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## GREYHOUNDS AS PETS

### QUICK FACTS

**AGE:** The majority of the dogs will be between 2 and 6 years old. We often get dogs that are older than this and people might think that older dogs take a longer adjustment period. In reality, the older Greyhounds come into a home and often learn the house rules more quickly than a younger dog will!

**SIZE:** Males are 26 to 30 inches high. / Females are 23 to 26 inches high.

**WEIGHT:** Males are between 65-85 lbs. / Females are between 50-65 lbs.

**COLOR:** Greyhounds come in many colors - brindle, black, fawn, white or a combination of these colors.

**FEEDING:** As pets, Greyhounds eat no more than any other dog of comparable weight - 4 to 6 cups of dry kibble a day. They also love rice and vegetables in their food.

**EXERCISE:** Greyhounds adapt well to life as a pet and need no more than a romp in the backyard or a daily walk to keep them fit.

**CONFINEMENT:** Since they are sighthounds and are oblivious to verbal commands if they move toward an object on the horizon, Greyhounds must never be allowed outside unless they are on a lead or in a completely fenced or enclosed area. The automobile is the Greyhound's "unnatural" enemy and neither the dog nor driver can react to a speeding Greyhound in time to avoid a lethal collision.

**TEMPERAMENT:** Docile in nature, Greyhounds are the original "couch potatoes" and get along well with both children and other pets.

**GROOMING:** Greyhounds have little oil in their skin so they have minimum "doggy odor" and only need a bath when soiled.

**WHICH SEX:** Many people are under the misconception that females make better pets than males. When it comes to Greyhounds, the males make equally wonderful pets. We've never seen one neutered male Greyhound who has a predisposition to mount other dogs - many squat and don't lift their leg. It may take longer to receive a female and there are many great male Greyhounds that need saving. An interesting fact is that typically the female is the dominant of the breed and may be less patient than the males.

**Please see the reverse for some  
COMMON QUESTIONS about Greyhounds!**

# ? ? GREYHOUNDS AS PETS ? ? COMMON QUESTIONS

## **What kind of pets do ex-racing Greyhounds make?**

Greyhounds are affectionate, friendly dogs who thrive on attention and human companionship and make terrific pets. Raised with their littermates, where they competed for affection, Greyhounds love becoming the center of attention as household pets. Greyhounds do not usually make good watch dogs. Their friendly nature is not really very threatening.

## **Are they good with children?**

Greyhounds are very gentle, patient dogs but we have found they get along better with children over the age of 5 who have a clear understanding of rules about and respect for animals. *Greyhounds do not tolerate pulling, poking or children falling or laying on them – even a gentle Greyhound has his limits!* They do excellent with children over 5 who are loving and respectful. Children need to be taught manners around the dog, just as the dog must learn his or her manners around the house. *REGAP will not adopt a Greyhound to a family with any child under the age of 5.*

## **How are they with other pets?**

Greyhounds are friendly by nature and socialize well as a result of encounters with other Greyhounds in the racing kennel. Cats are unknown to a Greyhound and a little extra time and care are required to make a happy home for all.

## **How old are retired Greyhounds?**

The retired racers are usually between two and four years old.

## **What is their life expectancy?**

These pure-bred athletes enjoy many years of good health. With proper care, they have a life expectancy of 12 years or more.

## **How much does it cost to own a Greyhound?**

Our adoption fee is \$200.00. The average cost of just spaying/neutering and dental (teeth cleaning) in the Kansas City area is \$275.00 so the \$200 (which also covers shots and vaccinations and a lead and collar) does not even cover the medical costs incurred by KCREGAP to prepare greyhounds for adoption. Greyhounds, like any other dog, should be given regular veterinary care. It costs about \$1 a day to feed a Greyhound. This may vary depending on a brand and feeding requirements.

## **Are ex-racing Greyhounds already housebroken?**

Frequently an adopted Greyhound is completely housebroken right from the start. In their kennel environment they are "turned out" three or four times a day to relieve themselves. Therefore, racing Greyhounds are kennel-broken, which means they're trained to go outside and keep their kennels clean. Let them out frequently at first, and they quickly learn that their new home is the place they keep clean and outside is where they go to relieve themselves.



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