Buying a West Highland White Terrier Puppy

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

☑ **Health Certificates (both parents)**

Official BVA/KC Health Schemes

- **BVA/KC eye scheme - DBRG recommends that all dogs should be visually examined by an ophthalmologist for inherited eye disease before breeding**

☑ **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

DNA tests relevant to breed

- **Craniomandibular osteopathy**
- **Globoid cell leukodystrophy**
- **PKD - Pyruvate kinase deficiency**

Other tests

- **Putnam scoring for patella luxation**

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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

Other Health Schemes
The BVA/KC eye testing scheme is available for all breeds, and checks for many inherited abnormalities that can cause progressive blindness or pain

DNA tests relevant to breed
Craniomandibular osteopathy - abnormal bone growth, usually in lower jaw
Globoid cell leukodystrophy – progressive, fatal disease of nervous system
Pyruvate kinase deficiency – causes anaemia through damage to red blood cells

Other Diseases - no current health scheme or DNA test available
Allergic skin disease (atopic dermatitis)
Hormonal diseases (various, particularly **Addison's disease** and **diabetes mellitus**)
Keratoconjunctivitis sicca – insufficient tear production, can lead to eye infections and ulcers
Legg-Calvé-Perthes disease – painful disease of the hip joint in young dogs
Liver disease (various)
Luxating patella - abnormal kneecap causing pain and lameness
Pulmonary fibrosis – progressive lung disease, often eventually fatal

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