



I Want An Eskie!



A helpful guide to choosing an American Eskimo Dog for you.

American Eskimo Dogs, or Eskies, come in three basic sizes: TOY, MINIATURE, and STANDARD. (See the breed standard at the United Kennel Club for details. <http://www.ukcdogs.com/Web.nsf/Breeds/AmericanEskimo10012013>)

Eskie owners are enamored with their Eskies! These “fuzzy little furballs” are affectionately known as “heartbandits” because they will steal their way into your heart.

If you are not asked this type of question by the provider of your potential Eskie, ask them of yourself to see if you are a potential Eskie parent.

- Have you owned an Eskie before? Eskies are very intelligent, and can try to take over leadership in your house. Experience is a plus!
- Are you interested in a puppy, mature, or senior Eskie? Why?
- Would you prefer a male or a female? If you have other dogs, your choice is important.
- Are you looking for a pet or a show dog?
- Are you planning to breed this dog? If the answer is “yes”, why?
- Do you have children, or plan to have children? If you DO have children, what are their ages? If you have other pets, how many, what type, and what are their ages?
- Do you have a fenced yard or similar safe enclosure? Eskies are energetic and need a lot of exercise.
- Will the Eskie live inside, outside, or both? Eskies thrive as members of a human “pack”.
- How long will the Eskie be left alone daily?
- How will you insure that it is toileted, fed, and cared for if you are gone during work hours?
- Do you have a family veterinarian? Knowing who to call in a pet emergency could save your pet’s life!
- How do you plan to get your Eskie to its new home?
- Does the Eskie adoption include a spay/neuter agreement?
- Is there a written return agreement that simply states at whatever age, if you cannot keep the Eskie, it must go back to the provider for re-homing? This protects the Eskie from ever ending up in a rescue situation or a kill shelter.
- If it is a puppy, does the Eskie come with its first shot, wormed, and carry a health guarantee?
- Has your Eskie been microchipped? Have your Eskie implanted with a microchip and keep the registration current and correct to help get the dog back should the Eskie ever get lost. Accidents happen.
- Have you thought about “shots”? Plan to follow a vaccination protocol supported by your local vet.
- Do you know about hereditary diseases? Like all dogs Eskies can have hereditary health considerations which include degenerative knee disease, hip, and eye problems. Tests can be performed for some health issues prior to adoption. Check with your local vet and/or the provider of your Eskie.
- Are you prepared for a long-term commitment to your Eskie? An Eskie’s average life span is 15 years, though some Eskies have been known to live several years longer.
- Have you considered health insurance for your Eskie? It would help with the expense of unforeseen major problems or accidents. Your vet can advise you which insurance the vet accepts.

If you have other questions about Eskies, you can email rescue@azeskies.org. An AAEEA club member will contact you and answer Eskie-related questions.

Want to know more about Eskies? Here are some links to Eskie information:

The Arizona American Eskimo Association, <http://www.azeskies.org>

The United Kennel Club American Eskimo Dog Breed Standard:

<http://www.ukcdogs.com/Web.nsf/Breeds/AmericanEskimo10012013>

“What Do American Eskimo Dog Owners Like About Eskies Compared to Other Dog Breeds?” by Natalie Harris:

<http://www.eskiesonline.com/eskinf2.htm>

“What Are American Eskimo Dogs Like?” by Natalie Harris: <http://www.eskiesonline.com/eskinf3.htm>

“What is an American Eskimo Dog?” by Natalie Harris: <http://www.eskiesonline.com/eskinf4.htm>

“Where Can I Get an American Eskimo Dog?” by Natalie Harris: <http://www.eskiesonline.com/eskinf5.htm>