

Buying a West Highland White Terrier 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

- **Hip dysplasia (HD)**
- **Eye scheme; Hereditary cataract** (annual testing); **Multiple ocular defects** (litter screening); **Persistent pupillary membranes** (litter screening); **Primary lens luxation**
- **Patella - Putnam patella luxation scheme**

DNA Tests available

- Craniomandibular osteopathy
- Pyruvate kinase deficiency (PKD)
- Globoid cell leukodystrophy

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



Buying a West Highland White Terrier Puppy

Brief Disease Explanation

If in doubt ask your vet for guidance



Health Schemes - testing available

Hip dysplasia - abnormal formation of the hip, pain and lameness

Eye diseases - leading to blindness and other serious defects

Luxating patella - abnormal joint in hind leg, pain and lameness

DNA Tests - available

Cranio-mandibular osteopathy - abnormal growth of lower jaw

Globoid cell leukodystrophy - nerve and spinal cord dysfunction

Pyruvate kinase deficiency - anaemia, lack of red blood cells

Other Diseases - no current health scheme or DNA test available

Atopy - skin allergy (very common)

Cranial cruciate ligament disease - rupture of knee ligament

Keratoconjunctivitis sicca ('dry eye') painful, can lead to ulcers

Pulmonary fibrosis (Westie lung disease) - progressive, coughing and tiredness

Portosystemic shunt - abnormal blood vessel leading to serious liver damage

Exocrine pancreatic insufficiency - pancreatic failure, appetite but loss of weight

Legg-calve-perthes disease - failure of blood supply to thigh bone, painful arthritis

Hepatitis - liver disease

Diabetes - not enough insulin produced

Demodicosis - skin disease caused by demodex mites

