

Poodles aren't the only ones

Many purebred dogs have low-shedding coats

Poodles are probably the best known low-shedding breed of dog with their distinctive curly coat that can be clipped into a number of different styles, but Poodles aren't the only breed of dog that suits allergy sufferers.

One such breed is the Portuguese Water Dog made famous thanks to Bo, the dog chosen by US President Obama's family.

While no dog can be guaranteed non-allergenic, dogs that shed less are less likely to leave allergens (such as dander and saliva) around the house and therefore less likely to aggravate allergies.

"We recommend that anyone suffering from allergies spend a good deal of time around a particular breed of dog before buying a puppy," said DOGS Victoria President Peter Frost. "That way you can see if the breed aggravates your allergies or not."

"Purebred dogs have predictable coats. *Every* poodle has a curly, low-shedding coat. The same cannot be said of crossbred or 'designer' dogs, which is why it is particularly important for allergy sufferers to choose a purebred."

Before purchasing any puppy, you should meet the entire litter and their mum and ensure they are all healthy, friendly animals. Ask about genetic tests and make sure you get an ANKC (Australian National Kennel Council) registration certificate and pedigree with your pup. That's the only way to ensure it is a true purebred dog.

--knb--

Some examples of low-shedding purebred dogs include:

Afghan Hound	Kerry Blue Terrier
Airedale Terrier	Lagotto
Australian Silky Terrier	Poodle (all sizes)
Bedlington Terrier	Portuguese Water Dog
Bichon Frise	Schnauzer (all sizes)
Cairn Terrier	Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier
Chinese Crested Dog	West Highland White Terrier
Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Whippet
Irish Water Spaniel	Yorkshire Terrier

Visit www.dogsvictoria.org.au for more information on any of these breeds.

MEDIA CONTACT: Susan Glasgow, CE DOGS Victoria (03) 9788 2500 office@dogsvictoria.org.au

A DOGS Victoria representative can be made available for interviews on a variety of topics including training tips, choosing the right dog, and general dog information.