



# All About the **Miniature Schnauzer**

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# The Miniature Schnauzer

## About the Miniature Schnauzer

The Miniature Schnauzer is a small, square-shaped dog, and is quite popular in many homes today. Originating in Germany, their name comes from the German word for muzzle. They are very loving and affectionate with their owners, and make wonderful companions.

Average Weight	10-15 pounds	Temperament	Smart, energetic, playful.
Average Height	12-14 inches	Good with Children?	Yes.
Coat	Short, wiry hair.	Health Concerns	Typically a healthy breed. Some can have kidney stones, liver disease.



- [Toys for Your Miniature Schnauzer](#)
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## Miniature Schnauzer Characteristics

The Miniature Schnauzer has a long, bushy beard, eyebrows and a moustache. Many owners will trim these areas to keep the dog looking clean, and this will help them to see clearly, as well. Their coats are short, and very soft when kept trimmed. The tail is docked, and the ears are triangular with a front fold. Miniature Schnauzer coat colors can come in colors such as salt and pepper, black, and white. They are very obedient dogs who train fairly easily, yet can tend to be aggressive toward some other dogs, regardless of their size.

## Selecting Your Miniature Schnauzer Puppy

Choosing to either adopt or purchase your Miniature Schnauzer from a breeder is a personal decision that can have equally good results. Consider your options carefully and select either a puppy or adult Miniature Schnauzer based on your individual needs, availability, and budget.

### A Few Words About Adoption

Adopting a pet can be a very good option for owners who are looking for an older pet, have a difficult time paying a lot of money for a good dog, or if they wish to help a local shelter or rescue. There are numerous animal shelters that are overcrowded and in desperate need of good homes for their dogs. Understand beforehand that shelters are often times trying to reduce the number of animals in their area, and that they will spay or neuter the pet before they release them for adoption. This fee is included in the cost of adoption and is usually inexpensive, since the surgery is performed onsite by a staff veterinarian. Miniature Schnauzer rescue facilities are also available to you for obtaining your new pet. These establishments are also in desperate need of homes for pets and are often overcrowded as well, yet they strive to save any Miniature Schnauzer in need.



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## A Few Words About Breeders

If you choose to work directly with a Miniature Schnauzer breeder to purchase a new puppy, you will have some advantages. Being able to start from the very beginning and ensure proper training is always a plus. Often times, dogs that have been handed over to a shelter or rescue have been abused or neglected and will require extra care and training. Breeders can have their shortcomings as well. There are those that have little experience and breed strictly for the money and hardly appreciate their dogs. This is unfortunate, and these places should be avoided to discourage further litters. On the flipside, there are some wonderful breeders out there who truly have a love and passion for the Miniature Schnauzer breed, and work hard to ensure the very best homes for their dogs. Ask plenty of questions of your breeder, and expect them to do the same.



## How to Choose your Miniature Schnauzer

Whether you chose your Miniature Schnauzer from a shelter, or a breeder, the care that your dog has had before they come to live with you is very important. While many can have clouded judgment once they see all those cute little puppies, it is best to know what you're looking for in advance to make the best decision. 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

Other breed-specific characteristics can be identified by visiting the AKC website and reading about Miniature Schnauzers. These types of requirements are mainly important if you plan on professionally showing or breeding your Miniature Schnauzer.

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

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • <a href="#">Crate</a>       | • <a href="#">Lead</a>         |
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| • <a href="#">Collar</a>      | • <a href="#">Nail Trimmer</a> |

## Bringing Your Miniature Schnauzer Home

Due to their small size, Miniature Schnauzers will do quite well in either a small apartment or house. They do not need a large yard to run in. While they can be fairly active indoors, it is best to double-check your home beforehand and ensure that you don't have items that could be easily knocked over. Houseplants can also be targets for new puppies that are curious and like to chew. Avoid potential mishaps by providing your pet with their own toys to keep them busy. Some basics that you will want to pick up beforehand are:

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

Miniature Schnauzers can be kept warm in the winter with a knit sweater, and also like having a bed of their own to nap in.

### EXPERT TIP

#### Selecting a Crate

A dog should be able to stand and turn around inside a closed crate. If you have a Miniature Schnauzer puppy, consider the average height and weight of an adult Schnauzer and choose a crate based on those specifications. The average size of an adult Miniature Schnauzer is 10 lbs and 12 inches tall. Choose a sturdy steel or plastic crate for medium sized breeds such as the Miniature Schnauzer.

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

## The Miniature Schnauzer Pup

Miniature Schnauzer puppies really are adorable. They are little fuzzy balls of soft hair, dark eyes, and sharp teeth! Very active and playful, your new little puppy will probably be into everything. Introduce your new puppy to other dogs early on to avoid possible aggression as adults. Miniature Schnauzers are prone to bark quite a bit, so work with them on when being vocal is appropriate. Strict training is essential at the very beginning to ensure a well-behaved dog in the future.

## The Miniature Schnauzer Adult

Now that your Miniature Schnauzer has mellowed a bit, you can finally relax. Plenty of love and attention is just what this breed wants from you. They like to be a part of what's going on and want to be included in family events. Walking your Miniature Schnauzer is the highlight of their day. If possible, take your dog to open areas where they will be permitted to run and play free of their leash.

## The Miniature Schnauzer Senior

The Miniature Schnauzer does not normally show signs of age until very late in their life. They maintain their youthfulness by continuing to stay fairly active and tolerable with children. Be sure to watch their diet closely, as this breed can tend to become overweight, which would cause many problems for their little bodies. The life expectancy of this breed is about 15 years.

## Medical Considerations

The Miniature Schnauzer overall has very good health. Noted health concerns are kidney stones, liver disease, and eye problems. With a good diet, regular exercise, and plenty of love and attention, your Miniature Schnauzer will live a long and happy life.



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