

What size is the right size? JULY 2010

I get loads of calls and emails, people explaining their personal situation and asking about a suitable size yorkie.

Yesterday July 7th a lady enquired about a teacup for her 8 year old daughter. A teacup is totally unsuitable for any youngster. Teenager, student. I am not saying that they are incapable of handling the dog, my own granddaughters of 2.5 and 4.5 years handle my teacups and my pups - under supervision of course. HOWEVER - it is just too much responsibility for any youngster to cope with. As I see it. A pup for a child, should be capable of running after the child concerned, running after a ball, it should be a playmate for a youngster. A really tiny yorkie as a baby, is a baby, it has to be babied. It may be a novelty at first, but the novelty will soon wear off.

The small pocket also falls into the above category.

Ideally a child should be bought a miniature, a yorkie that will reach 2.5 - 3kg as an adult. At this size, the pup can look after itself, it can play a bit of rough and tumble, also under supervision. Remember if you allow any pup to be abused by a child, when that pup becomes an adult, it is going to be the one dishing out the punishment. NO dog will bite or snap unless it has learnt to do so, as a result of being abused, teased etc by a child or adult for that matter, and has learnt at a very young age to defend and protect itself.

I have a client who has one of my very small dogs who wants to buy at least another three teacups. I think that is defeating the aim of the exercise. The teacup is meant to be the baby in the household. Not one of the babies in the household. It should be the one and only baby. The other Yorkies should be the bigger brother/s or sister/s.

If your high school student or varsity student wants that very tiny pup - should you be concerned or just go out and buy it?

Take into account, that in time, your teenager and varsity student, are going to start dating, partying, going here there and everywhere - will they be taking their teacup or small pocket with them at all of these times????? Hardly likely. A genuine teacup is not the type of dog you leave at home, and go out till all hours. If there is a backup system that may work, but the teacup is usually owned by one person, and will be a family pet, but needs the security of knowing the owner is not far away - they are the BABY in the household and should be treated accordingly.

I get a lot of calls from the public saying they have been offered a small pup but after reading my site, they realise they would be making a huge mistake by buying that small pup. This is the very reason we go to great lengths to advise the public, what having and owning one of these extremely small dogs is all about.

The tiny yorkie pup means commitment, responsibility and care around the clock. It is a blessing to its owner provided, the owner is the right owner, and suited to the lifestyle required for owning such a precious little bundle.

In closing - the small yorkie is often referred to as being the runt in the litter, by people who are not in the know. I understand a runt does have its place in some breeds and in some litters. Can you have three runts in a litter???? All you should be concerned about if you are the right owner for such a tiny dog, how that pup is bred. If interbred - be aware - to safe guard yourself, insist on a sales agreement contract (as suggested by The Kennel Union of South Africa - for more years than I can remember). The pup should be examined thoroughly prior to you purchasing it by a veterinary surgeon - whose name should be made available to you at the time of purchase. The breeder should be prepared to give you some sort of health guarantee. ALL our pups irrespective of their size carry health guarantees for the first year of their life. Yorkies are an expensive dog, and as a result you as the purchaser of these pups, deserve to know you have rights.

Mijoy Yorkies & Breeders Yorkies