ALL DOGS ARE INDIVIDUALS

MEET THE CANINE GENOME

The dog genome consists of approximately 20,000 genes.

Variation across 50 genes determines breed-defining physical traits.

Variation in very few genes determines a dog’s breed shape. In brachycephalic dogs, it’s just 5 genes.

This means that less than 1% of a dog’s genes determine physical appearance.

When we look at a dog and see breed, we are seeing only roughly 3% of our nearly 20,000 genes.

That is 0.25% of a dog’s ENTIRE GENOME.

The set of 50 genes associated with physical appearance is different from the set of thousands of genes responsible for brain development and function.

LOOKS DON’T EQUAL BEHAVIOR

How are PURE BRED and MIXED BRED dogs different?

Pure bred dogs come from a CLOSED gene pool.

Mixed breed dogs come from an OPEN gene pool.

Once a dog is less than 100% of a single breed, they have genetic variations that make them distinct from that breed.

A MIXED BRED DOG IS NO BREED AT ALL!

MEET THE PARENTS

We can’t accurately predict the behavior of mixed breed dogs by comparing them to pure breed dogs, even if the pure breed dog is a parent.

The offspring of two different pure breed dogs isn’t a member of either parent’s breed.

It is missing 50% of each parental breed’s DNA, and we don’t know which 50%.

PURE BREED X PURE BREED

50/50 offspring

PURE BREED

PURE BREED

50/50 MIXED

PURE BREED DOGS ARE NOT CLONES

Unlike human identical twins, pure breed dogs have different DNA.

Dogs may look alike, but only 0.25% of their genome determines their breed-defining physical traits. The rest can vary.

The behavior of all dogs is influenced by many factors. That is why breed traits are possible but not guaranteed.

What about DNA tests?

DNA tests help identify a dog’s ancestors. Knowing a dog’s breed mix will not help us determine behavior because:

1. The behavior of all dogs (even pure breed dogs) is always influenced by a variety of outside factors.

2. Once a dog is a mix of two breeds, they are не a number of any breed. Each mixed breed dog was from the same litter, will have unique genes.

3. Even if we know the breeds present in a mixed breed dog, 0.25% of their DNA is from each breed.

If a dog’s DNA reveals he is 12.5% GOLDEN RETRIEVER, which 12.5% is it? The dog’s DNA? How he digests food? We can’t be sure.

YOU CAN’T JUDGE A BOOK by its cover

Visual identification of mixed breed dogs is highly inaccurate.

We cannot accurately predict future behavior based on how a dog looks on the outside, their breed, or their DNA results.

ALL DOGS ARE INDIVIDUALS

GET TO KNOW EACH DOG IN FRONT OF YOU!