

Questions and Answers:

How much grooming does a Pug need?

- The Pug's smooth coat requires only a light brushing. However, Pugs shed constantly and their fur will find its way all over clothing, furniture and floors. The adorable wrinkle over their nose needs cleaning, sometimes daily. Ears tend to get dirty quickly and need cleaning weekly. Pugs nails need to be clipped often, and most Pugs hate this! Often times their anal glands need to be expressed as well.

How long does a Pug live?

- Pugs tend to have a long life span, often 14 years or so. They also tend to remain bouncy and lively when many other dogs are slowing down. By the same token, Pugs may retain "puppy traits" much longer than other breeds.

How are they with children?

- While Pugs are not generally aggressive dogs, young children tend to be fascinated with their curly tails and bulging eyes. Pugs eye's are very sensitive and easily injured, and having their tails pulled can make even the most easy-going Pug snap at the person who is doing the pulling. A better question may be "How are your children with dogs?"

Are Pugs easy to train?

- Pugs are very smart. However they can be very stubborn too, so consistency, patience, and a sense of humor are very important. Pugs do need to have a bit of firmness, in that they really should have some basic training in manners, or they will try to run the house. But, you have to show them what to do; they are not mind readers!

Can I take my pug running or hiking with me? Or even swimming?

- A Pug cannot tolerate hard exercise and have little or no stamina. You can usually take your Pug on shorter walks when it is not too hot or too humid outside. Pugs typically cannot swim either, tending to sink instead of float.

After all this, why would I want a Pug?

- Pugs are wonderful dogs with personality plus! They are typically not yappy, but can be hard-headed at times. They will amuse you with their antics and love you with all their heart. All they want from you in return is constant love and attention. If you're a family who is home a lot and wants a constant companion, one that will have to be on the furniture with you, a Pug may be for you. But, Pugs are not for everyone.



WHAT IS PUG RESCUE ?

Due to the overbreeding of this wonderful breed, mostly by puppy mills and backyard breeders, many Pugs have been abandoned or surrendered to shelters and rescue groups. Owners often don't want to bother with their puppy once it has grown up, or can't handle the Pug puppies' antics.

Across the U.S., and in many other parts of the world, the problem of unwanted Pugs has grown, and unfortunately will continue to grow as the Pug's popularity soars.

Rescue organizations rehabilitate and rehome abandoned Pugs of all ages. Most often these Pugs are owner surrenders. All Pugs are spayed/neutered and all vet work is done before adoption.

For more information about the breed, or to ask how you can adopt a homeless Pug, please contact your local animal shelter, rescue, or visit:

www.frankthepug.com

for a list of National Pug Rescues.

So . . .

**you think
you want
a Pug?**



What are Pugs REALLY like?

Do I REALLY want one?

**Or am I buying one because
they're so cute and cuddly
and funny in the movies?**





Don't Make A Snap Decision Before Buying A Pug Puppy

Did You Know . . .

. . . that veterinarians consider Pugs to be "deformed" because they have been bred to be extremely different from a natural dog. Short faces and upturned noses compromise their breathing and make heat stroke a definite worry.

. . . that Pugs can have a slew of health problems, just like any dog, pure bred or otherwise. Because of their bulging eyes and lack of protection by a nose, Pugs can develop numerous eye problems. Fifty percent or more of all Pugs will need eye medicine at some point in their life, especially older ones, who often need daily eye drops. Eyes on pugs are easily scratched and sometimes, in extreme injuries or if left unattended, need to be removed.

. . . Pugs have an increased incidence of luxating patellas (slipping knee caps) which are very painful and often requires surgery to repair. On x-rays for hip dysplasia, no Pug has ever been graded as "excellent."

. . . the Pug breed has a list of health issues that responsible breeders are knowledgeable about and will talk about before you buy a puppy, including elongated soft palates, pinched or undersized nostrils, narrow tracheas, spinal problems, liver shunts, and a special disease seen only in Pugs, called Pug Dog Encephalitis (PDE) which has no cure.



Educate Yourself Before Making Your Purchase

Go to the library, contact a local kennel club, talk with Pug owners or rescuers, check with responsible breeders and browse the Internet. If, after doing your homework, you have any doubts, then a Pug is probably not for you. Real life Pugs are very different from those in movies and advertisements: they are high energy, smart, but not pre-trained! Please be VERY sure, before you take one into your family, that you really want the responsibility for a mischievous but loving living creature, and aren't just falling for a Hollywood fantasy.

Consider these facts:

- Due to their adorable smooshed in faces, Pugs cannot be kept outside; they can overheat in as little as 20 minutes. Also, their short, smooth coat sheds constantly and owners must learn to live with clothing and furniture covered with those short fawn or black hairs everywhere.

- If you are looking for a quiet, always obedient canine, don't choose a Pug. Pugs are 'people dogs' and need a lot of attention and companionship. Time, commitment and especially patience are requirements for owners. If Pugs are left alone frequently and for long periods of time, your Pug can acquire behavioral problems and become depressed. Pugs are not couch-potatoes. They are quite the contrary and require a lot of activity and play time.

PLEASE - Do NOT buy your puppy from a Pet Store

Most stores know nothing about the background, health, temperament or parents of the pups they sell. Pet store puppies are often taken from their moms too soon and traumatized getting to the store. Pet stores buy puppies in bulk and expect to lose 25% before they are sold. Responsible breeders will be able to tell you exactly what your pup needs and how he should be treated. They will guarantee the health and temperament and you'll probably end up paying less for a quality, well-adjusted puppy. Choose carefully, because your pup will be a family member for 12 or 14, maybe even 16 years!

What About A Puggle?

A puggle is a crossbreed between two breeds of dogs, a pug and a beagle. Because puggles are a crossbreed, the appearance and traits of each puppy is less predictable than that of a purebred, as you cannot accurately predict which attributes will be inherited from which parent. There is concern that crossing the two breeds could result in a puppy with an internal drive to run and hunt like its beagle parent, but is not physically equipped to pant and cool itself well like its pug parent, thus creating a puppy more likely to suffer from heat-related illness. Many puggles end up in rescue because of their drive to hunt and high energy levels.

The Pug is a small, square, cobby dog, generally weighing between 14-18 pounds. The Pug is referred to as "Multum in Parvo" meaning "a lot of dog in a small space." They are either fawn with a black mask, or solid black in color.

Originally bred for companionship, the Pug has a wonderful temperament and only wants to please his humans. A Pug's character is unique in that he is a clown at heart with a terrific sense of humor but at the same time he carries himself with great dignity. The Pug originated in China and was then brought to Holland and England by Dutch traders. Everywhere, Pugs were owned by royalty.

Pugs used to be almost a rare breed, but with numerous movies and advertisements showing their adorable faces, the Pug breed popularity is growing by leaps and bounds as pet shops and puppy mills cash in on this breed.

Owners must be prepared for the uniqueness of being owned by a Pug. A Pug is anxious to please, anxious to learn and anxious to love. His biggest requirement is that you love him back.

About The Pug

