

dog. They should also call before they schedule the dog for euthanizing. We ask adopters to **donate** to GSP rescue, but there is no fee for our services.

Senior dogs appear frequently in our program. Some owners will “dump” their long lived GSP because they are changing lifestyle or do not have the patience or funds to work with an aged GSP. We have had remarkable success in placing seniors.

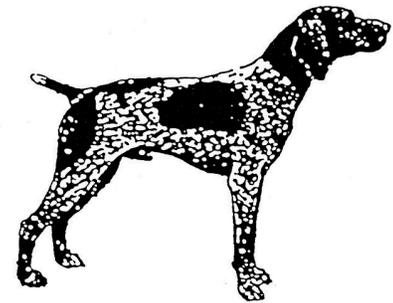
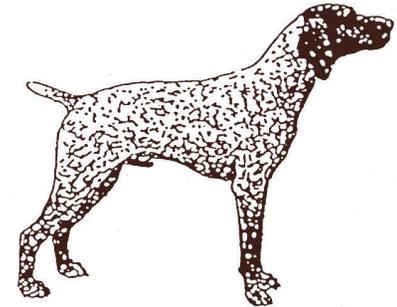
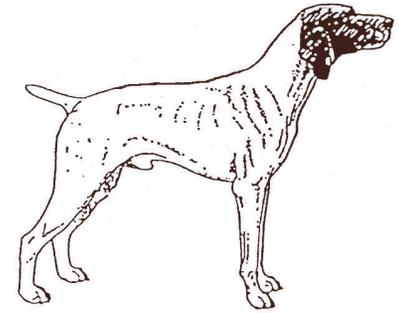
If the dog is failing or terminally ill, it cannot and should not be placed. If the shelter is unable to see these dogs to a dignified end, GSP rescue will do so.

Aggression is not a GSP characteristic. It is seen in poor upbringing, abuse or occasional bad genetic combination. GSP rescue does not place dogs that have shown irrational aggression or have bitten people.

If you wish to talk about a dog with such problems, or have the dog evaluated, call us. If you know that the dog is a successive biter, euthanizing is the best solution.

Contact us at:
[www. GSPRESCUE.org](http://www.GSPRESCUE.org)

YOUR REGIONAL
REPRESENTATIVE:



GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER RESCUE

INFORMATION

Our parent club, The German Shorthaired Pointer Club of America, has sanctioned a network to rescue GSPs which have been in shelters or pounds for a period of time, or are in danger of being euthanized.

Local clubs around the country have representatives to find foster care, veterinary care and placement for GSPs in need of rehoming.

We would like to emphasize that we are not a dumping off spot for unwanted pets or pets returned to breeders. Owners have some responsibility to place their own dogs, and breeders are responsible for their own litters, for the life of the dogs.

Our protocols for placement are similar to most shelters: the dogs must have all shots, be heartworm negative and neutered before placement or promptly after.

We do not place dogs that have shown any aggression towards humans. We only take into foster care those GSPs who may not fare well in the shelter or whose condition is extreme. If the dog does not thrive in its new home, it must be returned to us.

We prefer to refer new owners to dogs in shelters or pounds, so the relationship is between the shelter and the new home.

The German Shorthaired Pointer is a special breed with special needs. We who know the breed can do special service by screening prospective adopters. We want to work with

shelters to ensure that there are no GSPs that are without new homes.

THE GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER

The GSP developed in the 19th century in Germany as an all around hunting dog and family companion. Breed development continued into the 20th century, combining characteristics from other hunting breeds.

The first known German Shorthairs were imported to the US between 1890 and 1920. More than 12,000 are registered each year with the American Kennel Club.

HOW YOU KNOW A SHORTHAIR

Color can range from solid liver to a bright white body with a liver head. There are also a rare few black or black and white ticked (small flecking with white background) GSPs. Many of these are German imports, but more and more are being bred in the US. These are not yet accepted in the show ring here.

Color pattern ranges greatly. GSPs may have blazes or solid liver heads; they can be ticked with large solid color patches or roan (ticking so thick it appears solid color).

Size ranges widely. Females range between 35 and 70 lbs, depending on height and condition. Males range from 45 to 90lbs, but extremes are unusual.

Tail docking is a part of our standard. The rule is to leave 40% of the original tail a few days after birth. This is to prevent injury if the dog hunts or runs in heavy brush later in life. Not all GSPs have docked tails, so call us if you are unsure.

Character and Disposition of the GSP is kindly. GSP's are highly energetic, athletic dogs. They need exercise, fenced yards, or a running companion in the family. The older dogs are less active and ideal choices for families who want an easier dog.

They are generally good with children and other dogs, depending on early socialization.

They like to hunt for themselves, and unless they have grown up with cats and small animals, can be sharp with them.

Rescue volunteers around the country are usually available to evaluate a GSP for placement. Ideal placement is with a family who can provide generous attention. GSPs can be devoted to the point of dependency.

Fencing, invisible fencing and leash running are all suitable. Cable runs are dangerous to active dogs. Responsible dog ownership includes preventing all free running dogs, regardless of breed.

GSP's from shelter situations may or may not do well with avid hunters. They may never have been hunted and still do well, or they may have been made gun-shy. They should be placed primarily as companions. Formal obedience training supports the bond between owner and GSP and ensures better behavior.

In the shelter or pound, a lost or strayed GSP may mourn or suffer kennel shock. Contact rescue immediately if you think a dog is at risk.

Euthanizing pounds and shelters should call us as soon as they get a GSP in. We sometimes have approved adopters waiting for the right