

## Glossary of Terms

All other breed-related books tell only the good things about breeds. Every breed has its pluses and minuses and sticking to just the good things does a disservice to potential owners. A lot of breed description books read like useless horoscopes – so general as to not be helpful at all. And when was the last time you had a bad horoscope? “There is a good likelihood of death if your moon is in Venus. Probably because your moon is in Venus, because honestly no one expects the moon to be there.” There are a lot of euphemisms used in other breed books and below is a glossary of those terms and what they really mean. We try to give breed examples when applicable.

Term: Energetic, lively, high-spirited

Interpretation: Will get on your nerves every minute of the day (Jack Russell)

Term: Vocal

Interpretation: Never shuts up. Never. Never, ever, ever. (Dachshund)

Term: Matures late

Interpretation: Never matures; will act like a two-year old child its whole life and ask "Why?" a lot

Term: Strong personality

Interpretation: Biter

Term: Emotionally sensitive

Interpretation: Piddles on itself if the wind shifts

Term: Playful with children

Interpretation: Like killer whales with baby seals (Cane Corso) or could just mean playful with children (Labrador)

Term: Has a mind of his own

Interpretation: Will resist you every moment (German Shepherd)

Term: Tireless

Interpretation: Literally means tireless; What? You're tired? Too bad. (Schipperke)

Term: Faithful companion

Interpretation: Won't steal your wallet

Term: Anxious and timid

Interpretation: Fear biter

Term: Daily brushing required

Interpretation: Your new full-time job (Old English Sheep dog)

Term: Reserved toward strangers

Interpretation: Biter - at least of strangers

Term: Devoted to owner

Interpretation: Does not like or accept anyone else (Chow Chow)

Term: Nervous, sensitive, impulsive

Interpretation: Biter. And compulsive shopper. (Belgian Malinois)

Term: Needs early, firm, gentle training

Interpretation: Good luck with training. Any training.

Term: Perky, cheerful, constantly alert

Interpretation: Annoying. Keep away from caffeine.

Term: Suspicious of strangers

Interpretation: Xenophobe. (Australian Shepherd)

Term: Mixture of exuberance and serenity

Interpretation: Bi-polar. (Affenpinscher)

Term: Disquieting, resolute expression

Interpretation: Judgmental. (Doberman)

Term: High-strung

Interpretation: Psychotic.

Term: Dominant, self-assured, strong-willed

Interpretation: Fascist. Doesn't need you to tell them what to do. In fact, they want to tell you a thing or two.

Term: Gentle, tender, kind, affectionate

Interpretation: Push-over. Cries a lot.

Term: Aggressive toward other dogs

Interpretation: On one end - doesn't play well with others; on the other end - serial killer.

Term: Mischievous

Interpretation: Practical joker. Poops at night in areas where you are sure to walk. (Cairn Terrier)

Term: Strong, independent, rarely barks

Interpretation: Quiet biter. (Akita)

Term: Does not like to be alone

Interpretation: Will destroy your home while you're away.

Term: Intelligent

Interpretation: Is on to you and your tricks.

Term: Needs a lot of love and attention

Interpretation: Cloying. Needy. Insecure. Endless attention-seeker. (Shih Tzu)

Term: Possessive

Interpretation: Possessed. (Chihuahua)

Term: Requires special care or has "special needs"

Interpretation: You will spend a lot in veterinary care (Shar Pei)

Term: A lot of character

Interpretation: Pain in the ass

Term: Healthy and spirited temperament

Interpretation: Will bite you in a spirited manner