

Buying a St Bernard Puppy



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

Many health and welfare problems
due to extreme size. Average lifespan 8 years

✓ 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

- Hip dysplasia (HD)
- Elbow dysplasia (ED)
- Eye scheme: Entropion/ectropion (annual test),
Cherry eye (annual test)

DNA Tests available

- Polyneuropathy
- Juvenile-onset inherited laryngeal paralysis

Breed Health and Conservation Plan (BHCP)
www.englishstbernards.wixsite.com/club
www.dbrg.uk/guide-to-buying-a-puppy.html





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Brief Explanation and other Diseases

If in doubt ask your vet for guidance

Health Schemes - testing available

Hip dysplasia (HD) - abnormal formation of the hip joint, pain and lameness

Elbow dysplasia (ED) - abnormalities of the elbow joint, pain and lameness

Entropion/ectropion - Inward turning/outward turning eyelashes

Cherry eye - prolapsed gland showing red tissue in corner of eye

DNA Tests - available

Polyneuropathy - weakness, lack of co-ordination and other symptoms

Juvenile-onset inherited laryngeal paralysis - paralysis of throat muscles

Other Diseases - no current health scheme or DNA test available

Gastric dilatation volvulus (GDV) - stomach fills with air and twists, extreme pain and death if not treated immediately

Osteosarcoma, - cancer affects long bones

Cruciate ligament rupture - rupture of the knee ligaments, pain and lameness

Ear infections - due to excessive hair inside the ear

Epilepsy - neurological

Panosteitis - painful inflammation of leg bones

Dilated cardiomyopathy - heart disease

Drooling - due to loose skin and skull shape

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

