

Origin of the Name

Until the 19th century, Rottweil was a major center for livestock trade. Cattle and sheep were driven primarily to Breisgau, Alsace, and the Neckar Valley.

The powerful dogs were harnessed to carts or sleds or to drive the purchased livestock to Rottweil. Their owners used them as protection against wolves, and even thieves and bandits.

Therefore, these powerful and enduring dogs became valued companions to the butchers, who were primarily responsible for the livestock trade.

It is reasonable to assume that the dogs were first given their name outside the city. Butchers traveled far and wide. Consequently, the typical butcher's dogs – the "Rottweiler" – were known far and wide.



Butcher with a cow and a butcher's dog early 19th century

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ROTTWEIL®
Das Original.



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The Rottweiler

Origins and History



History

Rottweilers trace their origins to the modern-day city of Rottweil. Numerous bone remains indicate that dogs were already widespread in the former Roman town of Arae Flaviae. During archaeological excavations in both the Roman city area, now Rottweil's Old Town, and the medieval city center, skeletal remains of various dog breeds were discovered.

The Orpheus Mosaic is the finest evidence of the early spread of dogs. It dates from around 180 A.D. and once decorated a stately Roman villa in Arae Flaviae. It depicts a dog listening intently to the singer Orpheus playing his lyre. Be sure to check out the entire Orpheus mosaic during your visit to the Dominican Museum.



The dog was the only animal to be immortalized in a single sculpture in the chapel tower by stonemasons around 1360.



Dog from the Rottweiler Kapellenturm, circa 1360

Character

Once a herding dog, this powerful four-legged friend has become a reliable companion and helper in all situations.

Its size and strength, as well as its intelligence, make the Rottweiler an excellent tracking and protection dog. As a result, it has been recognized as an official police dog since 1910.

When raised and socialized properly, the Rottweiler is a loyal friend on four paws. It forms a strong bond with its owners and is a loyal companion for life.

Last but not least, the Rottweiler's sociable nature also makes it a great therapy and companion dog.



Characteristics

	Males:	Females:
Height:	61-68 cm	56-63 cm
Weight:	approx. 50 kg	approx. 38 kg
Appearance:	black with reddish-brown, clearly defined markings, powerful and imposing overall appearance	
Coat:	medium-length topcoat	
Temperament:	fond of children, obedient, self-assured and affectionate	