

Arizona Mountain Mushers



www.azmm.org

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Hi my name is Malakiya Waldo and I have been mushing for 3 years now. I would like to share with you what mushing means to me

M

I get to meet new people, make new friends and master new talents.

U

I have learned to understand my dogs, myself and appreciate the uniqueness of the sport.

S

I love sharing my success and losses with my friends and family and dogs.

H

Mushing makes me happy because I get to race with my grandma. It's fun helping the other mushers and learning from them.

I

Being independent and also impressing my friends and mentors. It is very intense and it's important that I listen to my dogs. To me my dogs are irreplaceable in my heart.

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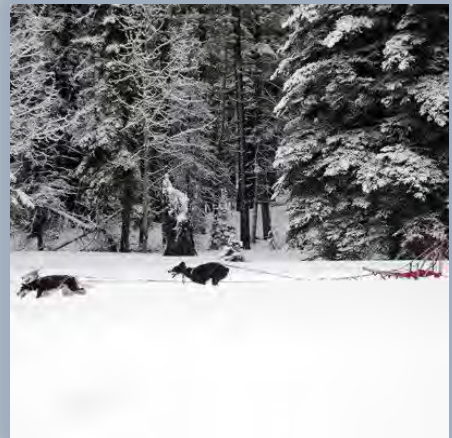
It is very nerve racking at times. Also I learn something new every time, if I didn't learn something new then it would be boring.

G

I am so grateful to have my grandma, Val and Cheri as my mentors. It's not always about receiving. It's about giving to other mushers. Mainly it is just a great sport/activity that brings out the champion in me and my dogs.



2013 White Mountain Winter Games



How to tell a Malamute from a Husky

By Doug L For the ever-shedding pack

Shelters often cannot tell the difference between a Husky and a Malamute. The general public is worse. Malamutes are generally larger but it may be a big Husky, a small Malamute, or a mix of the two. If you see a Northern breed dog or have adopted one from a shelter, this simple quiz can help differentiate between these two very distinct breeds.

Note the position of the ears:

- A. The ears are almost vertical to hear mice under the snow.
- B. The ears point out like radar dishes to hear grocery bags.

The eye color is:

- A. Blue. Or brown. Or both. Or yellow and blue in one eye. Sometimes I swear they switch places.
- B. Brown, definitely. Maybe blue. What are you, a show judge or something?

The proper term for the dog is:

- A. Siberian Husky
- B. Alaskan Malamute
- C. My snooky wuggums

Is that a squirrel?

- A. Squirrel? Come on guys, let's get it!
- B. Smmh mmb!?*gulp* What squirrel?

Have you been digging?

- A. Yes, I am terraforming your planet.
- B. Yes, at the bottom of the steps is a pit deep enough you can't see out of it.

You introduce a new dog food and:

- A. Bleh. I'll hold out for chicken. For days.
- B.*Whoosh* More, please? And that

chicken defrosting in the fridge? Gone.

Intelligence test: cover kibble with a cloth and let the dog figure it out.

- A. Grab the cloth. Give it a kill shake. Vacuum up the kibble.
- B. Whine. Sniff. Whine. Ah, the heck with this. Pounce on the cloth with both paws. Tear a hole through it. Vacuum up the kibble.

How does the dog wake you up?

- A. Jumps on the bed and sits on your head.
- B. Jumps on the bed and sits on your gut, crushing the air out of you.

When people see the dog they say:

- A. Ooh, is that a wolf?
- B. Ooh, is that a wolf?

The pack starts yodeling at 3 am and sounds like

- A. A-ooo. Yii-ooo!
- B. Rooo Wooo!

The dog is built:

- A. Like an eco-friendly pickup truck, very light on gas. Goes anywhere and can haul quite a bit.
- B. Like a Unimog truck and sucks up fuel like one. Goes anywhere, hauls huge loads, and drags you through the brush.

When the dog sheds:

- A. You brush and vacuum for days and still have hairy tumbleweeds bigger than rabbits.
- B. See A.

You left her alone in the car for only a minute and she:

- A. Shredded the passenger seat, half the dash, and chewed off the gear

shift knob.

A. Ate the passenger seat and threw it up on the driver seat.

When you feed the dogs, you

A. Put the bowls in one room and they scramble for their own bowl.

B. Put the bowls in separate rooms and close the doors.

The dog flosses his teeth by:

A. Shredding furniture.

B. Shredding house siding.

When your dog meets other dogs, she thinks:

A. They might be new playmates. I wonder if they like chicken?

B. They might steal my dinner. I wonder what they taste like?

Is the dog is trustworthy around human infants?

A. Totally. They howl together.

B. Absolutely. They sleep snuggled up to each other.

Northern dogs are escape artists. On several occasions the dog:

A. Dug under the fence, jumped over the fence, or pried open a hole just large enough to slip through.

B. Chewed through a fence post until he could push down the gate.

Of course your dog counter-surfs.

A. She jumps onto the counter and walks the length, sampling everything.

B. She puts her front paws on the counter, licks all the garbage from the sink, and carries a 10 lb sack of potatoes back to her crate.

Every dog should go to obedience class. Your dog, however:

A. Ignored you through the whole thing, made you look like a fool by aceing the exam, and promptly went back to ignoring you.

B. Gave the "hairy eyeball" to every Rottweiler and Doberman in the class but was nervous around the Chihuahuas.

You turn vegan and decide your dog should join you. You toss vegetables to the dog. He reacts:

A. Snap! Spit! That is*not* food.

B. Snap! What the hell did I just eat?

When a friend comes over, the dog reacts:

A. Hi there! Just one pat, thank you. You are dismissed.

B. Hi there! Got any food? Ooh, I love to slobber faces. Got any food?

Siberians and Malamutes are not the best at recall. The dog runs off and:

A. Two hours later you get a call from the local police. When you arrive, the dog is smiling from the back of the cruiser and the top of their white car is covered with muddy paw prints.

B. Two hours later she scares the hell out of you by sneaking up from behind and barking.

The proper number of Huskies or Malamutes is:

A. 2

B. 3 or 4

C. Every Christmas you send a bottle of bourbon to the local animal control officer.

Answer key:

If you answered A to most questions, you probably have a Siberian Husky.

You have been distracted for 10 minutes. Check to see your dog has not escaped with the car.

If you answered B to most questions, you probably have an Alaskan Malamute and your dinner was stolen

while reading this quiz.

If you answered C to the last question, you are owned by Siberians or Malamutes. This is normal. You do not need professional help, regardless what your relatives say.

