



## Which Doodle Is Right for Your Family?

A practical guide to Bernedoodles, Goldendoodles, Sheepadoodles, Cavadoodles, Aussiedoodles, and Australian Bernedoodles

Choosing a puppy is about more than appearance. This guide will help you compare temperament, size, grooming, energy, and lifestyle fit so you can make a confident, informed decision.



*Where every puppy is family, and every family is supported for life.*

## Welcome

*Bringing home a puppy is exciting, but choosing the right breed can feel overwhelming, especially if you are new to Doodles.*

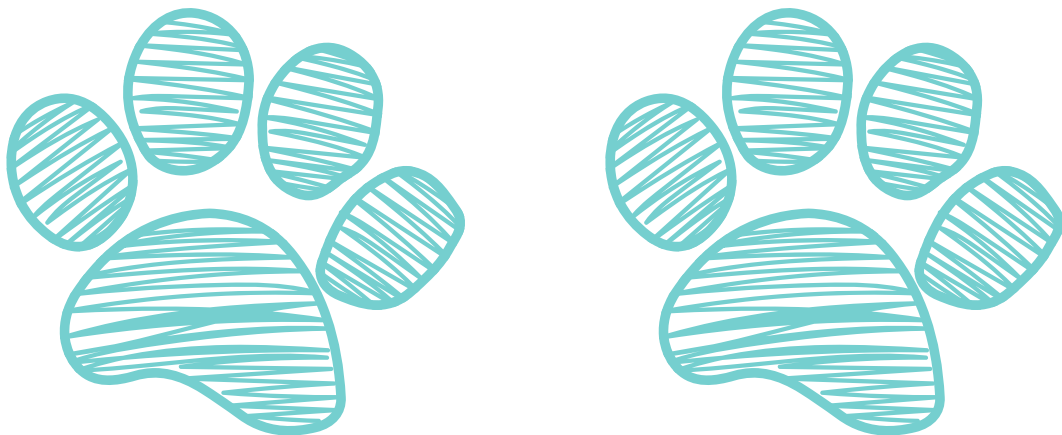
*At Happy Top Doodles, we believe the right puppy is about more than coat color or looks. The best fit depends on your lifestyle, activity level, home environment, grooming expectations, and the kind of companion you want to welcome into your family.*

*This guide is designed to give you a simple, helpful overview of the breeds we raise so you can better understand how they compare in everyday life. While every puppy is an individual, breed tendencies can still offer a valuable starting point.*

### **As you read, think about:**

- *how active your household is*
- *how much grooming you are comfortable with*
- *whether you want a more playful or more easygoing companion*
- *what size makes the most sense for your home and routine*

*Our goal is not to tell you there is one perfect breed for everyone. It is to help you discover which breed may be the best fit for your family.*



## Quick Breed Comparison

### **Bernedoodle**

**Typical Size in Our Program: 25–35 lbs**

**Energy Level:** Moderate

**Grooming Needs:** Moderate to High

**Personality Style:** Loyal, affectionate, adaptable

**Often a Great Fit For:** Families wanting a loving companion with a somewhat calmer overall feel



### **Goldendoodle**

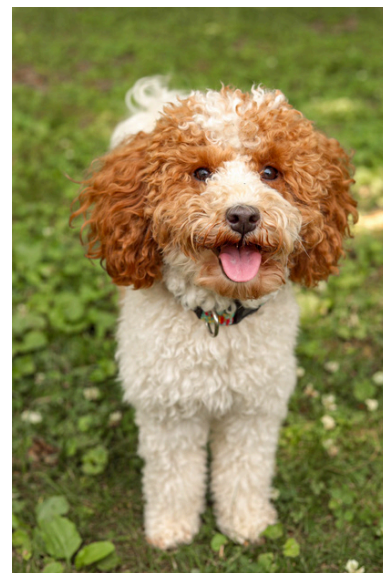
**Typical Size in Our Program: 25–35 lbs**

**Energy Level:** Moderate to Moderately High

**Grooming Needs:** Moderate to High

**Personality Style:** Friendly, social, eager to please

**Often a Great Fit For:** Families wanting an outgoing, versatile, people-oriented dog



### **Sheepadoodle**

**Typical Size in Our Program: 25–40 lbs**

**Energy Level:** Moderate

**Grooming Needs:** High

**Personality Style:** Playful, expressive, smart

**Often a Great Fit For:** Families wanting a fun-loving dog with personality and presence



Size ranges reflect the typical adult weight of puppies in our program and may vary by litter and parent pairing.

## **Cavadoodle**

**Typical Size in Our Program: 15–20 lbs**

**Energy Level:** Moderate

**Grooming Needs:** Moderate

**Personality Style:** Sweet, affectionate, companion-focused

**Often a Great Fit For:** Individuals or families wanting a smaller dog that stays closely connected



## **Aussiedoodle**

**Typical Size in Our Program: 25–40 lbs**

**Energy Level:** Moderately High

**Grooming Needs:** Moderate to High

**Personality Style:** Intelligent, active, highly engaged

**Often a Great Fit For:** Active homes that enjoy training, interaction, and mental stimulation



## **Australian Bernedoodle**

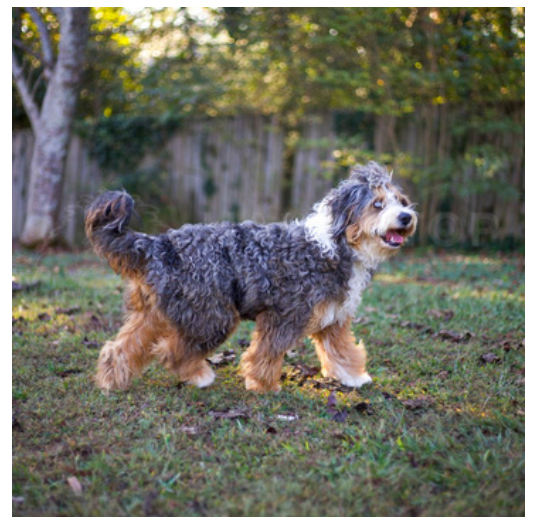
**Typical Size in Our Program: 25–40 lbs**

**Energy Level:** Moderate

**Grooming Needs:** Moderate to High

**Personality Style:** Social, affectionate, balanced

**Often a Great Fit For:** Families wanting a dog with a nice blend of companionship, trainability, and adaptability



Size ranges reflect the typical adult weight of puppies in our program and may vary by litter and parent pairing.

# **Bernedoodles**

## **Loyal, affectionate, and easy to live with**

*Bernedoodles are a wonderful choice for families who want a loving, people-focused dog with a generally steady nature. They often combine the Bernese Mountain Dog's devotion and calm presence with the Poodle's intelligence and trainability.*

*Many Bernedoodles have a moderate activity level, which makes them appealing to families who want a dog that enjoys walks, playtime, and outings but can also settle nicely at home. They are often affectionate with their people and love being included in family life.*

## **What they are like to live with**

*Bernedoodles often bond closely with their families and do best when they are treated like a true part of the household. Many have a sweet, loyal temperament and a softer personality. Some can be a little more reserved at first than other Doodle types, but they are usually deeply devoted once they feel comfortable.*

## **Coat and grooming**

*Their coats can range from wavy to curly and require regular brushing and ongoing grooming. Coat type can vary, so it is important to be prepared for maintenance rather than assuming every Bernedoodle coat will be low effort.*

## **Best fit**

*Bernedoodles are often a great match for families wanting an affectionate companion, a moderate overall energy level, and a dog that can be playful while still relaxing well indoors.*

## **Things to think through**

*Because Bernedoodles can be sensitive and people-oriented, they usually do best with consistent routines, positive training, and plenty of connection with their family.*

## **Quick Take:**

*Loyal • Affectionate • Family-focused*



# Goldendoodles

## Friendly, outgoing, and eager to be part of everything

Goldendoodles are one of the most recognized Doodle breeds for good reason. They are known for their social nature, approachable temperament, and ability to fit into many kinds of households.

Many Goldendoodles are highly people-oriented and thrive when they are involved in everyday family life. They tend to be affectionate, trainable, and eager to please, which makes them especially appealing to first-time dog owners who want a companion that feels interactive and engaged.

## What they are like to live with

Goldendoodles are often cheerful, friendly dogs that enjoy both activity and togetherness. They usually do well in homes where they are included in outings, play, training, and daily routines. They can be very intuitive with people and often form strong bonds with adults and children alike.

## Coat and grooming

Goldendoodle coats can vary quite a bit, from straighter coats to loose waves to tighter curls. That means grooming needs can vary too, but regular brushing and professional grooming are still an important part of coat care.

## Best fit

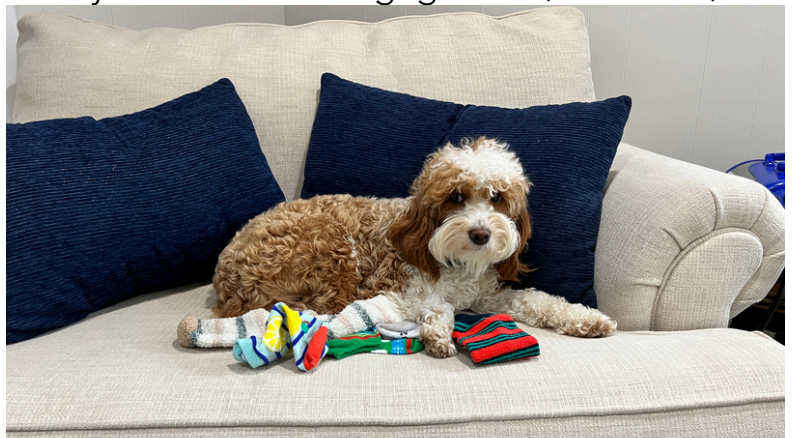
Goldendoodles are often a great fit for active families, homes with children, first-time owners wanting a social and trainable dog, and people looking for a companion that is adaptable and involved.

## Things to think through

Because they are so social, many Goldendoodles do not love being left alone for long stretches without preparation and routine. They do best with engagement, structure, and relationship-based training.

## Quick Take:

Friendly • Versatile • Eager to please



# Sheepadoodles

## Playful, expressive, and full of personality

Sheepadoodles are known for their charm, intelligence, and fun-loving nature. They often bring a lot of personality to a household and tend to be deeply connected to their families.

While people sometimes assume Sheepadoodles are always high-energy, many are better described as playful and engaged rather than nonstop. They usually enjoy activity, interaction, and room to be involved, but they can also have a nice off-switch when their needs are met.

## What they are like to live with

Sheepadoodles are often bright, goofy, and expressive. They may have a little more personality and presence than some other breeds, which many families absolutely love. They tend to enjoy both physical activity and mental stimulation and usually do best when given opportunities to think, learn, and interact.

## Coat and grooming

Their coats are often fuller and higher maintenance, so routine brushing and grooming are especially important. Families considering a Sheepadoodle should expect regular upkeep.

## Best fit

Sheepadoodles are often a great fit for families wanting a playful, engaging companion, homes that enjoy training and interaction, and people who love a dog with personality and presence.

## Things to think through

These dogs often do best when they are mentally engaged, not just physically exercised. Training, structure, and enrichment can make a big difference in helping them thrive.

## Quick Take:

Playful • Smart • Full of personality



# Cavadoodles

## Sweet, affectionate, and companion-focused

Cavadoodles are a wonderful option for families or individuals who want a smaller dog with a gentle, loving nature. They are often deeply people-focused and tend to stay closely connected to their families.

Their smaller size makes them appealing to those who want a companion that is easier to travel with, easier to manage in smaller spaces, and still full of personality.

## What they are like to live with

Cavadoodles are often affectionate, friendly, and happy to be near their people. They usually thrive in homes where companionship is a big part of the relationship. Many have a softer, sweeter temperament and enjoy a balance of playtime and cuddling.

## Coat and grooming

Their coats are usually soft and can range from wavy to curlier textures. Like other Doodles, they still require regular grooming and coat care to prevent matting and keep them comfortable.

## Best fit

Cavadoodles are often a great fit for families wanting a smaller companion dog, households with a somewhat quieter pace, people who value affection and closeness, and homes where a smaller breed is simply more practical.

## Things to think through

Smaller does not always mean less work. Cavadoodles still need training, socialization, exercise, and structure to grow into confident companions.

## Quick Take:

Sweet • Affectionate • Easy to keep close



# Aussiedoodles

## Smart, active, and highly engaged

Aussiedoodles are often a great choice for families who love an interactive dog. They tend to be intelligent, responsive, and eager to participate, which can make them especially appealing to people who enjoy training and engagement.

Because of their intelligence and energy, Aussiedoodles usually do best in homes that want a dog who will truly be involved in daily life rather than one who is expected to simply entertain themselves.

## What they are like to live with

Aussiedoodles are often bright, athletic, and highly tuned in to their surroundings. Many enjoy learning, movement, and being given a job to do, whether that is training, games, outings, or enrichment at home. They can be wonderful companions for active households that appreciate a dog with both brains and energy.

## Coat and grooming

Their coats vary in texture and color, often with striking markings. Regular brushing and consistent grooming are important, especially in fuller or curlier coats.

## Best fit

Aussiedoodles are often a great fit for active families, owners who enjoy training, homes that can provide both physical and mental stimulation, and people who want a smart, interactive dog.

## Things to think through

Aussiedoodles can become bored more easily if their needs are not met. The right home for this breed is one that enjoys involvement, structure, and ongoing engagement.

## Quick Take:

Intelligent • Responsive • Active



# Australian Bernedoodles

## Balanced, affectionate, and family-friendly

Australian Bernedoodles offer a blend that many families find especially appealing. They are often social, loving, and adaptable, with a temperament that can feel nicely balanced for everyday family life.

Many people are drawn to Australian Bernedoodles because they often combine affectionate companionship with good trainability and a manageable, family-friendly energy level.

## What they are like to live with

Australian Bernedoodles often enjoy being with their people and participating in family routines. Many are playful without feeling overwhelming and affectionate without being too intense. They can be a nice option for families who want a dog that feels connected, capable, and versatile.

## Coat and grooming

Their coats can vary, and regular brushing and grooming are still part of responsible ownership. As with all Doodle breeds, coat type does not eliminate the need for maintenance.

## Best fit

Australian Bernedoodles are often a great fit for families wanting a social and affectionate dog, homes looking for a balanced overall temperament, and people wanting a dog that can be playful, trainable, and family-oriented.

## Things to think through

As with any breed, early training, socialization, and consistent expectations matter. These dogs do best when families are intentional from the beginning.

## Quick Take:

Balanced • Affectionate • Adaptable



# Which Breed Fits Your Lifestyle?

If you are still deciding, here is a simple way to think through the options.

## You may lean toward a Bernedoodle if...

you want an affectionate family companion with a more moderate overall feel and a loyal, devoted personality.

## You may lean toward a Goldendoodle if...

you want a friendly, social, highly adaptable dog that is eager to be involved in family life.

## You may lean toward a Sheepadoodle if...

you love a playful dog with personality, presence, and a fun-loving spirit.

## You may lean toward a Cavadoodle if...

you want a smaller companion with a sweet nature and a strong desire to stay close to its people.

## You may lean toward an Aussiedoodle if...

you want an intelligent, active dog that thrives on interaction, learning, and engagement.

## You may lean toward an Australian Bernedoodle if...

you want a balanced, affectionate dog that fits comfortably into many kinds of family routines.

### Bottom note:

No guide can replace thoughtful conversation. That is why we help families look beyond breed labels and think about temperament, household pace, expectations, and long-term fit.



## More Than a Breed Match

At Happy Top Doodles, we believe choosing a puppy should feel informed, supported, and personal. We do not believe in a one-size-fits-all approach. We believe in helping families understand what they are looking for, what each breed tends to offer, and how to make a thoughtful decision with confidence.

What sets our program apart:

### **Health testing with purpose**

Our parent dogs are carefully screened through veterinary orthopedic evaluations and breed-appropriate genetic testing. This helps us make thoughtful breeding decisions and gives families greater confidence that their puppy is starting life with the strongest foundation possible.

### **Early development that starts before go-home day**

From the time our puppies are young, we use intentional early development practices, gentle handling, age-appropriate socialization, and exposure to everyday household sights and sounds. The goal is to help puppies grow into more confident, adaptable companions.

### **Experience across multiple Doodle breeds**

Because we work with several Doodle varieties, we understand that not every Doodle is the same. We help families look beyond appearance and consider size, temperament, energy level, grooming needs, and lifestyle fit.

### **Guidance instead of guesswork**

Choosing a puppy can feel overwhelming, especially with so many breeds, sizes, and coat types to consider. We walk families through the process so they can make an informed decision instead of feeling like they are choosing based on a cute picture alone.

### **Support that continues after pickup**

Our relationship with families does not end when a puppy goes home. We remain a resource for questions, transitions, training concerns, and the real-life adjustments that come with bringing home a new family member.

### **Our goal**

Our goal is not just to place puppies. It is to raise well-prepared companions and help connect them with families where they can truly thrive.

*Where every puppy is family, and every family is supported for life.*

# Testimonials

“Happy Top Doodles are the absolute best! The service is unmatched!!!!!! They really are top tier!” -Alexa, Virginia

“We have got 2 wonderful, sweet, beautiful dogs from Happy Top Doodles (a mini bernedoodle and new mini goldendoodle), and I highly recommend Happy Top Doodles! Cathy and Kirk were very kind and helpful to work with. Pick up was easy as I live an hour away, but I would definitely drive far for this breeder or use a flight nanny if I had to. I 100% trust they take excellent care of their dogs and puppies, and stand by what they say which is so important! Thank you so much for ensuring you have such amazing puppies! Highly recommend!!” -  
Kellie, Georgia

“Our Golden doodle came from Happy Top Doodles. She has been trained as a service dog for my daughter and we could not have asked for a better dog for her! We have been on so many situations and people can not believe what a great dog she is! I highly recommend Happy Top Doodles!” -Ken, Missouri

“It was an easy process from the beginning and we had a wonderful experience getting our puppy. Communications was easy and all of our questions were answered. We had allergy concerns with one of our children and were able to come meet our puppy ahead of time before we committed.” Ainsley, Georgia

## What To Do Next

Once you have narrowed down the breed that may fit your family best, the next step is to start a conversation.

### We recommend:

#### 1. Think through your daily life

Consider activity level, grooming commitment, household routine, travel, children, and long-term expectations.

#### 2. Ask questions

A good breeder should welcome thoughtful questions about health testing, socialization, temperament, and what life with the breed is really like.

#### 3. Be open to guidance

Sometimes the breed you first thought you wanted is not actually the best fit. Honest guidance matters.

#### 4. Prepare your home

Before bringing home a puppy, make sure you are ready with supplies, routine, and realistic expectations.

#### 5. Reach out when you are ready

We are always happy to help families think through which breed may be the best fit for their home.

## **Ready to take the next step?**

*If you've found a breed that feels like the right fit, or even if you're still weighing two or three, the best next step is simply to start a conversation. Our application isn't a commitment to buy. It's how we get to know your family, your lifestyle, and what you're hoping for, so we can help you think through fit, timing, and which puppy may be the best match.*

## **[Begin your application here](#)**

*And if you're not quite ready, that's perfectly okay. Keep this guide handy, take your time, and reach out whenever the moment feels right. We're always glad to help families think it through.*

*Where every puppy is family, and every family is supported for life.*

*Happy Top Doodles*

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