





## Chihuahua (smooth coat)

Height: 15 to 23 cm Weight: 1 to 3 kg

**Origin:** Central and North America (United States and Mexico) **Personality:** Friendly, extremely curious, brave, loyal

The Chihuahua is thought to be a descendant of a breed of dog called the Techichi. The Techichi was the dominant breed in the 9th century in the area that is now Mexico. The Techichi was a pet of the Toltec people. The Techichi was not only a pet to the Toltecs and the Aztecs, but also was important for religious reasons. It was believed that if Techichi were creamated with the dead, the Techichi would take on the burden of the deceased person's sins and turn away the anger of the gods. Further, it was believed that the Techichi would protect the souls of the dead from evil spirits, and lead them to their final destination in the afterlife.

The Chihuahua of today is thought to be a cross between descendants of the Techichi and a hairless dog called the Chinese Crested Dog.

There are two types of coat found in Chihuahuas - the Long Coat variety has long hair, while the Smooth Coat variety has short hair. The hair of the Long Coat is sometimes curly.



























