



Some Facts about Pit Bulls

The term "pit bull" does not refer to a specific breed of dog. It's a generic term applied to American pit bull terriers, American Staffordshire terriers, and hundreds of mixes containing elements of these breeds. DNA analysis shows that most "pit bulls" are predominantly made up of other breeds – from Lab to poodle. The term "pit bull" designates an appearance, not a breed.



No single neutered household pet pit bull has ever killed anyone.



Pit bulls score at or below average for aggression when compared to other dogs. Temperament evaluations by the American Temperament Test Society give American pit bull terriers a very high passing rate of 82.6 percent. The average passing rate for the other 121 breeds of dogs in the tests was 77 percent.

And no, a pit bull's jaw does not lock. A pit bull's jaw is anatomically the same as any other large dog.

Dogs are not naturally aggressive. Almost any dog can be taught to be aggressive, and, like any other large breed dog, pit bulls are strong dogs who can inflict real injuries. However, the evidence shows clearly that this is not a dog problem, but a people problem.

The majority of pit bulls live ordinary and happy lives in loving homes. They have never seen a fighting ring, they weren't 'bait dogs'. They live every day, normal lives with everyday families.



All photos by Bethany Obrecht