

The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel



A Blenheim
Cavalier and a
Tricolour side by
side.

History

Like all dog breeds, the Cavalier Spaniel was bred into harmlessness from wolves. They are currently classified as a “toy dog.” This means that they are just very small, however, some may argue that cavaliers are medium-sized dogs. Being one of the oldest toy dog breeds, King Charles cavaliers have a very long history mainly being depicted in the late 16th century. This dog breed is also closely related to Japanese dog breeds like the Japanese Shin, which was so small it could fit inside sleeves to attack crime doers. In later years European royalty used these pups to keep their hands and feet warm during cold winter nights.

Very soon a certain king took a love for them and the breed was never the same again. King Charles 2nd loved these dogs because of their personality and similarity to the king himself. He changed the dog breeds name to “King Charles” after himself and “cavalier” because that was the name of his army. He also had pugs and cavaliers crossbred to give a more cute, flat snout. People say that because of King Charles’s love for these huggable bunch it gave them the royalty status that they own today. However, Cavaliers only began to have American popularity in the 2000s.

Appearances

Cavaliers have four varieties of coat colours. Tricolours have a black coat with white underlayer and a portion of brown fur around the face and the more well-known Blenheim variety which has a light brown coat and a white underlayer. There are also Ruby Cavaliers which are chestnut brown all over but there is a thin underlayer of white fur. There is one more variety of King Charles spaniels called the black and tan variety which is self-explanatory (it’s black and brown.) These coat colours are very common today, however in the very early history their coats were red and white.

Countries and their pups

Cavalier King Charles do originate from England, but soon some of these pups were sent to France and immediately the country fell in love with them. Even Mary Queen of the Scots took a King Charles with her to her beheading. USA, Japan, China, Europe and France are in love with them and I hope you understand the breed as well.