

The Bedlington Terrier  
(Taken from the BTCA brochure)

A Bedlington loves to play, retrieve, jog, help with any chores or share your quiet moments. They curl up in a little shed-proof ball and become inseparable companions as you read, write, sleep, drive or just sit.

The Bedlington Terrier is graceful, alert, intelligent, and entertaining. They are characteristically inquisitive, perceptive, opinionated and affectionate. Their great love of people and particular joy with children endears them to young and old.

The temperament is two-fold; very quiet, much like a sporting dog, until aroused—then the aggressive terrier spirit predominates.

Bedlingtons are bright, clownish extroverts. They are always anxious to love, please and be the center of attention, whether in the show ring or in any room of your house.

Their greatest talent is running a household. This includes being fantastic hosts that leap with joy when company arrives. Astute judgment as to the legitimacy of any arrivals has proved them to be excellent watchdogs.

This breed originated near Bedlington, England. Records can be traced back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, History tells us how the breed was developed to “go to ground” for game as well as to “run” it down. Their racy form clearly shows they are built for speed, and their lean, agile body makes “going to ground” a snap.

Given the chance, most Bedlingtons today will prove themselves in the field. They have all the instincts of a good hunting dog: sight, scent, retrieving and going to ground, Many are natural pointers. In spite of these natural attributes, they are too rarely put to use as hunting companions.

Virtually shed-proof, the Bedlington coat is very dark at birth, lightening with maturity, and is “oh, sooo soft!” They do need to be combed frequently (at least once a week) and trimmed approximately every two months to keep the coat healthy and beautiful. A Bedlington breeder should be able to teach you to trim your Bedlington or advise you on where you can have it done. An excellent grooming manual is available from the Bedlington Terrier Club of America. (You can also see the grooming chart and grooming tips on our website.)

Living with a Bedlington is a joy. They are easily trained, adaptable and versatile companions throughout their normal lifespan of 11-16 years. Those who have had the opportunity to live with Bedlingtons of each sex agree that both males and females are wonderful companions.

To read the breed standard for the Bedlington Terrier, please use the link to the Bedlington Terrier Club of America.