

German Shepherd Dog Pedigrees, what does it all mean?

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1. Introduction

The prerequisites for breeding and achievements within the German Shepherd Dog world can be quite confusing to the first time German Shepherd owner who has just collected their new puppy from the breeder and been given a large amount of paperwork to read. After arriving at home and playing with their new found friend, it is only when the puppy has finally fallen asleep that the new owner starts to look at the paperwork, which should include:

- The Canine Association certified pedigree of the puppy, and
- A more detailed pedigree that has been prepared by the breeder that should have five generations of the puppy bloodlines.

The following list of abbreviations and their description explain certain prerequisites for breeding and achievements within the German Shepherd Dog world and should help the first time owner gain an insight into the various articles and advertisements of top line dogs found in German Shepherd related publications. The reader is referred in the initial instance to high profile Australian publications such as the *German Shepherd News* published by the GSDCV on a monthly basis, the *GSDCV Internet Website* (www.gsdcv.org.au), and the *German Shepherd Dog* a quarterly national review published by the GSDCA.

For a discussion of the range of titles awarded by the Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC), via member State based Canine Control Associations, the first time

German Shepherd owner is referred to an informative article written by Fran Farley entitled *'Well, you've got to get a title or two'*. The article was first published in December 2003 in the GSDCV *German Shepherd News* and posted on their *Internet Website*.

Two current-day dogs with their full titles



Stober Peete. 'A' 'Z' H-Neg, ExSelect, BSCII

***Lassland Storm Trooper 'A' 'Z' H-Neg, BSCII**



2. German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia

Abbreviation Description

Tattoo Number This is the identification given to a puppy and denotes the Breeder by use of 3 letters together with 3 numbers e.g. TVD001. A register of Tattoo prefix and numbers is kept by the GSDCA. It must be noted that the Tattoo number as given to your dog is the official form of identifying your dog and must be used when participating in all GSDCA Breed Improvement Schemes.

BSCII Breed Survey Class 1, this denotes the fact that the animal has passed the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme and has been classified as far above average both in overall construction, type and temperament and suitable to be bred with.

BSCII2 Breed Survey Class 2, this denotes the fact that the animal has passed the GSDCA Breed Survey Scheme and has been found to be above average both in overall construction, type and temperament and suitable to be bred with.

'A' The 'A' Stamp denotes that the animal has passed the GSDCA Hip Dysplasia Scheme. A pass is given to those animals that do not score more than 16 out of 108 and who do not have a score of greater than 8 in one of the hip joints and no more than 3 in any one area of assessment.

'Z' The 'Z' Stamp denotes that the animal has passed the GSDCA Elbow Dysplasia Scheme. A pass is given to those animals that have Normal, Grade 1 and Grade 2 elbow dysplasia.

H-Neg	H-Neg denotes that the dog has been tested for Haemophilia and is found not to be a carrier. This test is only carried out on males.
ExSelect	Denotes that the dog / bitch has been shown in the Open Class conformation class and has been graded Excellent Select based on overall construction, progeny and or breeding potential at the GSDCA Main Breed Exhibition.
ExMerit	Denotes that the dog / bitch has been shown in the Open Class conformation class and has been graded Excellent Merit, based on overall construction, progeny and or breeding potential at State Breed Exhibitions.
VG Select	Denotes that the dog / bitch has been shown in the conformation Intermediate Class, at GSDCA Main Breed Exhibition and or State Breed Exhibitions and has been judged to be of very high quality.
Ex	Denotes that the dog has been shown in the Open Class is at least 2 years old and has been graded Excellent in conformation.
VG	Denotes that the dog has been graded Very Good in conformation.
G	Denotes that the dog has been graded Good in conformation.
OEx	Denotes that the dog has achieved a score of 190+ in an Obedience competition.
OVg	Denotes that the dog has achieved a score of 180-189 in an Obedience competition.
OG	Denotes that the dog has achieved a score of 170-179 in an Obedience competition.
AEx	Denotes that the dog has achieved an excellent score in an Agility competition.
Line breeding	This indicates whether or not your puppy has common ancestors in both the sire and dam bloodline. An example would be that if “Rex” were the great grandfather of both the mother and father of your puppy, then the line breeding would be noted as Rex 3-3, signifying that “Rex” was common in the third generation.

3. German Titles and Ratings

Abbreviation	Description
*	Used farther back in pedigrees to save room and denotes kkl-I or kkl-II. Before the name of the dog the symbol indicates that the dog has been surveyed and approved for breeding.
a	The "a" stamp indicating the hips of a dog have been evaluated and fall within limits considered acceptable for breeding.
A	Ausreichend. Sufficient show or performance rating.
AD	Ausdauerpruefung Endurance title (test includes a 12-mile run & simple obedience test).
Angekoert	Recommended for breeding.
BH	German Companion Dog Must precede SchH I.
BIH	Blindenhund Blind guide dog.
BpDH I, II	Bahnpolizei Diensthund Railroad police service dog.
DH	Diensthund Service dog.
FH	Fahrtenhund Most advanced tracking title awarded by the SV.
G	Gut Good show or performance rating.
GRH	Grenzenhund Border patrol dog.
HGH	Herdengebrauchshund Herding dog.
IPO I, II, III	Schutzhund III according to the international rules.
KKL I	Koerklasse I Especially recommended for breeding.
KKL II	Koerklasse II Suitable for breeding.

KrH	Kriegshund War dog.
LawH	Lawinenhund Avalanche dog.
Lbz	Lebenszeit Breed surveyed for lifetime.
M	Mangelhaft Faulty show or performance rating.
MH	Meldehund Dispatch Army dog (messenger dog).
PDH	Polizei Dienst Hund Working Police dog.
PH	Polizeihund Police-trained dog.
PSP	Polizeischutzhundprüfung Police protection dog.
SchH I, II, III	Schutzhund Obedience, tracking, and protection titles.
SG	Sehr Gut Very Good show or performance rating; highest rating obtainable by dogs under 2 years old or at USA SchH shows, the highest rating that can be obtained by an untitled dog.
SH	Sanitätshund Red Cross dog.
SH	Suchhund Tracking dog.
U	Ungenugend Unsatisfactory show or performance rating. No grading given.
V	Vorzuglich Excellent show or performance rating.
VA	Vorzuglich-Auslese Excellent Select show rating at Sieger show; highest award obtainable by a German show dog; typically awarded to 12-15 dogs and bitches each year.
VH	Vorhanden Sufficient show or performance rating.
ZB	Zuchtbewertung Conformation show rating.
ZH I, II	Zollhund I, II Customs dog.
ZPr	Zuchtprüfung Passed a breed survey, recommended for breeding.
CACIB	European International Champion.
Bundesieger	Working Dog Champion of the Year (Leistungssieger).
Europameister	World Champion SchH III dog.
Hutesieger	Herding Dog Champion at German herding dog championship.
Leistungssieger	Working Dog Champion of the Year (Bundesieger).
Preishuten Sieger	Shepherding Champion of the Year.
Sieger	Highest placed dog title at the German Sieger show.
Siegerin	Highest placed bitch at the German Sieger show.

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