

Buying a Shih Tzu 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)

BVA/KC Health Schemes

- **Eye scheme: Progressive retinal atrophy; Brachycephalic ocular syndrome; Glaucoma; Cataract** - annual testing
- **Patella luxation - Putnam patella test**
- **BOAS test (Brachycephalic obstructive airway syndrome)**

DNA Tests available

- Degenerative myelopathy (DM)
- Prekallikrein deficiency
- Chondrodysplasia (Type 1 IVDD)

Breed Health and Conservation Plan (BHCP)
www.theshihtzuclub.co.uk
www.dbrg.uk/guide-to-buying-a-puppy.html





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Brief Disease Explanation

If in doubt ask your vet for guidance

Health Schemes - testing available

Progressive retinal atrophy (PRA) gradual loss of sight

Brachcephalic ocular syndrome - problems due to forward facing eyes, ulcers

Patella luxation - abnormal joint in hind leg, pain & lameness

BOAS - breathing difficulties due to shortened head

DNA Tests - available

Degenerative myelopathy (DM) - hind leg weakness and paralysis

Prekallikrein deficiency - blood clotting disorder

Chondrodysplasia (type 1 IVDD) - difficulty walking and pain

Other Diseases - no current health scheme or DNA test available

Distichiasis & Entropion - eyelashes brush against the eyeball, pain & irritation

Dental problems due to overcrowded teeth - caused by miniature mouth

Immune mediated thrombocytopaenia - low blood platelets, lethargy and other symptoms

Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (dry eye) - painful eye disease

Allergies & dietary intolerances - unable to digest some foods

Renal dysplasia - kidney disease

Diabetes mellitus - too little insulin produced

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) - painful bowel disease

Autoimmune haemolytic anaemia - lethargy, tiredness