

# GEORGIA DOBERMAN RESCUE



## Who We Are

Georgia Doberman Rescue is a state licensed shelter operating in Georgia. We are a non-profit organization, run by volunteers, dedicated to rescuing and re-homing abandoned, abused, neglected, or homeless Doberman Pinschers.



## Featured Adoptable: Creed

Creed is an all natural black and tan Doberman suffering through Demodex. "All natural" means that he has a full tail and natural ears. He is up-to-date on his vaccinations, dewormed, and being treated for Demodex and a secondary skin infection. Creed and four of his brothers have come into rescue recently. They are sweet young Dober-boys that are eager to learn all the joys of life with a loving family. To learn more about Creed visit his [biography](#) on our website; if you are interesting in adopting Creed, or any of our mountain boys, you can find the application [here](#).



## Featured Fundraiser!

Our very own Danielle Ranieri designed the image above and using this image GDR launched a t-shirt fundraising campaign. Our goal with this fundraiser is to raise the funds necessary to cover the cost of treating the five demodex puppies. The t-shirts are available in ladies, youth, and unisex/men's style/sizing. Click [here](#) to order yours. **Hurry, the campaign ends on Sunday August 3rd.** Missed the deadline on the t-shirt campaign but still want to help us out? Check out our [shop page](#) and our [donate page](#) for ways to help us care for our rescues.

## Quick Facts About Demodex

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All dogs have demodectic mites on their skin; in fact they have them from birth. Normally a dog's immune system keeps the mite population in check. However, in some dogs that are in stressful situations, or have compromised immune systems, very poor nutrition, or all of the above the mite population gets out of control. When this happens the skin gets irritated, the dogs get itchy, their hair falls out, and all the scratching can lead to other skin infections. Demodex is also called red mange but don't be confused with other types of mange, demodex is not contagious.

## The importance of good nutrition in treating demodex

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This is a classic case of "you are what you eat". Demodectic mites are parasites that live on a dog's skin and they eat yeast which is a fungal spore also normally found on a dog's skin. The yeast consumes byproducts of carbohydrate metabolism. Feeding a diet with a high percentage of grains makes more food for the yeast causing the yeast population to increase. The increased presence of yeast means more food for the mites causing their population to also increase. So by feeding a grain free diet to a dog with demodex you reduce the food available to the yeast, which in turn helps to reduce the mite infestation.

## To crop or not to crop?

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Our recently rescued demodex puppies are "all natural" Dobermans. While it is common in Europe to see Dobermans with full tails and natural ears, it is not that common in the United States Their natural features give us a reason to briefly discuss ear cropping. Historically Dobermans were cropped and docked in order to reduce the chance of injury when a Doberman was working, giving the person the Doberman was pursuing little to nothing to grab onto. Original working ear crops were much shorter than you see today, but working Dobermans are still cropped for this same reason. The [breed standard](#) says that a Doberman should have cropped ears, although "show crops" are usually longer than "pet crops" or "working crops".

Ear cropping has a time limit. If you are thinking about ear cropping and your Dobe is older than 20 weeks you have already missed your window of opportunity. Once puppies are older than 20 weeks the cartilage in their ears has already formed and the ears will not stand if they are cropped after that point.

Cropping is a surgical procedure done by a veterinarian in order to remove a portion of the outer ear flap. After the surgical procedure it is recommended that you "post" the ears which means bandaging them in such a way as they stand erect as they are healing. Proper posting is essential to having erect ears. Advocates of ear cropping will tell you that this is cosmetic surgery in order to achieve the look they desire for their pet. As with any surgical procedure, ear cropping should only be done by a licensed veterinarian, under anesthesia, and followed by pain medication. Opponents of ear cropping say that the procedure is barbaric, that it is equivalent to animal cruelty, and that is an unnecessary disfiguring procedure.

We say it is your choice. It all depends on what you want your Doberman to look like. Cropped or not we think all Dobermans are beautiful!

## Do you have a Kroger Rewards Card?

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If so then you can help GDR continue its mission of rescuing Dobermans every time you check out using your Kroger Rewards Card. If you don't already have a Kroger card, they are free at the customer service desk at any Kroger store. It is easy to sign up, here's [how to get started](#).

## Exciting News!

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In July Georgia Doberman Rescue received notification that we have been officially granted 501(c)(3) status as a non-profit group. This means that anything donated to GDR (toys, food, gas for helping us transport dogs, and monetary donations to name a few) are tax deductible!

## Rescue Hero: Danielle Clark!

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In rescue, it's very hard to find fosters, let alone reliable ones. When we had a foster home fall through for one of the demodex pups, we were at a loss for what to do on such short notice, but Danielle stepped up and offered to foster the last pup while we searched for a foster home so none would be left behind. Thanks to her commitment to these pups, we were able to save all 5 of the demodex puppies (as well as our sanity). While we will be forever thankful for Danielle's taking on two pups at once the ideal situation would be to have a foster home for each one of them. We are still searching for a foster home for a demodex pup. If you interested in becoming a foster please fill out a [foster application](#) and [email](#) it to us.

## Crate Training 101

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Crate training has often been misunderstood and misused. However, dogs naturally make dens and enjoy the security of a den or crate if properly introduced to it. The following are some tips for selecting a crate and properly introducing your new puppy or rescue dog to a crate.

**Size:** The crate size is important. Your dog should have enough room to stand up, turn around, and lie down comfortably inside the crate. Most crate manufacturers have a size guide to go by if you are not sure. For example, this [website](#) lists Dobermans as needing an extra-large crate based on the average adult size.

**Location:** Location of the crate is also important because dogs are social animals, and Dobermans especially prefer to be with their people. The crate should be located in an area where the dog can see, hear, and feel a part of the activity in your home. It is for this reason that some people opt for two crates, one in the bedroom and one in a family room or kitchen.

**Furnishings:** If you use a wire mesh crate that has a plastic tray in the bottom it can be noisy and make some dogs nervous about the crate. You can slide an old towel between the tray and the crate bottom to reduce the noise and prevent the tray from sliding around. Placing towels, blankets, or a dog bed in the crate is okay, but don't be surprised if these items get chewed up. Some dogs would never dream of eating their blankie, but others will chew on anything in their crate out of boredom, or anxiety, or because they don't know any better. If the items you leave in the crate are eaten and not simply torn up it's a good idea to not leave anything in the crate that your pet might be able to consume. Instead, you might consider leaving your dog with an "alone safe" toy like a Kong to help eliminate boredom or destructive chewing.

**Keys to Success:** Never use the crate for punishment. Crating should be a positive event for your dog. Ignore whining, unless it is the "I need to go outside" whine. Most dogs will whine when you crate them, if you acknowledge the whine you reinforce the behavior. Never release a dog from a crate because he/she whined or barked. This teaches them that whining is how they get out of the crate.

We will continue Crate Training in the next newsletter with specific steps to acclimate your dog to a crate.

### Did You Know?

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Did you know that **August 15th** is National Check The Chip Day? Check out this [website](#) for more information on keeping your pets' microchip up-to-date. If your pet is not microchipped consider making an appointment for Aug 15th to have him/her chipped.

**August 26th** is National Dog Day! Take some time to show your dog some extra love and appreciation for everything that dogs do to make our human lives better. The love of a dog is unconditional, unlimited, and downright good for your soul. Why not take this day to tell your dog how much he or she means to you?

### Recipe of the Month

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Dogs enjoy a cool snack on hot summer days just like people do! But it is not a good idea to give your dog human ice cream due to its high sugar content and the fact that adult dogs cannot digest milk products very well. Also remember that those yummy chocolately ice creams contain cocoa products which are just plain dangerous for your dog to consume. Instead, try this recipe for Doggie Ice Cream.

#### Doggie Ice Cream:

Mix equal parts peanut butter and plain yogurt together. You can add mashed bananas or blueberry if you like, but it works well without it also. Drop spoonfuls of the mixture onto wax paper and freeze for a few hours. Once frozen you can stack them between wax paper in an air-tight container. Grab a few as needed from the freezer to reward your pup for being awesome

### Meet A Board Member

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Among our board members is Joe Ranieri. Ever since reading Scout by Julie Nye as a child Joe has been intrigued by the Doberman Pinscher breed. After bringing home his first Doberman, he was hooked on their spirit and intelligence. Joe has a strong affinity and passion for Dobermans and has dedicated much of his free time in supporting several rescues by pulling, transporting, rehabilitating, fostering and re-homing them. Joe and his wife share their home with two Dobermans and a Shiba Inu.



### How To Keep In Touch

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Like us on [Facebook](#). Check out the news posts and bios of our available dogs on our [website](#). Send us an [email](#). Or simply [subscribe](#) to this newsletter.

### How To Help

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**Donate:** we only are able to help Dobermans in need because of generous donations. **Foster:** we are always in need of foster homes, click [here](#) for more information **Transport:** we always need help transporting dogs between locations. Send us an [email](#) if you can help drive a Dobie.