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## Information Pack

Thank you for your enquiry with Orienta Shiba Inu

**SO YOU HAVE DECIDED THAT YOU ARE READY FOR A NEW MEMBER OF THE FAMILY?**

**HAVE YOU RESEARCHED THE SHIBA INU BREED? PLEASE HAVE A READ OF OUR FAQ TO BE SURE THE SHIBA INU IS SUITABLE FOR YOUR LIFESTYLE**

**Our pet puppies are \$7,500 AUD. We do require a deposit of \$2,500 which is non-refundable in the event that you change your mind. We do not take deposits for unborn puppies. All of our puppies are sold on a desexing contract. This is NOT negotiable**

**Our pet puppies will come with**

- ⇒ DOGS QUEENSLAND LIMIT REGISTER
- ⇒ MICROCHIPPED
- ⇒ 1<sup>ST</sup> VACCINATION
- ⇒ HEALTH CHECKED
- ⇒ DNA TESTED (PARENTAGE)
- ⇒ REGULARLY WORMED EVERY 2 WEEKS FROM TWO WEEKS OF AGE

If you think you are suitable and would like an ORIENTA SHIBA please fill in the QUESTIONNAIRE which can be found on our website. Please note that you may not receive a response from us after filling in the questionnaire - they are usually kept on record until we have puppies available. WE DO NOT KEEP A WAITING LIST, but rather, we run a selection process to match the puppy with the most suitable owner. Prospective owners who come and meet us and our dogs do get preference over those who don't however we do take every circumstance of an individual into account.

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### STEPS TO OWN AN ORIENTA SHIBA

1. Fill in our questionnaire
2. Send us photos of your backyard or where you plan to keep your Shiba
3. (Optional) Add Vanessa Marie on FB – this is where you can stay most up to date with current litters or available Shibas. We also add lots of photos of our Shibas day to day life.
4. Keep in touch – Quite often we won't have puppies available straight away, in fact, it takes most people a couple years to add an Orienta Shiba to their family.

### SHIBA INU FAQ

#### IF YOU WANT A DOG WHO...

- Is conveniently-sized, sturdy, and strong
- Has a wolf-like (spitz) appearance, with prick ears, foxy face, thick coat, and curled tail
- Is energetic, bold, and spirited -- definitely not a lapdog
- Is smart and clever
- Moves swiftly with light-footed grace
- Makes an alert watchdog

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**...A SHIBA INU MAY BE RIGHT FOR YOU**

**IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DEAL WITH...**

- Massive destructiveness when bored or left alone too much
- Excessive suspiciousness when not socialized enough
- Aggression toward other dogs and cats - strong chasing instincts
- Containment difficulties and preventing escape attempts
- Running away, oblivious to your calls, when an interesting sight or scent catches his attention
- Strong-willed mind of his own, requiring a confident owner who can take charge
- Heavy shedding

**...A SHIBA INU MAY NOT BE RIGHT FOR YOU**

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### WHAT IS THE SHIBA TEMPERAMENT LIKE?

With a black button nose, little pricked ears and a curly tail, the Shiba enters the world knowing he is a superior being. Whether with intrepid boldness, squinty-eyed cuteness or calm dignity, he is KING. The Japanese have three words to describe the Shiba temperament. The first word is "kan-i" which is bravery and boldness combined with composure and mental strength. The opposite of "kan-i" is "ryosei" which means good nature with a gentle disposition. One cannot exist without the other. The charming side of the Shiba is "soboku" which is artlessness with a refined and open spirit. They combine to make a personality that Shiba owners can only describe as "irresistible"!

If a Shiba could utter one word, it would probably be "mine". It is "mine" food, "mine" water, "mine" toys, "mine" sofa, "mine" crate, "mine" car, "mine" owner, and "mine" world. Sharing is a concept he feels others should practice. He doesn't want you to forget those wonderful things your mother taught you about generosity! If the bait is dangled when a potential Shiba owner sees adults at a dog show or pictures in a magazine, the hook is set when he encounters his first puppy! Exemplary examples of canine cuteness, fiery little fuzzballs-from-hell, no words can describe the appeal of the infant Shiba. A litter of Shibas is a Dakin convention and a school of piranha; strutting, posturing little windup toys! The adult Shiba is far from a toy. **"Macho Stud Muffin"** has been used to describe the male Shiba. The body may look **"muffin"**, but the mind is all **"macho stud"**.

The Shiba takes the **"spirited boldness"** part of his temperament quite seriously. Early socialization, temperament testing, and careful conditioning are mandatory for the young puppy. This fiery aspect of the Shiba nature cannot be taken lightly. Most Shiba owners learn to deal with the difficult aspects of the dog's temperament in order to enjoy the delightful ones. With **"SOBOKU"**, the Shiba sets his hook into the heart. This is **"artlessness"** with squinty-eyes, air planed ears, and a vibrating tail. It is **"charm"** standing in your lap washing your ears, and **"dignity"** plus **"refinement"** born of the knowledge of superiority.

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### **WHAT ARE SOME COMMON SHIBA HEALTH PROBLEMS?**

As a breed, Shibas can rightfully be described as sturdy, healthy little dogs, able to withstand the rigors of outdoor life as well as enjoying the comfort of indoor dwelling. They are easy keepers, requiring no special diet other than good commercial dog food, and they can run for miles with an athletic companion or take their exercise chasing a tennis ball around the backyard. Their catlike agility and resilience provide good resistance to injury, and the "natural" size and symmetrical proportions lessen susceptibility to conditions caused by structural imbalance. Despite these assets, Shibas do have some hereditary defects which all reliable and reputable breeders screen for in their breeding stock. Patellar luxation is common in toy breeds and sometimes appears in Shibas. It causes loose kneecaps and is usually not severe enough to be detrimental to a pet. An experienced veterinarian can detect this condition by palpation. Hip dysplasia occasionally occurs but it is not as serious in the Shiba as it is in large breeds of dogs. Mild dysplasia will not show any adverse clinical effects and the dog will lead a normal life. Good breeders will not breed any dog whose hips have not been radiographed with a good result. Breeders are also checking their Shiba's eyes for hereditary eye defects. No breed of dog is totally free of hereditary eye defects. Few defects are severe enough to cause blindness or interfere with a dog's life, but dogs with eye defects that are potentially blinding should not be bred. A smattering of other defects have been reported, but none in numbers to cause concern at this time.

### **DO SHIBAS GET ALONG WITH CHILDREN?**

The responsible Shiba owner asks himself, what type of child he would like for his favourite dog. It would be a child with a good nature and stable temperament, one that was gentle and most of all, easy to train. A child of an extremely energetic nature or whose hearing is too selective may be better suited to a larger, more docile breed.

Intractable children should have animals made of plastic, or maybe cement. All dogs, and especially puppies, regard very small children as peers rather than superiors. Puppies will try to play with children as they would another puppy, particularly if the child falls on the floor or runs around making squealing noises. Nothing was more misleading than an advertisement aired on

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television a few years ago depicting a two year old child rolling around on the ground, laughing while being bombarded by about six small Labrador puppies. What wasn't shown were the tears that must have followed as the puppies' sharp nails raked the child's tender skin and the puppies pulled at his hair. The responsibility of how a puppy interacts with children falls on the parents. Most trainable children over six years of age should have no trouble adjusting to a Shiba puppy. Dog oriented people find it easy acclimating a Shiba to a household with children. People with little dog experience should visit several households with Shibas.

#### **DO NOT FALL IN LOVE WITH A SHIBA AT A DOG SHOW AND IMMEDIATELY RUN OUT AND BUY ONE**

Take time to visit the dogs in the home environment. See how they react to children and let your intuition be your best guide. When adults visit a home with Shiba puppies, they usually sit and wait for the puppies to come to them. Children tend to pursue the puppies. Shibas do not like to be continually restrained and manhandled. Although a well socialized puppy will tolerate some of this, too much will make him shy or irritated. It is absolutely necessary that a child learn to sit and let the puppy come to him. It is difficult to train a child who is used to running in and out of the house at will to close the door quickly and make sure the Shiba doesn't get out. It is even more difficult to train the child's friends. Training the puppy and child when little can make the child aware of the necessity to use a double door system or exercising caution when going in and out, but it is up to the parent to watch when visitors come and to put the puppy out of harm's way.

#### **WHAT SHOULD MY SHIBA EAT?**

Before bringing home your Shiba, it is best to have a supply of food on hand. Even though the Shiba would prefer to share your dinner, it is best to buy him a top quality dog food, one containing about 30% protein, and 15% to 18% fat. Do not think in terms of a human diet when feeding a puppy. An eight week old Shiba will eat approximately 1/3 cup of puppy food three times a day. He may be given this moistened in separate feedings, or, if he is not too greedy, he may have dry kibble available at all times. If he is being fed three times a day, gradually increase

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the food as he grows and his appetite increases. He may be cut to twice a day at about four months of age or if he loses interest in a meal. A healthy puppy is neither too fat nor too thin. You should be able to feel his ribs, backbone and hip bones, but not see them. An adult Shiba will eat from one to one and one half cups of kibble per day depending on his size and energy level. Spayed and neutered adults tend to put on extra weight. Besides giving them enough exercise, the quantity of food rather than the quality should be reduced. It is easier to prevent obesity than to correct it.

#### **ARE SHIBAS EASY TO HOUSE BREAK?**

Housebreaking is easy and something that Shibas do naturally. If a puppy is taken out whenever he awakes from a nap or after a meal, he will almost never soil in the house and especially not in a restricted area such as a crate. A puppy as young as five weeks can hold his bowels all night, but not his bladder. He will want out or will wet on a blanket or paper in his exercise pen. As soon as the puppy figures where "out" is, he will try to go there to potty. This becomes easy when there is a door directly to a back yard. Leash breaking is not as natural for the Shiba as housebreaking. It involves something they truly detest - restraint. It is best to put on a snug collar or soft nylon choke collar and let the puppy wear it around for a while. Attach a leash and let the puppy take you for a walk. You go where he goes. After a few times, you can suggest he follow you. He may pull back and scream a little, but that is natural.

#### **DO SHIBAS SHED?**

Shiba's shed. You would too if you were wearing a wool coat in summer. All dogs with double coats shed, even Dobermans and Labradors. Those breeds with single coats that don't shed, such as poodles and some terriers, need clipping or constant brushing to keep their coats from matting. You have a choice - clip, brush or vacuum. Shibas generally "blow" coat twice a year, but neutered animals will frequently just shed a little bit at a time without shedding completely. A Shiba could go his whole life without every experiencing a brush, comb or bath and be just as healthy and happy. Shibas have little odour to their fur unless they have rolled in something

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pungent. Show dogs are often bathed weekly while pets are occasionally shampooed at the owner's whim. All seem to have healthy coats.

### **DO SHIBAS GET ALONG WITH OTHER PETS, SUCH AS OTHER DOGS OR CATS?**

The Shiba Inu was bred to hunt other animals. Many Shiba Inu's are dominant or aggressive toward other dogs of the same sex. Many have strong instincts to chase and seize small fleeing creatures. This can make for conflict if you own a cat. It may be much worse than that if you own a pet rabbit or hamster! Generally, though, if your Shiba is raised with other animals from a young age they generally get along very well.

### **CAN I TRUST MY SHIBA OFF LEAD?**

NO NO NO!! If you are looking for a dog that will be reliable off leash, don't even bother with Shibas. They are notorious for being one of the worst off-lead breeds in existence. They are wicked fast, small, and take a sort of perverse joy in watching you have a near panic attack as you try to shunt them away from high-traffic streets. Combine this with an animal who literally fears nothing, and it's a recipe for disaster.

### **HOW MUCH EXERCISE DOES MY SHIBA REQUIRE?**

Shibas are an active breed, but don't need many acres on which to run. They can get adequate exercise banking off the couch and spinning bodies on the bed, but to get in good condition, they need additional activity. Dogs like to go for walks with their people, and for many Shibas it is more exciting than eating. A wheelchair-bound Shiba owner takes his two dogs for a "walk" every day around the streets of suburbia, and a competitive mountain bike rider has his Shiba run with him for miles as he trains for gruelling competition. But, the majority of people snaps on the retractable lead and make a morning (or evening) tour of the neighbourhood. It is good exercise for both man and beast and a great way to make friends. Not everyone is responsible enough to keep his dog on leash. Watch for loose dogs roaming the area. A dog fight is not the

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best way to become acquainted with the neighbour's and many Shibas take umbrage at having their space invaded.

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