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The Labrador and German Shorthair

By Kaye Ervin

“A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than you love yourself.” —Josh Billings

For some, however, it can be hard to find a dog that can adjust to their schedule, their home, and, most of the time, their family. What dog is the best kind to have as a pet? Most often people think of two specific breeds that can be both city and country dogs: the energy-filled Labrador

and the smart German Shorthair. For some people, these pups are on the top of their pet wish-list. Lots of people get surprised when they see how different



these breeds are. They each have different ways of how they look, how they are feed, how they act, and how they are trained.

The Labrador is a dog that can be in many colors such as red,

white, black, or brown. They are mostly solid colored; there's not one spot on them. This breed can be small, large, or medium in size. Most Labradors have brownish, gold eyes, but they are being bred to have blue eyes now, as well. This dog, like many, has a diet that works well to keep it healthy. Labradors do better on a dry feed that has lots of meat and only a small amount of soy mixed in. People love this dog because this breed is full of energy and likes to play. People who have small children should watch out because sometimes these dogs play a little rough. People who are not at home should not get this breed. Labradors love people, and they do not like to be left alone for very long. Training a Labrador can be hard to do since they love playing and forget what they learn quickly. Labradors need to start their training as early as possible—many start training them as puppies. This takes a lot of time and energy, but folks should hang in there because when training is over, Labradors are some of the best dogs to have.

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What about the German Shorthair? Many people have never even heard of the German Shorthair. More than half of this breed is medium sized. They are a mix of white with one more color such as red, black, or brown; this breed does have spots. Like the Labrador, they can have brownish gold eyes or blue eyes. Unlike the Labrador, German shorthairs eat more vegetables than they do meat, because they have weaker stomachs than most dogs do. So a soft dish with vegetables, mostly soy, is the best choice. With that being said, people have to be more careful of what they might get into, for example, a trash can. Their constitution can't handle that very well!

Many German Shorthairs love people and are perfect for those who have small children. This dog is very protective of small children, especially babies. They will not leave the child's side for a moment. The German Shorthair is also very smart, so training this breed is easy most of the time. This breed loves to please people and will follow orders easily for the person who trained them.

The Labrador and the German shorthair are some of the best breeds. Both are good dogs that are wonderful to have as pets or hunting partners. There are differences in what they look like and how they act. They both share a love for people and for eating their favorite food. In the end, these dogs each have their own personalities and can both make someone smile.



As the saying goes, "Money can buy you a fine dog, but only love can make him wag his tail."