

Basenji

African non-barking dog

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Basenji

Basenji, or an African non-barking dog , is one of the oldest breeds of dogs. The history of the breed totals about 5000 years, the region of origin is central Africa. The uniqueness of the breed is that its representatives do not bark, but they produce special sounds peculiar to the Basenji, similar to the rumbling, but they can be heard only when the dog is excited. Also feature of the breed are wrinkles on the forehead (with tinnitus) and a tightly twisted tail.



History of the breed

In Ancient Egypt these dogs were brought as a present to the pharaohs, who revered the Basenji very much and considered them to be a living guard. This is evidenced by the wall murals of the Basenji in the tombs of the pharaohs, as well as the found mummies of the dogs, who were buried with honors along with their great masters. Dogs like basenji were common in Nubia (the territory of modern Sudan). In the burials of the ancient culture of Kerma, archaeologists discovered the grave of a woman, and at her feet a dog similar to a Basenji. In the African country of the Congo, the basenji are still used in hunting and are highly regarded for their excellent hunting qualities.



In 1895 the Basenjis first left the African continent and were brought by seafarers to England, but, unfortunately, these dogs did not survive.

In 1905, the Basenji appeared in the Berlin Zoo as exotic animals, and in the 1930s were again brought from Africa to England. It was in England that the standard of the breed was approved, which is still used today.

In 1937, the first Basenji appeared at an exhibition in the US called "Congo-terrier", after which they paid attention to the breed. In 1941, a pair of Basenji was brought to America, and the spread of this breed around the world began.



These are strong dogs, with good immunity, fearless and self-confident, and the appearance of the breed has practically not changed during the entire existence of the Basenji. The natural silence of the Basenji in the homeland is explained by the myth that in the old days, when animals could talk, the leader of the pack accidentally heard the important secret of one tribe of people. In order not to accidentally say a word, he and his pack promised that they would never tell what had been heard, and from that moment they were silenced forever.



Description

Today, the Basenji are very popular as companions, they are attracted by the lack of bark and smell, bright appearance, small size, and also an extraordinary mind and affectionate character. Basenji are active dogs, they are great for coursing and agility, and also perfectly show themselves at exhibitions (movements of the basenji are light and beautiful).



Height and weight.

Ideal height at the withers: males 43 cm, bitches 40 cm.

Ideal weight: males 11 kg, females 9.5 kg.

Color: there are 4 colors of the Basenji:

Red with white;

saturated black with white;

tricolor (rich black with red-and-red tan, with marks above the eyes,

on the muzzle and cheekbones);

tiger (black stripes on a red-ginger background).



At all colors - white paws, a breast and a tip of a tail. White legs, a mark on the head and a collar are not necessary. White color should never prevail over the main color. Color and markings should be saturated color, clear, well-formed, with a clear boundary between black and red in tricolors and stripes in tiger.

Basenji litters are few, on average 4-5 puppies are born.

