





maintain your role as a firm master to your Akita can prove challenging for some people, on a positive level, Akita dogs are highly intelligent making them incredibly fast learners. When you are training your Akita it is also very important to make sure you provide a routine that is consistent and daily so that the dog learns to know is expected. It is good to make sure that you balance training with praise and correction. When an Akita is a puppy you will want to only teach it simple, basic behaviors. More advanced behavior training can take place after your Akita is about 4-6 months. It is important to make sure that your Akita is trained in boundary control so that it will not run out into the street and get hurt. You will also be happy to know that if your Akita has personality issues, these problems can be fixed. You can even hire a professional trainer to help these more challenging problems.

### **Activity and Exercise**

While it is a subjective matter as to how much exercise the Akita needs, having a large yard with a fence is considered the ideal living situation for this type of dog. Akita dogs are strong and can typically, easily handle sledding and weight pulling activities. However, it is important to keep in mind that any Akita puppies less than 18 months should not try to pull any large amount of weight as their bones and joints are not fully developed yet. It is also best to allow Akita dogs to exercise on their own. Akita dogs love to jump, run and play when they want to. It is recommended that the best exercise for the Akita is with another dog. You can play with your Akita with dog toys that will encourage them to run and play. Allow small Akita puppies to rest when they need to rest and their exercise should be contained to a fenced in area. If this area is not sufficient for adequate exercise, walking and jogging with an Akita puppy is a good daily exercise. An Akita is an ideal hiking or walking dog and they are large and sturdy enough to handle even very difficult and challenging terrain. They are also very willing to play with kids and run and explore all day. A well exercised and fit Akita is calm and docile in the house and will typically not engage in any kind of destructive behavior, but they do need regular, lengthy exercise periods per day if kept indoors. Akitas, like any other dog, like to have a variety of options for exercise and not just complete the same routine everyday. While they are excellent swimmers they sometimes have to be coaxed into the water at least the first few times, but will soon enjoy a refreshing swim or paddle about on a hot day. Avoid allowing the Akita to swim in cold weather as their coat is very hard to completely dry when temperatures are cooler.