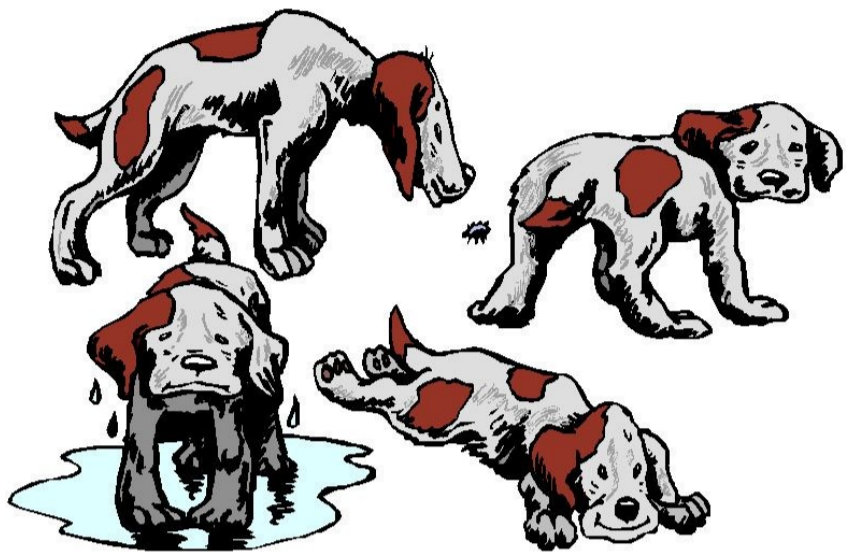


Factsheet

Rehoming responsibilities

Owning a German Shorthaired Pointer can be a hugely rewarding and enjoyable experience. GSP's also bring responsibilities and the decision to take on a gun dog should not be taken without understanding the difference between these and most standard breeds. You should completely understand separation anxiety in this breed, also the environment and routine required for a contented dog, plus the impact an adopted dog will have on your life.



Keeping your GSP in the best of health is one of the major responsibilities of pet ownership. It is a condition of adoption that it is your responsibility to ensure your dog receives veterinary attention whenever necessary. The best way to avoid large bills we recommend that owners take out pet insurance, shop around for deals and research the conditions and amount of cover offered.

All dogs need regular worming and flea treatment no matter how careful you are. Check that your new dog has up to date vaccinations or get them done.

Keep the dog fit and healthy by finding out its preferences and what brand/type of food it is used to. Eating problems can explode the other end! Check your dogs weight regularly and feed it appropriately to avoid under feeding or obesity, if in doubt check with your vet or speak to us or other GSP owners.

It is conditional that all dogs placed by GSP Rescue are neutered, breeding from an adopted dog is not permitted. It also helps to prevent certain health problems and can prevent mammary and testicular cancer and can help behaviour problems, especially in male dogs. You will be required to provide a copy of the vets invoice to verify the procedure. For more information see: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neutering#Advantages>.

You must ensure that if your GSP goes missing they can be easily traced back to you. When you take a dog on make a note of its microchip number, get the chip details changed to your new updated information as soon as possible. If it has not been chipped, you should get it done straight away by your vet. The chip is tiny and is inserted by your vet in a simple procedure which is quick and painless. Without this there is no way of tracing an owner, especially if you are out of your home area. It is worth getting your vet to check a new dog and the chip is working and the correct number.

Make sure your adopted GSP has an I.D. tag made up before collecting it. The dog must have a secure collar and tag with your contact details on it. **DO NOT PUT YOUR ADDRESS OR THE DOGS NAME ON THE DISC** — Just your surname, post code and phone number (a mobile number is best in case you are visiting out of area or on holiday), on the reverse the word 'VET' and your vets phone number. This ID tag is actually a legal requirement for dogs and you could be fined if your dog doesn't wear one.

Check local maps for dog walking areas and enquire with your local council taking note of rules and regulations for local parks or beaches. Some local authorities have dog control orders which may restrict when or where you can walk your dog. You may sometimes have to keep your dog on a lead, there may even be areas where dogs are banned like children's playgrounds/lawns.



Be a responsible owner—clean up after your dog. Always pick up your dog's poo, dispose of it in a designated bin – if you don't, you could end up with a hefty fine.

Dog mess in parks and on pavements is a common complaint by members of the public, it gives all dog owners a bad name.

Useful UK contacts and associations

The Association of Pet Behaviour Counsellors: www.apbc.org.uk

The Association of Pet Dog Trainers: www.apdt.co.uk

The UK Registry of Canine Behaviourists: www.ukrcb.org

Petlog: www.petlog.org.uk

Lost Dogs Line – 0901 477 8477 (calls cost 60p per minute from a BT landline,

other networks may vary. Opening hours 8am–8pm, Mon–Sun)

Behaviour Advice Line – 0905 020 0222 (calls cost 25p per minute from a BT landline, other networks may vary. Opening hours, 12 noon–5pm Mon–Fri)

Battersea Dogs Home, helpful factsheets and leaflets: