

## Press Release

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### Miniature Dalmatians-A New Breed

It's another one of those stories about something that has never been done before- or at least there is no recorded history of the development of toy and miniature dalmatians. And yet, through years of perseverance, Gene Connell, owner of Mascot Dalmatians, in South Georgia has done just that.

After 16 years and nine generations of selective line breeding from AKC standard dalmatians, the mini and toy dalmatians were developed. In the process, many of the faults that have long plagued standard dalmatians, such as deafness, kidney problems and aggressive behavior, were eliminated. This new breed, which is not only very intelligent and easy to train, is best characterized by its calm temperament. The average life span is 13-15 years.

What distinguishes the miniatures from the standard? When fully grown the miniature will stand at the withers 14" to 15" tall and will weigh approximately 18 to 24 pounds. The toy dalmatian will stand 10" to 12" tall and weigh approximately 8 to 12 pounds.

This breed sports similar colors as the standard Dalmatian: black and white, liver and white, tri-colors, and brindles. Spot patterns vary: DILUTE is basically a white dog with very few spots, and it could take up to a year for it to fully spot out. MOSAIC is a spot pattern with numerous spots, which are vivid and may cluster together. All dalmatians are born solid white. If a spot is visible at birth (usually over the eye or ear, or elsewhere on the body) it is known as a PATCH.

Why did Mr. Connell do it? As a breeder of several years of standard dalmatians, he heard over and over again from his clients as they departed with a six to eight weeks old puppy that weighed 10 to 12 pounds, the wish that their pet would not get any bigger. And, also, Mr. Connell has an adventurous nature that motivates him to seek unique situations. Consequently, he has indeed developed the most unique pet available today.

These adorable little creatures are ideal for condo living and travel vehicles. Owners find the miniature and toy dalmatians to be gentle, loving and very special to all family members and family pets.

Col. GENE CONNELL, Master Dog Breeder

Mascot Dalmatians