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How long do a dog live?

According to a stack of data 10.8 years old means your dog lived a great life.

So +- 12 years old seems to be what we can strive for.

But we would want our dog companions to live "forever" – don't we? They come into our lives and complete us for such a short period of time.

Then, all of a sudden, they grow old and poof - they're gone.

It's the most depressing thought – because you love them.

A British study by the Centre for Small Animal Studies concluded that when both natural and other factors affecting life expectancy were considered:

"The mean age at death (all breeds, all causes) was 11 years and one month, but in dogs dying of natural causes it was 12 years and eight months.

Only eight % of dogs lived beyond 15."

How long is "forever"?

I want my dogs to live forever and I'm sure that's what dog owners all feel - but realistically, how long is this "forever"?

Here's a flashback to start this line of thought:

Back in late school years days is when my life first changed – I got my first dog – "Oubaas" a fox terrier - I was hooked.

My parents were raised with the belief that dogs (my father's family always had a dog) should be kept outside – but my first terrier slept with me that night and became my shadow "forever".

"How long will he live?"

The breeder told me would only live to be, on average +-12 years - that's terrible! I want him to live forever!

Recently one of my faithful APBT dog ... gifted to me "Bekker's Red" past on in his sleep 12 years and 7 months old – if what they say is true ... that for every 1 human year 7 years pass for a dog – Red almost lived "forever" – almost 90 years old.

Yep for humans That is "forever"