



PIT BULL MYTHS

What is fact - what is fiction?

Myth #1 – pit bulls have jaws that lock

This is a common misconception. Pit bulls have the same jaw bone structure as any other dog. The fact that they have terrific strength is due to the strong determination of this breed.

Myth #2 – pit bulls are mean, aggressive, vicious dogs

Most pit bulls are NOT aggressive to humans – it is not a normal trait of the breed. In most cases when a pit bull attacks a person, it has been trained to do so, has been abused, or has been un-or-under-socialized with people.

Myth #3 – pit bulls must be kept as only dogs

It can be a challenge, but many pit bulls can co-exist in multi-dog households. Individual personalities play a large part in successfully managing an environment with more than one dog (of any breed), but spaying/neutering, obedience training, an appropriate level of exercise and a firm hand will go a long way to successfully integrate multiple dogs into your life.

Myth #4 – people who own pit bulls are drug dealers, gang members or dog fighters

Many different, reputable people are “owned” by pit bulls – including teachers, doctors, business executives, celebrities, and even former presidents. It’s unfortunate that the breed has fallen into the hands of owners who use them to support their illegal activities.

Myth #5 – pit bulls can’t tell the difference between animals and children

Bully breeds do have a naturally high prey drive and may act aggressively toward smaller animals (such as cats). This is not, however the same behavior as human aggression or predation. The bully breeds traditionally have been known for their kindness to children.

Myth #6 – they’re all pits

Actually, there are several breeds that are commonly labeled “pit bulls.” The breeds are: American Bulldog, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Terrier, Bull Terrier, and the American Pit Bull Terrier. While there may be many similarities, each breed has its own unique characteristics.

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