

Buying a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Puppy

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



✓ 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 CM/SM screening scheme (Chiari-like malformation/syringomyelia)
- KC/VCS Heart Scheme for MVD (parents and grandparents)
- BVA/KC screening for eye disease; full ophthalmological testing before breeding (includes checks for multiple inherited diseases)

DNA tests relevant to breed

- CC/DE - Curly Coat/Dry Eye
- EF - Episodic Falling Syndrome

Other tests

- Putnam scoring for patella luxation

Breed Health and Conservation Plan (BHCP)
www.thecavalierclub.co.uk
www.dbrg.uk/guide-to-buying-a-puppy.html



Buying a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Puppy

Brief explanations and other diseases that may be more common in the breed - if in doubt ask your Vet for guidance



Official Health Schemes

CM/SM - Chiari-like malformation/syringomyelia - mismatch in size between brain (too big) and skull (too short) causing pain and neurological signs

MVD - mitral valve disease - early onset leaking heart valve, can cause heart failure

DNA tests relevant to breed

CC/DE - Curly Coat/ Dry Eye - Severe and painful condition affecting skin, nails, eyes

EF - Episodic Falling Syndrome - Exercise-induced neurological disorder

Other diseases - no current health scheme or DNA test available

Brachycephaly (shortened face) - can cause difficulty breathing and cooling

Ear infections - more likely in dogs with long, hairy ears

Epilepsy and other neurological conditions

Luxating patella - abnormal kneecap causing pain & lameness

Pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas) - can become acute and painful

