

newsworthy trends

Should Your Love Life Go To The Dogs?

(NAPSA)—If you're having trouble meeting that special someone, it may be time for a new best friend. Relationship experts say the right dog could help your love life. In fact, one study found that you are three times as likely to meet someone if you have a dog.

But if you think any dog will do, you may be barking up the wrong tree. Trend watchers say the dog you choose might say as much about you as the clothes you wear or the company you keep. For instance:

Cheeky Chihuahua

Tinkerbelle, the dog who is only slightly less famous than his owner, Paris Hilton, has helped change the way people see chihuahuas. Today, many view the dogs—and their owners—as fun companions who are always up for a trip to the latest hot spot.

The Terrier Type

Terriers tend to be resourceful, smart, low-maintenance dogs—and their owners are often the same way. Walk past a local coffee shop and you may see a terrier and his owner relaxing and sipping a cup of house blend (vanilla triple lattes are not always the “terrier type’s” cup of tea).

Rowdy Rotties

Ask a rottweiler owner about her dog and she'll probably say his bark is worse than his bite. Many people say the same is true for people who own rottweilers—they may seem intimidating at first, but they're big teddy bears once you get to know them.

If the theory of dogs and dating sounds a bit far-fetched, check out one of the many books on canines and relationships or a movie like “Must Love Dogs,” which will be



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available on DVD December 20. It's a romantic comedy from Warner Home Video about a pretty and demoralized divorcee played by Diane Lane.

Lane's character is unwittingly signed up for an Internet dating service by her sister. After weaving through more than one dog of a date, she meets Jake, played by John Cusack. He's smart and attractive, but Lane passes him by—and possibly her one chance at love. What helps bring the characters back together? Among other things, it's their love for a Newfoundland puppy named Mother Teresa.

Whether you believe a dog can help your love life or not, the statistics are encouraging. The American Pet Products Manufacturers Association estimates that 73 million Americans are dog owners. Odds are that many of these dog owners are looking for other dog owners with whom to start a relationship, or at least share some puppy love.

For more information, visit www.mustlovedogsmovie.com.