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## meet the breed

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## Rhodesian Ridgeback: The Lion King

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**about the ridge:**  
According to breeder Sandra Fikes, Cornelius von Rooyen, a big game hunter, noticed that dogs having a ridge were the ones most likely to survive an encounter with a lion; thus, he started selecting for a ridge in his dogs. Breeder Barbara Sawyer-Brown adds, "I think the ridge was there to give the dog a fierce look (as if its hackles were up) and scare off would-be

*predators."*

### Meet the Breed

- **country of origin:** colonial South Africa
- **first use:** hunting, guarding
- **use today:** companion
- **life expectancy:** 10 to 12 years
- **weight:** 85 pounds (males); 70 pounds (females)
- **height range:** 25 inches to 27 inches (males); 24 inches to 26 inches (females)
- **coat color:** light wheaten to red wheaten
- **eye color:** harmonizes with coat
- **nose color:** black, brown or liver
- **tail:** tapered with a slight upward curve
- **special characteristic:** ridge of hair growing backward along spine

### Main story

**With a "crown" on its back, the true king of the forest is now king of the modern den as this former lion hunter has tamed the hearts of today's owners**

Wine glistened in goblets and fine china sparkled on the dining room table as the delicious aroma of roasted leg of lamb wafted through the house. The guests were seated in the living room eagerly awaiting dinner, when who should stroll in but the family Rhodesian Ridgeback, the juice dripping from the still-warm-from-the-oven leg of lamb in the dog's jaws. The hostess was not far behind.

As nervous laughter rippled through the group, she seized the freshly cooked meat from the dog, who hadn't wanted to miss out on the meal or the company. With the entree in tow, the hostess headed for the kitchen. "You all can laugh as much as you want. It's just a lucky thing I made two," she remarked and disappeared into the kitchen.

Twenty minutes later, the guests were seated at the table, which now also boasted a platter of steaming hot, carved lamb. As the hostess picked up the dish and passed it, she advised, "Because we only have one leg of lamb to eat now, everyone will need to take a little bit less."

Later in the day when all the other guests had gone, Barbara Sawyer-Brown, the hostess's neighbor and friend, remained to

help with the cleanup. "It sure was a lucky thing you roasted two," Sawyer-Brown commented as she picked up a wet saucer and began to dry it. The hostess turned, looked her squarely in the eye and replied, "Who made two?"

Sawyer-Brown never tires of telling this tale about the breed she has loved and bred for more than 30 years. In addition to having had some entertaining experiences such as this one during those many years, she also has racked up some impressive credentials along the way.

For example, she holds the all-time record for breeding the most Ridgebacks to go Best in Show in the United States. Dogs bred by her have won national specialties. Not only a top breeder, Sawyer-Brown is an American Kennel Club judge who judges 14 Hound breeds internationally, including the Ridgeback. Plus, she is a past president of the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States and, currently, acts as its national rescue director.

## COUNTER SURFERS

According to Sawyer-Brown, the Ridgeback's behavior in her amusing story is typical of members of the breed. "They are notorious counter surfers," she warns, "who steal anything-not just food. Can you train them not to? Well, I guess you could, but it would take a lot of effort. To me, it's easier to just keep the counters clean."

Also, like the sociable dog in Sawyer-Brown's tale, Ridgebacks are very people-oriented. As a result, when puppy buyers ask her if their new puppy can live outside in a dog house she says, "Of course he can-as long as you're living in the dog house with him. Ridgebacks want to be with their mommies and daddies. They're like children who never grow up."

Although attached to everyone in the family, Ridgebacks always love one person the best. They like nothing better than to lounge around the house with their "mommy" or "daddy."

While this may suggest that these dogs don't require much exercise, nothing could be further from the truth. According to Sandra Fikes, they need plenty of it and on a regular basis. "They either should jog with their owner for at least 15 minutes a day or be taken to a fenced dog park, or another area safe from automobile traffic, and let off-lead to run," she emphasizes. (Note: It's essential that a dog's response to the recall command-Come-be reliable before the animal is let off-lead.)

Fikes, a breeder of top-winning Ridgebacks, also served as the RRCUS' corresponding secretary in the past and was a board member for many years. At present, she is the club's second vice

president, is responsible for breed education and is involved with rescue as well. Like Sawyer-Brown, she is an AKC judge for the breed.

Despite its intense devotion, a streak of independence permeates the Ridgeback's personality. That means these dogs want to be loved and hugged but, like a cat, they want it only when they want it. There also are times when they want to be left alone. "It's particularly important for children to understand this," Sawyer-Brown emphasizes. "This is a breed that adores youngsters, [but] I mean children who have been taught to respect their dogs. No breed of dog likes children who haven't been taught that when a dog runs away from them it means the dog doesn't want to play now and should be left alone."

"When combining any large dog with a small child, you have to parent," Fikes adds. "For example, if the children start running and screaming, the puppy will join in because he's a baby, too. Unfortunately, even Ridgeback puppies are large enough to knock small children down. You have to teach Ridgeback puppies to know their own strength."

## THE WORKING HOUND

Due to the breed's streak of independence, Ridgebacks don't spend their time sitting around waiting for their owner's next command. They continually are distracted by movement and smells because the Ridgeback is both a sight- and a scenthound. (When they no longer can see their prey, they put their nose to the ground and track it.)

Given the above, training one for obedience competition in particular is more difficult than it is with many other breeds-so much so that Sawyer-Brown recommends the purchase of another breed with proven aptitude for the sport to anyone intent on competing in this venue. Nonetheless, Ridgeback owners willing to spend the necessary time and effort can do well in obedience with their dogs.

Fikes also does tracking and Schutzhund with her dogs. Plus, members of the breed are naturals when it comes to lure coursing, are quick and agile enough to excel at agility, and have a strong herding instinct. Thus it's not surprising that, as Fikes says, "The Ridgeback is the hound with the working dog temperament. The secret to successfully training it lies in understanding the breed's mentality and adapting your training to it."

To that end, Sawyer-Brown adds, "Positive reinforcement is the only training method that works with them. Any sign of negativity, and you turn these dogs off. They sulk, and you end

up apologizing to them before they'll be your friend again."

Harsh methods aren't the only way to turn them off. "Ridgebacks don't like to be drilled for an hour," Fikes further explains. "After about 15 minutes of training, they start yawning. You have to keep it interesting for them. You can do that not only by keeping training sessions short but by varying the exercises practiced from day to day and by working in different locations. I've also had good luck with clicker training. Because they love to eat, rewarding with tidbits helps keep them motivated as well."

## A FEARLESS HUNTER

Because the breed was developed to hunt lion, boredom was not a problem for these dogs historically! They not only located the King of Beasts but courageously held it at bay until the hunter arrived.

A fearless hound originally bred by the Dutch Boers who settled in Colonial South Africa, the Ridgeback actually was the answer to their need for a multipurpose dog. In addition to a lion hunter, the Boers needed a dog that could flush partridge, pull down a buck and guard the settlers' homesteads at night. At the same time, the canine had to be a gentle companion for the settlers' children.

Versatility wasn't their only requirement, however. The Boers also needed a short-coated dog that would be resistant to tick infestation, yet able to withstand the temperature extremes of the African Bush. To develop the Ridgeback, they drew from the bloodlines of the Bloodhound, Greyhound, Airedale Terrier and various mastiff breeds. They also infused native breeds such as Africa's semiferal hunter, the Hottentot Dog. The Ridgeback owes its name to the latter, for it is from the Hottentot Dog that it inherited the characteristic ridge of hair.

In 1922, a standard was written for the breed, which was also known as the African Lion Hound. The standard remains essentially unchanged to this day.

Type was sufficiently set by 1924 when the first Ridgeback was registered by the South African Kennel Union. It wasn't until 1955, however, that the AKC first recognized it in this country. In 2000, the Ridgeback was 57th in registrations out the 148 breeds registered by the AKC, with 2,334 members of the breed listed.

## PERSONALITY PLUS

Given the breed's history, watch dog behavior comes naturally to the Ridgeback. "They don't bark unless there's something they want their owner to see," Fikes notes. That's why she always advises owners to "Go see what your dog is barking about because he's got something out there."

The Ridgeback not only sounds the alarm, but it still has the instincts of a guard dog that-without hesitation-will protect its owner. When uncontrolled, its territorial behavior-that's **TERRITORIAL** in capital letters-can have tragic consequences, such as abandonment of dogs by owners or even euthanasia.

"When people buy a dog to protect their home, they often run into problems," Sawyer-Brown explains. "If the dog behaves aggressively toward people he doesn't know but who aren't intruders when they come onto the property, Rhodesian Ridgeback rescue usually gets a call."

According to Sawyer-Brown, a visit to a professional is in order in these cases, although some owners may opt for the wrong type of expert. "The biggest mistake people make is taking a Ridgeback to a dog trainer [due to] aggressive behavior. A dog trainer teaches you how to teach your dog commands like Sit, Stay and Come. What was needed in this instance was an accredited, registered canine behaviorist-someone who would work on the heart of the aggressiveness problem as well as teach the owner how to prevent it from happening again," she emphasizes.

(Note: Aggressive behavior is one of the top excuses given by owners who abandon their Ridgebacks. Counter surfing is another.)

This is not to say that obedience classes taught by dog trainers aren't worthwhile. Both Sawyer-Brown and Fikes recommend them. In addition to instructing owners how to teach their dogs basic commands, these classes also help socialize canines to strangers and other dogs.

Fikes says obedience classes should start when dogs are still small puppies. "Ridgebacks can be headstrong and pushy. For example, around 4 months of age, they may growl at you if you tell them to get off of the couch. It's easier to physically force a 4-month-old puppy off of the sofa, if need be, than an adult male weighing 85 pounds."

## LOW-LEVEL GROOMING

While the Ridgeback clearly needs an owner willing to make an extra effort to prevent problems when strangers appear on their property, the breed is great for those who don't have the time or inclination to do a lot of grooming. "They are naturally very clean and odor-free. If they have an odor or their coat is oily, that means there's something wrong," Fikes explains. "They either need to have their food changed or have their thyroid level checked."

Frequent bathing isn't needed because the Ridgeback's coat is dirt-resistant. When these dogs are bathed, a crème rinse always should be applied afterward to prevent drying of the skin. People with allergies often mistakenly bathe them too much, thinking it will lessen their own allergic reaction. It actually worsens it. Bathing dries out the skin and increases the level of dander—the substance to which allergic people react.

Dealing with shedding and doing frequent nail trims, weekly ear care and periodic teeth cleaning are the breed's only additional grooming requirements. In the case of the first, Ridgebacks shed year-round in addition to shedding more heavily in the spring and the fall. "If you take your dog outside once a week and give him a good going over, all those dead hairs fall out in the back yard instead of on your furniture," Sawyer-Brown notes.

Owners also need to stay on top of nail trims because, "You practically can see their nails grow right before your eyes," Sawyer-Brown adds. That, in combination with the fact that their nails are very hard, make weekly nail trims a necessity.

Weekly ear cleaning also is needed because many of these dogs are subject to yeast infections in the ear canal. Many people think ear infections are caused by the lack of air circulation in drop-eared dogs such as the Ridgeback. The cause of the problem here, however, is usually a food allergy or an ear canal that is too small.

Grooming for the show dog is the same as for the pet, with one exception. Some breeders trim the whiskers from the muzzle before exhibiting their dogs. Whisker trimming is a practice Fikes is not in favor of. "The vibrissa aren't hair," she explains. "They're sensory organs."

## SOCIAL SKILLS

Socialization will take more of the owner's time than grooming. Although some breed lines are dog-aggressive, this does not reflect true Ridgeback temperament. The Ridgeback was developed to hunt in packs.

"If they killed each other on the way to the lion, they'd be in big trouble when it came time to hold the big cat at bay!" Sawyer-Brown points out.

Proper socialization is a key to peaceful cohabitation. Although inherited temperament is very important, even good temperament can be ruined by the lack of socialization. Dogs learn how to get along with other dogs by interacting with their littermates, especially when they are 6 to 8 weeks of age. That means puppies shouldn't leave their breeder until they are at least 8 weeks old. When the new owner gets the puppy, he or she should continue the socialization by taking the puppy to the dog park, to the home of friends owning nonaggressive dogs and to puppy kindergarten obedience class.

Although the breed has a strong prey drive, neither Sawyer-Brown nor Fikes has ever had a problem placing a puppy in a home with other pets such as birds or cats. Peaceful cohabitation with multiple species may not be the case with the introduction of an adult dog, however. Here, it's important to first test the adult dog, because it may never have been around cats or other pets, to see if it will try to harm them.

## HEALTH ISSUES

Like other sighthound breeds, the Ridgeback has less fat reserve and is, therefore, more sensitive to chemicals and drugs. Anesthesia can be a problem in particular. As a result, when surgery or teeth cleaning is needed, use of a fast-acting anesthesia such as isoflurane is recommended.

Other health concerns inherent in the breed include elbow and hip dysplasia and juvenile cataracts. Breeding stock should be screened for these disorders and the test results registered with the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals and the Canine Eye Registration Foundation, respectively. Since hypothyroidism also is present to some degree, breeding stock should be screened for the condition as well and the test results registered with OFA, which also maintains a canine thyroid registry.

Further, some Ridgeback puppies are born with a dermoid sinus, a tubelike opening in the skin that repeatedly gets infected, swells and then drains. Commonly attached to the neck, back or tail, these painful sources of infection must be treated. Although in the past dogs born with them were destroyed, breeders now

## LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP

commonly have a dermoid sinus surgically removed. Like the breed's characteristic ridge, if a dermoid sinus is not present at birth, it will never occur.

By now, it should be abundantly clear that a Ridgeback is not a dog anyone should acquire impulsively, nor is it an ideal choice for every family. Those interested in the Ridgeback should talk to as many breeders as possible and read as much as they can about the breed before purchasing a dog. They also should consider the additional aspects of Ridgeback care described below.

Although members of the breed can be kenneled, Sawyer-Brown and Fikes believe it's a less-than-perfect environment. Both recommend Ridgebacks be kept as house dogs. "They're such people dogs, it would be a very lonesome life for them," says Fikes.

Likewise, "You can't get a Ridgeback and just leave him out in the back yard all day. When these dogs get bored and lonesome, they bark their heads off and irritate the neighbors. Or they dig craterlike holes," Sawyer-Brown adds. This does not mean, however, that these dogs don't need a back yard to play in.

The back yard should be fenced due to the breed's strong prey drive. "Once a Ridgeback takes off after a squirrel or rabbit, nothing short of a 6-foot wall or fence can stop him," Fikes warns. Not only should the fence be 6 feet high-Ridgebacks can jump over one lower than that-it should also be constructed of either unclimbable wire-yes, they climb, too-or chain link, because they can eat their way through a wooden one.

Despite the absence of a back yard, life in an apartment can work as long as an owner is willing to put in the amount of time it takes to keep the dog happy. In fact, the amount of time an owner is willing to devote to the dog is more crucial in the successful placement of a Ridgeback than where it lives.

If owners must leave dogs alone while they are at work, it's best to crate them when they are puppies, according to Fikes. That's because Ridgeback puppies have a lot of jaw power. When they teethe, they'll most likely chew up the furniture. "When crating them, it's a good idea to leave a knuckle bone stuffed with cheese or peanut butter to keep them occupied. Dogs are not mindless creatures, they need stimulation," she notes.

"Crates are wonderful things when they're not misused," Sawyer-Brown adds. "Then, they become cages. A dog should never be crated for more than four hours at a time unless it's overnight. If the owner works, he or she should hire someone or

have a neighbor take the puppy outside midday to eliminate and get some exercise. Anyone not prepared to do this should not get a Ridgeback puppy. An older dog, who can be left loose in the house all day, is a better idea." (Once these dogs mature, they are not destructive.)

"Some people will tell you a Ridgeback doesn't make a good pet for a senior citizen because they are side-swipers. They dart in and out and can turn on a dime. When they run past you, they can knock you down," Sawyer-Brown notes. Problems often can be avoided in this regard if dogs are taught to not run in inappropriate places, such as inside the house, and if care is taken when they are running in the presence of their owner in the back yard.

## GUIDELINES FOR PURCHASE

If you have decided this active and loyal breed is for you, it is time to carefully consider breeders. Impulsively buying a Ridgeback without first qualifying the breeder from whom the dog is purchased is as ill-advised as getting one without first considering the Ridgeback's long-term needs.

Nothing is more important than buying a dog from a reputable breeder who does elbow, hip, eye and thyroid testing. To locate those who do, Fikes recommends puppy buyers contact the RRCUS' breeder referral and obtain a breed information packet, which includes a breeder directory. Sawyer-Brown also emphasizes that rescue has some very nice older dogs for those not wanting to houstrain a puppy.

The fact that reputable breeders know their dogs is another reason for buying a puppy from them. For example, when it comes to picking a particular dog from a litter, Fikes makes the selection rather than allowing the puppy buyer to choose. Because she knows the temperament of each puppy, she can carefully match it to the personality of each buyer.

At the time of purchase, puppy buyers should receive an AKC registration form, a correct, signed pedigree, an up-to-date health record and a veterinarian's certificate as proof of inoculation. The breeder also should provide written proof that, for a limited period of time from the date of purchase, he or she will take the puppy back if it is found to be ill or suffering from some genetic defect. Dogs should be examined by a veterinarian within 48 hours of purchase.

When people ask Sawyer-Brown what a Ridgeback will cost them she delights in saying, "Your entire heart and most of your bed!" All kidding aside, this is a very pricey breed. Puppy buyers

should be prepared to spend about \$1,000 for a pet and \$1,500 and upward for a show-quality dog.

\* \* \* \* \*

There is much to admire about the Ridgeback. In addition to being that handsome dog with the unique ridge of hair that grows "backward," it is a fearless hunter, natural guard dog and the most devoted of canine companions. It makes a great child's pet as well when youngsters are taught how to properly interact with a dog.

Despite all of these wonderful characteristics, however, owning a Ridgeback can prove disastrous if owners don't understand the care and training requirements of the breed. Giving your Ridgeback companionship and exercise are key to a fulfilling relationship with this hunter of old.

A Dog Writers Association of America Maxwell Medallion winner and writing competition finalist, Sharon Pflaumer holds a bachelor of arts degree in English from Northern Illinois University and has been writing on the subject of dogs for more than 15 years. She shares her life with Bronmaur's Conquistador, CGC (Kassie, who is pointed in the conformation ring), and Bronmaur's Cross Current, CGC (Brook), two mahogany sable and white rough Collies, whom she says fill her days with laughter and love.

## **Lure Coursing: The Thrill Of The Chase**

The sport of coursing-the pursuit of swift game by swift hounds-has been done since the days of the ancient Egyptians. Not just a pleasurable pastime of the Pharaohs and other royalty, coursing also provided food for the table and eliminated predators.

Although the need for it as a means of survival was eliminated with the advances of civilization, it continues to flourish as a modern-day sport because of its timeless appeal. Coursing remains the same breathtaking spectacle it has been for thousands of years, and it is filled with the excitement of beautiful hounds exerting themselves to the limit.

Today, two kinds of coursing are done: open field and lure. Open field coursing involves the use of live game, such as rabbit. It is done on large, open tracts of land usually in the Western United States (where it is still legal). In lure coursing, the lure is several white plastic bags tied to a line attached to a machine made from a starter motor. The lure is dragged at between 35 and 40 mph across a pre-arranged course or a continuous loop course. According to the American Sighthound Field Association president Susan Weinkein, most clubs use the continuous loop course. In lure coursing, it's the movement of the lure to which the dogs respond. "Sighthounds have excellent sight in general but poor olfactory senses," Weinkein adds. (The Rhodesian Ridgeback is an exception in that it has keen scenting ability as well.)

"Lure courses are set up to simulate the way in which a rabbit runs," Weinkein continues. "Therefore,

there are 90-degree turns, long straight-aways and even crossovers in the course."

The course must be a minimum of 600 yards for American Kennel Club lure field trials and 500 yards for ASFA events. Thus, lure coursing must be done in a field that is at least five acres in size.

According to Carlee Davies, an AKC lure coursing judge, "Lure coursing is about as close as we can get to open field coursing." Davies bred and owns FC Aslan's Dark Silhouette, MC, LCX, LCM3, the No. 1 combined lure coursing Ridgeback in 2000. Silhouette also ranks in the top 10 of all sighthound breeds that do lure coursing and is the first Ridgeback to earn the title of Lure Courser Excellent. For more than a decade, Davies has bred Rhodesian Ridgebacks that are dual champions in conformation and coursing. The object of lure coursing is to test the hunting instincts and abilities of the dogs. It is done according to the rules set forth by the AKC and the ASFA.

The AKC awards qualify coursing hounds with the titles of Junior Courser (JC), Senior Courser (SC), Master Courser (MC), Field Champion (FC) and Lure Courser Excellent (LCX). The ASFA confers the titles of Field Champion (FCh.) and Lure Courser of Merit (LCM). At AKC trials, hounds compete in the Open Stake until they earn their AKC Field Championship. They then go on to compete in either the Open or Specials Stake. At ASFA trials, dogs compete in the Open Stake until they earn enough points and placements for their Field Champion title. Field Champions must run in the Field Champion Stake. The Lure Courser of Merit title is earned from points and placements won in this stake.

"The points needed to earn titles also differ between the two organizations," Davies further explains. "In AKC, a hound needs 15 points including two major wins for the FC title and 45 additional points to earn the LCX title. In ASFA, a hound needs 100 points including two first placements or one first and two second placements to earn the FCh. title. To earn the LCM title, a hound needs 300 additional points, plus four first placements. The number of points awarded also varies between the two organizations. A hound can earn as many as 40 points at a time in ASFA, but can only earn a maximum of five in AKC."

To compete in a lure field trial, both the AKC and ASFA require a dog's coursing ability to be proven prior to the event. For AKC, dogs first must earn their JC title by completing a course, running alone, on two separate occasions, under two different judges.

For ASFA, dogs first must run a course with another hound of similar running style under a licensed judge who signs a pre-qualification certificate.

Only sighthound breeds are allowed to run in AKC and ASFA lure field trials. These include the Afghan Hound, Basenji, Borzoi, Greyhound, Ibizan Hound, Italian Greyhound, Irish Wolfhound, Pharaoh Hound, Rhodesian Ridgeback, Saluki, Scottish Deerhound and Whippet.

In the case of ASFA, "The Italian Greyhound runs in the Miscellaneous class, which allows the rarer sighthound breeds to lure course, and also includes the Sloughi, Azawakh, Chart Polski, Cirnecho D'ell Etna, GalgoEspañol, Magyar Agar and Peruvian Inca Orchid," Weinkein says.

"The hounds are judged on such things as speed, how well they follow the lure, agility, endurance, enthusiasm [ASFA] and overall ability [AKC]," Davies explains. "In order for the judges to tell them apart when they are running, the hounds wear yellow, pink or blue blankets. Of the three dogs running in each course, the judges give a numerical score reflecting how each hound placed. Then, the dogs must be cross-course judged. That means if there are two courses of three dogs run, the judges must rank the scores as though all six ran in the same course."

The hounds compete in three different stakes: Open, Veteran (older than 7 years) and Special (Field Champion). The winners of each stake are assigned blanket colors by random draw and compete head-on to win the Best of Breed for that day. BoB winners from all the competing breeds are drawn and compete against each other in courses of three to determine the overall winner of the event by going Best in Field (BiF).

Here's how it all begins. Each dog is taken to the starting line on a slip-lead that, when released, leaves no collar or lead on the dog. As the hounds strain against the slip-leads, the huntmaster asks the judges, lure operator and handlers if they are ready. Then, he twirls his hand, which is already up in the air, and exclaims "Tally ho!" The lure starts. Seconds later, the dogs are released and explode forward.

What a sight to behold!

## **For More Information**

### **Breeder Referral**

c/o Bonnie Loudon, corresponding secretary  
Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States  
P.O. Box 37  
Columbia, Md. 21045-0037  
[www.rrcus.org](http://www.rrcus.org)

### **Breed Information Packet and Breeder Directory**

Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States  
Public Information  
5713 Etzler Road  
Frederick, Md. 21702-2355  
Send a \$5 check payable to RRCUS

### **The Rhodesian Ridgeback Breed Video (#VVT416)**

American Kennel Club Video Fulfillment Department  
5580 Centerview Drive, #200  
Raleigh, N.C. 27606  
(919) 233-9767

### **breed reading**

Stig G. Carlson, *The Rhodesian Ridgeback Today*, Howell Book House, N.Y., 1999.  
Frank C. Lutman, *Rhodesian Ridgebacks*, T.F.H. Publications, Neptune City, N.J., 1989.  
Janet Parker and Peter Nicholson, *The Complete Rhodesian Ridgeback*, Howell, 1991.  
Eileen M. Bailey, *Rhodesian Ridgeback: An Owners Guide to a Happy Healthy Pet*, Hungry Minds, New York, 2000.

Rhodesian rescue  
Barbara Sawyer-Brown  
National Rescue Director  
The Official Rescue Program of the Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of the United States

P.O. Box 5587, Washington, D.C. 20016-1187

[www.ridgebackrescue.org](http://www.ridgebackrescue.org)

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