

Norrbottenspets Breed Information

General Information:

The Norrbottenspets is a small, spitz-type hound of Scandinavian origin that uses sight, scent, and hearing to hunt forest game and then holds the game at bay and calls the hunter with high-pitched vocalizations. To navigate the rough terrain and climate of Scandinavian forests and hold large dangerous game, like moose, Norrbottenspets are extremely agile, rugged, and weatherproof with a fearless attitude, while at the same time kind and affectionate companions at fireside and home. Norrbottenspets exhibit no extremes in physical characteristics because they must do all things well. The Norrbottenspets is a compact, well-muscled, yet agile dog. Norrbottenspets vocalize when excited. Norrbottenspets typically live into their teen years, with occasional individuals reaching their late teens. Norrbottenspets typically range from 15 inches to 18 inches tall. Norrbottenspets should weigh between 20-30 pounds.

Vocalization/Barking:

The Norrbottenspets is a barking hound. They were bred to have high-pitched, rapid barks that served multiple purposes. The bark allowed the hunter to locate their dog in the forest while hunting – before GPS collars were available. The barking also disoriented the animal and allowed the hunter to approach undetected. Norrbottenspets often bark when excited, playing, when they see other animals (hunting). When living in city limits, they can also be known to bark at cars and people walking by. Adequate exercise can help reduce, but not eliminate barking. Bark collars are not recommended to control barking as this is a breed trait. A Norrbottenspets should never be debarked. Behavioral modification training is the most successful way to reduce barking.

Exercise:

The Norrbottenspets has a moderate to high energy level. They should receive exercise daily in the form of walks, hiking, playing, etc. Norrbottenspets should never be allowed off-leash in an unfenced area. Even well trained Norrbottenspets can have issues with recall if they see something that they believe is “prey.”

Temperament:

Norrbottenspets should be calm, keen, and confident, but not aggressive.

Shedding/Coat Care:

The Norrbottenspets is a double coated breed that typically sheds twice per year, depending on climate. Frequent bathing has tendencies to dry out their skin. Norrbottenspets have no doggy odor. Mud, once dried, simply brushes out and the coat will look clean again.

Health:

The primary health concerns in the Norrbottenspets breed are epilepsy, cataracts, and luxating patellas.

Training:

Norrbottenspets are smart and often learn quickly. Individuals can become bored of repetitive training. It is recommended to train in short sessions or to work on several activities in one session.

Breed Contact Information:

More information on the Norrbottenspets can be found at:

<http://norrbottenspets.weebly.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/American-Norrbottenspets-Association-141720995929205/>

Please do not hesitate to contact the American Norrbottenspets Association (above) with any questions on Norrbottenspets.