

May 17, 2009

I didn't pick out Teddie; I never had that love-at-first-moment kind of sight. Teddie Faith Greenspan was a surprise, actually. I was exhausted after the long drive home from sleep away camp, and I couldn't wait to see my wonderful family. I saw my Mom from the bus holding a shaggy, small puppy in her arms. Whose puppy is that? I thought. My eyes widened in realization, as I thought, that—that's my puppy? My puppy! While bouncing in my seat in excitement, I jumped off the bus as soon as it arrived. The soft brown eyes and furry face, wet black nose and a pink wagging tongue the color of bubble gum, I knew this was my puppy.

Yes, that was Teddie.

Teddie can be a bit of a pain sometimes. She has a jealousy habit, if she sees you hugging someone else; she'll jump on you and bark a little. Teddie can be lazy, also. Other than that, and the occasional accident, she is the perfect dog. She is so cute, cuddly, smart and the least aggressive dog ever. She is a "fluffball of love."

Teddie isn't an aggressive dog, but she is "the destroyer of all toys plush", as I like to call her. She can also be a little bit of a whiner. In the morning, she makes loud, squealing sounds because she wants to leave her crate.

Finally, Teddie is kind of drooled over, I have to admit, Teddie is a spoiled dog. She eats special nutritious dog food. She has a cute little doggie bed, and a million plush dog toys.

Teddie is a breed called a Zuchon, or a Teddy Bear Dog. A Zuchon is a mix between a Shih Tzu and a Bichon Frise. She is white with black patches. She also doesn't shed; she has hair, not fur. Actually, there is really a difference! Fur grows to a certain point and then falls out. That is why most dogs shed. Hair grows and keeps growing until it gets cut. Hair doesn't shed.

Teddie is two years old, but still acts (and looks) like a puppy.

By Claudia Greenspan