



THE POODLE-L HANDBOOK

**The Official Instruction Manual and Guide
for the All Poodle Dog Discussion List
Second Edition**

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome

Welcome to the All Poodle Dog Discussion List, or "Poodle-L" as we know it. This is a very special place, filled with lots of good natured and caring people. Each of us come from diverse backgrounds and hail from all over the world. However, we all have one thing in common, our passion for Poodles. That's why the forum exists, to share that passion with one another.

This guide will teach you a little about the list and how we are organized and operate. You'll also learn tips and tricks to navigate the L-Soft website and set your account to your liking. It's an instruction manual, containing all kinds of great information to help make your experience a truly positive one. It also helps you to get the most from the list itself and you should print it out and keep it handy for future reference.

Fluff

The list is basically made up of people who own pets, so the discussion is generally lighter than what one would expect if they were subscribed to a "show list". Most of the posts are simply "new puppy" announcements or what sort of ball "mommy and daddy" bought for their little "snookums". For that reason, the hard-core dog sport enthusiast might find Poodle-L to be a bit frustrating due to all of the "fluff". So don't expect to find yourself co-mingling with the Westminster crowd on a daily basis. While we do have some top breeders, professional handlers, and canine health and research professionals onboard, if you're a take-no-prisoners dog show commando, you might find the list a bit less than satisfying. Then again, you could join with our experts who willingly donate their time and expertise toward educating all of us in health, genetics, nutrition, breeding, and exhibiting. Often folks will ask simple questions about general maintenance, and you may just be the person with the right answer.

Tragedy is common to all of us, and sometimes the list serves as a close-knit support group for those who suffer loss. We have not only suffered the passing of our own beloved pets, but also have lost a few of our human members over the years. This group has been more than just a conglomeration of names in an e-mail address book. We're a cyber community of friends, willing to lend one another the time to listen and to share in one another's lives.

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The direction our list takes each day just depends on the topic at hand, and if things seem a bit overly simple, then feel free to toss out a more "meaty" subject, like color inheritance or the effects of lowering inbreeding coefficients. Remember, our small community is nothing more than a collection of your thoughts and opinions. Without them, there would be no discussion, and for that reason, your contributions and questions are what keep the list going. We more than encourage your input on just about any subject related to the breed, and look forward to the questions you introduce or answers you provide into our forum.

A Brief History Of Poodle-L

Poodle-L was founded around 1995 by Mr. John Krytus, a Poodle lover from Toledo, OH. In those days, it was generally a case of "anything goes". People posted whatever was on their mind, and things got a bit "exciting" from time to time. For about two years, things went along as lists do, building members and growing in its mix of personalities. Of course, personalities don't always commingle well, and in early 1997, the list fell into a very serious range war. Some of you might wonder why we have such an ironclad no-flames policy, and this is certainly part of the reason. There was a major fracture in the list, and as it split, another list formed from those who left. Poodle-L didn't fold, but it did lose membership for a while. John remained as the owner and single administrator throughout 1997, but in that time, he felt the desire to hand things over and back away from management. While there are no paid positions within Poodle-L, the workload sometimes mounts to a nearly full-time chore, and John wanted to "retire".

Around the end of the year, John contacted Mr. Eric Schwartz, and asked if he would be willing to take the helm. While Eric was honored, he also sensed that this would be a much bigger job than one person could reasonably manage, so he asked David Arthur and Tony Chambless if they would come on as co-administrators. Both agreed, and thus Poodle-L had its first administrative team. Things went well that year, and the list swelled to more than 450 members. As the numbers grew, so did the responsibilities, and thus the Admin team brought on another member to help with the details. Ms. Shirley Jacobs came onboard around the first part of 1998, and she was an enormous help. Again, the numbers grew.

It was mid-year in 1998 that turmoil returned to the list. The beginning of that year, Eric started experiencing some physical ailments and needed to hand over the leadership and "retire", much as John had before him. Sadly, this brought on a chain of events that caused things to deteriorate within the administration, and a short time after

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Eric confided his situation to David and Tony, things came crashing down. The list nearly split again, and David signed off, leaving Tony and Shirley as the sole administration. This didn't sit well with many of the list members, and for almost two weeks, things lingered in limbo with plenty of turmoil bouncing around the forum from various individuals threatening to leave. Suffice to say that plenty was going on behind the scenes, but in the end, Eric stepped back into the leadership position, David was coaxed back onto the list, and Tony left completely, all within about three days. While it cost some members, things remained relatively stable. To replace Tony, two new Admins were brought on to help stabilize the situation further, Mrs. Jane Simpson and Mrs. Judy Rex. Growing out of that trial, the "Zero-Tolerance, No-Flames" policy was born, which has been the mainstay of Poodle-L ever since.

Again, the membership soared! By mid summer in 1998, we had grown to over 620 accounts. So we brought on even one more Admin, Dawn McKay, who was our technical expert. Those were the golden days of Poodle-L. Sometimes the list would climb to as many as 100 to 150 posts, and there were lots of questions, answers, comments, brags, and just general fun. The "Rebeloodles" made their appearance during those years, and eventually went on to form their own list. In fact, there are no less than four other internet discussion groups that owe their heritage to Poodle-L.

As more years passed, things changed further. Shirley lost her beautiful Poodle girls, as well as her husband of many years. In 2002, she chose to step down from her position in Admin. Within a year, she too faded from the pages of our e-mail. Eric's health finally brought him to retire from active administration, remaining as our figurehead and dearest friend.

In fact, we have seen many friends come and go, both canine and human. Each of them took a piece of Poodle-L with them. Our first major loss was Cathy Mann, who fought a good fight with cancer, but left us back in 1998. Marlene Heycock was a regular fixture here, and she too went on to greet our beloved pets at the bridge. There was Mary Schoen, then Jacqui Webster, and last to leave us was Anita Saylor. And those are the ones we knew quite well on Poodle-L. There were others who came, lingered for a while, and simply faded into time. Each had a place in our hearts, and each will be missed and remembered with fondness.

And so we're on to the future. David, Jane, and Judy still work the bulk of the administration. Eric no longer monitors the list, but is still around for questions and that touch of wisdom needed from time to time. Dawn dropped "McComer" from her name and replaced it with "Weinberger", most happily married and moved to Canada. She still keeps in touch for the technical tidbits. And as for our membership, we

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usually hover somewhere close to 550 subscriptions, give or take a few dozen repeats.

So where will you write your page in Poodle-L's history? We've had a few friends who began as pet lovers, only to take fire and become top breeder/exhibitors. Some have caught the research bug, exploring pedigrees and helping keep us abreast with recent canine research. Most just share their lives and puppies with us. It's all up to you. The invitation is made. Now grab up your keyboard and come join the fun.

READY, SET, GO

Before you begin posting to the list, there are a few things you need to do in setting up your mail client. Once that is done, you may also wish to modify your account settings so as to make the list more manageable with which to interact.

Plain Text Only

Not everyone in the world has the benefit of high-speed internet with unlimited usage. Some localities are still on dialup, and in many countries, people pay by the minute for internet access. Using Hyper Text Mark-up Language (HTML) gives you incredible capabilities, such as nesting pictures or using fancy stationary with funky fonts. The problem is, all of the text formatting takes time to transmit across a dialup connection, and it is converted into gibberish if the respondent 's ISP or mail client can only read plain text. This is why we have chosen to post Poodle-L in a plain text format only.

On the main list server, the settings dictate plain text. So if you send a post to Poodle-L in HTML, the list server will generally convert it before sending it on to the rest of the membership. However, it doesn't always work that way. There are times when it will just dump your post because it is in the wrong format. Now you've taken all of the time to write a nice message to everyone, and in the end nobody will get to read it. So be sure to go into the options settings and verify that you're sending only in plain text. If you have a client such as Outlook or Eudora, you can often set up various addresses with the plain text setting only, so you don't mess up any of the formatting you use with your non-Poodle-L friends. Regardless, if you don't have the option to choose between accounts, you'll need to either set the settings for plain text for everyone, or you'll need to stop and covert every post you send to the list.

If you are an AOL subscriber, things get a bit more complicated. You may have to set up your mail account using manual settings. In this event, use the courier font, ten pitch, and without any stationary or other formatting. This approximates the plain text formatting and will not leave a bunch of gibberish code for people to muddle through to get to your comments.

Setting Up Your Account

Once you have requested and have been approved for a membership, you're a part of our community. But unless you're familiar with discussion lists, you might just find yourself overwhelmed with the amount of traffic in your e-mail box. This is where

knowing some basic list commands will help. They are discussed in detail in Attachment 2 or on L-Soft's website. But to help get you started, here some of the more common settings you might want to use.

When you're going away for a day or more, you will likely want to stop the mail to your account. This setting is called "nomail", and it stops the list server from sending posts to your e-mail box, but doesn't take you off of the list. That way you won't clog up your e-mail account with gazillions of Poodle-L posts that you won't have time to read in the first place. Or worse yet, it causes a "Mailbox Full" message to go back to the listserver, which will automatically boot your subscription. So it's very important to set your account to nomail if you're going to be away for a while. And when you do get home, to turn the mail back on again, just send the same message . . . with one minor modification . . . and set it back to "mail".

Sometimes the simple volume of messages can create a problem, seeing as there have been days in the past where we slogged through as many as 200 posts. Some people find even fifty messages to be a chore to dig through. If you fall into that category, you may wish to set your account to "digest". This way, you'll get one or two huge posts a day, containing all of the messages sent to the list. You can then read through the Poodle-L traffic at your leisure. The only problem with digest is that it is sometimes difficult to reply to a specific post or thread.

If you only want to see the subjects without having to slog through the contents of every post, try setting your account to "Index". Here, the only thing you receive is a single post with links to each of the messages. When you see a topic that peaks your interest, click on the link and read away.

There are a number of other commands as well and each is discussed in detail in Attachment 2.

Spam Filters

Nobody likes . . . or at least admits to liking . . . Spam! Many of us go to great lengths to keep this cyber junk mail from even reaching our inboxes. The problem is that some spam filters will pick up on the e-mail volume from the list and block that Internet Service Provider (ISP) address too. If this should happen, you will need to reset your spam filter to authorize Poodle-L to send to your e-mail address. If you have an ISP that filters spam, you may have to contact them to get Poodle-L re-authorized. Otherwise you won't be able to receive the list, which is the very reason you subscribed in the first place.

Creating a Sub-Folder

If you're using a mail client like Microsoft Outlook, you can create folders to help organize your posts. This is a good idea with Poodle-L, since you're going to receive up to around fifty or more posts a day. That way, the list traffic can fill up a specific folder without you having to weed through the mail to get to your personal notes.

Signature Lines

It's always nice to know who we are talking to when we discuss things. However, if you don't add a signature line to your posts, it leaves us guessing to whom we should reply. Also known as "tag lines", they need not be elaborate, just a first name and maybe a kennel name or city to go with it is nice. Try and select a signature that's distinct from the others, such as:

```
John  
Goodpuppy Sub-standard Poodles
```

Some folks add the names of their dogs and other "family members". Others have fun with their signatures come up with things like John and Sharon Adams, actual list members, who sign their posts as:

```
Adams Family  
John, Sharon & Hershey & Shadow  
Memphis, TN
```

It's best not to go overboard on signature lines, however. Some people nearly tell their life stories, with symbol graphics, show wins, and even sneaking in an advertisement or two, such as:

```
Jane Q. Doe  
Broadway Kennels  
12 Many St.  
North Timbuktu, AK 45654  
Show vendors since 1924, specializing in all the things for the rings.  
www.dontlookthisup.com  
888-GET-CASH
```

Ok, so someone found a way around the no-advertising rule. That's where we bend a little, as long as your tag line is in good taste and doesn't interfere with the operation of the list.

Some folks just go on forever, and they have as many as eight to ten lines, including quotes from their favorite famous person . . . or two! Though it surely gives us a lot of information about you, your family, your dogs, your business, the color of the socks in

your underwear drawer, etc., we don't need to know that much about you to keep a good discussion going. All you really need have is your name, kennel or dogs' names, and maybe the URL to your home page. This is one area where less definitely adds up to more.

Posting For the First Time

So now that you have been briefed on the basics, let's begin. You can start by sending your first post to the list using the address below:

Poodle-l@apple.ease.lsoft.com

You'll want to add this address to your e-mail address book, since it's the only way to access the list. Of course, this first post should be a short introduction telling us the following:

- ✓ Your Name
- ✓ Where you're from
- ✓ The name(s) of your dog(s)
- ✓ Your interest in the breed (*Are you a pet person or a hard-core breeder/exhibitor?*)
- ✓ And basically anything else you might enjoy sharing about yourself and your "family".

Once you've introduced yourself, you can sit back and wait for the replies. In a matter of minutes, people from all over the world will welcome you to the community and invite you to share in the whole Poole-L experience.

For the most part, this list is here for your enjoyment, education, recreation, and to tap your experience and knowledge for others as well. It's only reason for existing is to encourage people to enjoy their dogs, and to make good friends along the way. We sure hope you find this list as fulfilling and informative as you desire, and we look forward to seeing your posts on a regular basis. Remember, our forum is only as good as the people who share it.

ENTERING THE FORUM

When you enter the open forum, you're speaking to a whole world of Poodle lovers. And because of our audience's diversity, here are a few pointers to make the interactions run smoothly.

Topical Content

The best way to think of the list is "primarily Poodles". As in any good discussion, however, the subjects change and topics occasionally wander off of into distraction. Poodle-L is no different, and you are going to see some things from time to time that have nothing to do with Poodles, or even dogs at all. Granted, people expect to come here to talk about their dogs, but the truth be told, not only do we have some members who don't own a Poodle, but we've even had some folks still waiting to get a dog. The main reason we all come to Poodle-L is for the camaraderie, and this sort of off-track discussion is just a part of life in general. It's to be expected between good friends. We do ask folks to try and stay on the general subject of the breed, since this is a discussion list about Poodles, but when we stray, please be patient. While we will all try to keep our posts focused toward the topic, remember, it's mostly about the people and their love for their pups.

As for topical content, the sky is basically the limit. Sure, there are some topics that you will want to avoid to help keep things on an even keel, but those boundaries are very broad on this list. As long as you are polite and respectful, you should have no problems interacting with the other list members. Sure, we often hear the same questions over and over again, but nobody really minds if they've heard a question before. So don't be shy, or wonder if what you have to say is important enough to discuss. We have talked about everything from canine idiopathic epilepsy, to why dogs eat poop. So if your post has the word "Poodle" in it, then you may as well send it. It's a safe bet your subject has been discussed at some point in time, and will be discussed far into the future.

Another small consideration is that the list is not a message service for contacting other friends around the world. Unless you have no other way to make contact with someone, please refrain from posting a "is so-and-so out there today," one-liner. If you haven't seen someone online for a while, it's ok to ask if the other list members have seen them lately. That sometimes acts as a good reminder that someone in our community is potentially experiencing hardship. But please don't use the list as a paging service, asking on a regular basis for "so-in-so" to contact you. If you're close

friends with another list member, you probably have their personal e-mail address anyway, and with a limit on the number of posts each day, all this does is clog up the system with notes that have no relevance to the rest of the list.

This also means you shouldn't carry on exclusive one-on-one conversations either. If you are only addressing one person and the information is not something that benefits the entire list, then you should reply to that person privately. This includes congratulations on wins, one-line agreements, or comments of a personal nature. This is particularly important during controversial discussions, where tempers have the potential to rise and reach out to burn up the list. Remember, this is an open running discussion, so you should try and make your comments so that they are appropriate to the widest possible audience.

Cultural Considerations

This is also an international forum. So when you post to the list or read the comments of others, be careful to consider your context or that from which another sender may be coming. Not all of the attitudes, opinions, ideas, or even the written standards concerning our dogs, are the same across international borders. For example, in the United States, Poodles are required to have their tails docked in order to show. In the European community, they require tails to be left intact. In other parts of the world, Poodle tails make great soup. So be careful to remember that other people may "Poodle" differently where they live, and respect their opinions on how they feel things should be done.

There is also an old saying that, "We're a common people, separated by a common language." How you say things in the American Midwest may come out completely different as understood by someone living in Russia. Try and remember you're sending to a community that is not bound by geography. Thus, when you use your local phrases and slang, you may lose others in the definitions. We may not be able to understand your comments, even though you're using the English language. The list is an English-speaking list, but that doesn't mean we all understand the same words. So be careful to use as much commonality in your posts as possible, and when others just don't get it, be understanding and gentle to further explain what you mean.

There are also plenty of subcultures in our community. We really don't care what you consider your gender orientation, nor will we give preference to your marital status, number of minor children, or even if you like to dress up as a lop-eared bunny on Thursday nights, though pictures of the latter would be worth posting to the website.

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This list has people living all sorts of lifestyles, and as long as they're taking care of their pups, it's not our place to look for fault.

In a nutshell, the key to happy interaction on the list is simply to follow the old phrase, "treat others as you would have them treat you."

Flaming

In the same context as the last paragraph, there is a strict prohibition on flaming on the list. "Flaming", as it's known on the internet, is when one person makes a personal attack against another through the e-mail. To put it simply, there is just no room for such action on this list! If you strongly disagree with something that has been said, by all means, state your case politely. But when the disagreement turns into either name-calling or serious accusation, "take it outside"!

In private, we really can't keep you from saying whatever you wish. That's between you, your "victim", and your conscience. And though the administrators will often offer to mediate on behalf of the injured, private conversations are not governed by the guidelines of this list. However, if you do decide to attack other list members privately, and it comes to the attention of the administration, you are putting your own subscription at risk. Former members have been removed from the list because of the way they treated other subscribers privately. We are known for our safe and polite nature, and work very hard to maintain that reputation.

From time to time, problems do come about. When range wars arise, you also have the option to not participate. Sometimes the better part of valor is to keep silent! When trouble starts, and you post an open reply or rebuke, you drag the rest of us into the mud with you. So please remember that you are speaking to the entire audience when you address Poodle-L. Make sure civility and reason rule, and your words will bring benefit and not injury. That way, everyone will credit you with being wise and temperate instead of arrogant, mean-spirited, and possibly slightly deranged.

Even though you are simply reading words across a computer screen, please keep in mind that there are real living people writing those words on the other end. When you talk to the list, you are speaking to more than 500 people all over the world. For that reason, keep in mind the following, which was contributed by one of our subscribers after a flame war erupted.

"I sit silent and read the posts and wonder what these people are doing to each other. A quote comes to mind, 'A blow from a word strikes deeper than a blow from a sword' "

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Remember folks, the words we say on this list to one another, often have greater impact than we know! So temper them well.

Of course, if you just can't resist, and you go off flinging burning arrows in the direction of another list member, you may just find yourself tangling with our "No-Tolerance, No-Flames" policy. Put simply, if you toss a heated post in someone's direction, the Admins will likely give you one warning. On the second shot, you will be placed on "Review" for a period of three days, to cool off. This is where every post you send goes to an Admin for clearance before it's released. If you try and bypass moderation or turn up the heat, you could find yourself removed from the list. This has happened only a few times in the past decade, thus far. But three of those situations have brought permanent bans to the offenders, and in at least one instance, nearly split the list. It's a harsh situation, and one the Admins do not take lightly.

Pictures and Links

Pictures take up a lot of bandwidth. Therefore, we don't allow them on Poodle-L. But there are ways to share your pictures with the group. To do this, just use a picture service, or your own personal website, and send the link to the list. Even with plain text, URL's post just fine, and you can send the link so we all may enjoy seeing your furry family.

You may also contact Admin and have us post your pictures to the Poodle-L website. You probably downloaded this manual from there, so I'm sure you have it bookmarked. And if not, then look at the bottom of every post. The address is <http://list.poodlelover.com>. Once your pictures are published on the net somewhere, again, all you need do is send the URL and everyone will come running to meet your "kids".

You may also post other URL's, as long as they fit within the Poodle-L guidelines. As will be discussed later on, there is no advertising on the list, so you have to be careful not to send anything that could be construed as a solicitation. But if you find something fun on E-Bay, or wandered onto a site that has canine health information, feel free to send it along. You can post a whole range of things as long as they fit within the context of Poodles, aren't personal business ventures, or they do not violate the boundaries of common decency.

Attachments

Due to the space allotment on the list server, and the needs of many of our subscribers, there is really no room for attachments. Though many of us would love to see pictures of your precious puppies or receive various useful files, do try and send them privately and not through the list. It takes up too much space, and considerably degrades the system's efficiency.

What you can do is link back to them if they reside on a website. Some people like to send electronic greetings through the list. This works very well and you are more than welcome to post notes of this type. Since the "card" remains at it's creator's location, no space is used in order to store it. The portion that usually shows up on the list only contains the URL for the card's location. The recipient may go to that location and pick up whatever is awaiting there and enjoy the greeting along with the rest of the list.

Lurking

Lurking is the term used to describe when a person will join the list, but doesn't comment, just watching from the background without adding anything. Granted, there is nothing really wrong with lurking, and we certainly won't stop you from being a part of the community, but in order for the discussion to take place, people must be willing to discuss. It would be like attending a dinner party where everyone sat around the room, but nobody said a word. It wouldn't be long before everyone would leave and the party would be over. You are the essence of what the list is all about. You either have experience to share, questions to ask, observations to note, brags about your dog's conquests, or maybe just a friendly chat about nothing in particular. Often, our list members simply tell us about what's going on in their lives and the lives of their dogs. Sometimes someone needs a little support and understanding over a heart-felt loss or difficult situation, and some of the questions we get are downright hilarious. Regardless of the reason, the discussion is why we all come here. So while you are more than welcome to just sit back and enjoy the show, it will be far more exciting to actually jump in and take part in the conversation.

Emocons

Often, you'll see funny codes attached to the ends of sentences or at the beginning of a comment. These are called "emocons", sort of a combined word taken from "emotions" and "icons". Once you understand them, you can use them to give a touch of personalization to the posts. Because we can't actually see one another, and visual clues are so critical in good communication, we can place an emocon into the post to tell the

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reader how we're feeling at that moment. So, you might see someone laugh at another list member's humor by putting "<<LOL>>" (Laughing Out Loud) in the body of their reply. Here's a few of the more common ones you'll see:

FOCL = Falling Off Chair Laughing

IMHO= In My Honest/Humble Opinion

LOL = Laughing Out Loud

ROFL = Rolling On Floor Laughing (*"WMP", or With My Poodle is often added*)

VBG = Very Big Grin

TIA = Thanks In Advance

These are often bracketed, so when used, they would look something like this:

". . . and then he did it again . . . <<ROFL>>"

Of course, if you know more of them, please feel free to jump in and make additions . . . <<VBG>>

SPECIFIC THEMES

The word "censorship" draws some really bad connotations. So though we do have administrators watching over the discussion, we prefer to call it "moderation" and not "censorship". But regardless of what you call it, when it comes to maintaining a forum such as this, some moderation is necessary to ensure a "safe and healthful" environment. We want to keep the lines of communication open so that everyone feels comfortable to share. Our aim is to make sure that our list is a safe place where you won't be trampled under the weight of other peoples' strong views. For this reason, there is censorship of some form, but only as it relates to good manners and polite conversation. Considering this, we ask that you help take the responsibility to ensure the discussion remains in good taste and great tolerance, and that means practicing some restraint and concern with every post. In this section, we'll discuss some of the specifics of how to make this work.

Over the years, certain themes have come to the forum that cause trouble for everyone involved. There are few topics, other than openly attacking other members, which are truly "off-limits". No matter how controversial the subject, you are more than welcome to bring up whatever you wish. This is, after all, a forum for education and serious discussion. However, you should know up front that some topics always manage to bring problems, and they are listed below. While we do restrict religion and politics, this moderation is not so that you won't talk about all the other controversial subjects, but rather that you will bring them up carefully so as not to upset the list.

"Royals" and "Teacups"

These are terms that are not associated with the Poodle breed standard in any country presently maintaining a registry for our breed. For that reason, the strict show exhibitors and breeders will point out rather quickly (and sometimes quite unpleasantly) that they are terms you shouldn't use. Truly reputable breeders and exhibitors are fierce about protecting the standard, and they sometimes forget to be gentle with those who are new. This is why, to protect from hurt feelings, we ask you to refrain from using these terms.

Basically, the term "Royal" applies to an oversized Standard Poodle and "Teacups" are undersized Toys. Because each country has their own standard, there are variations as to the exact size for each of the three accepted varieties. But overall, these two terms are never used. So, it's best to ask one of the other list members or Poodle-L Admin privately if you're confused about them.

The Color Wars

Like it or not, multi-colored Poodles are now accepted in the UKC show ring. When you consider that show breeders have bred for over 100 years to get our present solid colors, you can imagine how heated a discussion on color combinations can get! Both the multi-colored contingent, as well as the solid folks, will all but take up arms in defense of their point of view. So when you talk about colors, keep in mind that this is a very sensitive subject for some of the people on the list. Oh, and if you say you have a "chocolate" Poodle, both sides will jump out to correct you. The proper term is "brown". "Chocolate" Poodles are made by Ghirardelli.

Extreme Views

There is nothing wrong with having an extreme point of view, as long as you express it as your "opinion". We try to hold a wide degree of tolerance in discussion, and we have talked about a variety of serious issues here. However, if your intent is to persuade the audience toward a given direction, please watch carefully for rising tempers. If the administration feels that tension is growing too quickly or too high, you will be asked to take your discussion off the main list and begin a private dialogue with interested members. That way the topic doesn't cause disruption by boring those who are not interested or acting as fuel for others who are "spoiling for a fight".

Raw Food For Thought

There are those on our list who feed raw. They believe that it's better for their dogs because it is "the more natural way" for canids to live. That may well be true, but not everyone agrees, has the time to portion out raw food, nor is concerned enough to feed raw. They feel whatever they're feeding their dog is adequate, and that's ok. In fact, we even have some who actually cook for their Poodles, and to be honest, even that's ok. In other words, you can feed your dog whatever and however you wish, and as long as you're not knocking off your neighbors, dragging them to the basement, and cut them up for doggie dinners, you're probably doing ok. For those who wish to evangelize on the subject, don't! Everyone has their opinions, and yours is no more or less valid than anyone else's. Remember to give everyone their space to disagree.

Animal Rights

All of us hold some degree of care and concern for Poodles; otherwise we wouldn't be on a Poodle discussion list. Nearly all of us carry the same feelings toward other animals too, and many of us are even involved in rescue and animal protection work.

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Then there are a few members who would consider themselves to be extremists, and might hold membership in various animal rights organizations. But if you express a strong viewpoint along the typical animal rights line, you run the risk of upsetting a number of list members who have similarly strong views in opposition to the animal rights movement. So just like any other strong opinion, it's ok to bring up the topic, but once things start to get heated, you will probably be asked to discuss such matters privately and not reply to the list as a whole

Politics and Religion

Just like a polite dinner party, these are two topics that you just don't throw down. When these themes arise, it usually puts the whole community in an uproar and draws the list to nothing more than emotional sputtering about each individual's undying commitment, or lack there of. Cross that line and you'll encounter censorship in abundance! These two subjects are as taboo as if you were to carve the biblical words of John 3:16 into the doors of the U.S. Whitehouse. Now there is nothing wrong with telling someone you will pray for them during a time of need, or to pass along a "polite" joke concerning world leaders, as there is a great degree of tolerance here. But if you blatantly offer prayers or political commentary, you are bound to wind up learning exactly what is meant by "flames" as other subscribers take up arms. Please keep things simple without pressing for converts . . . political or religious . . . and you'll be just fine.

Advertising

Advertising is strictly forbidden! Poodle-L dose not create, endorse, nor accept advertisement for any product, service, or puppies. Sometimes it's hard to draw the line between advertising and just sharing excited stories about new litters or canine business opportunities. There is also no real way to gauge the intent of the sender as to why they communicate specific "events", so each post is taken on a case-by-case basis. Here are some examples to help explain what "to" and "not to" do:

Announcement - "Hooray for our beloved Ch. Spiffy Meggapups, who just delivered twenty nine of the most incredibly beautiful Standard Poodle puppies last night in the middle of our bed. We are so proud of their daddy, Ch. Goshawful Goodsire's contribution, and mom is doing wonderfully. Everyone is happy, healthy, and wiggling for milk in the whelping box."

Advertisement - "Wesellum Kennels is proud to announce our most recent litter of twenty nine Standard Poodle puppies from Ch. Spiffy Meggapups. The sire is Ch. Goshawful Goodsire, and all will be available in eight weeks for show, obedience, and pet placements. Prices range from \$1

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million to \$10 million respectively. The waiting list is forming now, call 555-GET-PUPS."

You know why you are posting, so just ask yourself if it's to share your joy, or to market your dogs. Sure, we all know it's going to be a little of both, and that's one of the benefits of being on a list like this. There are people out there who are interested in finding new puppies and the supplies that go along with them. Just don't make it an overt solicitation. There is nothing wrong with telling the list where you got your latest pinbrush, or bragging about your latest show litter. But it's an entirely different matter to make offers for each. If another subscriber enquires as to your pups or where to find something, go ahead and either answer them privately off-list, or offer the URL or phone number for the supplier.

If you're the one doing the asking, you may certainly post a request for what you need. You may even ask for the list to help find you a pup. People often request information on breeders and suppliers. When someone makes such a request, if you know of where to obtain that for which they're looking, go ahead and answer to the list. There are likely a lot of folks who could benefit from the information. The only restriction, once again, is if you're a commercial supplier or are a breeder. Here are a couple of examples to illustrate the point:

Acceptable - "I got my pinbrush from Anna Brown's Dog Sales at the show up in Canfield, OH last week, and it's truly wonderful. I believe her contact information is . . . "

Unacceptable - "I just started my own vending business and so while we're on the subject, I'm having a sale on pinbrushes, ten for a dollar. I also have exercise pens for \$500, crates for \$1,000, and will even throw in a new RV if you buy more than ten gross of each for your first order . . . "

If someone asks for something on the list and you can provide it, or you see someone looking for a puppy and you're a breeder with pups to offer, simply contact the requester privately. That way there won't be the impression of crossing into the forbidden solicitation zone.

Charities

Giving to charity is certainly a good thing. No one can argue that by sending your donation, you are helping in some small or large way toward the benefit of others. When those charities benefit canines, it hits all the closer to home for the members of our list. Organizations such as the Morris Foundation, a nonprofit institution that funds humane animal health studies to advance veterinary medicine, are truly worthy

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of our funding. Considering that we have lost good friends on the list to cancer, it's understandable we might want to support the American Cancer Society. In fact, there are just about as many organizations as there are diseases that plague man and beast. Many of these are legitimately working toward solving the issues they were organized to address, and it would seemingly make sense to allow our members to solicit for these causes.

The problem is, not all charities are valid. There are some organizations that solicit money under the guise of what many of us would consider to be an appropriate cause, but in truth, funnel money into directions that are far from beneficial to our beloved pets. The innocent looking Doris Day Foundation not only is anti-breeder, but also works with such organizations as PETA or the Animal Liberation Front, two very extremely militant animal rights organizations. Thus by giving money to the one organization, you wind up supporting others that seek to destroy the very breed we pledge to protect. Because of the time involved in ferreting out which organizations are linked to which, there is no way that our volunteer Admin can keep track of it all to endorse any given charity with any degree of surety your money is going in a reasonable direction.

On top of this, the number of charities alone is daunting. Just plugging the word "charity" into Google brings back over 113 million hits. Granted, not all of those are individual organizations. But as you can see, there are literally thousands of worthy causes that would require investigation and vetting for legitimacy. Combine this with the fact that Poodle-L is not in the business of endorsing products, individuals, or organizations, it simply isn't in our best interest to go down the road of allowing this form of solicitation. And even if we could track each of them down, not everyone would agree on their viability, and the list could potentially plunge into endless arguments over any charity a member might post.

Another aspect that has plagued the list is when individual subscribers have fallen on hard times and others have solicited on their behalf. Years ago, this action almost split the list. One of the members lost a job and was in danger of losing their house, dogs, and just about everything else they owned. Some list members came to the rescue, but the trouble that ensued from that circumstance offended a number of other list members, and it was a very hard lesson learned in why it's best to keep such things off of the open forum. We also had an individual come onto the list and spoofed our community into sending all sorts of cards, letters, and monetary support for a car accident that we later discovered, never happened. That was the end of any solicitation on the behalf of individuals.

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Therefore, this all falls under the non-solicitation rule for our list. There are just too many opportunities for arguments to arise or the less scrupulous to bilk the membership out of their hard-earned income. It also would leave Poodle-L somewhat liable for the actions of those charities we could be seen as endorsing. The list is not in the business of providing endorsement, along with an implied responsibility to protect our membership. For these reasons, we disallow all charity solicitation. It's just the best means of keeping the peace in our cyber community.

RESPONDING TO THE LIST

When you see something to which you wish to respond, the natural inclination is to just hit reply, start typing, then send. If you are only addressing the sender, you'll be ok. However, if you intended for it to go to the whole list, because of the way our reply system is set up, it won't make it beyond that one person. There are tricks and tidbits to make the system work to your benefit and even how you format your post can make a difference in its acceptance and delivery. This is especially important when writing a long message. So, let's dive into how you should format and send your replies.

Answering Privately

When posting, you should ask yourself if what you have to say is interesting to the whole list, or is something between you and another list member. This is a tough call, because the purpose of the list is for open discussion. So, if your topic is something you believe might be of significance to the general membership, please answer posts to the open forum. That way, we can all learn from your wisdom, or provide insight to your questions.

Not everything is worthy of sending to the list. We only have room for 200 messages per day, and there have been list members who have pressed the volume to the limit on more than one occasion. One subscriber racked up a record 30 posts in one day. This meant that there were 29 less spaces available for others who may have needed an answer to a question, or for another to share their grief. Conversely, we had one member in New York State who always saved her replies for a single note to the list each day. This saved both space on the server as well as time for the readers. By using single messages, multiple addresses, and cc lines, you can reach subsets within the group, or compress the discussion into minimal space. By doing this, you help make the list less bulky for our busier members and it keeps the topics interesting to the entire group.

Another problem area that takes up a lot of space without adding much to the conversation is the "one-liner". If all you're going to say is "congratulations" for a win or "I agree" to a comment, please post privately. Granted, we're all glad you feel the same as the originator and that you're gracious enough to congratulate them on their wins, but when you're a list member who has to pay for the privilege of reading each and every post, it's a bit annoying to get a boat-load of one-liners all adding nothing to the ongoing discussions.

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To answer someone privately, simply use your "reply" button. This will find the sender's address and your post will go to them directly. This is in contrast to using the "reply all" button which posts to every address in the header, including Poodle-L. This will send your post both to the individual to whom you're replying as well as to the list as a whole. For this reason, be very careful how you answer posts.

Another way to reply to the original sender is to find their address in the header, copy it, and paste it into a new message. If you've set your account to digest, you'll likely have to do this, or you'll be cutting out a lot of text before you can send your reply. The typical header will look something like the following example:

```
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.03 [en] (Win95; I)
Date: Mon, 23 Nov 1998 21:56:55 -0500
Reply-To: John Doe <jdoe@NOVICE.COM>
Sender: All Poodle Dog Discussion Group <POODLE-L@APPLE.EASE.LSOFT.COM>
From: John Doe <jdoe@NOVICE.COM>
Subject: [POODLE-L] Show Dogs
To: POODLE-L@APPLE.EASE.LSOFT.COM
```

The person who actually sent the post would be listed on the "From" line and should also be the one shown as "Reply-To". In our example, both lines are as follows:

```
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.03 [en] (Win95; I)
Date: Mon, 23 Nov 1998 21:56:55 -0500
Reply-To: John Doe <jdoe@NOVICE.COM>
Sender: All Poodle Dog Discussion Group <POODLE-L@APPLE.EASE.LSOFT.COM>
From: John Doe <jdoe@NOVICE.COM>
Subject: [POODLE-L] Show Dogs
To: POODLE-L@APPLE.EASE.LSOFT.COM
```

Make sure the right name and address is in the "To" line of your post, and if not, then you should cut and paste it into place so it gets to where it's supposed to go. Any message address that says:

```
All Poodle Dog Discussion Group <POODLE-L@APPLE.EASE.LSOFT.COM>
```

It means your post is heading to the open forum. If you're dealing with a very sensitive issue, or don't intend to address the whole group, I would strongly suggest you give extra attention to the address lines before hitting the send button. More than once a private comment has popped up in the open forum and created a mild ruckus amongst the membership.

Cross-Posting

There are scores of other Poodle and dog-related discussion lists on the net. From time to time people will post information found on them to Poodle-L. Sometimes people take posts from Poodle-L and place them onto other lists. For the most part, there is nothing wrong with this activity. However, make sure you read the copyright statement in the Rights and Responsibilities section before doing so. Not everyone wants their information shared between lists. And some of the other lists are proprietary about the conversations they contain. The Internet is known for its free-flow of information. But we also must respect the wishes of the individuals who post upon it.

If you're the originator of a cross-post, you should always alert the original author that you are cross-posting and ask their permission first, so as not to violate a potential copyright. Even in our case, there are some serious considerations. The information posted to this list becomes the property of Poodle-L, and it is only intended for use in discussion on our list. By posting, the author automatically grants permission for their post to be copied in replies and further discussion within the forum. However, there is no permission granted to use anyone's words outside of the list without the original author's permission.

Sometimes the original author will place a cross-posting statement in the body of their message. Often you'll see this when the posts concern Rescue. They want the widest dissemination possible, so they automatically grant permission to cross-post to other lists. When you see this in a message, by all means, send it out as you wish. But if you don't have the original author's permission, you could wind up in some very serious situations. Therefore, it's just better to ask for permission, instead of forgiveness.

This also includes the use of Poodle-L information in private posts. Though there is no way to monitor or control this aspect, you are on your honor to respect the words of others as they are voiced here. During one incident, a post was made to the list regarding some dissatisfaction with a dog show. Another list member used parts of that post, co-mingled it with some of their own words, and sent it on to another list member who was not receiving a subscription at the time. Because the last person in line wasn't privy to the whole conversation, the post upset her quite seriously. The firestorm that ensued from that action took more than a week for the Administrative staff to resolve. Even then, it spilled over onto one of the other discussion lists, and the battle raged on from there.

Again, while there is no iron-clad copyright policy for discussion lists, you are still dealing with the intellectual property of others. Treat it kindly, as you would also have others treat you. It's the old "Golden Rule", and by honoring it, you will ensure that you may never be held responsible for the injury to others.

Chain Mail

I hope that nobody reading this manual will ever fall victim to those posts that claim that if you pass their e-mail on to fifty of your closest friends . . . or anyone else in your address book . . . you might see some surprise on the screen, will have every wish granted, or receive a million in gold bullion in the mail tomorrow. If you are one of those who followed their instructions, you didn't see anything, had no wishes granted, and probably went broke, right? Exactly! Bill Gates is not tracking your e-mail. There is no secret "tracking code". In fact, if he really wanted to send you a check for passing on the post, when you do the calculations on how many people have already received that very same e-mail, Bill would be broke long before now and couldn't send you a dime! Therefore, please don't post these things to Poodle-L. Commonly known as "Idiot Viruses", they bounce around the internet for years with seeming lives of their own, only because there is an endless supply of fools to pass them along. This sort of electronic minutia clogs up servers, gobbles tons of bandwidth, and generally irritates just about anyone with any lick of sense who receives it. Need I say more? I thought not! Oh, and if you've sent a few on, don't feel too bad. Almost everyone does the first time they encounter one of these electronic chain letters, so you're in good company. By the way, this includes messages about such bogus holidays as "National Friends Week", if you know what I mean. Basically, unless it's information or observations about Poodles or other related stuff, you're better off using the delete key than irritating the subscribers with chain e-mail.

Second-Hand Stories and Warnings

As I was sitting here reviewing the handbook prior to its final printing and distribution, I stopped for a moment and checked the list to see how things were doing. I noticed a note about some "dog-related humor", and decided to take a look. It was the story about two hunters who took their dog out onto a frozen lake to do some ice fishing. They got the idea to use dynamite to make a hole in the ice instead of using an auger, and when they lit the stick and tossed it, the dog retrieved it. You can guess the rest of the story, and it is always preceded with, "This is absolutely true . . ."

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The catch is, not a word of it is true. In fact, this story has been bouncing around the internet for years, and goes along with dozens of other “absolutely true” tales. There’s the hydroplaning tires with cruise control warning, the caution about waking up in a tub of ice with your kidneys gone story, and let’s not forget the wonderful tale of the guy who hooked up a rocket bottle to his VW and slammed into a mountain yarn. They make for great discussion fodder, but have absolutely no value on our list. And worse yet, nearly all of our membership knows of these hoaxes, and will tell you so in short order.

To keep from falling victim to such internet rouses, when you see something that peaks your interest, and you just know you must do your social duty and pass such vital information along to all your pals, take a moment and stop by Snopes and check it out there first.

www.snopes.com

This is one of many sites dedicated to debunking internet hoaxes. By looking on Snopes first, you’ll save yourself a lot of embarrassment from having to hear how your “essential warning” has made you a quintessential fool.

Tailoring Messages

When an e-mail is distributed to the membership, it comes with a whole bunch of header and footer information. When you reply to a post on the list, that information is usually copied right along with your reply. This makes for a lot of unnecessary bulk and tough reading, especially for those on digest. So here are a couple of tips to make your replies more readable.

First, edit the subject line to reflect what the message is actually about. Often, people will get caught up in multiple replies, but don't alter the subject line to reflect changes in the conversation. Thus, a post may begin with a question about why a dog's nose goes pink in the winter, ending up a week later with replies on the importance of dewclaw removal. If the subject line still asks about "winter nose", those who delete e-mail based on the topic may well trash the questions or good information about dewclaw removal. So, make sure when you reply, you look at the subject line and ensure it's related to the topic being discussed.

Next, try and remove the "unnecessary" portions of your replies. So often people just hit reply, say a line or two, sending it off just as they got it. By the time the message has bounced around through four or five replies, there can be more lines of text than the

server allows, and your post will be bounced back to you unsent. Take time to cut away the parts of the original message you are not addressing. Also, remove any headers and signature lines, except for that which is necessary to identify who's saying what within your reply. When you do cutaway parts of another post, simply place the following at any point where you remove text:

```
<snip>
```

Thus the preceding paragraph, if it were being answered on the list, could be cut down to:

```
<snip> Take time to cut away the parts of the original message you are  
not addressing. Also, remove any headers and signature lines, except  
for that which is necessary to identify who's saying what within your  
reply. <snip>
```

The essential information is still there to understand the context, but we don't really need to re-read the whole post to know its correlation.

On the other hand, don't just cut away all of the original post, leaving us to wonder as to what you were replying in the first place. Leave a little bit of the originator's words, otherwise the reader has to make a mad dash to the "Deleted" folder to try and scare up the original post to figure out what you're trying to communicate.

Some folks like to ramble on about things. When you're going to do this, please tell us you're going to be long-winded. Most of us don't mind a well developed subject, and if it takes all 200 lines to make a point, please be our guest. But we do have a number of subscribers who have to pay for their internet by the hour. By putting the word (Long) into the subject line, those who are pressed for time, know to skip over the post and return to it later when time permits. This is a very subjective aspect, as there is no hard and fast rule to the number of lines in a "long post". However, think about if you were the one receiving the note. If you feel you are being a bit wordy, don't trash the post, just tell everyone it's going to be longer than normal and. If you do this, you will be greatly appreciated by the busier list members for doing so.

Accidental Posts

Every now and then, someone will "hit the wrong button" and send some personally private tidbit streaming around the planet. This is usually quite embarrassing to the sender and lets the rest of us in on a bit of their personal life that we often chuckle about later in chat. The point is, these accidents are sometimes quite private, and in the past have caused a few in our community great pain.

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To help avoid this from happening, the list is set so that if you hit "reply", your post only goes to the person to whom you're responding. However, if you hit "reply all", then your post is off zooming around the globe, hopefully carrying the words you intended for everyone to see. We can't make the list completely foolproof, but we have taken at least a little of the danger out of hitting the send button.

Occasionally there are posts that get through to the forum. When that happens, nearly all of us are adults here and we need to realize that though we "see" one another as brief strings of words on a screen, there are real live human beings sitting at their keyboards on the other side of everything you read. No one wants to have their intimate thoughts plastered on billboards all over the place, yet that's exactly what happens when an accidental post escapes. For that reason, be careful not to tease or taunt the sender too harshly. They're likely already dieing of embarrassment.

If you do post accidentally, you're probably hoping that an Admin somewhere can stop the list server before it blasts its way out into cyberspace. Sorry, but there is no way to do that. However, it's certainly alright to quickly send either an "oops" or "disregard" post to chase after it. Sadly, it won't do much good to stop the post, but at least it may keep the teasing down.

When Others Make Mistakes

Sometimes people screw up. It's a fact of life, and it's a fact that likely won't go away until there are no more people to make mistakes. People even make them on our list. You'll hear brown Poodles called "chocolate", that multi-colored Poodles can't be registered in AKC, that you can't show in International shows because FCI doesn't allow tail docking, and any assortment of other erroneous assertions on the part of even some of our most experienced list members. When you see such things on the list, please don't feel as if you need to be the great defender of our breed. There's nothing wrong with gently pointing out the error and being gracious enough to let the other person save face by not having to grovel in apologies. This is rare, but it does happen from time to time, and usually, Admin finds the original poster to be the victim. If someone says something that really crawls up your skirt and bites you in the . . . well, let me invite you to contact Admin privately and let us deal with the situation. Often, a word spoken from a healing position will go far further in correcting the situation than anything said in arrogance. We understand these issues are important to those who follow the dog sport, but remember, the list is primarily made up of pet enthusiasts. A little kindness is far more important than correctness in this venue. There is plenty of time to educate the uninformed through the daily interaction.

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Now, in case you're wondering, the list server does not have a spell checker. However, I'm quite sure there are some available in just about every mail client and word processor on the market today. So, yes, I understand that there is no reason that any document on the internet should be graced with a misspelling . . . however, it does happen anyway. Not everyone here has a college education, and as well, this is an international list, so some of our members are not that familiar with English. Thus, we don't consider such things, whatsoever, and past comments have caused injury to others. So if you are very sensitive to grammar, word choice, style, context, subject-verb agreement, syntax, chronology, philology, and lastly spelling . . . in a phrase, "get over it!" If you complain about another list member's spelling, Admin will graciously thank you for your observation, and then promptly ignore you. We're here to share our experiences and not our linguistic talents.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

The key to success on Poodle-L is to keep track of your account so that it doesn't run into trouble and get dumped by the list server. Poodle-L automatically probes all of the accounts over time, and it also keeps track of how many attempts are used to deliver a given post for the day. Depending on its success, the list server will either pass along the daily Poodle-L traffic, or it will start counting errors. If it encounters the latter, that's where trouble begins.

Daily Probes

"Probes" are where the list server selects a hand full of accounts at random and sends a tracking message to their ISP's to ensure the accounts are still valid. Each day, the Admins receive a post concerning who was probed, which looks something like this:

The following 4 subscribers were probed today:

```
Imacurlydog@AOL.COM
amyspoons@HOTMAIL.COM
johnathan.doe@INDRA.COM
toypoodlesnmore@FLXTEK.NET
```

These probes are invisible to you, but mean everything to the list server. If you have problems with your ISP, Admin will begin to see posts like the following, telling us of your troubles.

The following 3 subscribers are currently being monitored:

```
Err First Last Address
--- -----
60 07/28 07/31 JCPOO@SOUTHERNLINK.NET
    Last error: 5.4.7 [Message Expired] Exceeded MaxAttempts -
    [DNS ERROR] DNS server failed the query A record

49 07/28 07/31 Fred Cook <FREDMCOOK@BELLSOUTH.NET>
    Last error: 5.4.7 [Message Expired] [VALID
    DOMAIN115411605940] Exceeded MaxAttempts - [MX ERROR] Failed
    to connect to MX server - 205.152.58.32205.152.58.33

47 07/28 07/31 MJFENT@BELLSOUTH.NET
    Last error: 5.4.7 [Message Expired] [VALID
    DOMAIN115411605940] Exceeded MaxAttempts - [MX ERROR] Failed
    to connect to MX server - 205.152.58.32205.152.58.33
```

What this tells us is that the first account had 60 errors between 07/28 and 07/31, and

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the reason was that his ISP failed to answer the list server's query. The other two also failed to connect with the list server, and their attempt history is also posted. Why this is important is that if Admin were to try and contact you to tell you there was a problem, they would be using that very address your ISP said is either broken, has too many posts addressed to it already, or simply doesn't exist. In the end, after about 100 attempts, the list server sends the following to the Admins:

The following 2 subscribers were deleted from the POODLE-L list today:

```
Ima Gooffoff <Igooffoff@BELLSOUTH.NET>
Last error was: 5.4.7 [Message Expired]

Demis Notworkin <ixcl_plenty@BELLSOUTH.NET>
Last error was: 5.4.7 [Message Expired] [VALID
DOMAIN1154022997670] Exceeded MaxAttempts - [MX ERROR] Failed to
connect to MX server - 205.152.58.32205.152.58.33
```

Of course, you also will likely get a nice note from the list server, if your account isn't hopelessly broken, telling you that you got the boot. This basically means you have been removed from the list, and though we would love to contact you and tell you about it, if you're not able to receive e-mail, then how can we do that? So it's up to you to ensure your ISP is up to speed and that you're receiving the list on a regular basis. If you stop receiving mail for any reason, that might be a good indication you need to contact Admin and see if the list is having trouble making delivery. Over the years, we have removed very few people from our midst, so if you get a message that you have been unsubscribed, there's a very high probability you haven't done anything wrong, but rather that we can't get the posts to you and the list server has stopped trying.

Changing Addresses

From time to time, someone will either want to add another address with list privileges, or to change an address altogether. Both of these are best done with the assistance of Admin. You may certainly request another account through the same process you initially sent for a Poodle-L account. But this puts undue work on the Admins in trying to decipher why you're requesting another account and why you would delete the one you have. It's far easier for us to go onto the list server and simply pull out the old account and pop in the new one.

If you want to have a second account so you can post from more than one e-mail address, the best way is to go ahead and have us add the second account and set it to nomail. This way you can post from both accounts, but will only receive your mail at one of them. If you want to read the mail from both, you can leave both set on mail. It

throws off the subscriber statistics a bit, but isn't really a problem in the long run.

Secondary Addresses

As described briefly in the paragraph above, you may have as many accounts on Poodle-L as you need in order to be able to access the list. However, you may not want mail to go to all of those addresses. That's something we can set up for you. What we do is to create an account where you wish to receive the list, and place the other(s) on nomail. This way, you can send from all of your accounts, but you'll only be receiving from one of them.

Another reason to add an account is that some ISP's are less stable than others. Over the years, there has been a degree of trouble matching AOL up with the list serve. This is basically because of their anti-spam policies, and that they don't use plain text. (*Some of the later versions of AOL have come out with a plain text setting.*) Sometimes you can't receive mail through your ISP due to various filters and other blocking programs. When this happens, it's often best to just go ahead and set up a second account through one of the free ISP and e-mail hosts, such as Hotmail, Juno, Yahoo, or any of about a dozen others. These mail clients work well and have been time proven with Poodle-L, and can mean all of the difference between having a wonderful Poodle-L experience and being dumped off of the list every so many days due to sending issues.

When Trouble Comes To Call

The list server is set up so that it will make 100 reasonable attempts to deliver your e-mail. But even a computer can get frustrated if it can't find you. So, after those 100 attempts, the list server will drop your account from the list. Rarely are there days with no Poodle-L traffic. It's a discussion list, and our folks love to talk. So if you find you haven't received a post from Poodle-L in more than a 24 hour period, you should immediately contact Admin.

The Admins have access directly to the list server, and they can manipulate your account in any number of ways to set things right again and help you to receive your mail again smoothly. Sometimes it takes work on the part of your ISP. Because of the pervasive nature of Spam, ISP's are working very hard to try and filter out as much junk mail as possible. Poodle-L sends out bunches of posts each day to your address, and to the mechanical eyes of your ISP, Poodle-L looks like just another Spammer! And so, the list winds up being blocked and you have to go without the discussion for the day.

While there is little we can do with your ISP, what Admin can do is assist you by providing all of the account information and transaction history so your ISP can see

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what is occurring. We may not know the exact means by which your ISP is operating, but we are more than happy to talk with them to get the problems sorted out so you can begin enjoying the list once more.

Poodle-L doesn't take responsibility for your account status, unless an Admin initiates action through the list server. You have to be the one to identify problems back to Admin, because without your observations, they are absolutely helpless to help you. To reach all of them at once, send your question or observation to:

`poodle-l-request@apple.ease.lsoft.com`

So remember that if you're not receiving list traffic, then there's likely a problem, and Admin is one of the best ways to resolve your issues and get you back into the discussion, which is why you signed on in the first place.

LIST MANAGEMENT

This Section pertains to the “little details” that are necessary toward managing Poodle-L and keeping it the same “flavor” from year to year.

Administrator Assistance

Poodle-L is administered on a daily basis by three main Administrators, also known as “Admins”. Their function is to give assistance to the list membership, monitor the daily transactions, and generally keep things up and operating on a smooth and lasting basis. From time to time you’ll see them post, as they are list members as well and love to interact with the people here within Poodle-L. However, when you see the signature line “Admin, Poodle-L”, then what they have to say is official and carries the weight of the entire list management.

If you find you can’t get a command to work, or you need help setting up other aspects of your account, contact one of the Admins directly, or simply post to the request address mentioned earlier. This address takes your post directly to the Administrative staff, and your question should be answered no later than an hour or two after you ask it, depending on what time of day you post and the availability of the staff. Most importantly, know that this is the function of Admin, and you are not a bother when you ask for assistance. That’s why they’re here, and that’s what they like to do. So, ask away.

Sometimes, you may wish to get help privately or have a controversial question answered without posting to the entire list. Poodle-L is somewhat unique, in that there are three active administrators instead of a single list owner. This allows for more support to the individual members and broadens the viewpoint of the list's management. By posting your questions or comments to one or all of them, they can weigh your need, and will generally work to find a way to assist you in meeting it.

The Complaint Department

Plainly said, if you have problems with Poodle-L, you are cordially invited to discuss them with the Administrative staff. However, voicing your negative opinions about our list in the open forum will clearly create a ruckus! Remember, this is a volunteer organization, and though we’re not the brightest stars in the universe, we’ve been smart enough to pull together a list that has run smoothly with very little strife for almost ten years straight. The administrative staff has worked very hard to shape the list into its

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present form. They have spent countless hours both on the internet and the telephone working through various flame wars and dry spells to come up with the time-proven set of principles that have worked so well in keeping the discussion going. You would think they take it personally when someone doesn't like our list . . . but they really don't. Admin does care very much what people think of the list and of those who run it, but they don't lose a lot of sleep over the few individuals who don't have that positive point of view. There are over 500 members on Poodle-L, and with traffic loads of around fifty posts a day, there just isn't time to trace down every person and ask them if they're happy. Instead, if you find yourself out of sorts with our list, you have only one responsibility . . . tell Admin about it! You really are invited to voice your opinion respectfully, and though they may not act on a given complaint, at least you'll be given an answer as to why. You also have the right to appeal an Admin's decision back to the whole of the Admin staff. They try to be as fair-minded as possible, and you'll be given a hearing on how you feel you've been wronged. The point to remember, however, is that the present staff has led the list for nearly a decade now, so the governing policies are time-tested and work quite well to support our needs. Your chances of having one of them overturned are slight, at best. But you are still always welcome to voice your opinion.

There are two actions that will run your ship aground on the reef of bad manners. The first is to criticize the list in the open forum. If you have a complaint, you are invited to share that complaint with the Admins. Often things can be resolved before they get out of hand. The other is to criticize the list on other discussion lists. If you have an issue with Poodle-L, then you really should keep your comments and observations bound within this forum. It's not that we're being self-protective, because no matter what is said, there are those who will agree and leave the list, and others who will disagree and stay. But the time involved in handling such affairs is phenomenal. In the past, some of these tirades have literally taken weeks to resolve, and none of our volunteer staff really have that much time they can just hand over to a disgruntled list member on a rampage. When you openly attack the staff or our list, we call it "List Suicide", and more than one member has been censured for such activity. Two individuals received a lifetime ban because of the outrageous nature of their behavior. It's a sad situation when it happens, and is something you'll rarely see here, but when you do, you will understand why such actions are taken so very seriously.

As for cross-posting your grievances, remember, the various lists are not in competition, nor do they care about your concerns with Poodle-L. Many of our list members subscribe to more than one list, so be careful what you say when posting . . . word usually gets back on what's being said about Poodle-L. Our list members are quite

loyal and you could wind up being involuntarily unsubscribed if Admin finds that you are creating dissention on other lists because of a grievance with Poodle-L. This is our list, and if there are problems, they are our problems. Only our list administrators can cure such ills.

Alerts and Warnings

Sadly, the internet is filled with people who harbor malicious intent. They devise ways to injure others by encoding worms, viruses, and Trojan horses into e-mails, websites, and seemingly harmless applications. Some are fairly harmless and cause trouble but won't destroy your system. However, there are some very severe viruses out there, and they can cause irreversible damage to hardware and unrecoverable loss of files and software. The good news is that they won't get through the list server. L-Soft has a very capable virus protection system, and to date, no virus, Trojan, or worm has ever made it through to the open form for distribution to subscriber machines.

The bad news is, list members can post to you directly, and any time you post to a list, your e-mail address is often recorded by the receiver's computer. Once you're in their address book, you could become a target for a virus attack if they haven't kept their system's anti-virus software up-to-date.

Often viruses will spoof an e-mail address. In other words, it may be sent by John Doe's computer, but the address line says "Mary Smith" instead. It doesn't mean Mary's computer is infected, John's is. But you'll never know it, and could fall victim to opening an infected e-mail if you haven't kept your own anti-viral software up to speed. This also means that if you do get a warning and the address for Poodle-L is indicated as the culprit, it's a guarantee this is a spoofed address. Poodle-L is protected from sending out viruses to the community.

There are also a number of hoaxes out there which tell of system crashes or equipment damage, when no such virus exists. One of the more common ones years ago warned of an application called "Join The Crew". So far, this has turned out to be purely a hoax, much like the warning against the "Elf Bowling" game, which is a harmless game that frankly is a lot of fun to play when there's little or nothing to do all day. As was mentioned earlier in the text, to keep from being suckered into posting a bogus warning to the list, take some time to look up the potential trouble maker on the Snopes site. It's a great place to verify information from the worldwide web, and will tell you if your warning is legitimate. If, in fact, you do verify that a specific worm, Trojan, or virus is active, before posting to the list, please contact Admin first. We can then validate your

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post through some other sources and save the entire list a lot of heartache over hoaxes or headaches over system infections.

Also follow the same pattern when you encounter product recalls or other civic admonitions. Even some of these are hoaxes. So before you post any sort of warning to the list, please check it out. It could save you a ton of embarrassment.

SUMMARY

So there you have it, Poodle-L in all its hand-scissored glory. It's not paradise, nor will the list administration go completely out of their way to make it so. What they will do is guarantee that if you're willing to abide by the "laws" of our little cyber community, you too can become a well-respected member of one of the safest and kindest discussion lists known to the Internet.

The list is over ten years old now, and members come and go. There are people so highly placed in the dog sport that their names would be quite familiar to the average show exhibitor. We have people who love their precious pet poodle to death, and nobody beyond our circle of friends even knows they exist. But here, all are equal and all are important. No single person, great or small, is of any less value or importance than another. Even our lurkers, though they don't actively participate in the discussion, carry with them the shared thoughts and emotions of the full subscribership. You can't come away from such a place and not have your heart touched, or at least that's the hope Admin holds for our list.

As you were welcomed into the community, know that you are also as much a part of us as you wish, and our wish is that you make it complete by sending your thoughts and observations out amongst this small gathering of friends. Your words are important to us, as that's the reason the list exists. And most of all know that we are here for you, should you ever need that proverbial shoulder or to pass along a brag, or to send a well-needed smile. After all, isn't that what friends are for?

Attachment 1 – GLOSSARY

It helps to know the terminology of the list if you're going to interact within it. Therefore, here are all the terms and definitions a subscriber should know concerning the All Poodle Dog Discussion List. Some of these terms are not necessarily found within this text, but are used often on the list itself.

Account – Each person subscribed to Poodle-L has their e-mail address, first name, and last name, listed with the list server. Each of these registrations is called an “account”, and has various settings as to how each list member wishes to receive the list.

Admin – This is short for “Administrator”, who is someone who watches the list and helps the subscribers with their accounts and other list business.

American Kennel Club (AKC) – (www.akc.org) This is a breed registry within the United States of America, defined as a “Club of Clubs”, it is a coalition of kennel clubs organized for the advancement of the purebred dog. It is a complete registry and event sanctioning body for conformation, obedience, working, herding, and other competitive events within the United States.

Bandwidth – This is the “size” of a computer connection, measured in so many kilobytes per second. The bigger the bandwidth, the more information the line or computer can handle.

Breed Standard – This is the written description, or ideal, for each breed. The standard describes the look, proportion, size, temperament, and other attributes that makes each breed distinct amongst the others. Each registry maintains their own individual, though usually similar, standards.

Breeder – (Includes “Reputable Breeder”) This person is the source of your ultimate delight, in being the one who brings a fertile pair of purebred Poodles together to produce a litter of quality puppies. While there are commercial breeding operations who litter the world with litters, Poodle-L chooses to give credit to those who produce single litters of the highest quality, then individually places them into loving homes.

Cross-Posting – When you forward a post from one list to another, this is called “cross-posting”. While it's not terribly illegal or unethical to cross-post, you should always have permission from the author of the original post before you send it on to another list.

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Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) – Not to be confused with the “Continental Kennel Club”, the CKC is a reputable national registry based in Canada. It is dedicated to the advancement of purebred dogs, and is a complete registry and event sanctioning body for conformation, obedience, working, herding, and other competitive events within Canada.

Dwarf Poodle – See “Moyen”.

Exhibitor – This is a person who shows their dog(s) at a dog show.

Exhibition – Showing your dog at a dog show.

Flaming – This is where one person sends a note containing insulting or strongly argumentative content. The act of flaming is strictly prohibited on Poodle-L!

Federation Cynologique Internationale (FCI) – This is a European registry that maintains international breed studbooks a set of breed standards describing over 300 individual breeds. It is a complete registry and event sanctioning body for conformation, obedience, working, herding, and other competitive events worldwide, though mostly in Europe.

Handler – See “Professional Handler”

Header – The header of a post is what contains the address, routing, and subject lines. You’ll see them a lot on replies from people who don’t edit their posts to remove any extraneous text.

Honorary Poodle – From time to time we get people who don’t own a Poodle, but enjoy the list with whatever breed they happen to have. So, in those instances, we bequeath the title of “honorary Poodle” to their dog, and they can then join in the fun and discussion with the rest of the list.

Hyper Text Mark-up Language (HTML) – This is an electronic text format that allows for using specialized colors, fonts, and backgrounds. We don’t use HTML on Poodle-L because not everyone’s computer or ISP can handle it.

ISP – This is your Internet Service Provider, or “ISP”. As an example, America Online, or “AOL”, is an ISP. So are “Yahoo”, “Road Runner”, and “Bigpond”.

Idiot Virus – These are e-mails that do not contain malicious code or text, and they cause no damage to your equipment. They are simply e-mails that have some warning or advice that compel others to send along to everyone they know. Often, the post will

tell you to send it on to others. While there is no actual viral content to the post, they do clog up the e-mail world by their continual perpetuation.

List Command – Your account can be manipulated in various ways, from how you want your mail delivered, to holding your mail altogether for a period of time. By sending a list command to listserv@apple.ease.lsoft.com, you are telling the server directly what you want accomplished. So, for example, if you wanted to start receiving your mail in digest form, you would simply send the command, “set poodle-L digest” to the list server and your subscription would change to the digest format. If you wanted to change it back again, you would say, “set poodle-l nodigest”, and it would return to individual posts.

Listserv or List Server – These terms are used interchangeably, and are applied to the host server that holds a subscriber’s account and distributes the list mail to all subscribers. When you address Poodle-L, you are sending your post to the list server and it relays it on to all of the subscribers on our list. When you address the list server directly, you can send commands that will change the nature of your account.

Mail Client – This is the application, or “program”, that you use to download and read your e-mail.

Moyen – Also known as a “Dwarf” Poodle, is a size as defined in the FCI standard, and is between the Toy and Miniature size descriptions.

Off-List – This is the act of posting to an individual list member, and not to the list server for full distribution.

Parti – This is a color pattern of colored patches or spots on a basically white dog.

Phantom – This is a color pattern similar to that seen on Dobermans or Rottweilers.

Pinbrush – This is a brush, usually with a wooden handle, with long straight metal or plastic teeth-like bristles. The ones used on Poodles do not have knobs or balls on the end of each bristle, and they’re usually quite long. This is so you can get through all of that hair to brush it out.

Probes – This is where the list server sends a message to your ISP to see if your account is still valid. If for any reason a probe fails, the list serve will continue to make attempts to reach your account, but will stop after a certain number of attempts and simply delete you from the list.

Poodle – Oh come on! I don’t have to explain this one, do I?

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Poodle-L – This is simply the name of our list. It stands for . . . of all things . . . “Poodle List”.

Professional Handler – This is a person who, for a price, will show your dog for you in a dog show.

Registry – Each dog has a family line, or “pedigree”, and the registry is the tracking body that maintains the records of these family lines. Contained in each breed’s “stud book”, the registry carefully enters the births of subsequent litters so as to provide a written and verifiable record of each dog’s lineage. The validity of a dog’s pedigree is based completely on the accuracy of these stud books, as does the reputation of the registry being addressed.

Request Address - If you wish to ask the Administrative staff a question directly, you would use the “request address”, which is Poodle-L-request@apple.ease.lsoft.com.

Rescue – From time to time, a Poodle may lose their home. This can be because of any number of situations. Regardless of their situation, “rescuing” is the art of collecting, sheltering, fostering, transporting, and re-homing these orphaned pups. It is a labor of love, and an act that is most highly respected within the Poodle-L community.

Royal – This is a marketing term used by less than reputable breeders or pet suppliers to sell oversized Standard Poodles. The term does not apply within any accepted breed standard.

Slicker Brush – This is a smaller brush, often plastic, with a pad of very fine bristles. They’re usually fairly soft so as not to hurt your dog while brushing.

Subscriber – When you sign onto Poodle-L, you become a subscriber to the list, much the same as if you ordered a magazine subscription.

Tag Line – This is your signature line. You may have make them simple, or be as extravagant as you wish. But please add one so we know who’s posting.

Teacup – This is a marketing term used by less than reputable breeders or pet suppliers to sell undersized Toy Poodles. The term does not apply within any accepted breed standard.

The Forum – This is the name given to the activity of posting to the whole list. To “enter the forum”, means to post a note to the list so that it goes out to all of the subscribers.

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Thread - Any given topic may start a chain of comments. This term relates to that chain.

Topknot - The hair on the top of a Poodle's head is referred to as the "topknot". In the basic show clips, this hair is grown out quite long, and is rubber banded in place to create a nice frame for the face.

United Kennel Club (UKC) - (www.ukcdogs.com) This is an international registry based out of the state of Michigan in the United States. The UKC is also dedicated to the advancement of the purebred dog. It is a complete registry and event sanctioning body for conformation, obedience, working, herding, and other competitive events worldwide.

URL - Uniform Resource Locator, which is basically the internet address for websites. Generally they begin with "http://" or you'll see them as "www."

Attachment 2 - LIST COMMANDS

There are a number of commands you may use in order to make the list perform better to meet your needs. Use them as you wish, but remember to reply to the List server and not to Poodle-L. To do this, send requests to:

ListServ@Apple.Ease.Lsoft.Com

And in the subject line and body of the request select one of the following (do not use the quotations in the post):

"Set Poodle-L Mail" or "...NoMail" - Turns Mail on or off, suspending the list while you're on vacation or other times as you need. This is quite important if you're going to be away for an extended time. If your mailbox fills up, your ISP will start refusing posts. When this happens, the list server will identify that your address has a problem, and will automatically drop you off the list after a certain number of attempts. So, don't forget to use "Nomail" when you are away.

"Unsubscribe Poodle-L" - Though we sure hate to lose members, from time to time people find it necessary or desirous to Unsubscribe from the list. If you decide to leave us, please send the administrators a post to tell us why. It's always nice to know the reason, so we may be able to identify ways to make our list better in the future.

"Set Poodle-L Digest" or "...NoDigest" - Turns Digest Mode on or off. Some people like to get the posts all in one big lumped message. That way, they're not bothered with the continual hits throughout the day.

"Set Poodle-L Repro" and "Set Poodle-L Ack Norepro" - Sometimes it takes a little while for the list serve to accept your post and distribute it. If you're concerned that your posts are either not making it to the list, or are being altered during the process, you may request the list server send you a copy of your own message so that you can see it's been distributed. If you wish to be notified, but don't need a copy of your entire post, set the system to **"...Ack Norepro"**, and it will simply send a short acknowledgment of your contributions. To discontinue either activity, use **"...Norepro"** and **"...Noack Norepro"** respectively.

"Index Poodle-L" - Each time a post is sent to the list, the list server archives it. Thus, it's available for you to retrieve later, if you desire. To get a list of these files, simply send this message to the list server and a copy will be sent to you.

"Get Poodle-L Log[filename]" - To retrieve a specific file, use this command, where "filename" is the name of the specific file you wish to retrieve. Do not use brackets around the files name, simply type in the syntax as shown in this example:

Get Poodle-L Logchewbones

This would call up the archived file called "chewbones".

"Info Database" - The list server has numerous other functions that may be accessed by the users. To obtain more information on how to manipulate Poodle-L's database, send this command to the list server.

Attachment 3 - RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES

The All Poodle Dog Discussion List, or Poodle-L, is an open public forum, consisting of the thoughts and opinions of its subscribership. It is not intended to be, nor makes a claim of being, a definitive or instructive entity. It's sole purpose is recreational and the intent is to provide an open medium for Poodle lovers world wide, to come and enter into discussion with others who share their passion. Within this, the following statements and disclaimers apply:

Copyright: (© May 1, 1997; 1st Revision – April 27, 2000; 2nd Revision - July 17, 2006)
Poodle-L, is an open forum whereby its subscribers are also its contributors. Thus, in posting, subscribers agree to grant Poodle-L the right to offer their writings without compensation to the rest of the subscribership. Any post sent to the list becomes the property of the list for the purposes expressed herein. Any person or persons may copy and redistribute material posted to the open list within the list, and may do so without regard to compensation or consent of the original author. However, use of list materials outside of Poodle-L or any portion of text as taken from the list, may not be re-transmitted or used outside of the list without the expressed permission of the original sender.

Material taken from other sources and posted to Poodle-L must follow the laws and regulations concerning copyright, as applied in the country of origin. Each subscriber, agrees that they will not use this List to reproduce or publicly distribute or broadcast copyrighted material (including, and without limitation: e-mail messages, newspaper and magazine articles, digital images, sound recordings, and computer programs) without the expressed consent of the original author.

***Note:** This handbook is the property of Poodle-L, the All Poodle Dog Discussion List, and is for the expressed and sole purpose of providing information about and insight into the operation and interaction procedures, rights, rules, and privileges regarding the list. It is meant to be "regulatory" in nature as well as informative, and by accepting subscribership onto the list, the subscriber agrees to abide by the guidelines contained herein. Because this guide is under copyright it is not for publication, distribution, sale, or dissemination beyond the scope of use in conjunction with the list. Subscribers have the right to download a copy of this guide for their personal use, however, it may not be transmitted, reproduced, sold, or excerpted without written permission from the Administrative staff of Poodle-L.*

Improper Submission: Poodle-L will not allow the posting or transmittal of any defamatory, abusive, harassing, obscene, pornographic, or indecent communication or

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material, nor will you be allowed to use this List to advocate illegal conduct or to commit, and/or aid in, or abet the commission of a crime. Violation of this provision will elicit immediate and permanent removal from the list.

Confidentiality: Posts sent to Poodle-L are considered to be "non-confidential". All postings are open for discussion by the other list members and may be edited and used in subsequent messages to the list as desired by the sender and according to the copyright clause above. For that reason, it is your responsibility to review for content, all postings sent and ensure they do not contain sensitive or confidential information.

It is not appropriate to post addresses, telephone numbers, or other personal information for persons other than the person or persons sending to the list, without the expressed consent of the individual being referenced. This does not apply, however, to information which already resides in publication, other than the telephone directory, or is used in commercial literature. Those sending such information to the list should cite the source from which the information was derived, for future reference, and ensure all copyright considerations, where applicable, are followed.

Disclaimer: Poodle-L, including its List server, Apple, may not be held responsible for the statements, views, expressions, or opinions of it's subscribership. Poodle-L does not control the messages posted within, which are solely the opinions of the sender and may not reflect the philosophy or attitudes of the list's administration.

Use this forum at your own risk. Poodle-L may not be held accountable for equipment damage or personal injury, physical or emotional, from the writings posted and distributed by this list. The repercussions from personal information posted to the list are the sole liability of the individual originating the post.

Poodle-L, along with Apple, will not be liable for any direct, incidental, consequential, indirect or punitive damages arising out of your access, use, or inability to use this List, or any errors or omissions in the List or its contents.

Endorsements: Poodle-L makes no endorsement(s), either expressed or implied, pertaining to any products, concepts, opinions, viewpoints, business ventures, or other products or activities contained within. Claims made by subscribers to the list, remain the responsibility of the individual making said claim. Poodle-L, in no way, enjoins with any person or persons regarding statements made on the list.

Similarly, Poodle-L does not endorse or suggest, either directly or implied, specific breeders. Nor does a breeder's presence as a subscriber to Poodle-L constitute recommendation by the list administrators or subscribership, or grant them license or

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warranty as to their ethics, quality, availability, or reputation within the Poodle breeding community.

Suspension and/or Removal: Should it be necessary, through violation of the provisions set forth in this document, Poodle-L reserves the right to suspend or terminate an individual subscriber's privileges. Individuals may be placed on review status, whereby they may post only through clearance on the part of the administration. If the situation warrants, individuals may be unsubscribed, without the permission of the subscriber, based solely on the judgment of the list's administration. To appeal a decision of this nature, you may contact the administration directly and request review by the full Administration.

Censorship: Because this list is privately owned, the rules regarding censorship found within the Constitution of the United States, or any other governmental entity, does not apply. The list administration reserves the right to monitor all content and restrict that which is deemed inappropriate. Use of the forum is voluntary and by privilege. Thus, though few restrictions are in place, they will be applied, modified, or revoked, as determined by the list management.