



Official Standard of the French Bulldog

General Appearance: The French Bulldog has the appearance of an active, intelligent, muscular dog of heavy bone, smooth coat, compactly built, and of medium or small structure. Expression alert, curious, and interested. Any alteration other than removal of dewclaws is considered mutilation and is a disqualification.

Proportion and Symmetry - All points are well distributed and bear good relation one to the other; no feature being in such prominence from either excess or lack of quality that the animal appears poorly proportioned.

Influence of Sex - In comparing specimens of different sex, due allowance is to be made in favor of bitches, which do not bear the characteristics of the breed to the same marked degree as do the dogs.

Size, Proportion, Substance: Weight not to exceed 28 pounds; over 28 pounds is a disqualification. Proportion - Distance from withers to ground in good relation to distance from withers to onset of tail, so that animal appears compact, well balanced and in good proportion.

Substance - Muscular, heavy bone.

Head: Head large and square. Eyes dark in color, wide apart, set low down in the skull, as far from the ears as possible, round in form, of moderate size, neither sunken nor bulging. In lighter colored dogs, lighter colored eyes are acceptable. No haw and no white of the eye showing when looking forward. Ears Known as the bat ear, broad at the base, elongated, with round top, set high on the head but not too close together, and carried erect with the orifice to the front. The leather of the ear fine and soft. Other than bat ears is a disqualification. The top of the skull flat between the ears; the forehead is not flat but slightly rounded. The muzzle broad, deep and well laid back; the muscles of the cheeks well developed. The stop well defined, causing a hollow groove between the eyes with heavy wrinkles forming a soft roll over the extremely short nose; nostrils broad with a well defined line between them. Nose black. Nose other than black is a disqualification, except in the case of the lighter colored dogs, where a lighter colored nose is acceptable but not desirable. Flews black, thick and broad, hanging over the lower jaw at the sides, meeting the underlip in front and covering the teeth, which are not seen when the mouth is closed. The underjaw is deep, square, broad, undershot and well turned up.

Neck, Topline, Body: The neck is thick and well arched with loose skin at the throat. The back is a roach back with a slight fall close behind the shoulders; strong and short, broad at the shoulders and narrowing at the loins. The body is short and well rounded. The chest is broad, deep, and full; well ribbed with the belly tucked up. The tail is either straight or screwed (but not curly), short, hung low, thick root and fine tip; carried low in repose.

Forequarters: Forelegs are short, stout, straight, muscular and set wide apart. Dewclaws may be removed. Feet are moderate in size, compact and firmly set. Toes compact, well split up, with high knuckles and short stubby nails.

Hindquarters: Hind legs are strong and muscular, longer than the forelegs, so as to elevate the loins above the shoulders. Hocks well let down. Feet are moderate in size, compact and firmly set. Toes compact, well split up, with high knuckles and short stubby nails; hind feet slightly longer than forefeet.

Coat: Coat is moderately fine, brilliant, short and smooth. Skin is soft and loose, especially at the head and shoulders, forming wrinkles.

Color: Acceptable colors - All brindle, fawn, white, brindle and white, and any color except those which constitute disqualification. All colors are acceptable with the exception of solid black, mouse, liver, black and tan, black and white, and white with black, which are disqualifications. Black means black without a trace of brindle.

Gait: Correct gait is double tracking with reach and drive; the action is unrestrained, free and vigorous.

Temperament: Well behaved, adaptable, and comfortable companions with an affectionate nature and even disposition; generally active, alert, and playful, but not unduly boisterous.

Disqualifications: Any alteration other than removal of dewclaws. Over 28 pounds in weight. Other than bat ears. Nose other than black, except in the case of lighter colored dogs, where a lighter colored nose is acceptable. Solid black, mouse, liver, black and tan, black and white, and white with black. Black means black without a trace of brindle.

French Bulldog Colors. The Standard and The Rare.

Basic questions regarding pricing explained etc. Keep in mind that the prices vary based on color, bloodlines and breeding rights. It will cost you more to get a specific dog with a full AKC registration, than getting it just as a family pet.

Standard French Bulldog Colors and Patterns

Which are standard French Bulldog colors and patterns? Let's start at the beginning. In 1897, the only original breed standard was considered brindle. After the 1911 standard revision they approved additional standard colors and patterns like fawn, cream, piebald, To this day any deviation from the standard equals disqualification. The standard **French Bulldog colors** are the only ones allowed to compete in the ring.

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AKC, American Kennel club

If you are trying to invest into a standard colored French Bulldog, from a responsible breeder – as a pet only, you will usually be looking at prices between 2,500-3,000\$.

However a standard color price can still go up to 5,000 – 6,000 if bought from a breeder with champion bloodlines and amazing quality French Bulldogs.

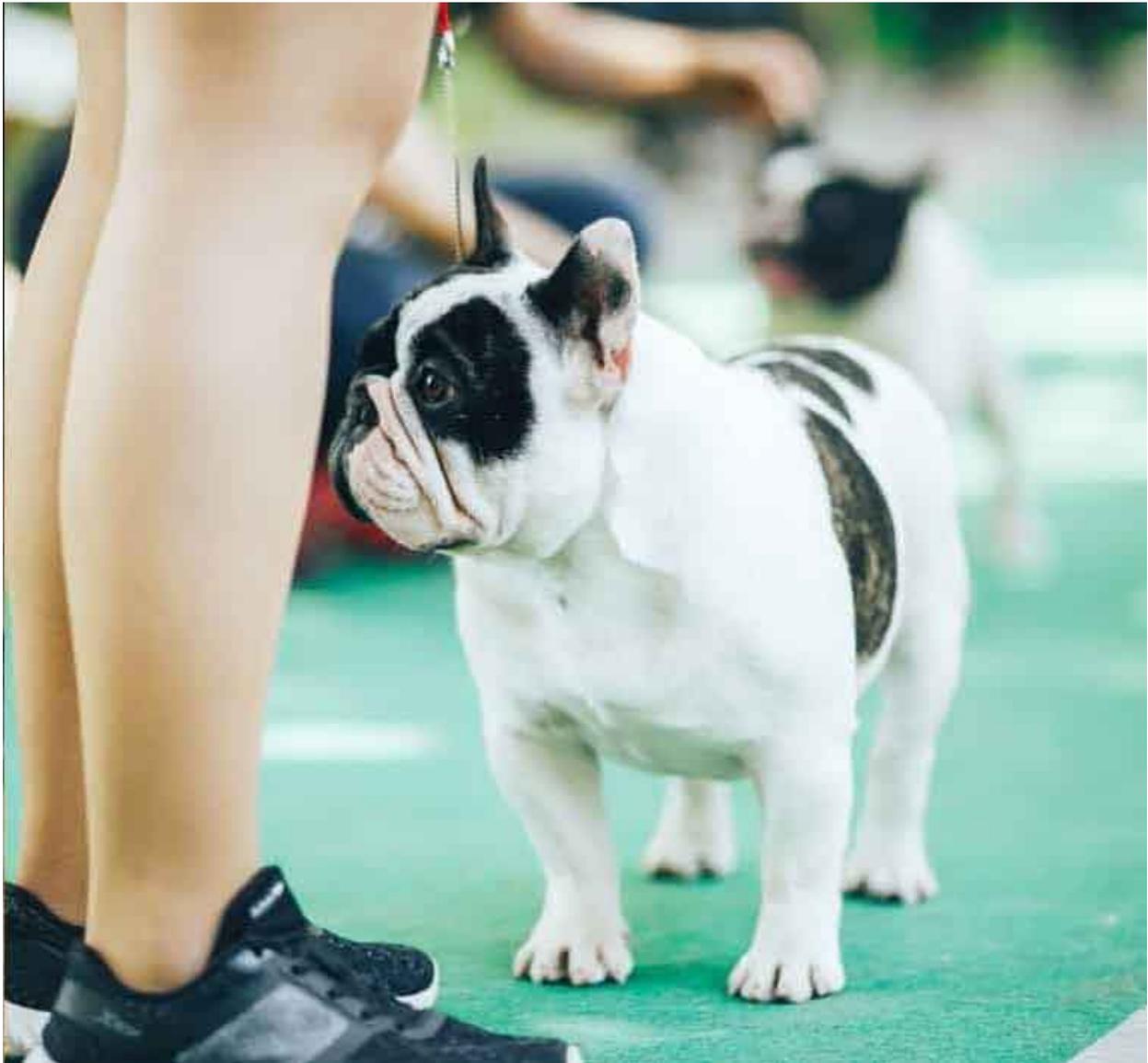
Brindle French Bulldog Pattern



Brindle is one of the most common French Bulldog patterns.

Brindle French Bulldog has a base coat of fawn hairs through which black hairs extend in bands to produce a coat that can range from a tiger brindle in which fawn hairs predominate to the more common dark brindles in which the black hairs predominate. The light version with fawn hairs that predominate is also known as a “reverse brindle”, and it’s generally more rare.

Piebald Pattern



The **piebald** is not a French Bulldog color, it's a pattern. **Pied** animal is one that has a **pattern** of pigmented spots on an unpigmented (white) background of hair.

The **pied French Bulldog** comes in multiple standard color variations. Brindle pied, fawn pied, red fawn pied, etc.. Of course pied can also come in an exotic color variation, but we will discuss that more in depth further down the line.

Cream French Bulldog



What is a **cream French Bulldog**? Many light **fawn French Bulldogs** are mistaken for a cream.

A true cream Frenchie will look slightly off white throughout – solid color. Its a recessive dilute from the fawn coat. They have no markings on them, they have black pigment, black noses, black eye rims, black paw pads, and black lips. The DNA of a true cream French Bulldog is different than the one of the light fawn.

Fawn French Bulldog Colors



The **fawn French Bulldog** colors come in different shades, from very light, almost cream looking ones, to a deep red fawn. They can have a mask, like the one pictured above, or be maskless.

Fawn can also be combined with an exotic color in which the dilution affects the “black mask”, eyes, nose and paw pads (Blue fawn, lilac fawn, chocolate fawn,..)

Exotic French Bulldog Colors and Patterns

Exotic Colors and Patterns in the French Bulldog breed are the one that aren't approved by the AKC and can't participate in the ring.

They can still be AKC registered and are 100% French Bulldogs, but unfortunately can't compete due to their coat color being an instant disqualification.

Blue French Bulldog



The beautiful **blue (gray) French Bulldog color** is a result of a dilution gene. The dilution gene affects **eumelanin** (liver and black coats), in some instances, the red coat as well.

When a dog has two copies of the d allele (dd), a black dog will become blue. The coat range is wide – from very light gray to almost black, but even in that case it can be visible that the dog is dd, by looking at the color shade of his nose.

The **blue French Bulldog** color is in the rare or exotic color price range. It will cost you between 4000-6000 \$ to get a blue canine companion.



All of the coat colors can come in a variation with a pattern (piebald, brindle, merle) + a different color. The puppy picture above is a Blue Pied.

Lilac French Bulldog Colors



These rare lilacs are a result of their parents blue and chocolate DNA. The same dilution gene that causes a black dog to become blue (like mentioned above), causes a chocolate/liver dog to become a lilac.

A lilac French Bulldog dog will have the genotype **bbdd** (homozygous for liver, homozygous for dilution). Lilac dogs are usually very light blue, almost silver looking, with light eyes and pinkish tint on their muzzle.

Due to their unique appearance they run in the higher price range of 5000-7000

Chocolate/ Liver



In the chocolate color case, the dilution of the black color happen on the B locus. It is recessive, so **b** is liver and **B** is non-liver, and in order for a dog to be liver it must have the genotype **bb**.

Merle Pattern



The merle gene creates mottled patches of color in a solid or **piebald** coat, and it can affect skin **pigment** as well. This pattern is very controversial in the French Bulldog community since it can cause severe health issues, if two merles are bred together.

A merle should only be bred to a dog with a solid coat color. The merle gene itself, does not cause any health issues.

Merle dogs will usually have bright blue eyes, or odd looking eyes (heterochromia iridum). **Heterochromia Iridum** is a difference in coloration of the iris. Merle French Bulldog colors are rare and of course in the higher price range.

Platinum French Bulldog

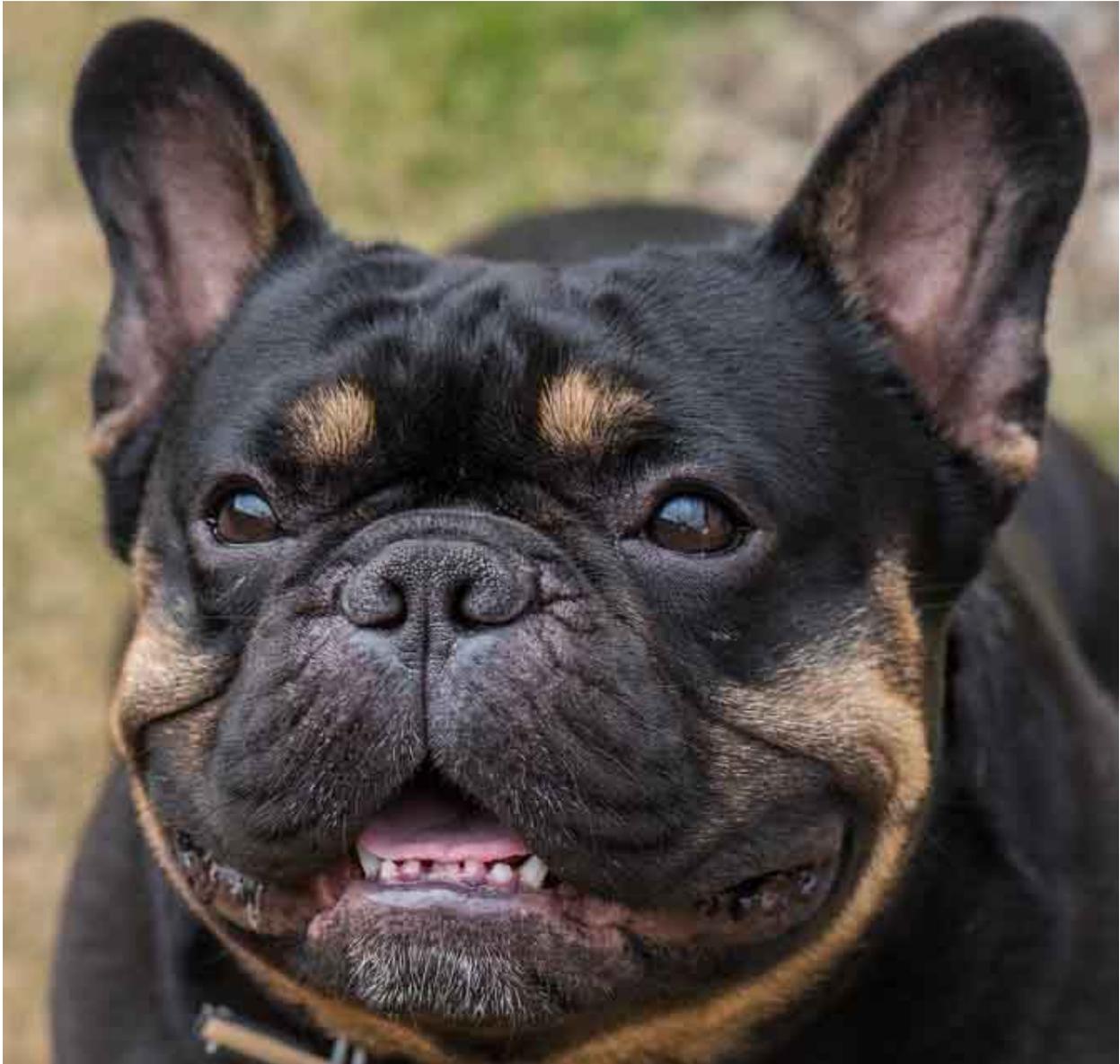


An exotic color covered in cream, is what it's called a **Platinum**. Their coat color is cream, but you can see signs of dilution by looking at their nose, eyes, lips and paw pads.

While a regular cream French Bulldog would have a black nose, dark eyes and black paw pads, the Platinum French Bulldog will have a diluted version of that.

Another very beautiful and unique coloration. The price range is wide. You can expect to pay 3000\$ for a Black and Tan French Bulldog, to up to 6000-7000 for a Lilac and Tan or Merle and Tan one.

Black and Tan French Bulldog



Blue and Tan French Bulldog



Lilac and Tan French Bulldog



Merle and Tan French Bulldog



Black and Black Pied French Bulldog Colors



A non-standard color in the standard color price range. These beauties deviate from the acceptable coat colors, but are definitely still in the lower price range.

A French Bulldog is considered black if the coat color is solid without any signs of brindle, which is rare. Even if a puppy appears black, that might not be the case. A truly **black French Bulldog** has a unique DNA of a/a.

It will cost you around 2500 to bring a black or a black pied French Bulldog home.



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