

# The Plott Hound

## Tori Houle, Lifestyle Contributor and Junior Editor

Tori has more than 2 years of experience in the pet health industry and is junior editor of IDEXX's Pet Health Network team.

### Background

The Plott Hound is one of seven [breeds](#) of registered coonhounds, and the only one whose ancestry does not trace back to the [foxhound](#). Plott Hounds originated in Germany and were used for hunting boar. Johannes Plott came to the United States in 1750 with the forerunners to these hounds. Plott kept his strain exclusively pure with no outcrosses.

The Plott had multiple jobs during the 19th century including protecting the home, driving livestock, and keeping a watchful eye on the family and children.

The Plott Hound was recognized by the [American Kennel Club](#) in 2006.

### Sizing up

- Weight: 40 to 60 lbs.
- Height: 20 to 25 inches
- Coat: Short-medium, fine, smooth, and glossy
- Color: Brindled, yellow, red, tan, brown, black, grey, and maltese
- Life expectancy: 12 to 14 years

### What's the Plott Hound like?

The Plott Hound loves children and will often protect them, making the Plott an excellent family dog. He has a rather loud bark and thoroughly enjoys talking, especially when he's bored, because he loves attention. Plotts need a fair amount of [exercise](#) and would like to accompany you on a nice long walk, or hike. They are very curious [dogs](#) and thrive on exploration so when they're off the leash make sure you keep an eye on them. They are very good at escaping even from the smallest of places.

The Plott can be stubborn and independent so early [training](#) is highly recommended. Be patient with the training sessions and use a lot of positive reinforcement because he can be forgetful of what he's learned.

This Plott was bred for hunting, and would be so excited to go out on the trails with you. He is very fast and can tough it out through many different terrain conditions.

The Plott Hound should be groomed at least once a week with a rubber brush to remove dead hair and distribute [skin](#) oils.

### Health

The Plott Hound is generally a healthy breed but could be susceptible to:

- [Hip dysplasia](#)
- [Bloat](#)
- Gastric torsion (twisted gut)

### Takeaway points

- The Plott Hound is extremely easy and quick to groom.
- The Plott Hound loves children and looks out for them as if they were his own.
- The Plott Hound would make a great companion for a jogger, hiker and especially a hunter.
- The Plott Hound follows his nose so installing a fence isn't a bad idea.

*If you have any questions or concerns, you should always visit or call your veterinarian -- they are your best resource to ensure the health and well-being of your pets.*