

Leonberger



The town of Leonberg in Southwest Germany has on its crest the dog that was created there in 1840 by the mayor, Heinrich Essig. He was helped by the monks of St Bernard who had crossed their St Bernards with Newfoundlands and this cross was the basis of the new breed. It is thought that there was also an infusion of Pyrenean Mountain Dog blood. Essig wanted to create a dog of leonine appearance to match the lions on the town's heraldic crest. Selectively bred for the red and fawn coats, the breed does have a leonine quality about it. The Leonberger was originally used as a guard dog but has now gathered legions of devotees because of its gentle and affectionate temperament.

What health screening is currently relevant?

Kennel Club Accredited Breeders must use, or are strongly recommended to use, the following screening schemes and/or advice for sires and dams:

- **BVA/KC Hip Dysplasia Scheme**
- **BVA/KC Elbow Dysplasia Scheme**
- **BVA/KC/ISDS Gonioscopy**
- **Eye testing**
- **DNA test - LPN1**
- **DNA test - LPN2**
- **DNA test - LEMP**
- **Bitches not to produce a litter under two years of age**



ACCREDITED BREEDER SCHEME