



Buying a Great Dane 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 scheme for hip dysplasia (HD)
- BVA/KC scheme for elbow dysplasia (ED)
- BVA/KC screening for eye disease; DBRG recommends that all dogs should be visually examined by an ophthalmologist before breeding

DNA tests relevant to breed

- IMGD - Inherited myopathy of Great Danes

Genetic laboratories offer various tests for rare inherited diseases in Great Danes

<https://danecouncil.org.uk/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

DNA tests relevant to breed

IMGD – Inherited Myopathy of Great Danes - progressive muscle weakness in young dogs, fatal

Other Diseases - no current health scheme or DNA test available

Bone disorders, particularly osteosarcoma (bone tumours)

'**Cherry eye**' - protruding gland of third eyelid in young dogs, may require surgery

Ectropion (drooping eyelids)

Heart disease, particularly DCM - dilated cardiomyopathy - progressive weakness of the heart muscle

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

Wobbler syndrome (CSM - cervical spondylomyelopathy) - malformation of bones in neck, causing wobbling gait, neck pain, possible paralysis

Dogs that are mostly white may be deaf or have problems with their vision

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

