

the **TRUTH**  
a b o u t  
m i n i a t u r e  
**PIGS**



- There are no such breeds as “Micro-Pigs,” “Teacup Pigs,” “Micro-Mini Pigs,” “Dandy Pigs,” “Thimble Pigs,” “Pixy Pigs,” “Pocket Pigs,” “Nano-Pigs,” or any other cute names you might hear. All of these names are manufactured by breeders to help them sell their stock. Most domestic Miniature Pigs are Vietnamese Pot-Bellied Pigs, Kune Kunes from New Zealand, Göttingen Pigs—which originated in Germany—or crossbreeds thereof. Some have been crossbred with farm pigs, wild boars, red tams, (all pigs that well-exceed 300 lbs. when grown) and others to achieve a greater variety in coat pattern and coloration so that they may be sold as “designer” pets. Beware any breeder who claims that they raise any of these false breeds, or claims that they are the first to develop a specialized breed.



- Healthy adult weight ranges from 90 to 250 lbs. depending on ancestry. Adults have the girth of a large-breed dog and a height of 1½ to 2 ft. at the shoulder. That **IS** miniature compared to their farm-bred cousins who weigh upwards of 750 lbs.—often more than 1000 lbs. at maturity! Miniature Pigs achieve the majority of their growth by age 3, but continue to grow slowly until they are about 5 years old. Even though it takes them a long time to grow up, they are able to breed and produce litters at just a few months of age. Some breeders claim that their stock will not exceed 20, 30, or 40 lbs. There are 2 ways that breeders “prove” this claim: breeding very young pigs that they may falsely demonstrate adult size with a small, juvenile parent; underfeeding them (or instructing the owner to underfeed) to severely stunt their growth. Do not purchase from a breeder who: recommends controlling growth by limiting feed; represents the final size of the animal at anything below 90 lbs.; engages in line-breeding (which is generally synonymous with inbreeding).

- Miniature Pigs are extremely intelligent, but that does not mean they are always easy to train!
- You can learn more by visiting [www.lilorphanhammies.org](http://www.lilorphanhammies.org) and [www.facebook.com/LilOrphanHammies](http://www.facebook.com/LilOrphanHammies) or call us at (805) 693-9953.

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