

As a Breeder of large dogs, medium dogs and toy dogs for over 35 years now, I try to analyze what type of breeds most men prefer. I have particularly noticed and observed that most Indian men, however small is size he is as a person, he desires to always own the most powerful of all dogs, i.e. the Rottweiler, known for its macho image. However, contrary to this, I have very often seen powerful looking, hugely built bikers and really large men in the West owning small pocket sized dogs like the very popular, Miniature Pinschers. This amuses me and wonder why. Are we trying to exhibit indirectly our real inner feelings by the type of pets we choose to own?

When somebody talks about a Rottweiler, the first thing that comes to our mind is a breed with the demonic look and qualities that he has been portrayed in the movie "Omen". However, if somebody were to wish for a breed befitting a typical guard dog, the only breed that comes to our minds is the Rottweiler again.

What is the Rottweiler really like? how many of us have really had to opportunity to study and understand this wonderful breed? Is he really that ferocious, powerful maniac that people make him out to be or is a really an amazing, loyal companion with the guarding instincts to protect you with his life?

I personally have had the opportunity to study many breeds of working dogs like the Rottweilers, Boxers, Dobermans, St. Bernards, Great Danes etc, including the German Shepherd dogs, which I am going to include as a working dog and the breed that I would personally vouch for as the No.1 working dog is the Rottweiler.

The Rottweiler is a robust, extremely powerful dog, highly intelligent with the wonderful qualities of devotion, loyalty, love and quick learning. He is magnificent guard dog and a wonderful and delightful companion to have and own.

He was bred as a drover dog in the middle ages and used for herding cattle and sheep and this developed his personality as a possessive dog who would not any allow any harm happen to anyone dear to him. During the Industrial revolution, the necessity for this breed as a herding dog diminished but soon he adapted himself to the role of being a "butcher's dog' bringing back his owner's money safely back to his home inspire of any threats he might face on the way. He was the ideal guard dog now.

However, this possessive trait in him is also one of his drawbacks. His possessiveness towards his owner/family does not allow him to tolerate other breeds of dogs, sometimes even his own type, when it comes to

sharing his love. He needs a owner who can handle him firmly or else he can go haywire because of man's inabilities to understand him.

The Rottweiler is an extremely sensitive dog and will not take constant reprimanding lightly. He will remember your harsh tone or rough attitude all his life and wait for the opportunity when you will make that mistake of aggressive towards him and he will use all his pent up anger against you.

The Rottweiler is a powerfully built dog and sometimes does not know his own strength. If by change you or your child gets knocked down by him, what starts off as rough playing will soon give him the opportunity to consider you as a prey and make him dominantly aggressive. You must ensure you have a firm voice and enough strength to ward him off. Unfortunately, if this is not possible, your child could bear the brunt of your choice of pet for your family.

You have to really understand this highly intelligent, magnificently strong breed thoroughly before you decide to bring him home. Remember, he is not like every other breed and needs an equally strong person to handle him. He is no way a meek or submissive dog. If you do not have the time or the firmness or the space or the facility to feed him the right quantities of food that keeps him satiated, then please do not opt for this breed. The breed is not the mistake. You are.