



About Our Standard Poodles

Our poodles at Hollyberry Hollow are bred for:

- health - all dogs have been tested clear of inheritable genetic diseases and have had their hips and elbows professionally evaluated and cleared of dysplasia
- temperament - we select calm, non-reactive dogs that are ideal for families and service dog/therapy work
- beauty - our dogs have excellent health and conformation, but we've also chosen to add patterned coats such as parti, brindle and merle

Standard poodles were originally bred for hunting and were specifically a gun dog – developed for retrieving waterfowl. This is what led to their unique coat, their keen sense of smell, and their cooperative/easy to train nature. Poodles come in different sizes, however ours are standard-sized (the original!).

Standard poodles are over 15 inches (38 cm) in height; and most average 22-26 inches (56-66 cm). Ours are on the smaller side (22-24 inches at the shoulder) with an average weight of 53 pounds. For comparison, they are slightly taller than a black lab but only about a third to a half of their weight. They are basically all legs and fluffy fur!

If you've never been around a standard poodle there are a few things you should know.

1. They are smart! Very, very smart.
 - Poodles are ranked second in dog intelligence, just after border collies. They do require training, or you may find that they will train you... haha.
 - To that end, we include a free lifetime training membership with every puppy – take advantage of it because we think you'll love it.
2. They need grooming because their hair never stops growing.
 - Depending how long you keep their coats, your poodle will need at least weekly brushing and perhaps even daily if you like their coats longer.
 - Did you know they even grow hair out of their ears and between their toes?! True story.
 - Even if you like the longer teddy bear look, you will want to at least keep up with the three Fs: their Face, Feet and Fanny. We are happy to walk you through it.
 - If you prefer they see a professional groomer, this will be a monthly visit and the costs are generally around \$75.
3. They are sensitive.

- We've selected our dogs for their temperament, and that includes a bit of sensitivity. They do not like to be yelled at, berated or manhandled. We aren't much for anthropomorphizing, but they give every indication their feelings are hurt when treated unfairly. Be kind and give them a chance before telling them they're misbehaving and you'll both be grateful 😊