

# BELGIAN MALINOIS

AKA: CHIEN DE BERGER BELGE MALINOIS, BELGIAN SHEPHERD MALINOIS • ORIGIN: BELGIUM

## HEIGHT

- Male: 24-26 inches (61-66 cm)
- Female: 22-24 inches (56-61 cm)

## WEIGHT

- 40-80 lb (18-36 kg)

## AVERAGE LIFESPAN

- 12-14 years

## EXERCISE LEVEL

- High

## GROOMING LEVEL

- Low

## COMMON COAT COLORS



The Belgian Malinois is a powerful, high-energy herding breed known for its athletic frame, sharp intelligence, and exceptional working abilities. Built for endurance and speed, it has a short, weather-resistant coat, a confident stance, and highly expressive eyes. The breed is valued for its responsiveness, rapid learning, and ability to perform complex tasks with precision. Originally bred to

manage livestock, the Malinois has become a favorite among police, military, and search-and-rescue teams because of its

unmatched combination of drive, agility, and attentiveness.

## History of the Breed

The Belgian Malinois originated in the late 1800s near the city of Malines, where dedicated Belgian breeders developed four distinct varieties of herding dogs. The Malinois type, characterized by its short coat and alert expression, quickly gained recognition for its exceptional working instincts. Early dogs were prized for their ability to manage sheep in demanding weather and terrain. By the early 20th century, the breed was adopted for police work throughout Belgium. Its reputation spread globally, and it became especially prominent after World



▲ Puppies

Wars I and II for its reliability and trainability.

## The Breed as a Companion

As a companion, the Belgian Malinois thrives in active homes where training and engagement are part of daily life. It forms deep bonds with its owners and prefers to stay mentally and physically challenged. While affectionate with family,

Malinois are naturally alert and may be reserved with strangers. Their strong herding and protective instincts require consistent guidance, early socialization, and task-based activities such as obedience, tracking, or agility. When given proper outlets for their energy and intelligence, they become loyal, attentive, and remarkably versatile partners.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Due to its intense work drive and quick response to subtle handler cues, Belgian Malinois remains a top choice for elite military and special-operations K9 teams worldwide.



## KENNEL CLUBS

### INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION:

AKC, UKC, FCI, CKC, ANKC, NZKC, KC (UK)