

WORKING COCKERS

Working strain cockers are bred for working ability. Make sure you see your pup with the mother and ask about health testing of parents. These highly intelligent and active dogs need plenty of exercise and stimulation. Make sure you can give them the sort of lifestyle they deserve.



Puppies from working parents can be legally docked by a vet at 3 days old to avoid damage to their tails in their working life

Pick a healthy, outgoing puppy



Socialise with humans and other dogs at a young age and attend some basic training classes.



Specialist gundog training can start when the puppy is ready.



You'll need some outdoor wear, whistle and training dummies.



Be patient with youngsters and always praise.

Cockers will retrieve on land or in water!



With time, cockers can retrieve cold game. Photography Alison Spiers.



A well trained cocker is a great shoot companion or can take part in working tests or field trials. Never underestimate the amount of ongoing training required. To make sure the outdoor life is for you, volunteer to beat on a shoot without a dog before you buy a puppy!



Being directed to and retrieving a bird.

At the end of a hard day, your dogs need a good meal and a warm, dry bed. Human companionship is a must.