



**Heartland Animal Shelter**  
2975 Milwaukee Ave.  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062  
Tel 847-296-6400  
Fax 847-296-4198  
www.heartlandanimalshelter.net

## **Dog Adoption – Miniature Pinscher Traits – Miniature Pinscher Adoption**

*Min Pins look like tiny Doberman Pinschers, but it's unlikely they're related. The Miniature Pinscher is probably descended from a small German terrier (pinscher) crossed with the dachshund and Italian greyhound. Although today they are kept as companion dogs, they were bred to be ratters, chasing and killing vermin. They can be good family pets but, if you're thinking about a Min Pin adoption, you need to understand the Miniature Pinscher traits.*

- **Miniature Pinschers have energy to burn** – If you're considering a Miniature Pinscher adoption, do be aware that they are among the most energetic of all dog breeds. Some Min Pin traits to consider are the following - they are always on the move, rarely inactive, adventurous, inquisitive, athletic and bold. They need a lot of activity and any outdoor exercise should be in a secure area or they may run off to investigate whatever catches their attention.
- **Min Pins are intelligent** – Min Pins are intelligent and very quick learners who do well in obedience and agility training. Some Miniature Pinscher traits to also consider are that they are spirited, independent and can be stubborn. If you're considering a Min Pin adoption, be aware that an experienced handler is helpful for this scrappy breed.
- **Miniature Pinschers, Children, and other dogs** – Although Min Pins tend to be affectionate with their family, be aware that some may become nippy around kids and in general the breed does better in homes with mature children who have been around dogs before. When moving ahead with a Miniature Pinscher adoption, make sure you have time to exercise and train them. Min Pins don't always get along with other dogs and may chase small animals.
- **Min Pins are good watchdogs** – Some common Min Pin traits make them good watchdogs. They can be reserved and suspicious with strangers and also have a tendency to bark excessively.
- **Miniature Pinschers and cold weather** – If you love outdoor activities in the cold weather and are looking for a dog to join you, remember a common Miniature Pinscher trait is they hate the cold and should generally be kept indoors. Many love to sleep under the covers – so, keep in mind the old saying – “let sleeping dogs lie.”

Information sources: [ASPCA Complete Guide to Dogs](#) by Sheldon L. Gerstenfeld, DVM; [Barron's Encyclopedia of Dog Breeds](#) (Second Edition) by D. Caroline Coile, Ph.D; [Dogs for Kids: Everything You Need to Know About Dogs](#) by Kristin Mehus-Roe; [The Encyclopedia of Dog Breeds](#) by Juliette Cunliffe; and [The Illustrated Directory of Dogs](#) by Juliette Cunliffe.

###

