

WAGWISE

Breed Guide



Kelpie

The Ultimate Working Dog with
Endless Energy

Australian Kelpie Breed Guide

Breed History & Personality Traits

The Australian Kelpie is an iconic working dog, developed in the late 1800s in Australia for herding sheep in harsh conditions. Known for their intelligence, loyalty, and tireless energy, Kelpies are independent thinkers and incredibly clever. They are happiest when given a job to do and thrive in active environments. Max says: 'They'll outsmart you before you've finished your morning coffee.'

Exercise, Grooming & Training Needs

Kelpies require at least two hours of intense exercise daily. They excel at obedience, agility, and herding trials but become destructive if bored. Training must be consistent and mentally stimulating. Grooming is simple with a weekly brush, as they have a short, weather-resistant coat. Max says: 'A 10-minute walk? Forget it. They'll look at you like you've just wasted their time.'

Family & Lifestyle Suitability

Kelpies are best for active families or individuals who enjoy outdoor adventures. They are loyal and affectionate with kids but can be too boisterous for toddlers. They adapt well to suburban life only if they receive plenty of mental and physical stimulation. Max says: 'Got no time? Get a goldfish instead.'

Common Health Considerations

Generally healthy, Kelpies live 12-15 years but can be prone to hip dysplasia, progressive retinal atrophy, and Collie Eye Anomaly. Regular vet visits, a balanced diet, and exercise are essential. Max says: 'Keep up with vet checks-these dogs are tough, but even the best sheepdog needs a tune-up.'

Max's No-Nonsense Advice

- Give them a job, or they'll find one (and you won't like it). - Don't skimp on walks-two hours daily is the minimum. - Outwit a Kelpie? Ha! Good luck with that. - Treat them as working dogs, not lapdogs-they need a purpose!