



TOP DOG

CHOOSE THE **PERFECT BREED** FOR YOU

TOP

DOG







DK
TOP
DOG

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DK

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INTRODUCTION TO DOGS

WHAT IS A DOG?

The evolution of the dog from wild predator to domestic companion has been greatly influenced by human intervention. It has taken just a few hundred years to produce seemingly endless variations on the canine theme—but planned breeding has not removed the basic characteristics of the dog's ancestor, the wolf.



Dogs are social animals

Evolution of the dog

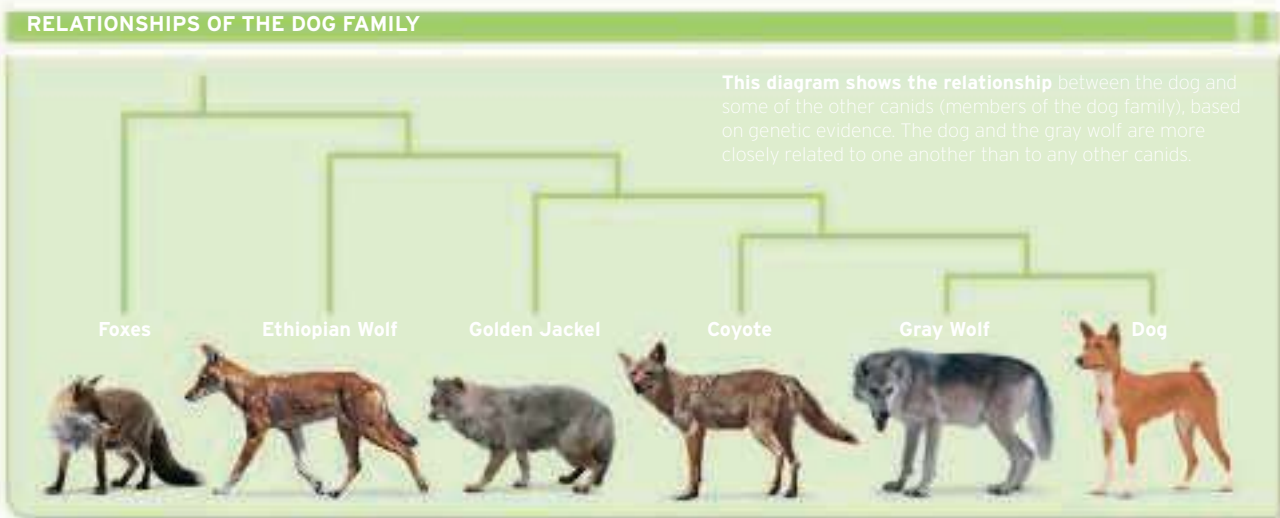
Domestication of the dog is a process that has been ongoing for thousands of years. It is believed that the dog was first domesticated from the gray wolf.

From the wild

The dog's ancestor, the gray wolf, is a social animal that lives in packs. It is a predator that hunts in groups. The dog's domestication was a result of its ability to form a bond with humans. This bond was strengthened by the dog's ability to communicate with humans through its body language and vocalizations.

In from the wild

Over time, humans have bred dogs for various purposes, such as hunting, herding, and companionship. This has led to the development of many different breeds of dogs, each with its own unique characteristics and abilities.





The shape of a head

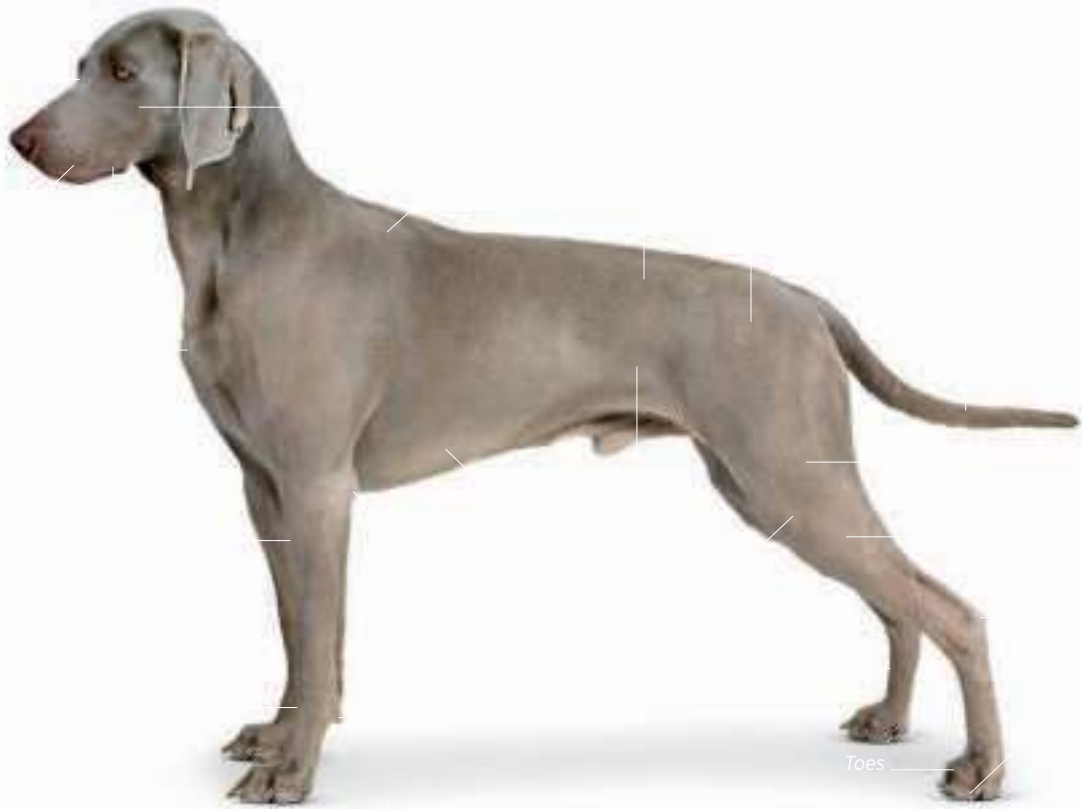


Dog anatomy

Dog DNA

Doing things cooperatively is an inbuilt canine characteristic. Most domestic dogs look to humans as their pack leaders.





Toes





HOW DOGS ARE GROUPED IN THIS BOOK





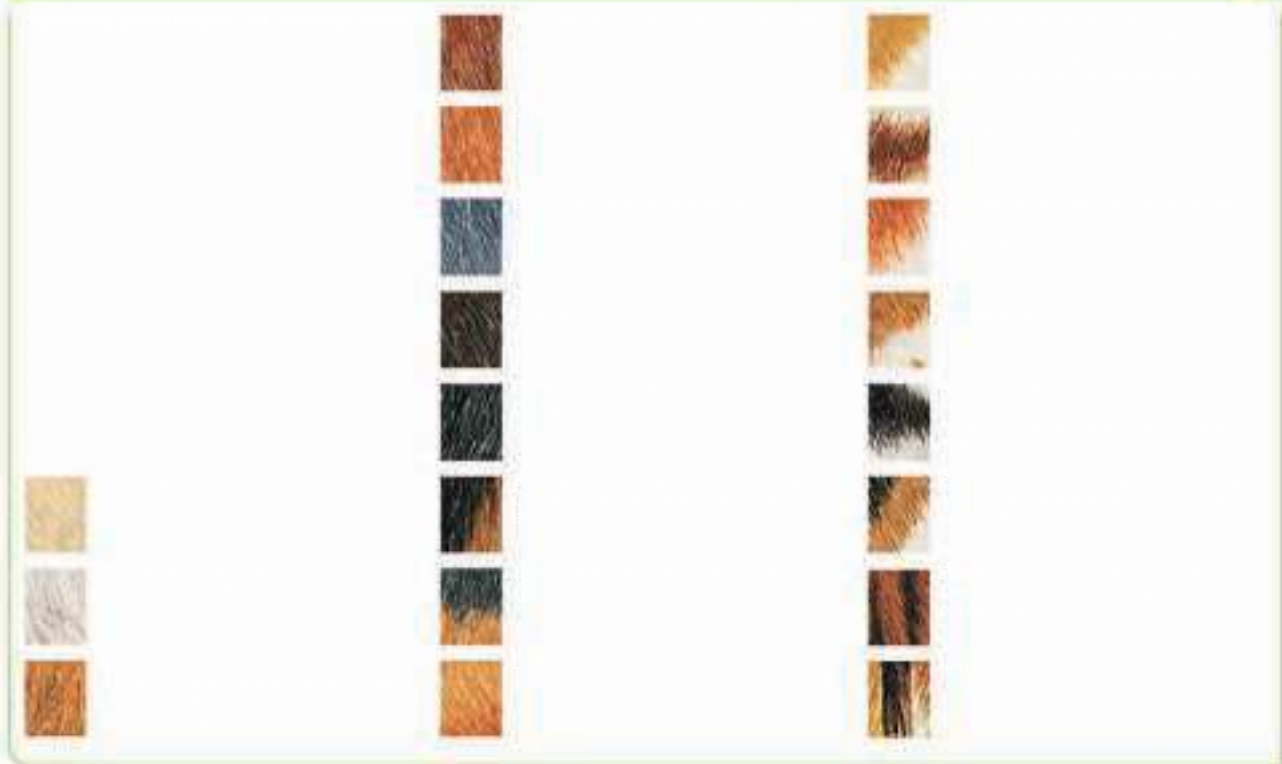
HOW TO USE THE BREED CATALOG



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COAT COLORS



CHOOSING THE RIGHT DOG



A puppy can grow into a big dog, so know what you are buying

The dog you choose will probably be your companion for the next ten or twelve years, so making the right decision is important. Being faced with more than 400 different breeds with a variety of exercise, training, and grooming needs can be bewildering. This section provides advice and flowcharts to help you narrow down your choice.

The perfect match

When you choose a dog, you are choosing a companion for the next ten or twelve years. It is important to choose a dog that fits your lifestyle and needs. Consider the dog's exercise, training, and grooming requirements. A dog that requires a lot of exercise and training may not be the best choice for someone who is busy or does not have a lot of time to spend with the dog. A dog that requires a lot of grooming may not be the best choice for someone who does not have a lot of time to spend on the dog's appearance. Consider the dog's temperament and personality. A dog that is very energetic and playful may not be the best choice for someone who is looking for a calm and quiet companion. A dog that is very affectionate and loyal may not be the best choice for someone who is looking for a dog that is independent and self-sufficient. Consider the dog's size and weight. A large dog may not be the best choice for someone who lives in a small apartment or has a small yard. A small dog may not be the best choice for someone who is looking for a dog that is protective and alert. Consider the dog's health and lifespan. Some breeds are prone to certain health problems, and some breeds have a shorter lifespan than others. Consider the dog's cost. Some breeds are more expensive than others, and some breeds require more expensive care. Consider the dog's availability. Some breeds are more difficult to find than others, and some breeds are more common than others. Consider the dog's breed. Some breeds are better suited to certain climates and environments than others. Consider the dog's breed. Some breeds are better suited to certain climates and environments than others.

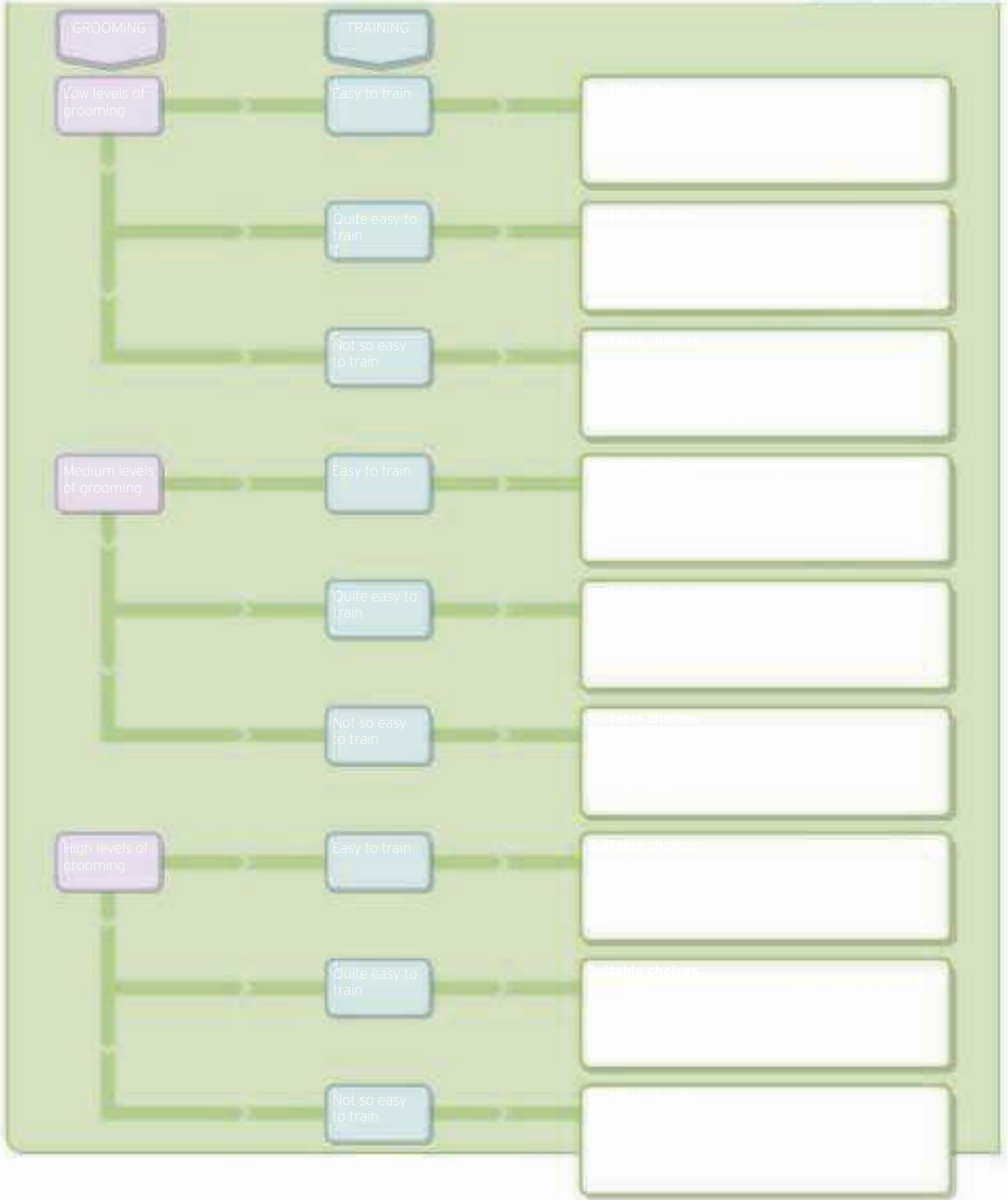
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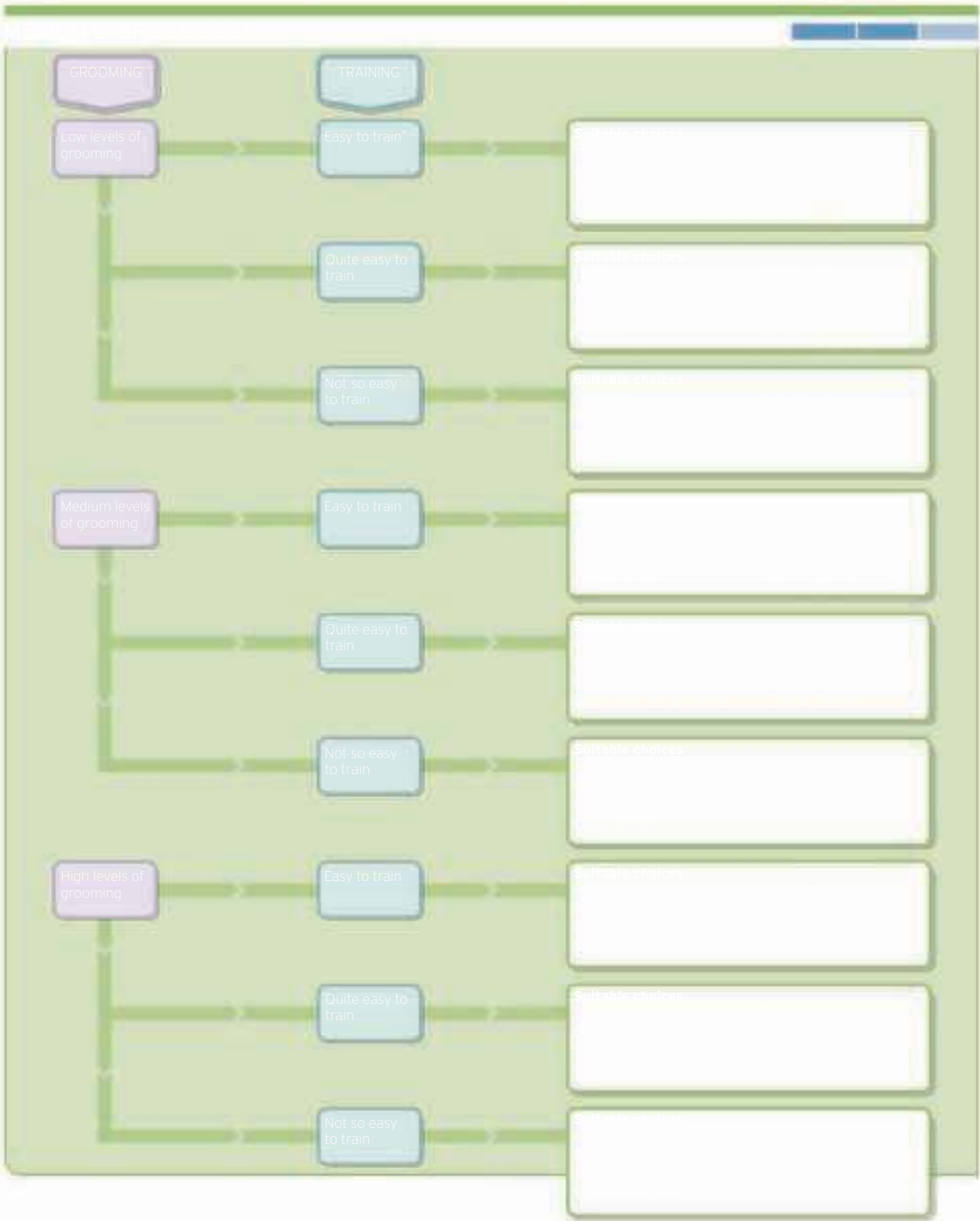
HOW TO USE THE FLOWCHARTS

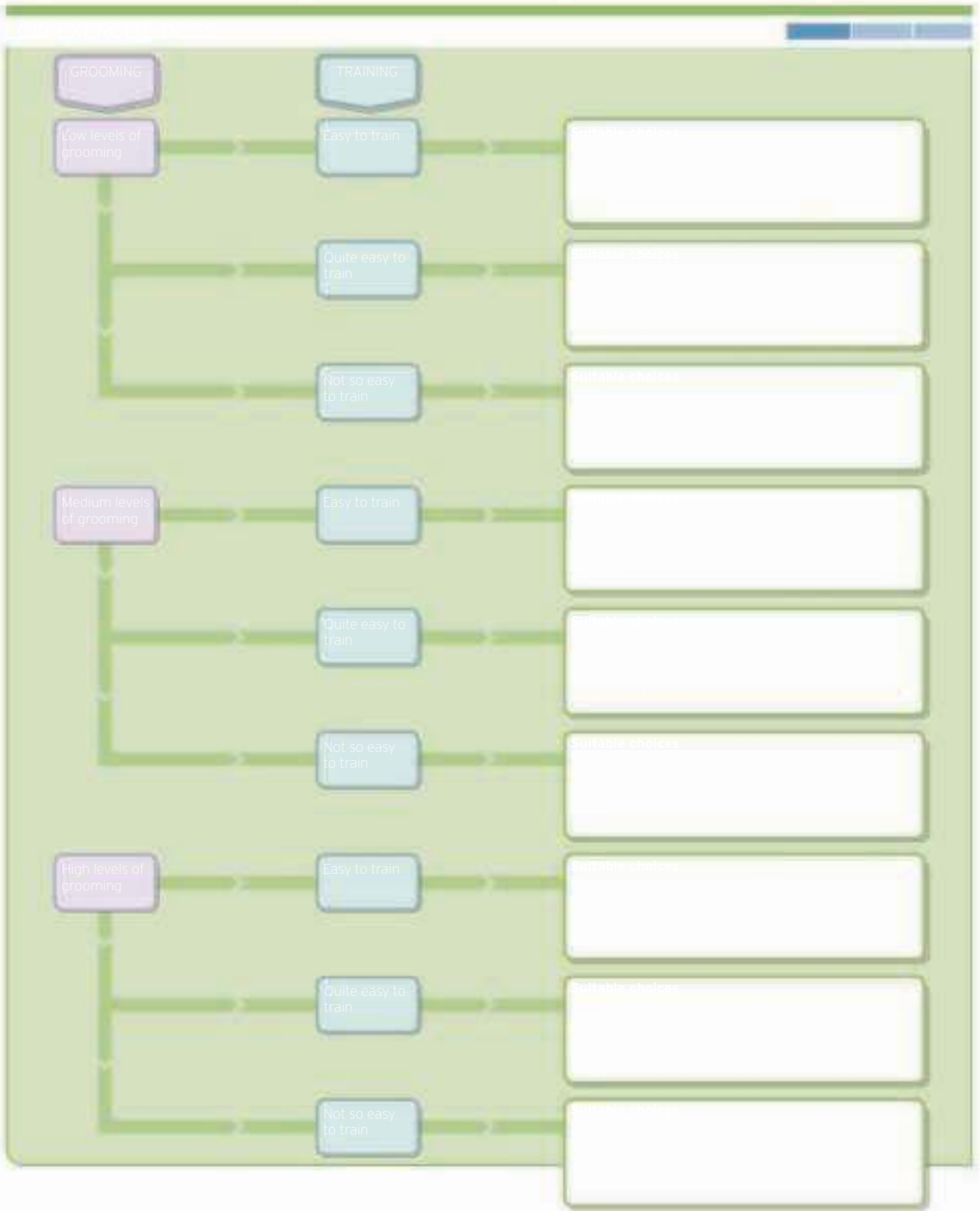
Exercise Requirements	Training Requirements	Grooming Requirements
HIGH More than 2 hours per day	HIGH Every day	HIGH Not so easy to train—time consuming
MEDIUM 1-2 hours per day	MEDIUM More than once a week	MEDIUM Quite easy to train—needs patience
LOW Up to 30 minutes per day	LOW Once a week	LOW Easy to train



High level of grooming









Finding a puppy



Puppy farms





10 IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO ASK A BREEDER

A large empty rectangular box with a thin yellow border, intended for writing the 10 important questions to ask a breeder.







GUIDE TO BREEDS

AFRICAN HUNTER

Elegant and immaculate, the Basenji makes the most civilized of pets, but this African breed worked as a hunting dog for thousands of years.



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