

## What are Komondor Doodles?

In the 1980s, Wally Conron, a breeder at the Royal Guide Dog Association of Australia, received a letter from a woman in Hawaii who needed a hypoallergenic guide dog because her husband was allergic to fur. Conron knew the standard poodle, a non-shedding breed, would have to be part of the mix. He bred a poodle with a solid working dog, a Labrador retriever from Sweden, and the labradoodle was born.

Initially, the breed didn't take off because people preferred purebred dogs. But the name helped. With a branding push, 'labradoodle' took off as an idea—and as owners fell for its winning temperament, the breed eventually made its way to popularity.

Once the Labradoodle became a favored breed for families, other poodle crossbreeds started popping up. You can read more about Labradoodles and other doodles online at <https://www.rover.com/blog/cracking-doodle-code-real-story-behind-latest-breed-craze/> where much of the above information was gathered.

While the original Labradoodles were bred as non-shedding guide dogs, most of the rest were bred for non-shedding family or companion dogs. They are usually good family and companion dogs; however, not all are really non-shedding, especially the first generation. About 10 years ago, a well known Komondor breeder in Canada decided to experiment with a Komondor-Poodle cross. Her thinking was that since Komondors and Standard Poodles are similar in coat and body they might be a good choice for doodles. Also, her thinking was that since Komondors are primarily guardian dogs and don't always make good family or companion dogs, the Komondor-Poodle cross might be better as family or companion dogs while still retaining some of the guardian instinct. In those ten years that breeder produced 5 litters of these "Komodoodles." Many were sold to previous Komondor owners and the rest to people looking for a doodle. The results were quite positive. The dogs were non-shedding, still good guard dogs but better as family and companion dogs than Komondors. Many of the dogs are mistaken as Standard Poodles by the less informed, but there are definite differences in conformation. These Komodoodles are vigorous, smart, agile and very non-shedding. This Canadian Komondor breeder would be the first to tell you that while this was an experiment that she wanted to try; she wasn't necessarily the first to experiment with this cross. For many years there have been reports of these crosses around, either purposely or accidentally.

We, as previous Komondor owners, bought two sisters from the second litter of this Canadian breeder's Komondor-Standard Poodle cross. We thought these two sisters were a great team for our situation, a small ranch with sheep and goats and lots of predators. They were all those things we were looking for: vigorous, smart, agile and non-shedding; while being good guardians as well as family and companion dogs. Because of our experience with these sisters from Canada, we decided not to neuter our last female Komondor that we had named Terra. We finally bred her to a large black Standard Poodle named Nitro, and they produced three adorable, healthy puppies now six weeks old.

We expect these puppies to be large, active dogs about seventy to eighty pounds. They will be cream colored with curly, dense non-shedding fur, dark eyes and noses. They have their tails and dewclaws like Komondors but unlike Poodles. Their coats can be corded or kept trimmed. They will be warm in cold parts of the country. They will bark at strangers and noises outside like both Komondors and Poodles. We expect these puppies to look a lot like our Komondor-Poodle sisters from Canada and will provide pictures of them as well as these new pups below. They will have their first puppy shots, be wormed and have a vet wellness check at eight weeks which will be the middle of February 2022. They won't be shipped but can be seen in northeastern California close to Reno, Nevada or Susanville, California. You can contact the owner-breeders at [lynnfuller@gmail.com](mailto:lynnfuller@gmail.com) and arrange to visit these puppies.



Above is what you should expect the puppies to look like at about 3 months. They are the Canadian sisters, the one behind (named Mango) had a somewhat apricot coat from her Poodle father that mostly faded with age.



Above are the Canadian sisters at three years sporting GPS collars for off lead backcountry runs. They are about seventy-five pounds with a curly coat cropped short.



Below is one of the Canadian sisters, Mango, at about two years old. Tails may be tightly curled like Mango or straight and carried high.



Below are these new Komondor-Poodle pups at one week of age. At bottom, in the dog house at five weeks of age.

