

French Bulldog

Country of Origin: France

LifeSpan:10-14

Avg. Litter sizes:2-7



Origins: Historical data depicts Frenchies were bred in the 1800s by lace makers first in England then in France when displaced by the Industrial Revolution. becoming a usefull ratter for pest control as well as an easy to keep companion.

The breeds charm, fun loving character and tenacity was prized by many of all classes.

GENERAL APPEARANCE : Typically a small size molossian. Powerful dog for its small size, short, compact in all its proportions, smooth-coated, with a short face, a snub nose, erect ears and a naturally short tail. Must have the appearance of an active animal, intelligent, very muscular, of a compact build with a solid bone structure.

BEHAVIOUR / CHARACTER : Sociable, lively, playful, sporty, keen. Particularly affectionate towards his masters and the children.

HEAD : The head must be very strong, broad and square, the skin of the head forming almost symmetrical folds and wrinkles. The head of the bulldog is characterized by a contraction of the maxillary-nasal part; the skull has taken up in width that which it has lost in length.

Skull : Broad, almost flat, forehead prominent. Superciliary arches prominent, separated by a particularly developed furrow between the eyes. The furrow must not extend onto the forehead. Occipital crest is hardly developed.

Stop : Deeply accentuated.

Nose : Broad, very short, turned up, nostrils well open and symmetrical, slanting towards the rear. The inclination of the nostrils as well as the snub nose (i.e. upturned) must, however, allow a normal nasal breathing.

Muzzle: Very short, broad, with concentric symmetrical folds coming down on the upper lips (length of muzzle about 1/6 of the total length of the head).

Lips : Thick, a little loose and black. The upper lip rejoins the lower lip at its middle, completely covering the teeth which should never be visible. The profile of the upper lip is descending and rounded. Tongue must never show.

Jaws : Broad, square, powerful. Lower jaw shows a broad curve, terminating in front of the upper jaw. The mouth being closed, the prominence of the lower jaw (prognathism-undershot) is moderated by the curve of the lower mandibular branches. This curve is necessary to avoid a too important shifting of the lower jaw.

Teeth : The lower incisors must never be behind the upper incisors in any case. The arch of the lower incisors is rounded. The jaw must not show lateral deviation, nor torsion. The disposition of the incisoral arches should not be strictly delimited, the essential condition being that the upper and the lower lips rejoin to completely cover the teeth.

Cheeks : The muscles of the cheeks are well developed, but not prominent.

Eyes : Lively expression, set low, quite far from the nose and especially from the ears, dark coloured, quite big, well round, slightly protruding, showing no trace of white (sclera) when the dog is looking straight ahead. Rims of eyelids preferred black.

Ears : Medium size, wide at the base and rounded at the top. Set high on the head, but not too close together, carried erect. The orifice is open towards the front. The skin must be fine and soft to the touch.

NECK : Short, slightly arched, without dewlap.

Topline : Rising progressively at loin level to slope rapidly towards the tail. This conformation which must be sought after, is the consequence of the short loin.

Back : Broad and muscular.

Loin : Short and broad.

Rump : Oblique.

Chest : Cylindrical and well let down; ribcage barrel shaped, very rounded.

Forechest : Wide.

Belly and flanks : Drawn up without excessive tuck up.

TAIL : Short, set low on the rump, close to the buttocks, thick at the base, knotted or kinked naturally and tapering at the tip. Even in action, must stay below the horizontal. A relatively long tail (not reaching beyond the point of the hocks), kinked and tapering is admissible, but not desirable.

FOREQUARTERS: Forelegs vertical and parallel seen in profile and from the front, standing well separated.

Shoulder : Short, thick, with a firm and visible musculature.

Upperarm : Short.

Elbows : Close to the body.

Forearm : Short, straight and muscular.

Pastern joint - Pastern : Solid and short.

HINDQUARTERS : Strong and muscular, hindlegs a little longer than the forelegs, thus raising the hindquarters. The legs are vertical and parallel as seen both in profile and from behind.

Thigh : Muscled, firm without being too rounded.

Hock joint : Quite well let down, neither too angulated nor certainly too straight.

Hock : Solid and short. The French Bulldog should be born without dewclaws.

FEET : Forefeet round of small dimension, i.e. « cat feet », well set on the ground, turning slightly outward. The toes are compact, nails short, thick and well separated. The pads are hard, thick and black. Hindfeet well compact.

GAIT / MOVEMENT : Free movement, the legs moving parallel to the median plane of the body.

COAT : smooth, short, close, glossy and soft.

COLOUR : fawn, brindled with or without white, pied of any color. Fawn brindled. All the fawn shades are admitted, from the red to light brown, cream. Black and tan, blue and tan. mouse/fallow.

SIZE AND WEIGHT : males and females avrg:

FAULTS : Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

*Nose tightly closed or pinched nares *Lips not joining in the front.*Depigmentation of the lips.

*Light eyes. *Tail carried high, or too long or abnormally long or too short. *Loose elbows.

*Straight hock or placed forward. *Incorrect movement. *Coat (hair) too long.

SERIOUS FAULTS : *Incisors visible when mouth closed. *Tongue visible when mouth closed.

*Stiff beating movement of the forelegs. *too much pink on the face, insufficient pigment. *Excessive or insufficient weight.

DISQUALIFICATIONS : *Aggressive or overly shy. *Hare lip. *Dog with lower incisors articulating behind upper incisors. *Ears not carried erect. *Mutilation of ears, tail or dewclaws. *Taillessness. *Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotom.