

The Neapolitan Mastiff

Recommended Health Screenings for the Mastino

The Neapolitan Mastiff — the Mastino — is an ancient and majestic breed whose distinctive structure and loose, wrinkled skin call for careful, responsible breeding. The screenings below reflect the core health evaluations recommended for the breed. This reference is provided to help you understand what thoughtful Mastino health testing looks like.

Recommended Health Screenings

Hip Dysplasia

Evaluation of the hip joints (OFA or PennHIP) to screen for the malformation that can lead to arthritis and reduced mobility — important in a heavy, large-boned breed.

Elbow Dysplasia

Evaluation of the elbow joints to screen for developmental joint disease that can affect the front limbs and lead to lameness.

Cardiac Evaluation

Screening for inherited heart conditions, ideally by echocardiogram, to support a long and healthy life in this large breed.

Eye Examination

An ophthalmologist (ACVO / CAER) exam, with particular attention to the eyelid and eye conditions (such as cherry eye, entropion, or ectropion) the breed's facial structure can predispose.

Thyroid Evaluation

A blood-based screening for autoimmune thyroid disease, repeated periodically as the dog matures.

This document is provided for general educational reference and reflects widely recommended health screenings for the Neapolitan Mastiff. It is not veterinary advice or a diagnosis. Health testing helps responsible breeders make informed decisions, but does not guarantee an individual dog's health. Always consult your veterinarian, and verify any breeder's testing records directly.