

Buying a Border Collie Puppy

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

Border Collies are active working dogs. They need a great deal of stimulation and are not a suitable breed for someone who wants an easy pet.



✓ 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 scheme for hip dysplasia (HD)
- BVA/KC scheme for elbow dysplasia (ED)
- BVA/KC screening for eye disease: full ophthalmological testing before breeding, to include gonioscopy (includes checks for multiple inherited eye diseases)

DNA tests relevant to breed

- CEA/CH - Collie eye anomaly/Choroid hypoplasia
- CL - Ceroid lipofuscinosis
- Goniodysgenesis
- IGS - Imerslun-Gräsbeck syndrome
- MDR1 - Multidrug resistance gene 1
- Raine's syndrome
- SN - Sensory neuropathy
- TNS - Trapped neutrophil syndrome

Other tests

- BAER testing for congenital deafness

<https://bcbreedcouncil.wixsite.com/bcbc/health>
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

Hip dysplasia - *abnormal formation of the hip joint - pain and lameness*

Elbow dysplasia - *abnormal formation of the elbow joint - pain and lameness*

The BVA/KC eye testing scheme checks for many inherited abnormalities that can cause progressive blindness or pain. Gonioscopy tests for primary glaucoma/PLA (pectinate ligament abnormality), painful progressive eye disease leading to blindness

DNA tests relevant to breed

CEA/CH - Collie eye anomaly/Choroid hypoplasia – *congenital eye defects, may cause blindness*

CL- Ceroid lipofuscinosis – *progressive fatal brain disease*

Goniodysgenesis – *eye more likely to develop primary glaucoma*

IGS - Imlerslun-Gräsbeck syndrome -*vitamin malabsorption, causes ill health*

MDR1 - Multidrug resistance gene 1 – *toxic response to certain drugs*

Raine's syndrome – *poorly formed, weak, painful teeth*

SN - Sensory neuropathy – *progressive nerve damage, eventual paralysis*

TNS - Trapped neutrophil syndrome – *faulty immune system, sometimes fatal*

Other Diseases

Deafness – **congenital** – **more likely in merle or mostly white dogs.**

<https://www.thekennelclub.org.uk/health-and-dog-care/health/getting-started-with-health-testing-and-screening/baer-testing/> for information on deafness testing.

Epilepsy – **currently being researched.**

