



Buying a Boxer Puppy

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

Avoid dogs with extreme brachycephalic conformation (very short noses or protruding eyes) or heavily wrinkled skin, as these features are associated with health problems.

✓ 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 (includes checks for multiple inherited diseases)
- Breed club testing scheme for SAS (subaortic stenosis)

DNA tests relevant to breed

- DM - degenerative myelopathy
- Factor VIII deficiency

http://www.boxerbreedcouncil.co.uk/Docs/Health/Boxer_BHCP-2020-PDF.pdf
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.*

Subaortic stenosis – *abnormal structure of heart, can cause heart failure*

DNA tests relevant to breed

DM - degenerative myelopathy – *progressive weakness and paralysis of back legs*

Factor VIII deficiency - *rare blood clotting disorder*

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

Allergies

Cancers (various)

Corneal ulceration - *slow-healing ulcers on surface of eyeball*

CCL - Cranial cruciate ligament disease - *rupture of the knee ligament*

Cardiomyopathy – *progressive heart muscle weakness*

GDV - Gastro dilatation/volvulus ('bloat') - *stomach fills with air and twists, can be fatal*

Gastrointestinal disease

Hormonal problems, particularly underactive thyroid

JKD - Juvenile kidney disease - *abnormal kidney structure, often fatal*

Puppies that are mostly or entirely white are more likely to be deaf

www.dbrg.uk/breed-health-information.html

