**SMOKY MOUNTAIN FRENCHIES PUPPY INFO**

A group of dogs in front of mountains

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Thank you for choosing one of our puppies to add to your home, and Congratulations on your newest family member! The following information will help you and your puppy settle into their new homes, and answer some of our most common questions.

NEW FRENCH BULLDOG PUPPY INSTRUCTIONS

At Smoky Mountain Frenchies we raise healthy, family-friendly, pre-loved and spoiled French Bulldogs puppies for companion homes.

**Diet:**  Our French Bulldog Puppies are fed Purina Pro Plan Salmon and Rice Puppy food. As our dogs transition to adult food we feed Dr. Harveys which is human grade and offers the vitamins and minerals they need. You just add an oil of your choice along with a protein. I do occasionally feed my adults kibble but by choice Dr. Harveys is what I prefer.

www.drharveys.com is where you can go to order, some specialty pet stores carry his product as well. If you want to change your puppies food please note that the first ingredient should be meat and contain no byproducts. Puppies grow 20 times faster than adult dogs, so nutrition and quality puppy food (no table scraps!) are very important for their growth. For the first two to three days, mix 75 percent of the old food with 25 percent of the new food. For the next two or three days include equal portions of both foods, then you can drop down the amount of old food to 25% for a couple days then all new food. You shouldn’t have any digestive issues transitioning this way unless your puppy is having an allergic reaction or sensitivity to the new food. Many French Bulldogs are known to have chicken allergies. I personally have never had this issue with any of mine. I do give my puppies Plain Greek Yogurt and 100% pumpkin puree on their breakfast. I only add a small amount and as they become adults it ends up being a tablespoon of each. These two foods offer great natural probiotics and helps with their digestive system, plus it’s a good treat for them.

**Over stimulation danger:** It is recommended to keep new stimulations to a minimum for the first 2 weeks after your new puppy goes home with you. Your new puppy is a baby and will need lots of sleep (enjoy this while it lasts, they are adorable little sleepers!), and eat, drink and potty frequently. Dehydration and overstimulation can cause your puppy to become sick and stressed. French Bulldogs are extremely sensitive to heat and cold, any temperature above 75 should be avoided of only in it for very short periods of time. They can’t breathe through their mouths like other dogs do to cool down and this will cause your puppy to have a heat stroke. Also, likewise in the cold weather you want to be sure to provide protection to their little feet and keep their bodies warm as they can get hypothermia easily.

Always be cautious of hot pavement and your babies feet. They can blister and burn easily if the ground is too hot for them to walk on.

**Vaccinations:** Until 1 week after your puppy has his/her final vaccines, please confine your puppy to your home and secure back yard. Most common dog parks, playgrounds, even open fields can contain disease and viruses, it is simply not worth the chance you would be taking. Please do not space the puppy’s vaccinations closer than 3 weeks apart. Arrange for vaccinations to be given in the morning, on a day when your schedule will allow for low to no environmental stimulation, and you can observe your puppy. If there is a negative reaction to the vaccinations this will give you enough time to get your puppy into the vet during normal business hours. We have our puppies on a schedule 3 weeks apart starting at 6/7 weeks of age, a total of 4 vaccinations by the time the puppy reaches 16 weeks old. \*RABIES VACCINATIONS ARE A REQUIRED vaccination your puppy will need around 16 weeks of age and is required to obtain your county dog license. A veterinarian ONLY can give this vaccine for it to be recognized. Your vet will issue you a certificate and may be able to complete your dog license on behalf of the county.

Until 1 week after your puppy has his/her final puppy vaccinations, please confine your puppy to your home or back yard. You are it’s environmental protection against disease.

NO dog parks

NO rest areas on highways

NO play dates or puppy classes with other puppies or dogs that are not up to date on ALL vaccinations.

NO Petsmart, Petco, or similar businesses

**At the Vet Office:**

Always take your puppy in a carrier into the vet office

Do Not set the carrier on the floor

Do Not allow other animals in the office to have contact with your puppy

Do Not allow other clients to touch your puppy, THEY ARE THERE BECAUSE THEY HAVE MORE THAN LIKELY BROUGHT IN A SICK ANIMAL.

Be Aware – If their weigh scale is a rubber matted one and does not get sanitized after each animal is weighed, please ask your technician to place a sanitized towel on the scale and re-zero it before you place your puppy on it. They are providing a service to you and should cater to your wishes.

Parvo Virus is a highly contagious virus which causes vomiting and diarrhea, and often leads to death in susceptible dogs. Parvovirus is a very durable virus and can remain in the environment for many months or possibly years. Parvovirus is primarily spread to other dogs by the fecal-oral route.

Vaccination will greatly reduce the risk of dogs becoming ill with parvovirus, however no vaccine will protect 100% of animals.

You can help eliminate the chances by removing your shoes before entering your home or areas the puppy would be walking. The best and most effective disinfectant against viruses (including parvovirus) is BLEACH. (1/2 c to 1 gallon of water)

**Physical activities and socialization:** Once it’s safe to do so, it is very important to socialize your puppy. There are plenty of socialization programs and puppy classes for you and your pup to attend.

We recommend baby gates at the bottom of all stairs as Frenchie’s have delicate skeletal structures and going downstairs can be fatal to your baby or cause permanent spine damage. Also using stairs or ramps for getting on and off furniture will help prevent any spinal injuries.

PLEASE DO NOT give your puppy adult food or raw hide bones unattended. (Raw hide bones are not recommend as they don’t digest anyways) They have been a cause for death dues to choking. Always monitor your puppy with any bones or toys, some are super chewers and can destroy them in a blink.

Please understand we are providing this information with love, not to try and be overbearing. We raised our dogs and their babies as part of our family and we truly love them like our kids, their health and safety are of upmost importance to us. We give our pups to their new families knowing they will be loved and cared for, but it’s still hard to say goodbye, so please keep in touch! Don’t hesitate to contact us no matter how long you’ve had your baby, we are here to help answer any questions. Also, we love pupdates and photos at all ages.