

ABBA French Bulldog Breed Standard

General Appearance

The French Bulldog is to have the appearance of an active, intelligent, muscular dog of heavy bone, smooth coat, compact build, and of medium or small structure. The French Bulldog should have distinctive “bat” ears. When comparing different sexes, allowance is to be given to females. As females do not bear the same characteristics of the breed to the same degrees as do the males. The French Bulldog is an affectionate & sociable companion. It is to be playful & lively, but not boisterous.

Disqualifications

Any alternation other than removal of dew claws is considered mutilation.

Symmetry

All points bear good relation one to the others and all points are evenly distributed. No feature should be in such excess of another or lack of quality that the animal appears poorly proportioned.

Proportion

Distance from withers to ground should closely match distance from withers to base of tail. Animal should appear well balanced.

Head

The head is broad & square, and strong with skin that forms nearly symmetrical folds and wrinkles.

Skull - The top of the skull is flat between the ears & the forehead is slightly rounded not flat. The skull has well defined stop and there is a furrow between the eyes that does not extend onto the forehead. The stop should be well defined, causing a hollow groove between the eyes with heavy wrinkles forming a soft roll over the extremely short nose.

Muzzle - The muzzle is very short, deep and well laid back, & broad, with symmetrical folds of skin meeting the lips. Cheek muscles are well defined & developed. The broad thick flews hang over the lower jaw at the sides and meet up the underlip in front, covering the teeth. The flews should be black. The broad, deep, square underjaw is undershot & well turned up.

Serious Faults

Any bite other than undershot. Teeth and/or tongue showing when the mouth is closed.

Eyes - The eyes were quite large, dark, round, & slightly protruding. They are set wide apart & low set in the skull, as far from the ears as possible. Neither the white of the eyes nor the haw shows when the dog is looking forward. The eye rims are black. The expression is lively.

Serious Faults

Eyes are two different colors.

Nose - The extremely short nose is turned up, and has broad, well-opened nostrils, with a well defined line between them.

Serious Faults

Nose color other than black except in lighter colored dogs, where a lighter nose is acceptable but not desirable.

Ears - The breed typical “bat ears” are broad at the base, with a round top. The elongated ears are set high on the head, but not too close together, and are carried erect with the orifice to the front. The ear leather is fine and soft.

Serious Fault

Ears that don't stand erect naturally.

Disqualifications

Cropped ears or “hound dog” floppy or drooping ears.

Neck

The neck is to be short, slightly arched neck is free of dewlap. The neck should have loose skin at the throat.

Faults

Neck too long or thin, dewlaps

Forequarters

The shoulder blades and upper arms are short and thick, and set wide apart with muscular definition. Dewclaws may be removed. Feet are moderate in size, compact, and firmly set. Toes compact with a well split up with high knuckles & short stubby nails.

Front legs should be straight and stout in appearance.

Faults

“Loaded” or upright shoulders, splayed feet, “soft” pasterns, turned out feet

Hindquarters

The strong muscular hind legs are to be longer than the forelegs. The longer hind legs cause the loins to be elevated above the shoulders. The hocks are well let down and there’s moderate angulation at the hock joint. Feet moderate in size, compact & firmly set. Toes compact with a well split up with high knuckles & short stubby nails.

Serious Faults

Straight stifles lacking proper angulations, splayed feet

Coat

The coat is to be moderately fine with brilliant smooth and short hair. The skin is to be soft & loose, especially at the head & shoulders forming wrinkles.

Color - Acceptable colors: All brindle, fawn, white, brindle & white, blue, are highly preferred. Other colors or combination of colors are accepted.

Gait

The gait should be free & vigorous, with the legs moving parallel to median plane of the body.(Double tracking) The action should be unrestrained and natural.

Faults

Side paddling, double tracking, stiff, stilted or uneven gait.

Feet

The compact feet are round & moderate in size. The toes are to have hard thick pads, and have split up & high knuckles. The nails are stubby.

Faults

Long toe nails

Serious fault

Splayed feet, long toes, flat knuckles

Tail

The short tail is thick at the root & has a fine tip. It is hung low and carried low in repose. It may either be straight or screwed but not curly.

Fault

Tail too long, high tail set

Serious fault

Gay tail

Disqualifications*

Docked Tail

General Disqualifications

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid. Viciousness or extreme shyness. Eyes that are two different colors. Any mutilation such as cropped ears or docked tails. Ears that not carried erect.

