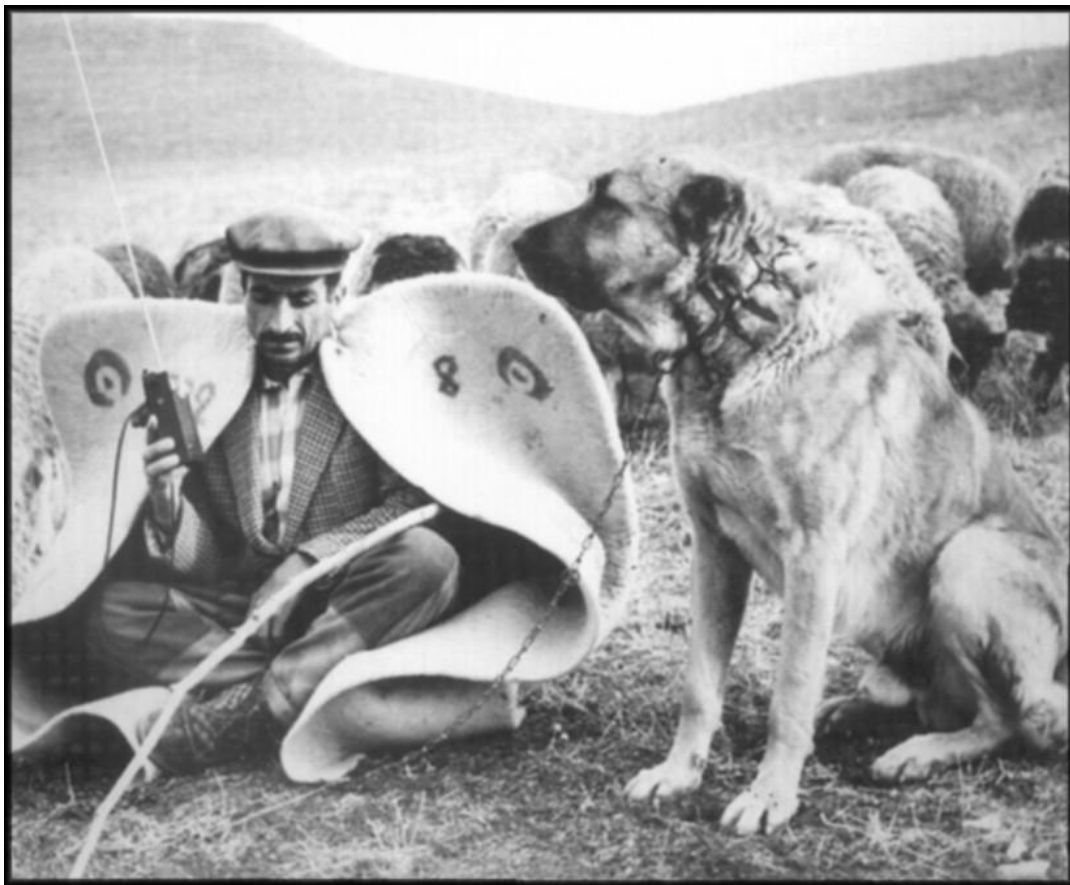


ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG

COBAN KOPEGI



INFORMATION BOOKLET

published by

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

Founded in 1970

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG

COBAN KOPEGI

INFORMATION BOOKLET

published by

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

Founded in 1970

AKC Recognized Parent Club for the Anatolian Shepherd Dog

© Copyright 1995 by the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc.

All Rights Reserved. No part of this booklet may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, without permission in writing from the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc.



Additional copies of the INFORMATION BOOKLET may be acquired by contacting:

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC.

Web Site: <http://www.asdca.org>

Revised 7/11

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG

HISTORY

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is one of the most majestic and noble animals in the service of man, still being used in the rural districts of Turkey as the shepherd's indispensable companion and front-line defense of his flock from predators. Without the aid of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog, the Turkish shepherd would be less able to defend his property and flock from wild animals. Such dogs are found from the Turkish Anatolian Plateau right through to Afghanistan.

In Turkey today, the breed is known as COBAN KOPEGI (Cho-bawn Ko-pay) which translates "shepherd dog." It can also be referred to as "Kangal Dog," giving recognition to that region of Turkey where some of the finest specimens of the breed can be found. He is a Livestock Guardian Dog which lives his life in constant association with his sheep or goats and is accepted as a member of the flock. (He is NOT a herding dog.)

The extraordinary speed and agility of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog enable him to run down a predator with great efficiency. Turkish shepherds equip their dogs with impressive iron-spiked collars as protection against attacking animals that grab for the throat.



A large part of central Anatolia is a high plateau of wide plains and rolling hills. Summers are dry, while winters are marked with heavy snowfalls and temperatures plunging well below freezing. Here in this environment the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a functional tool of the Turkish shepherd.

Originally, the Anatolian Shepherd Dogs may have come from the Himalayas when the Turks migrated from Central Asia to what is now Turkey. With the advent of the first domestic sheep, the dogs went from "hunter" to "protector." Since Babylonian times, there is documented a breed of large, strong dogs with a heavy head. Some spectacular depictions of the breed dating back to 2000 B.C. can be seen on the well-preserved bas-reliefs in the Assyrian Rooms of the British Museum in London. The Book of Job, which dates back to at least 1800 B.C. and is set in the region of Turkey, makes reference to the dogs with the flocks.



The Anatolian Shepherd Dog of today has remained relatively unchanged from its ancestors because of the nature of its isolated existence. The Turks have for centuries been dependent upon the land for their livelihood, relying on domesticated animals as an integral part of their existence. For this reason, perhaps, the characteristics of the Anatolian have been so exactly preserved, characteristics well adapted to Turkey's harsh climate and terrain; the lifestyle of the shepherds which until modern times was nomadic; and the job of guarding the village flocks against fierce predators.

The first known Anatolian Shepherd Dogs to enter the United States arrived in the late 1930's, a gift from the Turkish government to the U.S. Dept of Agriculture. Other Anatolians are known to have been imported in the 1950's by archaeologist, Dr. Rodney Young. However, the first active breeding program in the United States was the result of the importation of a breeding pair of dogs by Lt. Robert C. Ballard, USN, who was stationed in Turkey from 1966-1968. Upon their return to the United States, the Ballards settled in El Cajon, California where on August 16, 1970, their imports ZORBA and PEKI produced the first recorded American-bred litter.

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB of AMERICA, INC.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is the 143rd breed recognized by the American Kennel Club. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog, recognized by the American Kennel Club on June 12, 1995, achieved full recognition and moved into the Working Group on June 1, 1999. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. (ASDCA), founded in 1970, is the AKC recognized parent club for the breed in the United States. Since the ASDCA was founded in 1970, it has acted as the official Registry for Anatolian Shepherd Dogs in the U.S. and has maintained the Stud Book and supporting documentation and pedigrees on over 4,500 Anatolian Shepherd Dogs. The ASDCA assists its over 250 members/owners and 50 associate members with questions on breeding, raising and training of Anatolian Shepherd Dogs, livestock guardian dog research, health issues, travel, shows, membership, etc.

The Club newsletter, the ANATOLIAN TIMES, published 3 times a year, provides valuable articles on health, training, sound breeding practices, national and international topics of interest as well as articles specifically directed at owners of working Anatolians. The ASDCA has published the ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD HEALTH HANDBOOK, a breed-specific health guide. The Club also maintains an extensive library of printed information on the breed which is made available to members and the inquiring public. The ASDCA holds a National Specialty Show and regional specialties each year, rotating the specialties around the United States. The ASDCA has been an enthusiastic supporter of livestock guarding dog research programs.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog has also gained acceptance of the international scene, thanks to the efforts of the ASDCA. In 1989, the Anatolian Shepherd Dog was fully recognized for championship points by FCI. The breed has been accepted into the Miscellaneous Class by the Canadian Kennel Club.



QUESTIONS MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED ABOUT ANATOLIANS

Now that you have been introduced to the Anatolian Shepherd Dog and the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc., the following pages will attempt to answer the questions most frequently asked about the Anatolian Shepherd Dog. If you have additional questions about the breed that are not addressed in this booklet, please contact the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. at 845 Chariot Lane, Limestone, TN 37681.



HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG?

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a large, rugged, powerful and impressive livestock guarding dog possessing great endurance and agility. The classic coloring of this breed is fawn with black mask. The Breed Standard for the Anatolian Shepherd Dog, however, permits a wide range of colors. Color may include pinto (parti-color), brindle, red, Dutch-marked or white. Some color variations seem to be more prevalent in specific areas of Turkey. Short and rough coats can be found within the same litter.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is imposing both in size and stature, with dogs standing at least 29 inches at the shoulder and weighing from 110-150 pounds (at full maturity), proportionate to size and structure. Adult bitches measure at least 27 inches at the shoulder and 80-120 pounds (at full maturity), proportionate to size and structure. A small Anatolian Shepherd is still a large dog. The dog's profile is accentuated by the tail which tends to curl over the back when the dog is moving or on full alert. Large size is attractive, but it should not take precedence over correct breed type, soundness, balance and working temperament.

A copy of the complete Anatolian Shepherd Dog Breed Standard can be obtained by contacting the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc.

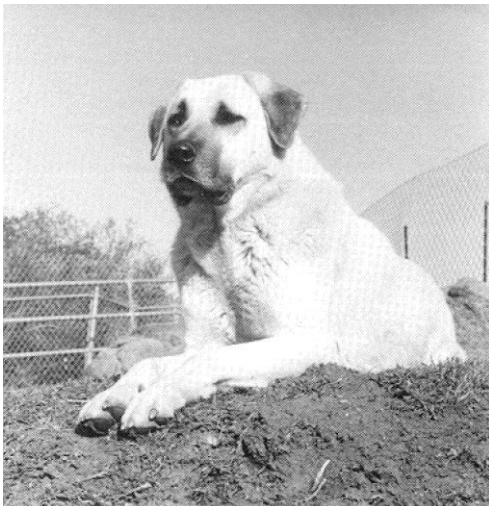
WHEN IS THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD MATURE? WHAT IS ITS LIFESPAN?

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a slow maturing breed and may not reach his full weight and stature until 4 years of age. In the first year, puppies grow rapidly, from a twenty pound, eight-week old to a ninety pound 1 year-old.

The average lifespan of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is between 11-13 years in a normal, safe environment. Working dogs, because of the nature of their job, have a high mortality rate and longevity becomes difficult to tabulate. The nature and demeanor of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog make him truly one of the rare giants with an extended lifespan.

WHAT IS THE TEMPERAMENT OF THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG?

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a fiercely loyal guard dog that demonstrates a possessive attitude towards family, property and livestock. Ideally, the Anatolian Shepherd Dog should be a calm, intelligent dog, confident and alert. His strong protective instincts are enhanced by an acute sense of sight, hearing and a long memory. When on guard, the dog will first patrol the perimeter of this "estate," then select a high vantage point, if possible, from which to survey his territory and keep watch for anyone or anything which might trespass and cause harm to his charges. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is suspicious of strangers, reserved when in public, and may seem to expect a "formal introduction" before tolerating any familiarities.



The most important thing to remember about owning an Anatolian Shepherd Dog is that he needs a

tremendous amount of time and love. The Anatolian cannot bear to be ignored and will try to gain attention if he feels "left out". It is necessary to SOCIALIZE the Anatolian from puppyhood and basic obedience is a necessity. The owner must establish himself as the authority figure. Even a livestock guardian whose job is to remain in the pasture guarding livestock MUST BE SOCIALIZED. Otherwise, even a routine visit to the veterinarian may be unmanageable.

When in the presence of his owner, the well socialized Anatolian Shepherd Dog is polite to strangers, though he may not show interest in making contact or being petted. He will retreat if approached too quickly or too dominantly by the stranger. When his owner is not around, the Anatolian is hostile towards strangers. He will not let anyone on the property with whom he has not had frequent contact. Strange adults or children must be introduced to the dog (while the dog is under the owner's total control), and the owner must make sure the dog accepts visitors as friends. Misbehaving children not part of the family unit are not tolerated.

There is little difference between the male and female when it comes to guarding ability or the degree of affection shown. Spaying or neutering the livestock guardian is advisable and will not affect working ability. The male Anatolian seems to go through more of an adolescent phase beginning at about 15-18 months of age. During this time he may need more than usual correction and discipline to guide him along. With maturity, this adolescent behavior should diminish.

WHAT TRAINING AND DISCIPLINE IS RECOMMENDED FOR ANATOLIANS?

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a very intelligent breed. He learns things very quickly. The Anatolian will housebreak easily at a young age. You will find that he is quite independent and often stubborn. This is due in large part to his heritage. For centuries the Anatolian Shepherd Dog was bred to work much of the time independently of man.

To own an Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a great responsibility. Because of the breed's large size and protective instincts, the owner needs to establish that he is in control, not the dog. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog may be full-sized by the age of one or one and a half years of age (have its height), but he will not be fully emotionally mature until he is three or four years old. Gradually, all Anatolians become more protective as they get older, but most new owners are surprised (and unprepared) at the drastic and sudden change in the dog's protectiveness beginning at about one and a half years of age.

Extensive **SOCIALIZATION** of the dog prior to 18 months is of utmost importance. **SOCIALIZATION** should begin as soon as the puppy is vaccinated with visits to the veterinarian, shopping malls, crowded events, car journeys, picking up the children from school, going to the market, etc.

Quite simply, **SOCIALIZATION** involves exposing the puppy to normal, everyday sights and sounds that he will encounter during his life as well as exposure to people outside of the family unit. A puppy that is exposed to loud household noises, cars, large gatherings of people and other stimuli will come to accept the "unusual" without overreaction. If the pup is to become a livestock guardian, the owner should have the puppy accompany him during daily chores (on leash) and let him get used to the routine and natural activities around the ranch.

Puppies should never be allowed to use their teeth even in play. This is a totally unacceptable behavior. You will find that there are many times the puppy will test you as he matures. Let him know that you are "THE BOSS" — immediately put a stop to ANY unacceptable behavior with a loud "NO" and, if necessary, a firm shake. While the Anatolian is often thick headed, he is quite sensitive to criticism and does not like being scolded. It is extremely detrimental to hit the dog with a hand or other object.

You should be able to take any object from the puppy's mouth without eliciting aggression. This training could later save the pup's life if he snatches up something that could prove harmful.



Anatolian Shepherd Dogs will respond to verbal corrections or leash corrections especially if a good groundwork of basic training and rapport was established at an early age. It is most important therefore, that discipline be consistent, fair and firm.

without being overly harsh or abusive. Even the best of inherited traits cannot be manifested in a poorly managed environment.

Whether the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is to be primarily a livestock guardian, show dog or family protector, he must be obedience trained. Leash training and training in the recall, "come", should begin at about 3 months of age with formal obedience training beginning at about 6 months of age. The Anatolian is highly intelligent, but until he understands that his master is: "leader of the pack", the dog will be slow to respond to commands due to his independent temperament. When instructions are given, one can see the dog carefully evaluating those instructions and not mindlessly obeying.

Socialization, nutrition, handling and training all contribute to the future success of a puppy. Once convinced that his master is in charge, the dog will be most anxious to please. The dog will be rewarded for obeying and he should mature into a responsible, trustworthy adult.

IS PROTECTION TRAINING NECESSARY FOR THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG?

No! The Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc. (ASDCA) does NOT encourage nor recommend protection training or Schutzhund training for this breed. For many breeds, protection training is fun and games, but for the Anatolian Shepherd Dog this is serious business. The ASD resents anyone who is aggressive to him or to his owners. Guarding his family and property comes instinctively to the Anatolian.

DOES THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG BARK EXCESSIVELY?

The adult Anatolian Shepherd Dog is usually quiet, only sounding the alarm when necessary. The young Anatolian is inexperienced and will try to alert his family over any noise or intruder. The fact that it may be a falling leaf, intruding cat, or even a broken water main doesn't lessen the perceived threat. The dog will guard as far as he can see and hear. With correction and maturity, the Anatolian Shepherd Dog should come to know when to alert and when not to.

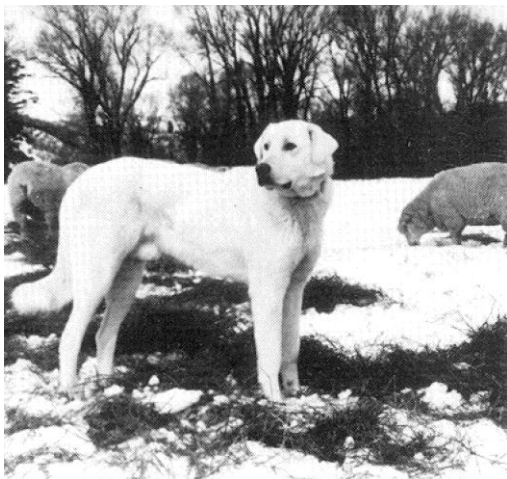
WHAT IS THE BEST AGE TO ACQUIRE AN ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG?

It is generally agreed that eight to twelve weeks is the ideal age to acquire the potential livestock guardian or companion puppy. At this age the puppy can bond to the livestock that he will be expected to

guard. If the Anatolian is to be a companion guard dog or show dog, he can easily transfer his affections from his dam to people at this time. This is not to say that an older puppy or an adult dog cannot adjust to a new home after that age. A reliable, experienced Anatolian Shepherd Dog breeder will do his/her best to match up the puppy with the right environment

IS EVERY ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG AUTOMATICALLY TRUSTWORTHY WITH LIVESTOCK?

While many Anatolian Shepherd Dogs in the United States are carrying on the tradition of their ancestors by guarding flocks of sheep and goats successfully on ranches and small farms. It is any incorrect assumption to think that all Anatolian Shepherds will protect livestock. Some dog will work—others will not. Just as not every Collie is a herder or every German Shepherd a Seeing Eye Guide Dog, not every Anatolian Shepherd is a potential livestock guardian dog. Research statistics tell us that approximately 66% of the breed are successful working dogs.



Several factors which will help determine the effectiveness of a livestock guarding dog include the bloodlines of the puppy, the initial bonding environment, the early supervision of the puppy. The dogs with the greatest potential for success are those with proven working ancestors and owners committed to careful monitoring of the puppy's progress during the critical first 12 months. The puppy should spend the majority of its time in the company of the animals he is intended to protect — starting as soon as possible. A playful puppy must NOT be allowed to chase or play with the stock uncontrolled or undisciplined. The idea is that the pup bond to the livestock and not the human owners. It is this bonding that will later bring out the desire to protect his charges.



DOES THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG HAVE ANY SPECIFIC HEALTH PROBLEMS? WHAT ABOUT HIP DYSPLASIA?

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a very sturdy dog which has not been prone to any particular diseases. Puppies are large and active and require a lot of exercise for best development. An adult Anatolian is maintained in good hard condition on a moderated amount of exercise. Hip dysplasia (HD) is present in nearly all large breeds, and the Anatolian Shepherd is no exception. However, it is felt that hip dysplasia is not yet a serious problem in the breed. However, breeders should be conscientious about x-raying their breeding stock and submitting those x-rays for certification.

Entropion (inverted eyelids) is also present in the breed though, like HD, it is not widespread in the breed and will not be if breeders only breed from healthy stock that has no known genetic problems.

Bloat is still rare in the breed. As with any large-chested breed, the potential for developing bloat exists.

It is highly recommended that all dogs be vaccinated for rabies, distemper, parvovirus, corona virus and kennel cough.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog may be highly sensitive to anesthesia.

WHAT GROOMING IS REQUIRED IN CARING FOR AN ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG?

The Anatolian Shepherd is by nature exceptionally clean and it tends to have less of a "doggie odor" than some other breeds. He does not drool. While

the Anatolian can have a long coat, the majority of the dogs have a shorter coat which makes grooming a simple task. The Anatolian has a thick undercoat which protects him from the elements. The coat requires little care except during seasonal shedding (molting) twice a year at which time a thorough brushing is required. Young puppies need to be taught to accept toenail clipping, grooming and handling, making brushing and bathing important contact time. The Anatolian requires standard care for eyes, ears, pads and nails.

HOW MUCH DOES AN ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG EAT?

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog, as an adult, is a conservative eater. He does not eat as much as one might expect for its size. It is not unusual for the Anatolian to voluntarily fast occasionally, especially during hot weather or when traveling.

The growing puppy demands more nutrition and more frequent feedings. It is essential that the new owner provide the puppy with a proper environment and diet in order that the puppy realize his full adult potential. A good quality dog food with sensible supplementation is recommended.

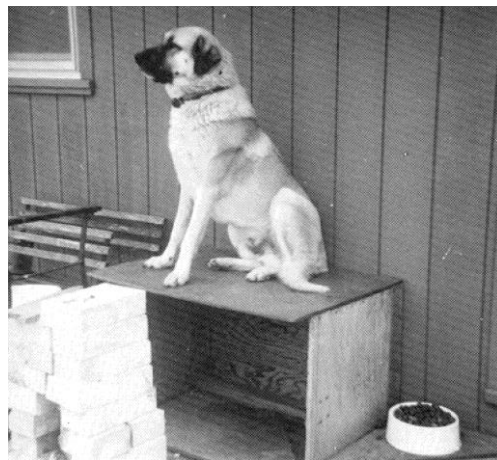


It is generally felt that the adult Anatolian Shepherd Dog does not thrive on commercial foods high in protein or food that are beef-based. Many of the dogs seem to have fewer coat and health problems when placed on lamb/rice diets. Expensive, high-protein kibble will cause a dog to be overly active, an undesirable trait for livestock guardians.

WHAT TYPE OF HOUSING DOES THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG REQUIRE?

Since the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a sturdy breed which can endure extremes of temperature and terrain, housing is not a major concern. If the dog is to be an

outside dog, he will require a shelter from inclement weather (which he may or may not choose to use), and shady areas when it is warm. The Anatolian has a thick undercoat which protects him from the elements. He seeks out shady spots and becomes much less active during the heat of the day. Summer humidity takes a much greater toll on the dogs' comfort than the cold of winter. The breed often prefers to be outside even in the coldest of climates.



Due to the fact that the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is protective of his family and property, no Anatolian can be allowed to run at large. If allowed to roam, he will attempt to expand his territory. The Anatolian definitely needs to be kept in a fenced area, not only for his protection but so that he does not become a liability. A large yard with a 5 or 6 foot fence is ideal. If you happen to have an Anatolian that believes that he is a "Houdini", an electric fence may be the answer. The new "Invisible Fence", in support of other fencing, is a great asset to people who have a lot of property to fence and who do not want or can't afford conventional fencing.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog, when guarding, can be very threatening. With the current fears of Pit Bull attacks and efforts of states to pass vicious dog ordinances aimed at "guard breeds", it is unfair to expose this noble working livestock guardian to unnecessary criticism. In more residential areas, a locked gate is recommended with posted "No Trespassing" signs. In rural areas, signs can be obtained for fencing which announce "Sheepdog on Duty!"

Tethering an Anatolian Shepherd Dog is definitely not advisable. Chaining can make him defensive and produce an unmanageable and unapproachable animal. There is also the danger of injury or death by strangulation, especially if a choke collar is used.

IS THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG GOOD WITH CHILDREN?

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is loyal and affectionate with family and likes well-behaved children. He is large and unusually strong, and he tends to be very physical when he plays. The Anatolian loves to play rough and tumble games, resembling "chicken" and "tag", games sometimes described by long-time owners as "catch the coyote". Frisbee toss and retrieving a ball is not the Anatolian's idea of fun. Tug-of-war games should never be encouraged. Puppies should not be allowed to bite, even in play, as this is not an acceptable behavior.

The Anatolian Shepherd Dog does not recognize a child as his master and may be protective of his child even against the child's wishes.

Children must be taught to handle the dogs with respect. An older dog not previously raised with children should not be assumed to be tolerant of children. The Anatolian is not, on the whole, a "gentle giant", though some are very tolerant no matter what happens.



How the Anatolian Shepherd Dog reacts to small children depends on the individual temperament of the dog. Most Anatolians will be affectionate and protective if they are raised in a household with children. However, both the child and the puppy should be supervised at all times to ensure that play remains gentle and to make certain that neither one hurts the other. Very young or unfamiliar children should never be let unattended.

CAN THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG BE A GOOD HOUSEDOG?

Anatolian Shepherd Dogs can live indoors, outdoors, or both. While their double coat insulates them even in

temperature extremes, many Anatolians love to be where their people are. As adults they are quiet and low-keyed.



Growing pups may dig or chew when bored, like most breeds. It is, therefore, important to teach the dog "NO!" at an early age. Some dogs are more destructive than others. Generally, by the time the puppy becomes a mature adult, chewing is no longer a problem. It is an excellent idea to purchase a large wire crate and confine the puppy if you are unable to supervise him. Use of a crate to aid in housetraining and to prevent puppy destruction is highly recommended.

HOW IS THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG WITH OTHER FAMILY PETS?

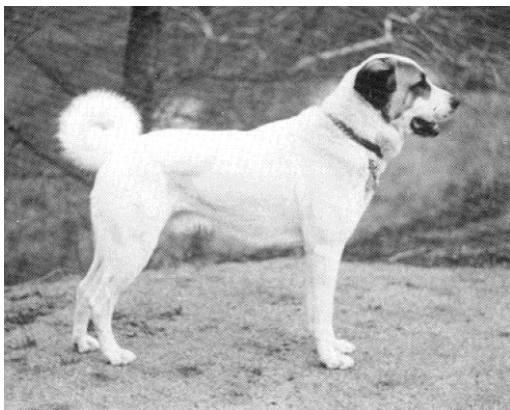
The Anatolian Shepherd Dog consistently likes to be "top dog". Even at a young age, an Anatolian will try and often succeed in dominating the other family pets. A male will dominate a female. Two males most commonly cannot live together in the same household as adults even if they are raised together. Unless the Anatolian is the only family pet, distribution of rawhide chew bones and other chew toys can lead to fights even among pets who are normally compatible.

Puppies usually adapt very well to having other pets in their home and often take them into their protective sphere. On the other hand, an older dog will not adapt as readily to sharing a home with other animals. When bringing new pets into the home (or bringing new livestock into the pasture), it is recommended that care be taken to carefully introduce them to the Anatolian and make sure the Anatolian understands these new acquisitions are "Yours" and not to be harmed. This introduction process may take several days (or weeks) of close supervision. It is unwise to leave newly-introduced animals alone together until you are sure the relationship will be peaceful.

HOW IS THE ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG WITH OTHER ANIMALS?

The most successful relationship with other animals is the situation when the Anatolian Shepherd Dog as a puppy, is introduced under careful supervision to other animals. Once introduced properly, the Anatolian appears to be adoptive by nature, and he will guard other animals as his own possessions. It has also been observed that mature dogs accept more readily, young small animals.

While the Anatolian Shepherd Dog may seem rather passive at times, he will fight very earnestly if he is challenged. They may fight other dogs (or animals) over food or if another animal gets too close to something the Anatolian considers his property. He will chase strange birds and animals which might trespass on his property. He is especially suspicious of any dogs with the upright ear as it reminds him instinctively of the wolf and coyote and other natural predators.



WHAT DETERMINES A WORKING PUPPY? SHOW POTENTIAL? PET QUALITY?

Experienced breeders grade (for conformation) and/or temperament test their puppies at seven to nine weeks of age. A puppy this age will go through many changes and developmental stages.

Temperament testing and a pedigree reflecting several generations of successful livestock guardians are guides to selecting a potential "working puppy". The term "show potential" can mean something as simple as a puppy with no obvious faults. Whether a buyer is interested in a "working dog" or a "show dog", he must familiarize himself with the breed standard and structure and conformation points of the breed in order to select a puppy that conforms as closely as possible to the breed standard.



A puppy with some conformation faults should be offered by a breeder as a "pet". These faults may range from a bad bite (overshot or undershot), missing teeth, monorchidism, hernia, entropion. These animals have a genetic heritage that should NOT be passed on to future generations, but they themselves can still make excellent pets and companions. A responsible breeder may require that a pet be spayed or neutered and the registration papers withheld by the breeder until this is done.

The buyer must always keep in mind that when one is buying a puppy, be it a working dog, show dog or family companion, the buyer must select a puppy from sound healthy breeding stock, breeding stock free from any structural defects or temperament problems. An experienced, responsible breeder will generally have a good working knowledge of how his line will grow and will do everything he can do to match the new owner with the "right puppy".

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS OF OWNERSHIP?

- A person who can be a partner with a loving, protective, independent dog.
- A person who is a strong leader since Anatolian Shepherd Dogs are often dominant and demanding and determined.
- A person who cares how the dog behaves and consistently requires civilized behavior — this means **SOCIALIZATION!**
- A person who accepts a commitment to spend at least 10 hours per week socializing his young Anatolian Shepherd Dog.
- A person who works at establishing a positive relationship with his dog and provides the necessary environment to keep the Anatolian Shepherd Dog healthy, safe and trustworthy.

SUMMARY

- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog bonds with a single person, his family and livestock. He is wary of strangers.
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog has a strong sense of responsibility and works independently. He is intelligent, physically strong and determined.
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is very affectionate and wants to be with his people (preferably leaning on them) or with livestock (lying near the flock).
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog has a strong desire to be in control and to know that his people or livestock are OK! He notices and acts when something is not "normal".
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is NOT friendly to people he does not know. He is reserved and may avoid being touched by a stranger. A pushy person may be growled at.
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is very loving with children, but he may have no respect for his child's wishes. He will regard children as dependent creatures like his sheep. Because of this trait, the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is not a child's dog. He requires an adult as his person.
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog matures slowly. Until the age of 2, he may be very puppyish.
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is not tolerant of animals he does not live with. He is almost always the most dominant dog in the family.
- The Anatolian Shepherd Dog will guard a large area, at least as far as he can see.

Whether the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is being considered as a livestock guardian, show dog, or family companion and protector, consideration must be given to the fact that an Anatolian Shepherd Dog is NOT for everyone. This is not the dog for the person who wants to leave his animal chained up until he has the time for him. If not properly socialized and obedience trained, the dog may become unmanageable with strangers and, upon occasion, with his owner. The Anatolian Shepherd Dog needs to be familiar with the normal activities of the outside world.

If you still feel the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is the breed for you and your family, exercise care in the selection of the breeder and the puppy. Learn all you can about this breed. It is hoped that this booklet has provided some insights into the nature of these magnificent dogs. While

ownership of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog entails more responsibility and commitment than most any other breed of dog, the Anatolian Shepherd Dog can be a wonderful, intelligent companion, guardian and friend.



RECOMMENDED READING

Beauchamp, Richard, ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG, Kennel Club Books, Allenhurst, NJ, 2003

Braund, Kathryn, UNCOMMON BREEDS, Arco Publishing Company, New York, 1977

Coile, D. Caroline, PhD, ENCYCLOPEDIA OF DOG BREEDS, 2nd Edition, Barron's Educational Series, Hauppauge, NY, 2005

Coppinger, Ray & Lorna, DOGS - A New Understanding of Canine Origin, Behavior, & Evolution, The University of Chicago Press, 2002

Dawdyak, Orysia & Sims, David; LIVESTOCK PROTECTION DOGS, 2nd Edition, Alpine Blue Ribbon Books, Loveland, CO, 2004

Flamholtz, Cathy J., A CELEBRATION OF RARE BREEDS, OTR Publications, Fort Payne, AL, 1986

LIVESTOCK GUARDING DOGS: PROTECTING SHEEP FROM PREDATORS, USDA Agriculture Information Bulletin 588, 1999

Lorenz, Jay R & Coppinger, L., Oregon State University Extension Service Circular 1238, "Raising and Training a Livestock Guarding Dog", 1988,

Oliff, Douglas, THE ULTIMATE BOOK OF MASTIFF BREEDS, Howell Book House, NY, 1999

Palika, Liz, THE HOWELL BOOK OF DOGS, Wiley Publishing, Hoboken, NJ, 2007

Rice, Dan DVM, BIG DOG BREEDS, Barron's Educational Series, Hauppauge, NY, 2001

SIMON & SCHUSTER'S GUIDE TO DOGS, Simon and Schuster Publishers, New York, 1980

LIVESTOCK GUARDIANS AT WORK



"The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is a fiercely loyal guard dog that demonstrates a possessive attitude towards family, property and livestock."



"Many Anatolian Shepherd Dogs in the United States are carrying on the tradition of their ancestors by guarding flocks of sheep and goats successfully on ranches and small farms"

PUPPIES IN TRAINING



"The idea is that the pup bond to the livestock and not the human owners. It is this bonding that will later bring out the desire to protect his charges."



"The dogs with the greatest potential for success are those with proven working ancestors and owners committed to careful monitoring of the puppy's progress during the critical first 12 months."

FAMILY PROTECTORS



"The Anatolian Shepherd Dog is loyal and affectionate with family and likes well-behaved children."



"While ownership of the Anatolian Shepherd entails more responsibility and commitment than most any other breed of dog, the Anatolian Shepherd can be a wonderful, intelligent companion, guardian and friend."

IN THE SHOW RING



"The ASDCA holds a National Specialty Show and regional specialties each year, rotating the specialties around the United States."



"The Anatolian Shepherd Dog has also gained acceptance on the international scene, thanks to the efforts of the ASDCA."

IN THE COMMUNITY



"Whether the Anatolian Shepherd Dog is to be primarily a livestock guardian, show dog or family protector, he must be obedience trained." (Certified Therapy Dog)



"The club also maintains an extensive library of printed information on the breed which is available to members and the inquiring public."

OUR FUTURE



"The buyer must always keep in mind that when one is buying a puppy, be it a working dog, show dog or family companion, the buyer must select a puppy from sound, healthy breeding stock..."



"Socialization, training, nutrition and handling all contribute to the future success of a puppy. If time is taken with the young Anatolian Shepherd Dog, he should mature into a responsible, trustworthy adult."

ADVICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNERS

Selecting a puppy is serious business. The wrong choice too often leads to unhappy relationships or even abandoned dogs. Responsible ethical breeders become breeders because they love the breed. The ideal breeder uses only good quality, sound foundation stock, healthy temperaments, healthy bodies with no serious faults. The breeder's invaluable years of expertise should be made available to the novice dog owner, enabling the new owner to avoid the pitfalls the breeder has endured. The onus is on you, the buyer, to do your homework and find a breeder who will do his utmost to help you select the right puppy. The buyer/seller relationship can develop into a lifetime friendship. The ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. hopes that the following Buyer's Guide will help you select a good breeder and make the actual process of acquiring a dog a pleasant and a rewarding experience.

QUESTIONS THE BUYER SHOULD ASK THE BREEDER:

1. Are the sire and dam registered with the ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC., or AKC? Is the litter registered with the ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA, INC. or AKC?
2. How many years have you been involved in the breed and can you provide references from previous buyers?
3. What are the special characteristics of this breed that attracted you to want to become an owner/breeder of Anatolian Shepherds?
4. How many litters do you breed a year?
5. What are some of the drawbacks to owning this breed? (Don't believe them if they answer, "none.")
6. Can you tell me about any inherited/genetic health problems with this breed? Other health considerations?
7. What can you tell me about the history/background/function of this breed?
8. Are the sire and dam x-rayed and certified clear of hip dysplasia? Will you provide copies of the O.F.A. certificates of the sire and dam?
9. Are the sire and dam free of any hereditary diseases/defects?
10. Do the sire and dam have the kind of temperament and personality I desire in my pup?
11. Will you provide a copy of the prospective puppy's pedigree before I purchase?
12. Do you offer a guarantee? Written contract? (Remember, even the best intentions do not always produce 100 percent guaranteed results. Defects sometimes occur, even with healthy parents and proper care. All these things should be taken into consideration before the purchase, with an amicable WRITTEN CONTRACT reached for the "what if.")
13. Can I see the sire and dam and the litter? If it is not possible to travel to see the sire and dam and the litter, can you send photos? Videotape? Are there Anatolian Shepherd Dogs in my area that I can visit to see the breed firsthand?
14. Observe the dogs. Are the dogs clean? Happy? Do the dogs appear healthy?
15. What kind of training is required to have successful working Anatolian Shepherd? Show Dog? Family Protector?
16. Are there any specific grooming requirements?
17. Have the puppies been temperament tested and if so, what were the results?
18. What is the price of the puppies? (Price varies, but usually is between \$800-\$1500 depending on the quality of the parents and the litter and reputation of the breeder). The ASDCA will provide a Breeder's List on request.

QUESTIONS THE BREEDER SHOULD ASK THE BUYER

1. What is your objective in purchasing an Anatolian Shepherd Dog? Are you looking for a working dog, show potential or family protector? What made you decide to get a dog at this time? (This breed is definitely NOT recommended for Schutzhund training.)
2. Do you now own or have you owned an Anatolian Shepherd Dog? Do you have any other dogs? Pets? Livestock? How many and what kind?
3. What has been your experience with dogs? If you do not have any dogs at this time, how long did you have your last dog? What happened to it?
4. Do you have well-behaved children?
5. Do you live in a house? Apt.? Ranch? Do you have proper facilities to care for this dog? Fencing?
6. What is your work schedule? Are you committed to devoting large amounts of time to the socialization required in the successful upbringing of an Anatolian Shepherd Dog? Do you have the time to attend training classes?
7. Do you plan to breed? Are you willing to spay/neuter a dog sold as a pet?
8. Do you have the finances to provide quality food/veterinary care/facilities for a large dog?
9. Will you keep in touch as to the progress of the puppy? Will you call me first if you ever have to place the dog in another home?

BE RESPONSIBLE: If you are a first-time buyer, have you studied the Breed Standard to form a definitive picture in your head of what is a good specimen of the breed? When you make your first contact with a breeder, remember that most breeders are hobbyists whose kennel is part of their home. Please call ahead at a reasonable hour and make an appointment. If you do not feel comfortable with the answers you get from the breeder, politely thank them for their time and move on to the next breeder. Most breeders genuinely love dogs and will do their utmost to help you select the right puppy.

"The trick is not to fall in love with a pup but rather to love the dog he'll become!"

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASDCA?

**A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION PACKAGE CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE
ASDCA WEB SITE AT WWW.ASDCA.ORG**

ANATOLIAN SHEPHERD DOG CLUB OF AMERICA **CODE OF ETHICS**

Adopted by ASDCA Board of Directors 2004; Approved by ASDCA Membership 2005

This Code of Ethics is established in accordance with the objectives of the ASDCA as set forth in the Bylaws. It is established to set a standard of conduct by all members of the Anatolian Shepherd Dog Club of America. It is presented as a guideline for the use of ASDCA members and the general public when buying, breeding, selling and exhibiting Anatolian Shepherd Dogs.

The Anatolian Shepherd is a very special breed of dog, developed over many centuries under rigorous working conditions to perform a specific job – protect livestock. As breeders of these dogs, we are dedicated to maintaining the same degree of uniformity in working behavior, temperament, soundness and overall conformation as these dogs have exhibited for millennia in their native lands.

As a member in good standing of the ASDCA I hereby agree:

1. To abide by the ASDCA By-Laws and the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.
2. That all advertising shall be honest and not in any way misrepresenting, fraudulent, or misleading.
3. To maintain the highest of standards of canine health, cleanliness, and care.
4. That no ASD will be knowingly sold to franchised commercial facilities, puppy brokers, puppy mills or agents. No stud dog will be knowingly bred to any bitch whose owner is directly or indirectly involved with any puppy broker, puppy mill, or any other commercial enterprise whose business is involved in like activities. No ASD will be sold or donated to a research laboratory. No dog will be offered as a prize or sold at auction.
5. All breeding done will be done with the intentions of improving the breed and never for purely commercial reasons.
6. All breeding dogs/bitches must be certified radiographic free of hip dysplasia at age 2 or more by the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals or comparable agency. Copies of this certification to be provided to puppy buyers, upon request.
7. All breeding Bitches and Dogs should be physically mature and at least two years of age with no disqualifying faults per the AKC Standard. Bitches should not be bred two heats in a row without veterinary approval.
8. Puppies will not be shipped before 8 weeks of age.
9. To realistically evaluate all puppies and to sell or place all non-breeding ASD on spay/neuter contracts with limited registration papers (offspring non-registerable).
10. To take responsibility for all offspring produced in my breeding program and to assist in their lifetime placements and re-homing if necessary.

