, there are also rescue facilities that are dedicated to the Black Russian Terrier exclusively. Working with a rescue can also be a great experience, and will allow you to become better acquainted with the breed, and be connected with other Black Russian Terrier owners. Make sure that you have your dog examined by a veterinarian of your own to ensure that they are healthy enough to be in your home, especially if you have other animals that could easily contract illnesses carried by the new pet.

## A Few Words About Feeders:

Some people will prefer that their Black Russian Terrier come from a reputable breeder. This can be the best choice for owners wishing to have a new puppy, show their dog in the future, or become breeders themselves. Breeders can provide you with plenty of helpful information about Black Russian Terriers, including health issues, family history, and the various breed characteristics. Black Russian Terrier breeders can be found by going to the AKC website, searching newspaper classifieds, or locating other breeder websites on the Internet. Have a list of questions ready to ask the breeder when you visit or call. It is good to inquire about the length of time the breeder has been in business, if the parents of the puppies will be onsite, and what kind of health guarantees and records will be provided. Good breeders will have several questions for you as well, such as what sort of environment will the puppy live in, and how much time you will be able to spend with the dog, since Black Russian Terriers require plenty of time with their owners.

Purchasing your Black Russian Terrier from a breeder or adopting are both good choices. Be sure to do your research first and avoid making a quick decision based on puppies or adult dogs that are available today. Sometimes it is better to build a relationship first with a chosen breeder and plan for an upcoming litter, or visit several Black Russian Terrier rescues to ensure you are finding the best match for you and your family.

## How to Choose Your New Black Russian Terrier

Selecting your new Black Russian Terrier will be an exciting moment. Oftentimes, people can become distracted by the cuteness of puppies, and forget all about what they should look for when choosing this breed. Some simple details to be sure and pay attention to are:

- No major skin conditions; clean, healthy coat
- Clean and clear eyes
- Paw pads soft and no deep cracking/infections
- Proper weight/size
- Solid black in color



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You'll need these basics before your Black Russian Terrier comes home. Click the items below to go to CheapPetStore.com to find the best prices for online pet supplies.

- [Crate](#)
  - [Crate Pad](#)
  - [Dog Bed](#)
  - [Food Dish](#)
  - [Squeaky Toy](#)
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  - [Collar](#)
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  - [Shampoo](#)
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### EXPERT TIP

#### Selecting a Crate

A dog should be able to stand and turn around inside a closed crate. If you have a Black Russian Terrier Dog puppy, consider the average height and weight of an adult Terrier and choose a crate based on those specifications. The average size of an adult Black Russian Terrier Dog is 15 lbs and 16 inches tall. Choose a sturdy steel or plastic crate for medium sized breeds such as the Black Russian Terrier Dog.

[Click here to see our crates.](#)

If you are planning to show your dog competitively, it would be helpful to visit the AKC website and review the specific breed requirements for Black Russian Terriers. There are several physical characteristics that must be met in order to qualify. If you are only looking for a Black Russian Terrier to have as a house pet, these specifics might not be as important to you.

## Before You Bring Your Black Russian Terrier Home

Black Russian Terriers are not the type of breed that can be put in the backyard in a kennel and forgotten. They are very sensitive and affectionate dogs that need to be close to their owners. If this is the first time you have shared your home with a dog, particularly a larger breed, you will want to make sure that your house is prepared for this new addition. Just like a new child, there are precautions that an owner must take to ensure the safety of their new Black Russian Terrier. Items that are lying around on the floor will need to be picked up, or they may become a chew toy. If you have breakables on a coffee table that could possibly be knocked over when your Black Russian Terrier decides to walk by and investigate, you might consider moving them to a safer location. Other pet dishes will need to be relocated until your Black Russian Terrier has established his eating area. Everything in the house is fair game and until your new pet has learned the rules of your home, you need to make necessary accommodations. Before you bring your new Black Russian Terrier home, it is always helpful to have some of the basics on hand:

- Pet food
- Crate (for sleeping and while you are away)
- Grooming supplies (brush, shampoo, nail clippers)
- Collar/leash
- Various chew toys
- Treats

After your new friend comes home, you will probably discover other items that will be useful along the way. Luckily, most pet stores allow you to bring your dog along to help you shop.

## Your Black Russian Terrier Through the Years

### Your Black Russian Terrier Puppy

As a puppy, Black Russian Terriers are very playful and active, as most are. In these early days, it is best to start laying the law of the land down and training your puppy to be well-behaved and obedient. Many pet stores offer Puppy Kindergarten courses to assist you in teaching your pet the basics.

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## Your Black Russian Terrier Adult

After the early training sessions, your Black Russian Terrier will need to have refresher courses and consistency. They are very intelligent and respond very well to your training efforts, due to their desire to please their owner. Black Russian Terriers are not overly dominant and show little signs of aggression. Males may try and stand their ground with other male dogs, yet they will usually back down because they do not like to fight.

Give their coat the attention that it needs by brushing them weekly. Clean their ears when necessary. A professional grooming session a couple times a year is best to ensure a well-kept coat. The hair in the ears and on the feet must also be kept trimmed.

## Your Black Russian Terrier Senior

As your Black Russian Terrier ages, not many changes will need to occur in their care. Monitor their eating and adjust their diet if necessary, due to slowing activity. These dogs will still require a lot of love and attention and will continue to be right by your side wherever you may go. Take them on long walks and enjoy their companionship; they are your best friend.

## Black Russian Terrier Medical Considerations

The Black Russian Terrier has no major medical concerns associated with the breed, other than hip dysplasia, which is often avoided by good breeding practices. The life expectancy of Black Russian Terriers is 10-12 years.

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## Popular Products for Your Black Russian Terrier

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- [Exercise Pen](#)
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