Dedicated to bringing back the exact bone and body structure of the extinct, prehistoric Dire Wolf in a loving family companion dog using only domesticated dog breeds.

The Dire Wolf Project’s mission is to provide everything a family needs to support a happy life for their American Alsatian dog. We are a family-owned and operated independent corporation.
THE WASHINGTON POST
Dire wolves were real. Now someone is trying to resurrect them.
Karin Brulliard, 07/31/2017

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS NEWS
Are Direwolves Real? Extinct “Game of Thrones” Wolf Could Be Resurrected
Joe Difazio, 07/31/2017

WIRED
Your Dreams of Owning a Dire Wolf Can Finally Come True (Sort Of)
Rachel Edidin, 03/26/2013

C/NET
Order a living ‘Game of Thrones’ dire wolf (almost)
Amanda Kooser, 03/27/2013

MTV
Game of Thrones: Breeder Creates Real-Life Direwolves
Valerie Gallaher, 03/28/2013

THE ESCAPIST
Dire Wolf Project Breeding Pets for Game of Thrones Fans
Sarah LeBoeuf, 03/29/2013

OREGON BUSINESS
Oregon dog breeder creating Game of Thrones style dire wolves
Jennifer Margulis, 07/30/2013

DURANGO HERALD
The American Alsatian is the World’s First Large Breed Companion Dog
Patrick Armijo, 05/2012

THE BERKELEY DAILY PLANET
Wild Neighbors: Former Californians: The Dire Wolf
Joe Eaton, 04/03/2011

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE
Big dogs’ life work is to be mellow
Bill Varble, 12/30/2004

VENTURA COUNTY STAR FREE PRESS
Vista Magazine
A kinder, gentler canine
Brett Pauly, 11/19/1989
“There is NO wolf blood in our dogs as I would NEVER breed a wolf into any companion dog.”
– Lois Schwarz, founder of the Dire Wolf Project

“So I thought, everybody wants the wolf look; I’m going to work on the wolf look, but I’m also going to work on the temperament and the character of the dog to fit a companion dog.” – Lois Schwarz, founder of the Dire Wolf Project, speaking to the Washington Post

“The wolf is not a domesticated animal; it is a wild animal. Dogs are domesticated and no one should breed any domesticated animals with wild animals. It defeats the purpose of being domesticated.” – Lois Schwarz, founder of the Dire Wolf Project

“The Dire Wolf Project is traveling from purebred to strongbred on the road to healthy, long-lived dogs.”
– Jennifer Stoeckl, CEO and co-founder of the Dire Wolf Project


“One can find the truth in the most unexpected places and even a person without credentials and accolades from prominent figures in our day can hold the truth so deeply that no matter who may come along to uproot them, the truth remains. My mother [Lois Schwarz] presented me with her proof, as humble as it was, I simply had to have the open-mindedness to take hold of it and learn.” – Stoeckl, Jennifer. Dire Wolf Project: Creating an Extraordinary Dog Breed. Dire Wolf Publishing. 2019. pg. 7
Quick Facts

(All statistics listed below are as of: May 15, 2021.)

Since the American Alsatian dog breed began in 1988, more than 2300 puppies have found loving homes with families around the world.

The following dog breeds have contributed their genetic material to the dogs within the project: German Shepherd Dog, Alaskan Malamute, Akita, English Mastiff, Golden Retriever, Labrador Retriever, Great Pyrenees, Anatolian Shepherd Dog, and Irish Wolfhound.

137 American Alsatian dogs have been DNA tested, with only one detectable genetic health disease, CMR1, known to be held in a few dogs within the breed. All of the other 172+ genetic health diseases tested for through DNA are not seen in this breed.

The most prominent health issue in the American Alsatian dog breed is hypothyroidism, currently reported to affect 3.2% of American Alsatian dogs in the last eight years.

The second most prominent health issue in the American Alsatian dog breed is panosteitis, currently reported to affect 1.9% of American Alsatian dogs in the last eight years.

The overall negative health percentage for all health issues, genetic or otherwise, reported to have occurred within the breed since its inception in 1988, including all foundation stock and crossbred dogs, is currently 5.6%.

The average American Alsatian puppy birth rate for the last seven years is 61 puppies per year.

The average lifespan of the American Alsatian dog is 12 years old. The oldest American Alsatian dog was 14 years old when she died.

Despite having begun the project with large and extra-large working dog breeds, with the aid of specifically designed and standardized puppy temperament tests, the breed has shifted from working dog behavior traits to non-working or companion dog behavior traits, with more behavior variation experienced in crossbred lines.

www.direwolfproject.com
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Need high resolution pictures of the dogs from the Dire Wolf Project for your latest article? Click the link below for over forty photos of American Alsatian dogs of all colors to choose from.

American Alsatian dog high resolution pictures

Are you preparing a video segment on the Dire Wolf Project and want to feature a few video captures of our American Alsatian dogs? Click the link below for prepared videos.

Videos featuring American Alsatian dogs

If you would like additional photos and/or video footage of a specific look or you would like to schedule an interview, please email Jennifer Stoeckl, CEO and co-founder of the Dire Wolf Project at:

americansalatian@yahoo.com

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Find us on YouTube: DireWolf Dogs of Vallecito

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