

## The Shiloh Shepherd

**Group:** Herding

**Weight:** Males: 100 - 140 Females: 80 - 120 lbs

**Height:** Males: 28 - 31 inches Females: 26 – 29 inches

### History

The late Tina Barber of New York, USA, who was a German shepherd fancier, had been breeding these dogs during the 1960's. During the 1970's she changed her standard of breeding, and started breeding very large Shepherd dogs. During 1990 she registered the Shiloh Shepherds with the American Rare Breed Association (ARBA) as a different breed from the German Shepherds.

### Characteristics

Shiloh Shepherds are without fear, and this makes them excellent guard dogs. These dogs should attend puppy kindergarten and have some obedience training. Plenty of exposure to other dogs, both large and small, other animals and children whenever possible are a definite benefit. Shiloh Shepherds are very easy to train seeing that they learn very quickly. These dogs are vigorous, gracious and a pleasure to be around. Shiloh Shepherds show a somewhat similar temperament to the German shepherd, but it is more even. These dogs should not show signs of shyness or aggressiveness.

### Temperament

Shiloh Shepherds are similar to German Shepherds, except that they are bigger and much more even-tempered. Shiloh Shepherds are still fairly unknown, but they make wonderful companion dogs. They are very clever dogs, brave and full of confidence. Shiloh Shepherds can make a good guard and watch dogs and are confidently protective without being aggressive, although they are mostly known for their natural herding instinct. They possess a calm confidence, but they are not aggressive at all. This breed is serious, and possesses an almost human-like intelligence. Shiloh Shepherds learn very quickly, and love to be close to their families.

### Care

Shiloh Shepherds either have smooth or plush coats. The plush coats require regular brushing in order to keep it free from tangles/mats mostly behind their ears, tails and back of hind legs and the smooth coats requires a lot less grooming. This breed does shed like any Shepherd breed and can shed even more on a seasonal basis. These dogs should not be bathed often, only once or twice during the year to make sure they don't lose all their skin oils.

### Training

This breed possesses plenty of intelligence, and they love to please their owners. The Shiloh Shepherd will require a dominant and confident owner especially during their first year. Dominance issues may arise in these dogs if they are not trained/socialized correctly. These dogs will do extremely well in obedience, and early firm handling is necessary to avoid aggression problems. Obedience classes are recommended for these dogs at an early age.