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## ***So you want a Siberian Husky?***

Of course you do, they're beautiful... Here are 10 things you should know before adopting a Siberian Husky. Many are put up for adoption simply because new owners are not aware of the demands of their new pet.

### ***1. Huskies are friendly.***

All dogs are pack animals but with a husky it is all the more evident. Attention and interaction within a pack is what a Siberian Husky yearns for. Make sure you have enough time to provide your husky with the interaction it needs. A Husky is not the best choice if you are away from home for more than eight hours a day, although having another canine companion may help.

### ***2. Huskies are stubborn.***

They will do what they want to do... when they want to do it. As such it is not uncommon for a husky to challenge you and attempt to disobey a command or try their luck in breaking the rules.

### ***3. Huskies and other pets.***

Siberian Huskies are friendly and generally get along with other dogs. They have a strong predatory nature which means other small pets such as birds, mice, hamsters and rabbits may not be a good combination. Integrating a husky with smaller pets is possible but should be done at a very young age and with supervision.

### ***4. Hot Huskies.***

Siberian Huskies come from the arctic conditions of their namesake and areas with cooler climates. If you do live in a warmer area your husky must have access to suitable amounts of shade, air conditioning and water.

### ***5. Living with a Husky.***

Siberian Huskies are independent and inquisitive animals. They have powerful back legs and can jump to impressive heights from a sitting position so your property must have tall boundaries – 1.8m is good. They are also great escape artists and they like to dig so their enclosed space should be adequately secured both above and below ground.

### ***6. Exercising and your Husky.***

Huskies have lots of energy. If they have a small area at home they will need regular walks and exercise otherwise boredom and destructive behaviour may come about. They can make ideal jogging partners and will probably outrun their owner but, as with all animals, they must not be exercised in excessive heat.

### ***7. Houdini Huskies.***

Huskies are notorious for having little to no recall when out in unfamiliar areas and it is advised, unless you are in a secure and enclosed area, not to let your husky off the lead. No amount of calling or whistling will get their attention and don't think for a moment you can chase after them. Huskies can run fast...

### ***8. Husky Home Security.***

If you're looking for a guard dog a husky is not the right choice. They may seem imposing but huskies seldom bark and their temperament means they are more likely to become friends with an intruder than scare them away. What they lack in barking Huskies make up for in whining/ howling sounds we refer to as 'talking'.

### ***9. Huskies and eating.***

For such an energetic dog Huskies can get by on relatively little. They can be fussy and may go several days without eating. This is completely normal so simply continue to feed them at a normal hour and they will eat when they are ready. When choosing food for your husky, try to avoid foods containing grains, vegetables and added fillers and preservatives otherwise you are restricting the amount of beneficial nutrients.

### ***10. Husky hair.***

Huskies require a medium amount of maintenance when it comes to grooming and a regular brush will normally be enough. In losing, or preparing to gain, their winter coat a Husky will 'blow' its coat. Be ready for a fluffy explosion as huge clumps of fur quite literally blow off your dog. During this time your husky's coat will need extra attention.

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