

Buying a Boston Terrier Puppy

What to expect from a Breeder who puts Health, Welfare and Temperament First

'Stop and think before buying a flat-faced dog'



Brachycephalic (short faced) breeds frequently have serious health problems due to their body and head shape: eye problems due to large protruding eyes; skin folds causing inflammation, infection and soreness, narrow nostrils causing breathing difficulties; excess flesh in throat & narrow windpipe causing breathing & swallowing problems; spinal deformities causing pain; difficulties coping in hot weather & exercise intolerance.

✓ Essential Documents

- Signed AWF Puppy Contract
- KC Registration Certificate (if applicable)
- Microchip Registration Certificate
- Temporary Pet Health Insurance
- Vaccination Certificate
- Copies of Health Certificates

A good breeder will

- have socialised and habituated the puppy
- provide a supply of food
- provide a blanket smelling of Mum
- follow the Code of Practice for Dog Breeding

✓ Health Certificates (Both Parents)

Official Health Schemes

- BVA/KC screening for eye disease; full ophthalmological testing before breeding (includes checks for multiple inherited diseases, particularly hereditary cataract)

DNA Tests relevant to breed

- Hereditary cataract

Other tests

- Putnam scoring for patella luxation
- Spine X-rays and evaluation

www.thebostonterrierclub.co.uk
www.dbrg.uk/guide-to-buying-a-puppy.html



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Brief explanations and other diseases that may be more common in the breed – if in doubt then consult your vet for guidance

Official Health Schemes

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DNA Tests relevant to breed

Hereditary cataract - *eye disease potentially leading to blindness*

Other common diseases

BOAS - brachycephalic obstructive airway syndrome - *breathing difficulties*

Corneal ulceration - *painful and slow-healing ulcers on surface of eyes*

Cushing's disease (hypoadrenocorticism) - *hormonal problem causing thirst and lethargy*

Dystocia - *problems giving birth*

Luxating patella - *abnormal kneecap causing pain & lameness*

Spinal deformities including *hemivertebrae and screw tail (abnormal tail bones)* – can be associated with pain and loss of function