

The Cockapoo draws its characteristics from both of its parent breeds. From the Cocker Spaniel, the Cockapoo inherits most of his personality traits, such as being outgoing and loving and having a strong and sturdy body. The Poodle inheritance includes intelligence, high activity level, low-level shedding, and low dander production.

The American Kennel Club does not recognize the Cockapoo as a purebred because successive generations do not consistently produce predictable characteristics of the breed. For example, if you bred two poodles to each other, you are passing on to the puppies pretty similar DNA from both sides. Therefore, you would expect that the puppies would look similar to both of the parents and would be likely to have the desirable characteristics responsible breeders try to promote by selectively breeding only the most outstanding examples of the poodle breed.

You've heard the old joke: "She has her grandmother's face...and boy, does it look better without the wrinkles!" The point is that certain familial traits are passed from one side of the family or the other, and each side has very different DNA. This is what happens when you cross two different breeds to create a hybrid. Any given puppy may inherit mostly Cocker characteristics or mostly Poodle characteristics or a mish-mash of both. This is why we never know what we're going to get with a new litter. We often have people call and ask what our next litter will be (color, sex, size, etc.) because you are producing a hybrid they take on traits of each parent and each litter is a great surprise!

A breed standard simply cannot be devised at this time that will apply to most Cockapoos because there is a huge variance in looks and temperament from dog to dog depending on which parent breed they favor. This is why Cockapoo puppies do not come with registration, although the parents may be registered, because you are producing a hybrid that is not recognized as a breed the puppies are not able to be registered as a purebred dog.

Some purebred breeders will tell you that a hybrid dog inherits only the worst tendencies of each of the parent breeds. This may be a glass half-full vs. glass half-empty type of argument. What Cockapoo breeders have noted is that the Cocker-Poodle mix brings out the best in both breeds, known as hybrid vigor. In fact, Cockapoos have a longer life span than many dogs of their size, living as long as 18 to even 22 years. In addition, by crossing two different breeds, you are enlarging the gene pool, thus reducing the chances that defects will be reproduced in successive generations. Another reason why they are such great dogs!!

The Poodles most commonly bred to Cocker Spaniels are the toy and miniature. The Toy Poodle stands less than 10 inches and weighs just 6 to 9 pounds. The Miniature Poodle stands 10 - 15 inches and weighs 15 to 17 pounds. The Cocker itself stands 14 to 17 inches tall and weighs 25 to 34 pounds. The mating produces a Cockapoo somewhere in between the two, standing 10 - 15 inches tall and weighing 6 - 20 pounds. Here at cute cockapoos we have one or two toy female poodles and the rest are miniature so our pups are an average of 16-22lbs, but depending on what parent they take after their sizes

always vary so we are unable to guarantee what size the pup will for sure be, but we can give you a good estimate.

The coat of a Cockapoo may be any color. The style ranges, as you might expect, from the defined curls of a Poodle to the wavy, nearly straight, hair of a Cocker. The fur around the eyes is generally trimmed to prevent the dog's vision from being obscured. Other than that, the fur may be clipped to a 2 - 3" "puppy cut" or left naturally long, which requires brushing to prevent tangles. The tail is undocked and may be carried straight or curled.

So what makes a Cockapoo a Cockapoo? There are many variations of the breed which occur through different breeding programs, all depending on your breeder and what they want to create. An example would be using an American or English Cocker and the Poodle can be a Standard, Miniature, or Toy.

The breed is also bred by generation therefore you can use purebred Cockers/Poodles or also use Cockapoos themselves for breeding. For example a purebred Cocker Spaniel bred to a purebred Poodle will create a Cockapoo known as a first generation or F1 Cockapoo. An F1 Cockapoo bred to another F1 Cockapoo will create a second generation Cockapoo F2. An F1 Cockapoo bred back to a purebred Cocker or purebred Poodle creates a Cockapoo puppy known as an F1b Cockapoo with the B showing that the dog was bred back to a purebred Cocker or Poodle. A generation can move up when two of the same generation are bred together but all are still considered Cockapoos because they are still a mix of the Cocker Spaniel/Poodle DNA. By combining the DNA of two purebreds it is thought to bring out the best of both breeds to create the Cockapoo. By crossing the two breeds it is said to enlarge the gene pool therefore reducing the chances of genetic defects being spread throughout the generations.

Cocker Spaniel (any type) bred to a Poodle (any size) = F1 Cockapoo

Poodle (any size) bred to a Cocker Spaniel (any type)= F1 Cockapoo

F1 Cockapoo bred to a purebred Cocker or purebred Poodle = F1b Cockapoo

F1 Cockapoo bred to another F1 Cockapoo= F2 Cockapoo (second generation)

Cockapoos are a great, loyal, and friendly breed of dog and are excellent for families! They generally have a calm, mellow disposition, are sweet and patient in nature, have high intelligence, loyalty, friendliness, sturdiness, stamina, and good health.