

## IS A VIZSLA THE RIGHT DOG FOR YOU?

The Hungarian Vizsla, a medium-sized, golden-rust colored sporting dog, is one of the smallest of the pointing breeds. Males weigh 50-65 lbs and measure 22 – 24 at the shoulders; females weigh about 10 lbs less and measure 21 – 23. Vizslas have a unique temperament that many find charming, while others might consider them a bit overwhelming.

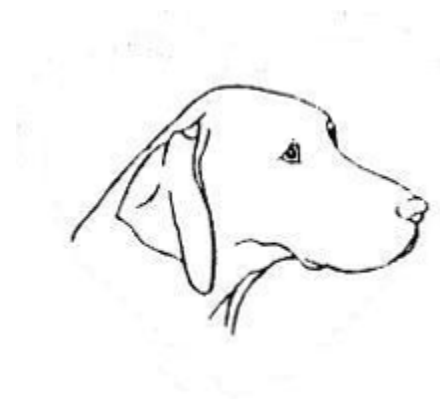
### Temperament Characteristics

- High energy level; requires plenty of vigorous daily exercise. A bored Vizsla will create his own entertainment!
- Affectionate, outgoing and friendly; most Vizslas are good with children and the elderly *if* they are properly trained.
- Have very high social needs and need a lot of time and attention. Vizslas must be with their people and enjoy the company of other dogs.
- An indoor dog, not a yard dog, nor a 'kennel dog'. Vizslas kept isolated from their people can become high strung and destructive.
- Usually a good watch dog, but definitely **not** a guard dog.
- Intelligent and mischievous if left alone and bored. Requires early and consistent training.
- Responds well to praise and positive reinforcement training methods. Harsh training methods are counter-productive at best and can be very harmful to the dog psychologically.
- Versatile – an excellent dog for hunting, obedience, tracking, agility, flyball, therapy work, search & rescue and family companion.

### Health Concerns

As with any dog breed, Vizslas do have some health issues. The Vizsla Club of America's (VCA) code of ethics states that VCA members shall breed only those dogs that are over two years of age and are OFA certified free of hip dysplasia, and are free of serious hereditary defects including epilepsy, progressive retinal atrophy, von Willebrand's Disease, entropion and cranial muscular atrophy.

Texas Gulf Coast Vizsla Club, Inc.  
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## Texas Gulf Coast Vizsla Club

### RESCUE PROGRAM GUIDE

## What is the Vizsla Rescue Program?

The Texas Gulf Coast Vizsla Club (TGCVC) Rescue Program provides suitable homes to purebred Vizslas in need of immediate placement, educates the public about the Vizsla breed and the special requirements of adopting a rescue Vizsla, works with other rescue organizations to help prevent practices which create rescue situations, rehabilitates Vizslas for placement, and raises funds to pay all expenses for veterinary care and program administration. The adoption fee of \$300 meets only a portion of actual program expenses.

The Vizsla Rescue Committee follows the written policies and procedures approved by the Board of Directors of the TGCVC. Experienced volunteers evaluate dogs and families to find the best match for both the dog and the family. This includes assessing the health and behavior of the dog, obtaining veterinary treatment, evaluating potential adopting families (home visits and reference checks) and fostering dogs until a suitable home is located. Volunteers also provide support to the adopting family for the first year thru phone contacts and home visits (if needed).



## How Does the Vizsla Rescue Program Work

The rescue committee maintains an active waiting list for those who have completed an adoption application. The rescue program requires a current adoption application, references, a home visit, a signed contract and follow-up by the rescue committee for one year.

Our rescued Vizslas are spayed or neutered before placement. We rarely have dogs available younger than 18-24 months of age; most are between two and five years old. Occasionally we get dogs a bit older or dogs with special needs. The dogs have varied experiences with people and other pets, so not every dog is suitable for every family. Our experienced volunteers work in our geographic area (Southeast Texas) to place each dog with a family well-suited to caring for the dog for the rest of its life. We also work with other rescue organizations if we do not have a family on our list to adopt a currently available dog.

An adoption application may be printed from the TGCVC website ([www.vizslaclub.com](http://www.vizslaclub.com)) or contact Peggy Ross at 281-356-7350 or by email at [Tgcvcrescue@aol.com](mailto:Tgcvcrescue@aol.com) or [tgcvc\\_info@yahoo.com](mailto:tgcvc_info@yahoo.com). [For general information about the breed or breeder referrals, contact Judith Richey at [everwhen@tconline.net](mailto:everwhen@tconline.net)

If you wish to place your Vizsla in our rescue program, please contact us to discuss our policies and procedures. A transfer of ownership to the TGCVC and a release of liability are required. AKC registration paperwork, the name of the breeder and complete medical records for the dog are very helpful in placing the dog. Current vaccinations and occult heartworm test are required.

## References

Experienced rescue program volunteers perform many of the services and mentoring support provided by responsible breeders, such as

- Evaluate families to determine the type of dog that will best fit their lifestyle and interest.
- Obtain an experienced veterinary assessment of the dog's health and needed medical care.
- Evaluate the temperament and behavior to see what type of home is best for the dog.
- Assure that dogs are neutered or spayed before adoption.
- Provide one year of TGCVC club support for activities, training and networking with other Vizsla owners.

### Internet Resources:

- TGCVC website – [www.vizslaclub.com](http://www.vizslaclub.com)
- Vizsla Club of America – <http://clubs.akc.org/vizsla/coordinators.htm>
- Vizsla Encyclopedia – [www.vizsladogs.com](http://www.vizsladogs.com)
- Vizsla Pedigree Database – [www.k9info.com](http://www.k9info.com)
- Houston Purebred Rescue Directory – [www.txucom.net/~window/pure.htm](http://www.txucom.net/~window/pure.htm)
- Whole Dog Journal – monthly newsletter & website – [www.whole-dog-journal.com](http://www.whole-dog-journal.com)

### Books/Magazines

- Second Hand Dog, Carol Lee Benjamin, 1988
- Save That Dog! Liz Palika, 1997
- The Canine Good Citizen, J&W Volhard, 1997
- Texas Tales - TGCVC's bimonthly newsletter, [www.vizslaclub.com](http://www.vizslaclub.com)
- Vizsla News – Vizsla Club of America bi-monthly magazine
- Whole Dog Journal, monthly newsletter, 800-424-78

