

# Buying a Bichon Frise 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 screening for eye disease; full ophthalmological testing before breeding (includes checks for multiple inherited diseases, particularly hereditary cataract, and other issues such as distichiasis)

#### DNA tests relevant to breed

**None currently recommended**

#### Other tests

- Putnam scoring for patella luxation

<https://www.bichonfrisehealthuk.org/>  
[www.dbrg.uk/guide-to-buying-a-puppy.html](http://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

**Distichiasis** - extra misplaced eyelashes that rub the eyeball

**Hereditary cataract** - opacity of the lens, causing impaired vision or blindness

**Other Diseases** - no current health scheme or DNA test available

**Atopy** (skin allergies)

**Cushing's disease** - progressive hormonal disease, causing increased thirst and lethargy

**Dental problems** - more likely in small dogs with crowded teeth

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

**Luxating patella** - abnormal kneecap causing pain & lameness

**MVD (mitral valve disease)** - leaking heart valve (usually only in old age)

