

# In the name of love

## Does your dog have one of the city's most popular pooch monikers?

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Last Updated: 9:38 AM, July 25, 2010

Posted: 2:34 AM, July 25, 2010

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Ever call your dog and five other pups come running? Your dog may have one of the most popular names in the city. According to the New York City [Department of Health and Mental Hygiene](#), which publishes a yearly list of the most frequently registered dog names, the most common mutt monikers to date are: Max, Lucky, Rocky, Princess, Buddy, Coco, Bella, Charlie, Lola and Lucy.

Since 2005, Max and Lucky have consistently been in the top five. Max, which means "the greatest," is often short for Maxwell, Maxine or Maximo. And the popularity of Lucky could be a sign that more dogs are being rescued and adopted from area shelters.



CHRISTIAN JOHNSTON

Karen Loweth named her dog Lucky, the second-most popular dog name.

Karen Loweth of Queens had little choice but to name her black Labrador retriever Lucky after her neighbor rescued him on the beach in Puerto Rico. "He was lucky that my neighbor found him," says Loweth. "Plus, he has a white No. 7 on his chest."

This is the first year Lola makes the list, and both Bella and Charlie have increased in popularity since 2008.

If you're thinking about naming your dog Sandy, Shadow or Lady, but worry you'll meet too many other same-named pups in the park — good news! Those names have fallen off the list since 2007.

While Lucy, hanging on at No. 10, has fallen in popularity since 2008, it's the perfect name for Vicki Unger's English cocker spaniel.

"At first, I thought she might be a Maggie," says Unger, who works as hospital manager at Park East Animal Hospital on the Upper East Side. "But then she looked at me with her big eyes and these fabulous long lashes and I thought, 'Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds!'"

Unger also likes Lucy's name because it can change according to her behavior. "When she's a bad girl, she's Lucifer. But other times, she looks at me and bats those eyelashes and she's Santa Lucia."

Of course, not everyone registers their dog with the city, and in some areas, names reflecting the surrounding neighborhood are more popular.

At West Chelsea Veterinary, the name Chelsea is very common, says manager Liz Luboja. Otherwise, their patients tend to have very unique names, such as Mr. President and Bently Guacamole (both Chihuahuas), and the staff's all-time favorite: Chewy Day Lewis.

At Williamsburg Animal Clinic, receptionist Namarie Figueroa says they see a lot of Rockys, Babys and Gizmos, as well as a few Electras — perhaps a nod to the fluorescent clothing trend favored by many of the area's hip residents.

But it's at Park East Animal Hospital, on Park Avenue and 64th Street, where neighborhood-inspired names clearly lead the pack: Patients here include Coco and [Chanel](#) and Gucci and Pucci (both siblings), more than 50 Madisons and almost 40 Tiffanys, which are mostly poodles, Yorkies and Shih Tzus, says Unger. However, she adds, "There is one Lab named Tiffany, which is sort of odd."

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