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French Bulldog: Little Guy, Big Personality!

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The French Bulldog is a small but robust canine with lots to offer, which is probably why you're reading this! This relatively new breed started its story a few hundred years ago and since then it's gone from being a

ratter to a much-loved lap dog. Now that's moving up the ladder for you.

We love the Frenchie, and for all of you customers and readers who love them too (or are keen to find out more) now's your chance to do a breed fact check.

We've done it for you, by collating all the juiciest French Bulldog breed information right here. Just for you.

What breeds make a French Bulldog?

You might have guessed it; the first French Bulldog was bred in France. Hence the name... and nickname Frenchie. As the story goes, the French Bulldog is the progeny of a Parisian ratter and a Toy Bulldog. Breeders' intentions were to make a mini version of the Bulldog. Cyoot!

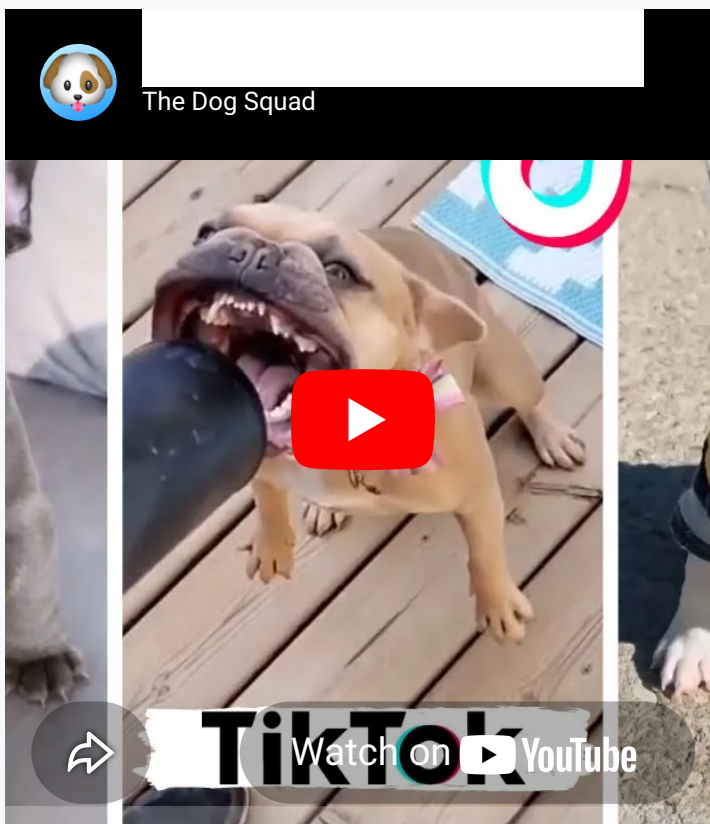
If you're wondering why you don't hear much about Toy Bulldogs these days it's because the breed went extinct. Thankfully its memory lives on in the French Bulldog...

Since then the breed has gone from strength to strength. In recent times it's hit the top five [dog breeds](#) for our Aussie brothers and sisters, and we're seeing the increase in popularity happening here in NZ too.

Below are some more fast Frenchie facts:

Life span	11-12 years
Height	Lads, 27-35 cm Ladies, 24-32 cm
Weight	Lads, 9-14 kg Ladies, 8-13 kg
Grooming needs	Minimal
Exercise needs	Minimal
Dog group	Non sporting (AKA lapdog)

Check out this cute TikTok video compilation of French Bulldogs in action:



Do French Bulldogs have breathing problems?

Yes, Frenchies can have trouble breathing. They're a brachycephalic dog breed, meaning they have flatter faces with shorter snouts that often leads to Brachycephalic Syndrome (more on that below).

Brachycephalic breeds don't always suffer with breathing, but it does make it more likely. Read the above again – minimal exercise, please.

Also, if you're planning on parenting a Frenchie it's important to note that due to their short snouts they can easily overheat. What does this mean for you? Make sure your home is well-ventilated and your pooch has a good supply of fresh water. Consider a doggo **water fountain** to keep your Frenchie well hydrated.

Also never leave your Frenchie in a car. Read about **heatstroke in pets** and the dangers of **dogs in hot cars**.

Here are some health issues French Bulldogs are prone to:

- **Brachycephalic Syndrome.** As we mentioned this is typical in flat-faced breeds like the Frenchie. It can cause an obstruction of the upper airway and other abnormalities such as

enlarged tonsils.

- **Skin issues and allergies.** Frenchies are prone to dermatitis, allergies and infections. Find out everything you need to know about [dog skin conditions here](#).
- **Hip dysplasia.** [Hip dysplasia in dogs](#) is generally most common in bigger breeds but can also affect Frenchies.

Frenchies may not shed very much and don't need much brushing. However, make sure your doggie baths include cleaning between folds in the skin to avoid dermatological issues getting a foot in the door.

Frenchie: Your BFF for life

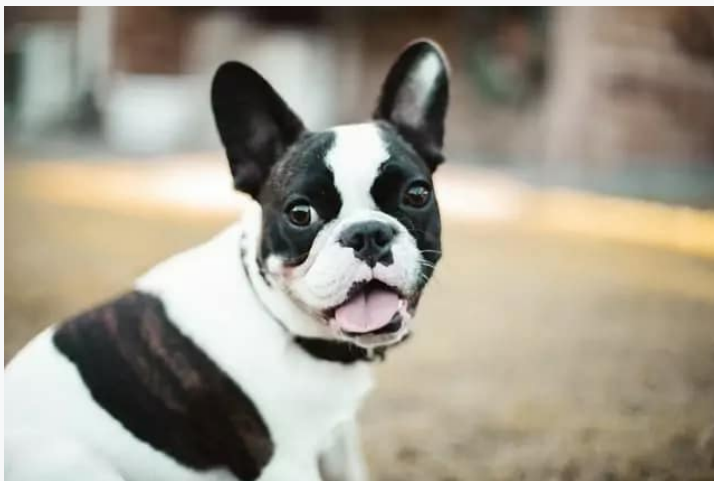
If you're that guy or girl that wants your bestie all to yourself then a French Bulldog could be your ultimate BFF. Frenchies adore one-on-one attention. In fact they can get a bit put out if you turn your attention elsewhere. That said, these adorable pups love kids.

If you're the work-from-home type who's always at your computer (except when you're making tea and coffee) Frenchie will love sitting in your lap. That's because they love lounging and seriously only need a short trot to cover their fitness needs.

Seriously. If you're a couch potato – consider your French Bulldog to be your partner in crime.

These little guys are designed to be indoor dogs. And being a brachycephalic breed means not only do they dislike intense exercise, it's actually bad for them. That means no jogging or running!

And if you're not so into dog walks either then read about [exercising dogs without walking](#).



Are French Bulldogs good guard dogs?

While this little lapdog can't fend off an intruder, they can alert you when something is wrong. Frenchies are known for being even-tempered and for not barking a lot. In short they save their barks for when they're needed most.

If your French Bulldog suddenly gets a barking bee in its bonnet, find out why. They could be trying to tell you something.

Besides having a bark that's bigger than their bite, Frenchies are famed for making other

sounds too: snoring and snorting! While your French Bulldog's snorts and snores will likely be more endearing than annoying it's important to let your vet know if any changes happen to their breathing.

Becoming a pet parent – the right way

If you're a Frenchie fan and ready to become a [first time pet owner](#), consider your options carefully.

Firstly, it's important to avoid puppy scams and [puppy mills in New Zealand](#) to help keep yourself protected from losing money or adopting a pet with serious issues. We suggest purchasing only from [ethical dog breeders](#).

Secondly, even though you're looking into buying a [purebred dog](#), know there may be a French Bulldog waiting to be rescued from an animal shelter near you. Read our [dog adoption](#) checklist and the pros and cons of [older dogs for adoption](#).

Thirdly, be sure to protect your future pooch with affordable and reliable [dog insurance](#). That way you can worry about your pup and not your pocket in times of illness, injury and other health situations. Click below to find out about free onboarding [pet insurance](#) to get you started.

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