

## How we make breed behavior in working dogs

In a previous post, "What is a Livestock Guard Dog?," I described *what* livestock guard dogs do but it is exceptionally important to know *how* they do this job. Understanding *how* not only helps us work with our LGDs but also explains why other breeds or crosses with non-LGD breeds are not likely to do this same outstanding job. The *how* is a set of behaviors shaped over time through human selection.

Understanding the complicated biology of livestock guardians gives us a tremendous appreciation for them and what they do. It helps us select the correct puppy. It helps us train them to be good partners on our farms. It also explains why other breeds don't make good livestock guardians and why crossing other breeds with LGDs is a very bad idea.

Read the full, original story here: [How Livestock Guard Dogs Work: the Question of Genetic Behaviors](#)