

# WAGWISE

## Breed Guide



Labrador Retriever –  
The Family Favourite

## **Breed History & Personality Traits**

The Labrador Retriever originated in Newfoundland, Canada, where they were bred to help fishermen haul nets and retrieve fish. Their intelligence and eagerness to please quickly made them exceptional working dogs. Today, Labs are beloved for their friendly, outgoing personalities and are among the world's most popular family dogs.

Max says: 'Ugh, Labs. Always smiling, always wagging. They're like the golden retrievers' overly enthusiastic cousin. Tone it down, buddy.'

## **Exercise, Grooming & Training Needs**

Labs need 1-2 hours of daily exercise, including walks, games, and swimming. Without enough activity, they can become bored and destructive.

Max says: 'Skip their walk, and you'll find out just how much "fast" they can be indoors.'

Despite their short coats, Labs shed heavily. Brush 2-3 times a week and clean their ears regularly to prevent infections. Training is usually easy as Labs are eager to please - just don't forget the treats!

Max says: 'Training a Lab is easy - as long as you bribe them. These guys would do your taxes for a biscuit.'

## **Family & Lifestyle Suitability**

Labradors are fantastic family dogs. They are patient, affectionate, and great with children. Labs adapt to most environments but thrive in active homes.

Best suited for families, active singles or couples, and homes with secure yards.

Max says: 'Labs are like that friend who's always ready for a road trip. Family picnic? They're in. Beach day? They're already wet.'

## **Common Health Considerations**

Labs are prone to hip and elbow dysplasia, obesity, ear infections, and eye conditions like PRA.

Regular vet check-ups, a balanced diet, and proper grooming are essential.

Max says: 'Labs will eat anything. Socks, rubbish, your lunch. Watch them or you'll be on first-name terms with your vet.'

### **Max's No-Nonsense Advice**

1. Keep them active - or face the chaos.
2. Hide the food - Labs are pro snack thieves.
3. Train them young - before they outgrow your lap.
4. Brush them often - unless you enjoy wearing fur.
5. Labs are family, not lawn ornaments - they need your time and love.

Max says: 'Labs are solid dogs. Just remember - they're like toddlers with fur. Fun, loving, and always up to something.'