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Line breeding.

This term is often used to denote breeding among related individuals or dogs from the same family or bloodline.

Examples would be mating between first or second cousins, uncle to niece, aunt to nephew, and in some references half-brother to half-sister is also listed as an example of linebreeding.

Linebreeding is the breeding style that is a compromise between inbreeding and outcross breeding.

Breeders use line breeding to preserve the traits of a family of dogs while at the same time retaining the variability in the gene pool.

Variability is good as it counteracts the potential detrimental effects of doubling up on bad genes that is sometimes seen as a consequence of inbreeding.

Line breeding is a slower and less direct way to fix desirable traits in a bloodline, but does offer more options and fewer risks than inbreeding.

Diligent selection of quality brood stock from bloodlines known for their soundness and breed type is also very important when a breeder is choosing to do linebreeding.