

Allergists say all the safe-breed theories are just wishful thinking. When people are allergic to cats or dogs, the allergens that make them sick are the proteins in the animals' skin secretions and saliva. "All dogs and all cats have saliva and skin." "So theoretically, there is no such thing as a nonallergenic cat or dog."

Dr. William J. Davis, a professor of clinical pediatrics and director of allergy and immunology at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in Manhattan

There are cases in which a specific dog (not breed) might be better tolerated by a specific person, for unknown reasons. "We think there really are differences in protein production between dogs that may help one patient and not another."

Dr. Thomas A. Platts-Mills, head of the Asthma and Allergic Disease Center at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Source: [Nonallergenic Dog? Not Really](#) by Denise Grady, New York Times, February 5, 1997.

No dog is considered non-allergenic because all dogs produce dander, saliva, and urine which are the offending allergens. Any dog who sheds skin, urinates, or licks has the potential to become a problem for an allergic individual.

Jeffrey M. Adelglass, M.D., F.A.C.S., [Allergy Testing and Treatment Center](#)

Airedales are often included in lists of hypo-allergenic dogs because they don't shed as much as many dogs, but they do shed. Hypo means less and not none, as all breeds of dogs still produce a certain amount of allergens and dander.

It is always best to test out a dog before adopting or making a purchase. This can be done by staying in a closed in space (such as a car) for an extended period of time to see if your allergies are affected.

Source: [15 Hypoallergenic Dog Breeds: Dogs that Are Best for People Suffering with Allergies](#) . [the Airedale is NOT one of those listed]

Is it true that Airedales are good for people with allergies?

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While it is true that many people that are allergic to some other breeds seem to have fewer problems living with Airedales, the fact that you have allergies is not a sufficient reason to get an Airedale. You are adding a member to your household and should consider the temperament, size, your schedule and many other things when selecting a pet. There are other breeds, (for example; Poodles) which are also "less allergic", which may suit you and yours better.