

[www.amrottclub.org](http://www.amrottclub.org)

**C**ongratulations! By assuming ownership of a Rottweiler you have opened the door to a wonderful friend and companion. The Rottie will fit well into your home if you provide the love, care and training he needs.

Ownership of such a determined, powerful animal carries with it legal and moral responsibilities.

The American Rottweiler Club wishes you to be aware of all aspects of Rottweiler ownership so you may be able to enjoy your Rottweiler and raise it to be a good citizen of your community.

The Rottweiler's ancestors were the drover's dogs accompanying the herds the Romans brought with them when invading Europe. The controllable herding and guarding instincts were recognized by the Germans, and dogs were selectively bred for these traits. As need for its services diminished, the Rottweiler almost fell into extinction. In the early 1900s, a newly formed club established a breed standard. The breed has not appreciably changed since that time.

Their aggression level varies with individuals but generally the Rottweiler is protective of its territory and does not welcome strangers until properly introduced. Aggression toward other dogs is fairly common, particularly with unneutered males.

Obedience training, preferably to include group participation, is mandatory at an early age and should be on-going throughout the life of the dog. Rottweilers love to show off and please their owners. Be certain to select an instructor who has knowledge and understanding of the breed, one who practices reasonable training methods.



# Congratulations on your new Rottweiler!

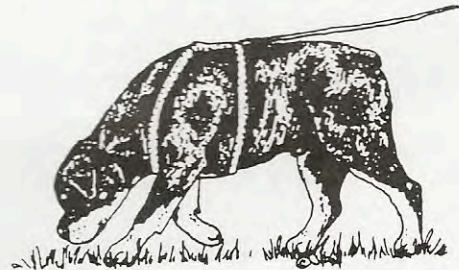
Proper socialization of a dog of such strength cannot be postponed. It must be done at a very early age.

The Rottweiler is an eager partner but a reluctant slave. He is both intelligent and sensitive and will respond best when discipline is fair, firm and consistent.

Your obligation is to make certain your dog is under control at all times and never allowed to be a threat or nuisance to others.

The personality of the Rottweiler may range from very friendly to very reserved. It is not uncommon for them to behave in a clownish manner toward family and friends. Frequently, the Rottweiler will follow its owner from room to room, preferring to keep its favorite person in view. For this reason, and many others, Rottweilers do not thrive in a kennel environment. Although a fenced yard is a must for the dog to safely experience some freedom of movement, no Rottweiler should spend all its time alone, banished from the family. Rottweilers are 'people' dogs. If maintained in isolation they can quickly develop unpleasant traits. No Rottweiler should be tied or chained.

Left alone for long periods of time, the Rottweiler is capable of extremely destructive behavior which may indicate boredom or anxiety.



This is an expensive breed to maintain, requiring good quality kibble not frequently found in grocery stores. Quantity is determined by developmental and activity level. Ask your breeder, vet or pet supply store for guidance or advice.

Proper daily exercise will keep your Rottweiler fit and happy.

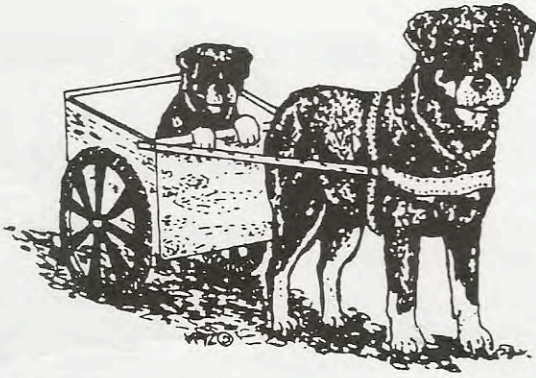
Many Rottweilers are benign with children; others will not tolerate them. No young child should ever be left unsupervised with any dog.

Your Rottweiler requires regular veterinary examinations and vaccinations.

Some 15,900 Rottweilers were registered with the American Kennel Club in 2005; so the question of whether to breed your Rottweiler must be given serious consideration.

Rottweilers are subject to some genetic problems that can be passed on to any puppies they produce. Such defects include hip and elbow dysplasia (a malformation of the joint that can be crippling), several eye problems, bleeding disorders, heart defects and cancer. Poor temperament is the most serious





genetic fault passed on from parent to puppy. *There is never an excuse to breed a Rottweiler of poor temperament.*

Rottweilers used for breeding should be certified free of hereditary eye problems by a Board Certified Veterinary Ophthalmologist and must be certified free of dysplasia by an x-ray submitted to the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals.

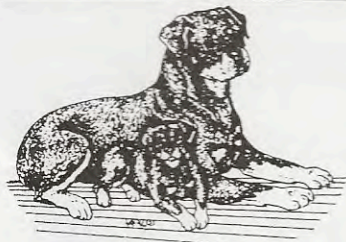
The American Kennel Club has an approved breed standard for each breed. This is a written description of how the ideal Rottweiler should look, move and behave. All responsible breeders strive to produce dogs that conform to this standard. Rottweilers that deviate from the standard in appearance, structure or temperament should never be bred.

Bitches do not benefit by having a litter. Spayed bitches are often healthier and live longer than do their unspayed sisters. Spaying eliminates uterine cancer and greatly reduces the risk of mammary cancer.

Neutered males cannot develop testicular cancer and have a lower risk of developing prostate cancer. A neutered male is usually more tolerant of other male dogs and less likely to 'leave his mark' in inappropriate places. Spaying and neutering will not make your Rottweiler obese or lazy, but overfeeding and lack of exercise will.

Altered animals can participate in most American Kennel Club performance events, but they cannot participate in conformation shows.

The Rottweiler is a Working Breed and is happiest when given a job to perform, even as simple as carrying a newspaper or package for you. Its versatility is demonstrated by its ability as a tracking dog, an obedience competitor, a therapy dog, a support dog for the handicapped, a herding dog, a police canine, and, most importantly, as a devoted companion.



## ORDER FORM

Please send me the following information, as checked:

- Information about the American Rottweiler Club
- Illustrated Standard* - \$15.00 per copy
- Your New Rottweiler Puppy* - \$10.00 per copy
- Both booklets above - \$25.00 per set

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form with your check to: Thora Thibaut  
American Rottweiler Club  
1250 Sheckler Cut Off  
Fallon, NV 89406-9206

Make check payable to: ARC

## Notice

Congratulations on your new AKC registered puppy. Hopefully you will have many years of enjoyment and a lifelong companion. *However*, be aware that your rights to own a dog are currently under attack in this country. Many localities are attempting to pass anti-dog legislation which may try to ban certain types of dogs or restrict ownership. To learn more about this problem and to support your right to continued pet ownership, please contact:

[www.amrottclub.org/bsl](http://www.amrottclub.org/bsl)

For important health related issues, that may affect your Rottweiler, please visit the Rottweiler Health Foundation at:

[www.rotweilerhealth.org](http://www.rotweilerhealth.org)

## Recommended Reading

*Mother Knows Best*, by Carol Lea Benjamin

*The Complete Rottweiler*, by Mrs. Bernard Freeman

*The Rottweiler Experience*, by Joan Klem & Susan Cody Rademacher

*The Rottweiler*, by Mary Macphail

*Love Your Dog, Train Your Dog*, by Pat Miller

*How to Raise a Puppy You Can Live With, 2nd ed.* by Clarice Rutherford & David H. Neil

*The Rottweiler: Centuries of Service*, by Linda Michels & Catherine Thompson

*Super Puppy*, by Peter Volmer

*Positive Puppy Training Words*, by Joel Walton

Visit the American Rottweiler Club at:

[www.amrottclub.org](http://www.amrottclub.org)

