

Understanding the Samoyed

No one breed is the ideal for every person, family or situation. Learning about and understanding Samoyed breed traits, and thoroughly examining ones own lifestyle must first be done to ensure a harmonious meld. This is an essential step for any human/canine union to encounter success.

The Samoyed is a medium sized (19-21.5" females; 21-23.5" males), social dog with a strong sense of "pack." He takes well to families large or small; with or without other pets. Because of his social nature, he should not be expected to endure long periods of isolation without complaint. A lonely Samoyed can be a noisy and destructive Samoyed. And please do not rationalize that because he carries a heavy coat, he should be relegated to "outdoor dog" status. A Samoyed will ALWAYS want to be where YOU are.

Despite his arctic heritage, Samoyeds have adapted quite well to warmer climates. Not naturally a bothersome or demanding dog, he will exhibit great contentment and pleasure simply by being close to his "pack." Care, however, must be taken in the early training of any breed to ensure that the humans are the unchallenged 'pack leader', to enjoy an obedient and happy pet who accepts authority. Obedience and socialization classes should be strongly considered for any dog's benefit, and the Samoyed is no exception. Charming, intelligent, active and playful through old age - Sam is amazingly comical, while thoughtfully sensitive.

Samoyeds possess a white, biscuit, or cream double coat - an outer-coat of harsh, straight guard hair for protection against the weather, and a downy, soft undercoat for warmth. Grooming requirements are not onerous, but they are regular and must be thorough to retain both the dogs comfort and beauty. Shedding of the undercoat is seasonal, and part of life. Sun and moisture are the enemy to the Samoyed's coat, and must be taken to prevent the damaging effects of the elements through thoughtful housing.

Samoyeds are not natural guard dogs. Their friendly nature often makes them neighborhood favorites, and it is likely they would greet a thief with almost as much exuberance as they offer those they know. This is one of their most beloved traits however, and fanciers treasure the faithful and loyal smile that greets them every time they come home. No toy or miniature versions of the Samoyed exist. Although there are breeds that bear physical resemblance - the treasured Samoyed nature remains exclusive to itself.



Wonderland Samoyed Safe Haven

The mission of Wonderland Samoyed Safe Haven (WSSH) is to rescue, rehabilitate, and provide a safe haven and home for Samoyeds in need. Guided by the humane ethic, we protect the breed from neglect, abuse, and exploitation. WSSH seeks to inspire awareness and compassion for all living things.

Visit us at www.wssh.org or write to us at main@wssh.org