

Medals

The Kennel Club's collection contains hundreds of medals from shows all over the world. They are made of a variety of materials including bronze, pewter, silver and even gold!

Many of the medals we have date from the late 19th and early 20th centuries and were given at large shows, like Crufts for various awards such as Best of Breed. Lots of them are engraved too, which means we can find out more about the dogs that won them.



Some modern shows give out medals too. Have you ever won a medal? Or perhaps you might have seen an old one? This medal here is an old Crufts medal. You can see that it is decorated with the head of a St Bernard surrounded by a collar. It was a very popular design of the time and easily recognisable as being awarded at Crufts. This particular medal was awarded to Mrs Ingle Bepler's Irish Setter Winifred in 1899. We can see the engraving on the back and on looking in the Crufts catalogue we found out that Winifred won best bitch and best Irish Setter that year.



Your activity

If you could design a medal what would you include?

Perhaps it could be modelled on your own dog? What material would you choose and what would it be awarded for? Perhaps you could have a go at drawing your own design.

