

ABOUT THE CHINESE CRESTED HAIRLESS, HAIRY HAIRLESS, AND THE POWDERPUFF

The Chinese Crested Dog is not only a very sensitive and warm creature in heart and soul, but they are quite physically warm to the touch as well. With skin almost baby soft and smooth, they communicate their tenderness with a unique wholeness. Being odorless, they will keep themselves very clean in almost a catlike fashion. And-if the need does arise, (like when one breeder discovered all of her angels snuggling into her lap AFTER pestering a local SKUNK!) a bath takes only a few minutes. The PowderPuff variety does not have a heavy seasonal molt, except for when it must lose its puppy coat.

They are often suspicious of strangers, and can appear aloof. Yet-they are sincerely warm, loving, creatures. Quite tender, they become deeply attached to their person, as well as each other.

A group of Chinese Crested will "sing" or howl in unison...often at the lead of their owner! One long standing and devoted breeder reports her fondest joy is to watch a bundle of them chasing around on her 20 acres, with crests and plumes flying, looking much like miniature Arabian Horses.

They are graceful, elegant creatures, with a delightful pixie-like playfulness. It is not uncommon to watch one use his/her long slender paws to draw toys or desired items through obstacles and toward themselves. In addition to a variety of "dog" toys, Crested's adore playing with "baby" toys as well, such as small rattles, stuffed toys (no hard plastic parts), activity pillows, and small solid plastic figurines typical for the baby/preschool age child.

And don't forget their veggies! A favorite with many of them...most adore lettuce, cabbage and bananas!

Every Hairless Chinese Crested carries the dominant gene for producing hairlessness, i.e. hair on head, feet and tail only. In the case of the Chinese Crested, it is the amount and extent of the hairlessness that varies, as well as highly unpredictable.

There may be only a few sparse hairs to large patches of hair on the body of a hairless Crested....or perhaps a ridge of hair running down the back. This would be in addition to the furnishings of the Crest, Muffs, Mane and Plume. At one extreme, a pup can be born with so little hair, that he hardly carries any furnishings at all...and then at the other end, there could be a Hairy Hairless, with a fine layer of hair covering the majority of his body, but without an undercoat whatsoever.

In order to check whether your dog interest is a Hairless or PowderPuff, simply look in the mouth. If the dog has the Hairless gene he will have forward pointing tusks, if it is a PowderPuff, he will have a "normal" mouth.



Here we have an excellent example of how the various Chinese Crested hair types can be found, all in the same litter whelped. This litter shows, from the top:

- 1 PowderPuff, black and white
- 1 True Hairless, black
- 1 True Hairless, pink with black spots
- 1 PowderPuff, white and brown
- 1 Hairy Hairless, white with black ears, and two spots
- 1 PowderPuff, white and black, with tri-colored markings

Degrees of hair growth not only vary from puppy to puppy... but can and more likely will change with age, as will their various markings. Trimming or shaving areas of undesired hair growth is a matter of personal choice, and is recommended per the breeds standard. Clippers can be easily purchased to accomplish this relatively simple job, or your Crested can be taken to a professional groomer.

Here are some examples showing the varying degrees of hair placement in the Crested breed, as well as the effect shaving has on his/her appearance.



Unshaved, 4 week old pups. Notice the differences in hair coverage.



Three examples of the Hairy Hairless form of Chinese Crested.



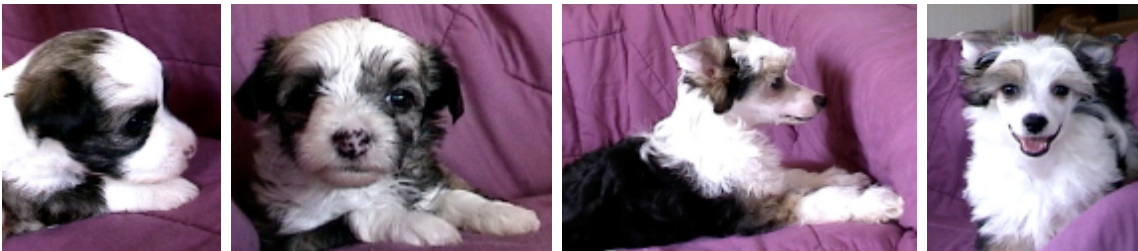
True Hairless, notice the almost obsolete furnishings.



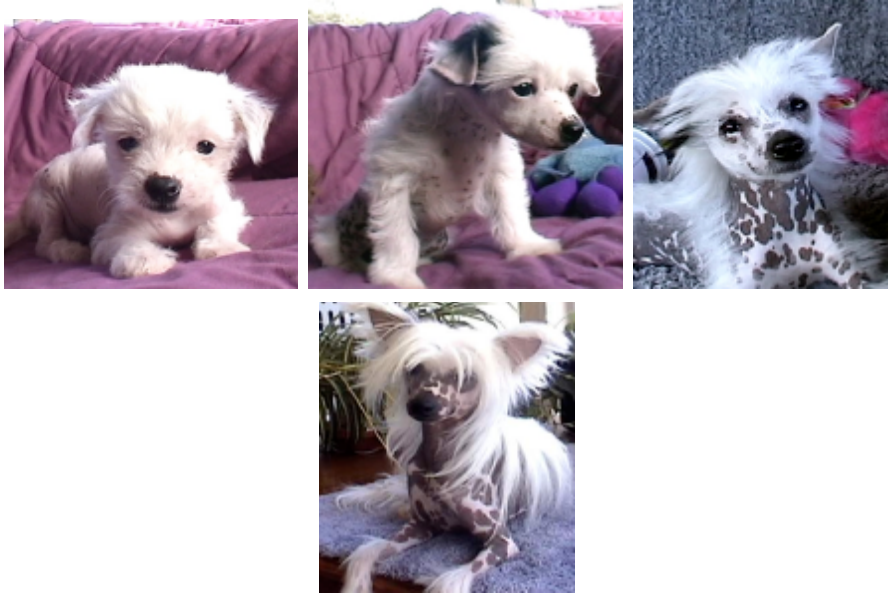
True Hairless, notice how light his furnishings are.



True Hairless, unshaved at 4 weeks (L), and shaved at 8 weeks. (R)



This is the SAME dog as he has grown since puppy hood.
Pictured: "Badger Crest Panda"
PowderPuff Chinese Crested



This is the SAME dog, as she has grown since puppy hood.
Pictured: "Badger Crest She's A Hoot"
Hairy Hairless Chinese Crested



Sometimes, when pups are born, their ears are "down" or hanging over in the classic puppy look. Taping is required by several weeks old for some of them to encourage the muscle strength necessary to hold the ears "up" as per the breed standard.
This PowderPuff pup, as you can see, required taping.



This pup didn't require any taping whatsoever...his ears merely stood up with their own muscle strength.

Pictured: "Badger Crest Sparky"
True Hairless Chinese Crested

The Chinese Crested is a breed that is generally acceptable for people with allergies-and so, for this reason, has sometimes been called "hypo-allergenic". This information is based on the understanding as to the various breeds that possess a single layer of coat and therefore usually produce less dander than double coated varieties. Please consult your individual physician as to your own allergy issues, and as to whether or not a Chinese Crested will suit your particular situation.

It is important to use lotion to keep the hairless variety's skin from becoming dry. Suntan lotion should also be used to protect the skin when outdoors. Chinese Crested's thoroughly enjoy the outdoors, even in winter! However, please keep in mind that they are as weather sensitive as their people, and will require coats as well.

Please note that these wonderful creatures: **DO NOT MAKE GOOD KENNEL DOGS!** They were bred primarily as companions, and are thereby sincerely attached to their people. At Badger Crest Kennels for example ALL of their dogs are kept indoors, with their extended human family for this very reason. And although they love to romp on the 20 acres found at Badger Crest Kennels, they also thoroughly enjoy watching the deer, wild birds and wild turkeys from the couch just as well, where they can be petted, talked to and appreciated as the member of the family that they truly are.