1.  Important Information on English Bulldog

A Comical & Easygoing Companion
Amiable, mellow, outgoing
English Bulldogs are affectionate, lovable, and courageous, medium-sized dogs. This gentle breed does great with children and generally gets along with other pets. Early socialization and constant leadership are recommended. Bulldogs often wheeze, snore, and drool and most cannot swim. They overheat easily and do best in moderate temperatures. Just a short walk every day (in cool weather) is great for Bulldogs, so they do well living in an apartment or small home.
Understanding their unique needs will help keep them healthy and create a strong bond between the two of you. Explore this page to learn more about the breed’s history, health concerns, characteristics, and care needs.

HISTORY
The modern Bulldog, with a heavy, thickset, low body and massive head, originated in England after the elimination of bull baiting in 1835. The Old English Bulldog was crossed with the Pug to create a more docile and affectionate family pet. The Bulldog retained its protective and fearless nature, but aggressive and ferocious tendencies were removed from the breed. Bulldogs serve as popular mascots, representing strength in the face of adversity for the US Marine Corps and more than 30 US Universities. Bulldogs are famous for their gentle nature, fondness of children, and clownish antics. The Bulldog is a generally healthy breed with an average lifespan of 10-12 years.
Breed Details
Height:  12-15 in. Weight:  40-50 lb. Lifespan:  10-12 years
Size: 3

1 = small - 5 = large
Grooming requirements: 1
1 = little grooming - 5 = much grooming
Energy level: 1
1 = low energy - 5 = high energy
Ease of training: 2
1 = difficult - 5 = easy

Affection toward owners: 5
1 = independent - 5 = very affectionate
Friendliness toward strangers: 4
1 = shy - 5 = very friendly

CARE
Routine Care: The Bulldog has deep wrinkles that need to be cleaned and dried often to prevent infections. As an adult, they can have a tendency to be lazy so you must ensure they receive adequate exercise by providing a daily walk. They are sensitive to temperature extremes; avoid any prolonged exposure and be very alert to the signs of heat stress.
Grooming: They have low grooming needs. Brush their coat as needed, at least weekly.
Dental: Bulldogs often have serious problems with their teeth, so you’ll need to brush them at least three times a week!
Ear Care: Clean their ears weekly, even as a puppy. Don’t worry—your veterinarian can show you how!

CHARACTERISTICS
The Bulldog is an intelligent and dependable companion that forms close human bonds. With early socialization and consistent leadership, they are a social and cheerful addition to any family.
Positive Traits:
• Affectionate, easygoing, and lovable
• Quiet—not much of a barker
• Good with kids and other pets
• An excellent guard dog, courageous and dependable
• Adaptable to a wide variety of living conditions
• Outgoing and friendly personality
Negative Traits:
• Can be gassy and drool a lot
• Makes a lot of snorting, snuffling, and wheezing noises, and may snore
• Can become overweight easily if not exercised regularly
• Can be rambunctious and rowdy, especially as a puppy
• Sensitive, matures slowly
• Can be possessive of toys and food, tending to show dominance

HEALTH CONCERNS
Whether you are considering adding a new Bulldog to your family or you already have one as a companion, it is important for you to know about the genetically linked diseases known to occur more often in this breed. Of course, not every Bulldog will have these problems, but research shows your pal is more at risk than other breeds.
By exploring the health concerns specific to the Bulldog, you will become a knowledgeable and confident pet parent. Be sure to speak with your veterinarian about breed risks every time you visit and educate yourself on the most important signs to watch for at home. They are counting on you to be their health expert.
Some health issues a Bulldog could encounter:
• Bone and Joint Problems
• Hip and Elbow Dysplasia
• Joint Disease
• Knee Ligament Tear
• Spinal Deformities
• Eye Problems
• Distichiasis
• Eyelid Abnormality
• Dry Eye
• Cherry Eye
• Bladder or Kidney Stones
• Respiratory Distress Syndrome
• Bleeding Disorders
• Reproductive Difficulties
• Heart Disease
• Multiple Skin Problems
• Mange
• Laryngeal Paralysis
• Cancer
• Dental Abnormalities

WATCH OUT FOR
Consult with a veterinarian if your Bulldog shows signs of the following:
• General reluctance to run or play
• Blinking, redness, pain or itchiness around the eyes
• Increased blinking, extra tears and squinting
• Increased blinking, extra tears and squinting
• Redness, squinting or greenish eye discharge
• Red blob at the corner of the eye
• Pain or straining to urinate, bloody urine
• Loud breathing, tires easily at exercise
• Unplanned pregnancy can be dangerous
• Coughing, exercise intolerance, rapid breathing at rest
• Dry, scaly, sometimes itchy hairless patches on face or paws
• Louder than normal panting, especially when hot or after exercise
• Misplaced or missing teeth, bad breath, hair and food stuck between teeth

Emergency pet preparedness
Floods, fires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and other natural disasters affect everyone in their destruction path, including animals. When making a plan for your family, it’s important to consider your furry family members as well.
Keeping your pet safe and healthy is a big responsibility. It means visiting your veterinarian regularly, keeping your pet updated on vaccines, making sure your pet isn’t put into dangerous situations, and arranging a way to pay for expensive veterinary care. It also means preparing for those big emergencies — such as natural disasters.
According to the National Climate Data Center, 2012 was the second-costliest year for natural disasters since 1980, causing $110 billion in damage.1 It’s important to prepare your family for these emergencies and to take your pets into consideration when formulating your plan.

Preparing a pet emergency kit
When you are forced to evacuate your home due to a natural disaster, typically you will not have the opportunity to pack a bag. It’s important to have emergency kits already packed and stored by the door for a quick departure.
Consider the following items for your pet’s emergency kit:
Food – Several days’ worth of your pet’s food will help bridge the gap before you are able to purchase more. Your pet will already be in a stressful state, so keeping his diet as consistent as possible will be important.
Water – During a natural disaster, clean water may be at a premium, so stock up on bottled water.
Collar with ID tag & leash – During an emergency, your pet may have the instinct to want to flee. Having an extra collar and leash are important to make sure you are able to secure your pet, and ID tags should always be attached in case the pet gets free.
Medicines – If your pet is on any medication for existing medical problems, it’s important to have at least a few days’ to a week’s worth in your emergency kit to cover you until you are able to get to a veterinarian. Make sure to consistently rotate these medications out of your emergency kit so the medication is never past its expiration date.
Medical records & other important documents – Keeping a copy of all medical records and other important documents (like purebred papers or city registration papers) in an emergency kit will ensure that any veterinarian you need to see will have a detailed history of your pet and you are able to clearly prove ownership in case there is a question.
Favorite things – Pets can sense stress, so to keep them as comfortable as possible, include items that are familiar to them — such as toys, treats, or blankets and smell like home.

Natural disasters by region
Creating your Pet Emergency Kit will help you in a variety of emergencies, from fires to floods. However, it’s beneficial to be prepared for those specific emergencies that are known to affect your region. The following is a list of the common emergencies specific to regions across North America.
United States
Blizzards – Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Wyoming
Earthquakes – Arkansas, California, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Washington
Flash floods – Arizona, Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas
Hail – Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wyoming
Heat waves – Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Wisconsin
Hurricanes – Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia
Ice storms – Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming
Lightning – Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas
Monsoon – Arizona, New Mexico
Nor’easters – Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington D.C.
River floods – Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
Thunderstorms – Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin
Tornadoes – Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas
Tsunamis – Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington
Volcanic eruptions – Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington
Wildfires – Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming

Suggested contents of a pet first aid kit
Trupanion wants to make sure you are ready when your pet needs you, so we’ve pulled together a list of essential items for your pet first aid kit. Keep the items together in a toolbox or other case, and make sure they are easily accessible.
• Latex gloves
• Cotton swabs or cotton balls
• Antiseptic lotion, powder or spray
• Hand sanitizer or wipes
• Instant hot and cold packs
• Alcohol swabs
• Penlight or flashlight
• Nonstick and waterproof adhesive tape to secure bandages
• Grease-cutting dish soap
• Tweezers
• Sterile gauze pads and bandages
• Hydrocortisone cream 3%
• Blunt-tipped scissors or razor for cutting hair and bandages
• Splints and tongue depressors
• Styptic liquid to stop minor bleeding
• Antibiotic ointment
• Blanket, muzzle, carrier or leash to secure your pet
• Rectal thermometer
• Copy of rabies vaccination
• Water in case of dehydration
• Lubricating jelly
• Copy of medical records
• Turkey baster, rubber bulb syringe or dosing

Basic first aid procedures
• To be safe, muzzle your pet. Even the most docile pets may bite when in pain, and it is best to be careful. Ask your veterinarian how to tie a muzzle using gauze.
• Press a clean, thick gauze pad over any wounds, and keep pressure over the wound with your hand until the blood starts clotting. Hold pressure for a minutes before checking
• Keep the pet as warm and as quiet as possible.
• If you fear there are broken bones, find a flat surface (like a board or stretcher) that you can use to transport the pet from place to place. It’s also a good idea to secure the pet to the surface with a blanket or towel.
• Always remember that any first aid administered to your pet should be followed by immediate veterinary care. First aid care is not a substitute for veterinary care, but it may save your pet’s life until it can receive veterinary treatment.
• Some veterinary emergency hospitals have ambulances. Call your vet for advice on how to transport an injured animal based on your specific situation.

CPR for cats & dogs
CPR for cats and dogs is similar to CPR for humans. These directions assume the animal is unconscious and the risk of being bitten by the animal is not present.
1. Remove any obstruction. Open the animal’s mouth and make sure the air passage is clear. If not, remove the object obstructing the air passage.
2. Extend the head and give several artificial respirations.
o For large dogs, close the dog’s jaw tightly and breathe into the nose. The dog’s chest should rise. Give 2 breaths.
o For small dogs and cats, you may be able to cover the nose and mouth with your mouth as you breathe. The animal’s chest should rise. Give 2 breaths.
3. Perform chest compression.
o For large dogs, you may be able to position the dog on its back and compress the chest just like for humans.
o For small dogs and cats as well as large dogs with funnel chests, you may need to lay the animal on its side and compress the side of the rib cage. Alternatively, you can position the animal on its back and press on both sides of the rib cage.
o The rate of chest compressions varies with the size of the animal:
♣ Dogs over 60 pounds: 60 compressions per minute
♣ Animals 11 to 60 pounds: 80-100 compressions per minute
♣ Animals 10 pounds or less: 120 compressions per minute
4. Alternate breaths with compressions. The ratio of compressions to breaths should be approximately the same as for humans – 30:2. Continue doing this until the animal responds or begins to breathe on its own.
\*These directions come from Learn CPR, a free public service supported by the University of Washington School of Medicine.

Additional resources
For additional reading on pet first aid, please visit the following links:
American Veterinary Medical Association: “First Aid Tips for Pet Owners”
Emergency Pet Preparedness
American Animal Hospital Association: “Caring for pets during emergencies”
Top poisons affecting Trupanion pets
You can find many items in your cupboards, garage, garden, even your purse or backpack that are be poisonous to your pet. This gives curious cats and dogs easy access to items that can cause serious harm. In fact, we searched our database and found thousands of cases of pets poisoned by common household items. Since 2013, we have paid $2.9 million toward toxicity claims for cats and dogs. Below are some of the most common poisons we found and what you can do to protect your pet.

In the Kitchen
Many foods commonly found in the kitchen are toxic for our pets. Avoid giving your pets a taste of the following:
• Chocolate
• Xylitol (found in sugar-free gum & some peanut butter)
• Grapes
• Raisins
• Alcohol
• Yeast dough
• Caffeine
• Onions
• Macadamias
• Mushrooms

In the garage
Your garage, shed, basement, or cabinets can house a number of substances that wouldn't seem appealing to a pet--but they'll get into it anyway. Be sure to keep the following out of reach:
• Dishwashing detergent
• Bleach
• Household cleaners
• Rodent poison or traps
• Slug bait
• Fertilizer
• Lawn or garden chemicals
• Antifreeze
• De-icing salts
• Toxic garbage

In the medicine cabinet
Trupanion sees many poison claims involving human pain medication whether they were dropped on the floor or the pets got into a purse. Some of the most common are:
• Hand sanitizer
• Acetaminophens (Tylenol)
• Pseudoephedrines (Sudafed)
• Albuterol found in inhalers
• Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (Advil, ibuprofen, Aspirin)
• THC in medicinal marijuana

In the yard (or house)
Plants are everywhere, and as a pet owner, you should know which plants to keep from your pets. Lilies are especially dangerous for cats, and sago palms for dogs. Know which plants are dangerous for your pet:
• Lily
• Tulip
• Azalea
• Daffodil
• Foxglove
• Sago palm
• Dumbcane
• Yew

How to prepare
• Keep emergency contact information readily accessible including your veterinarian’s phone number and directions to your local 24-hour emergency veterinary hospital.
• Talk to your veterinarian to determine the best plan for you and your pet.
• Prepare a pet first aid kit with any supplies you may need.
• Familiarize yourself with pet poisons and keep them out of reach of your pets. If you believe your pet has ingested a poison, do not wait for signs to develop — take your pet immediately to the veterinarian.
https://trupanion.com/pet-care

*2.   Is a Bulldog the right breed for you?*

You first need to ask yourself why you want an English bulldog…….
If you are looking for a dog that can walk miles, then the bulldog isn’t the breed for you. If you’re looking for a dog that needs no walking at all, then again, the bulldog isn’t the breed for you. It is true that some English bulldogs flat out refuse to go for a walk; they will lock their legs and tighten their shoulders, so you can’t budge them, but the majority of English bulldogs will require a daily walk of between 20-30 minutes once or twice a day and there are some bulldogs you can’t walk far enough.
If you are looking for an English bulldog specifically because you are at work all day and have heard the rumor that English bulldogs are couch potatoes – it’s worth remembering that a bored English bulldog will chew. This is a breed that thrives on human company and all bulldogs are very good at working out what brings them attention. Like toddlers, English bulldogs will do something that gets them into trouble if they have decided your attention is being given elsewhere, usually chewing the chair legs, coffee table, cabinet knobs, or other wooden objects around the home. The bulldog probably isn’t the right breed for you if you work long hours. If you work full time wait until your hours are reduced before taking on a bulldog.

If you don’t yet have children, don’t buy an English bulldog as a baby substitute, you’ll be surprised how many of them ends up in bulldog rescue because a real baby came along.
You may have decided on a bulldog because they are low maintenance…. Well – you know those cute little wrinkles? Those wrinkles need cleaning every day and remember – he can’t reach his own backside…. Guess who gets the job of keeping that clean? That’s right and you will want to make sure you keep plenty of baby wipes on hand for the job.
Finally, many choose the bulldog because of its reputation for being good with children and in general the bulldog gets along very well with children. But remember English bulldogs also have a reputation for their Sherman tank like mentality – getting from point ‘a’ to point ‘b’ is the same route…. Even when a 2-year-old is sitting right in the middle of the path!!!
Still want a bulldog? Then it is important to find a reputable English Bulldog breeder. If you decide that a bulldog is the right breed for you then it is crucial that you research English bulldog breeders carefully before purchasing your English bulldog puppy. Anyone can put two bulldogs together, offer bulldog puppies for sale, and can call themselves bulldog breeders but that doesn’t make them reputable or responsible English bulldog breeders. Buying an English bulldog puppy is an important and long-term commitment, so you want to choose bulldog breeders that have the best interest of the dog, the bulldog breed, and you in mind.

Here are a few things to keep in mind:
• Reputable Bulldog Breeders will expect to learn all they can about you before they offer an English bulldog for sale. They will screen the buyer to ensure that the bulldog puppy they have worked so hard to breed and raise goes to a home that is going to love and care for the bulldog puppy as much as they would. They’ll make sure that the buyer is aware of both the positive and negative attributes of the bulldog breed. They will ask you a lot of questions about your lifestyle, family, former dog ownership or previous experience with dogs and other pets. They want to know the reason why you want a dog, why you want an English bulldog in particular, and how much you know about the English bulldog breed. In short, they make you feel they are cautious about whom they are selling their bulldog puppies to rather than pressuring you into buying. They never sell to impulse buyers.
• Reputable Bulldog Breeders will be there to answer all of your questions and make sure this is, in fact, the correct breed for you. Your bulldog breeder should be there for you and your dog throughout your bulldog’s entire life.
• Reputable Bulldog Breeders will do all they can to ensure the welfare of the bulldog puppies they sell, and they will take back the dog at any time during the dog’s life if you become unwilling or unable to care for it.
• Reputable Bulldog Breeders only have English bulldogs for sale that were born on the premises and NEVER have English bulldog puppies for sale that were shipped in from other bulldog breeders or countries.
• Reputable Bulldog breeders do not offer their English bulldogs for sale before the age of 8 weeks, no matter how much you insist. We personally do not let them go to their new homes until they are at least 8 – 10 weeks of age.
• Reputable Bulldog Breeders carefully select their breeding stock for health, temperament and conformation to the standard. When talking about the individual puppies they do not guarantee you that any puppy will turn out to be a champion. Do not just buy from any breeder that offers “English Bulldogs For Sale”. If you do not feel comfortable with the bulldog breeder, have patience and find a new one. Do your homework and research. It pays off.
The Bulldog Personality
We’ve all seen the photos. The gorgeous, lithe blonde with flowing locks, accompanied by an Afghan Hound or Golden Retriever whose looks mirror hers. The stubby, pugnacious-looking little guy accompanied by, of course, a Pug. And the stubborn, assertive type, stocky and muscular, walking a……. wait for it……Bulldog.
Whether or not you look like your dog, it’s safe to say that if you have a bulldog, you already know that they have one of the most unique personalities in the canine world. And as enjoyable as they can be, the breed does come with some special challenges.
For starters, training a bulldog isn’t a task for the faint of heart. Nor is the job of interpretation; bulldogs are far cleverer than they let on, and their people-like ways make it easy to forget that they’re actually dogs.
On the plus side, rewards are always remembered, and most of the training comes down to praising and rewarding the dog and establishing a link between what you want and the reward.
First things first, though – getting to know your dog’s personality will make subsequent work and training much easier.
Bulldog Stubbornness
The bulldog is very stubborn by nature, and selective deafness is a prominent trait. Bulldogs are one of those “show me” breeds – they tend to need to know there’s something in it for them if you want them to do something, and they also need to know you’re going to get what you want as long as it’s reasonable.
For instance, if you want the dog off the sofa because it’s dinner time, consider it done. But if the dog needs to go out and it’s raining, selective deafness can quickly kick in. While it’s not very appropriate to train dogs as if they were humans, the description of bulldogs as 3-year old toddlers in dog suits can be both accurate and appropriate.
Vexing though this can be, it’s also a huge part of what makes them lovable. The most important element of the relationship is authority; you have to be in charge, and bulldogs need to know where they can and can’t go, when play is too rough, and so on. The operative rule here is don’t encourage an 8-week old puppy to do anything you wouldn’t be able to cope with from a fully grown 50LB mass of muscle!!

Bulldog Sulking
And then there’s the sulk. Yes, bulldogs sulk, and the truly confusing corollary to this is that sometimes you’ll have no idea what you did to upset them. A bulldog that feels he’s been hard done will literally sit staring at the floor or the wall, and interrupting the sulk is near on impossible. They love to be the center of attention, which is quite endearing when they’re puppies, but our amusement can also encourage the behavior, so it’s important to understand the pluses and minuses that come with the sulk.

Bulldog Communication
Another unique quirk of bulldog behavior is speech. All right, not literal speech, but bulldogs like to talk to their people, and sometimes this can be misunderstood as growling, especially if they have a toy, because bulldogs will also growl to invite you to play. Consider it part of the lingo; bulldogs growl at each other when they play, and they shout if they don’t like what you’ve done to them, so it’s very important for you to take a bulldog Berlitz course so you don’t misunderstand this behavior as aggressive.
On the plus side, bulldogs are very quick learners, and in some instances, they remember things for years. Two years ago, I put the remains of a chewed-up toy on top of the fridge in the kitchen, and right until the day my dog thought it was still up there, to the point where he’d sit barking at the fridge to give up his favorite toy. The toy was long since trashed, of course, but the flip side of this kind of association can simplify bulldog training considerably. And there are times when you’ll see behaviors you wouldn’t believe was possible from a dog unless you’d actually seen them yourself.
Having noted all this, the bulldog’s people-like personality is what makes them so lovable. They’re rarely nasty, and they’ll put up with an awful lot from their humans. Bulldogs are also happy simply to be part of the family, they’re consummate listeners, and there isn’t a better hot water bottle in the world when you want something warm and comforting to lean on you. Bulldogs also have exquisite radar; it’s not unusual for them to know when you need a hug or you’re just feeling low and miserable.
Once you’ve been sucked in by the bulldog’s personality, though, it’s easy to forget that they not only have the most appalling manners, but that they’ve managed to get you to overlook them. The various “piggy noises” that emerge from various bulldog orifices will either be something you learn to live with or something you can’t stand.

Bulldog Gas and Flatulence
Flatulent are a problem in bulldogs. While it can be linked to diet, in most cases it’s one of many things on a seemingly endless list entitled “It’s A Bulldog Thing.” Farting and belching are a regular part of the bulldog background soundtrack and believe it or not you’ll eventually learn to find snoring as comforting as a ticking clock that becomes essential to your own sleep habits.
And…there’s more. Bulldogs can be noisy and messy eaters, and for some reason known only to them they never swallow the last mouthful of water, preferring instead to trail it around the floor. This makes spotting them easy, but it can become a chore to be continually drying the floor or wiping your bulldog’s chin.

Bulldog Companionship And Need For Love
One of the most important things to remember about your bulldog is the need for human companionship. They don’t fare well in a kennel environment, nor are they outdoor dogs. They’re hardcore house dogs that adore furniture, particularly when given their own, as some bulldog owners are wont to do. They’re also relentless bed hogs, so if you value your privacy, get a big dog bed. Bulldogs are notorious for taking up an entire double bed, pushing you to the edge and pinning the duvet under them so they get all of it and you get none.
Back on the positive side, if you’re not a fan of dog noises in general, there are several you probably won’t hear from your bulldog. They generally don’t whine, and barking is uncommon, although some do make a kind of “ooof” that gets reasonably close.
The arrival of a second dog that does bark can often lead to hilarious results, most notably in the look of surprise on your bulldog’s face when the companion dog “teaches” the bark. (“Hey, I can do this, too!”) There’s another sound that’s more or less a seal bark, along with a low howl that seems to be the bulldog equivalent of whining. Shouting is yet another unique form of bulldog communication that can either be a warning or play enthusiasm, so educate yourself accordingly.

Bulldogs and Loud Noises
Noises can be loud and confusing when bulldogs play. At times they sound like an organized dog fight, because of the constant growling. And bulldogs are one of the few breeds that know what to do with a football, which is handy for football-crazed adults, children and those interested in a new canine form of fantasy football.

Bulldog Aggression
Aggression toward people is relatively rare for bulldogs, but not unheard of. Bulldogs know full well that their jaw strength is far greater than that of most breeds, so as long as the aggression hasn’t progressed too far they tend to exercise remarkable restraint in this area, partly because of their nature, and partly because biting is mostly defensive in almost all dogs.
Aggression towards other dogs, though, is a different matter entirely. Bulldogs were originally bred and trained to fight and protect, and the differences in their jaw and facial structure can make their expressions harder than usual for other dogs to read. When a bulldog gets in a “fight or flight” scenario with another dog, having the bulldog choose the fight option can be a very nasty piece of business. And the danger potential is compounded by the bulldog’s superb memory; bad experiences with other dogs tend to get imprinted into the memory circuitry for a very long time.

Bulldog Jealousy
Jealousy is a closely related issue. Bulldogs will fight over human attention, food and toys, so it’s important to watch multiple bulldogs carefully in situations where this is a potential issue. This is especially true if you or someone you know has a bitch in heat, and due diligence caution should also be exercised with dominant males.
As is the case with many breeds, the language of aggression can be quite complex in bulldogs. Some will simply pretend to be aggressive, as daft as this sounds, because they’ll remember the time that a growl meant they could keep their toy or their sofa. Bulldogs are probably more territorial than most breeds due to their guarding/fighting background and growling that does represent aggression can generalize very quickly into other situations.
With that in mind, it’s important to never leave any dog unattended with a child, especially small children who push a dog’s boundaries and stress threshold more than most adults because they don’t realize the consequences. It’s easy for a screaming child to confuse a dog, for instance, so it’s important to teach kids as soon as possible NOT to treat the bulldog like the cuddly stuffed animals they appear to be.

The Lighter Side of A Bulldog
On the lighter side, one of the bulldog’s favorite past times is what we call “The Upside-Down Moment”. Flat on his back, wriggling his body so his back rubs on the floor and making the strangest noise you’ve ever heard – they love it!
The bulldog also has a very unique way of releasing energy, which I refer to as the “wall of death.” This is exactly what it sounds like; it usually occurs in the evening and comes out of the clear blue when your bulldog takes off like he has a rocket up his backside, literally bouncing off the furniture, running around the table and in and out the door. It’s usually wise to step back and stand still when this occurs to keep from getting flipped upside down or otherwise injured.
While the “wall of death” definitely sounds odd to the point of strangeness, the list of phobias bulldogs can display can be downright bizarre. This is probably because bulldogs are set so low to the ground and are so prone to territorial and protection behavior, which makes them liable to think they’re being charged or threatened by a wide array of household appliances and flotsam and jetsam.
Our list includes bin liners, empty carrier bags, tin foil, baking trays, ironing boards, mops and brooms, vacuums, lawn mowers, wheelbarrows and washing machines, but it can include anything that has recently changed position in your house. Feel free to add accordingly, especially if you choose to rearrange your furniture, a task you should undertake at your own peril.

The Cutest Things About Bulldogs
Finally, no exploration of the bulldog personality would be complete without a brief reminder of one of their most prominent and cutest traits. Their strongest “drive” and characteristic may be their ability to unconditionally love everyone they come in contact with; there’s nothing more enjoyable, endearing and heartwarming than a bulldog trying so hard to wag his or her tail that the entire back end wiggles along with it.

                                         Recommended English Bulldog Puppy Supplies
                                         Preparing to Bring Your New Bulldog Puppy Home

*Supplies to have when you bring your Puppy home…*

You just got a new bulldog puppy, and you’re so excited to bring him home. You imagine him ambling about your house, getting into every nook and crevice, including the garbage can, the closets, and anything else he deems intriguing. So before bringing your new bulldog puppy home spend some time puppy proofing your house and gathering some needed supplies. Moving to a new home is a difficult experience for a puppy. Leaving his mother, siblings and the only people he has known thus far can be stressful for the puppy. Sights, sounds and smells will all be new and unusual to him. Try to make the adjustment as easy as you can for him and change as little as possible. Here is a basic list of supplies you’ll need:

Supplies for Your Bulldog Puppy:
• Bowls for Food and Water: Stainless steel is the most durable, easiest to wash and won’t harbor bacteria like plastic can. They also love ice in their water.
• Royal Canin for Bulldogs Dry Dog Food. This is the food your bulldog puppy is currently eating, and I strongly encourage new puppy owners to continue with it. Nutrition is extremely important for the proper development of your bulldog puppy. However, it is crucial that you keep a close eye on your bulldog puppy’s weight and that you never allow him to become overweight, especially while going through puppyhood and the growth period as this can cause skeletal deformities. A bulldog puppy that gets too many calories grows too quickly. It will grow its bones faster than its muscles and tendons can match, and fast growth/heavy calorie load is STRONGLY associated with skeletal/joint disorders later in life………This includes hip dysplasia. Bulldog puppies kept lean and slow growing become adults with an EIGHTY PERCENT reduction in hip dysplasia when compared to adults who as puppies ate as much as they wanted. Royal Canin has a wonderful reputation and uses very high quality, nutrient dense ingredients. You can visit the manufacture’s website here: https://www.royalcanin.com/products/royal-canin-breed-health-nutrition-bulldog-adult-dry-dog-food/2590
• Training Treats. We recommend nutritious, natural treats. I also keep BarkBox brand treats on hand for when we are traveling. You can buy the Barkbox treats that we use here: www.Barkbox.com
• Clickers for Training. Never use harsh training or punishment with your bulldog. Always use positive training techniques. Our favorite method is clicker training. It is very easy and a fun way to train and teach your bulldog all sorts of neat tricks. Here are a couple of books and clickers that I recommend when getting started:
Clicking With Your Dog: Step-By-Step in Pictures
StarMark Clickers
I-Clickers
Karen Pryor – Getting Started Kit
• Dog Behavior Training. Our favorite dog trainer/ behaviorist is Cesar Millan (The Dog Whisperer). His techniques will show you how to be a “pack leader” with your new bully. His methods are not harsh and really work. He has an entire DVD collection on Mastering Leadership that you can purchase, or he also has a show on The National Geographic channel that you can TiVo or DVR to watch anytime. Between Cesar’s leadership techniques and clicker training, you have the perfect combo!
• While we love Cesar we have also watched a new DVD that we think is really good by Joe Ardis entitled The Natural Dog Training Method He uses very similar techniques and methods as Cesar Millan but his DVD is condensed and more to the point.
• A Crate: Not only will a crate serve as his/her den, it is also a must for house training. Wire crates are best as they are portable, durable, comfortable and well ventilated. Choose one with an adjustable divider panel so that you can expand the interior size as your bulldog puppy grows. We recommend the Kong cage or any cage from PetSmart.
• Bedding for The Crate: Inside the crates we use really soft blanket and I will also throw in an old t-shirt, robe or towel for them to cuddle with.
• Other Beds: Besides the crate we also have other beds throughout the house for our bulldogs to lounge around on. Our favorite beds are by Stuft. These are elevated beds that are chew proof and easy to wash.
To wash, just remove the foam and throw it into the wash. These work great inside crates as well.
• Stairs or a doggy ramp. Bulldogs should never be allowed to jump onto or off of anything that is taller than they are. So, if you intend to let your bully watch TV on the couch or sleep in your bed it is best to teach them to use doggy stairs or ramps. Here are a few links to three different types:
Pet Gear Easy Step II:
Pet Gear Soft Step III:
• Free and Clear Laundry Detergent. Bulldogs are prone to skin allergies and it is best to wash their towels, blankets, bedding, etc. in a dye and perfume free detergent such as All Free and Clear.
• A soft, adjustable collar and a leash. If you decide to use a traditional style collar and leash and intend to leave the collar on for long periods of time be sure to check under the collar frequently. The skin can become irritated and if gone unnoticed can become very raw and even infected.
• Safe Toys: Natural antler chews (Deer, Elk, etc.), Kong toys, sturdy tug ropes and things that will spark interest are the best choices. Avoid rawhide products and anything with parts that could break off. We use the toys that come with our monthly Barkbox.
• Grooming tools:
• Brushes, we like to use the Kong Zoom brush [ Link ] and then follow up with a FURminator [ Link ].
• Shampoo – We recommend Earthbath All Natural Shampoo [ Link ] or Tropiclean Hypoallergenic Gentle Coconut
• Diaper rash ointment, and cornstarch or baby powder, or Coconut Oil (for wrinkles and folds)
• A Dremil or nail clippers.
• Q- tips
• Lots of baby wipes. These work great for daily wrinkle, tail and bottom cleanings.
• Ear cleanser (Zymox or Vet Solutions are good brands). You can also put this on a cotton ball or soft wash cloth to clean facial wrinkles and tail pockets.
• Additional supplies: Keep peroxide, antibiotic cream, a thermometer, dry eye solution, allergy medication, and an anti-diarrheal that is safe for dogs. Remember that dogs can take many over-the-counter drugs intended for people as long as the dose is right.
• Baby Gates: To keep your dog from getting into other rooms unsupervised, place baby gates around your home. You can use them to keep your dog away from stairs or dangerous places like basements or laundry rooms. Do not recommend the wooden ones or thin plastic due to chewing.

Puppy Proof Your Home:
In addition to supplies, you’ll want to protect your bulldog against hazardous materials and anything you don’t want him to chew. This includes sneakers and other shoes, but it also includes more dangerous things like antifreeze and power cords. Remember that your bulldog can also chew and ingest small things such as buttons, ribbons, tassels and plastic pieces, which can obstruct his airway passage or become lodged in his intestinal tract. In some cases, these will need to be surgically removed and could lead to infection or death.
Also, make sure your backyard is well fenced and that your dog cannot get into flowerbeds or dangerous plants. Poison ivy, milkweed, hemlock, and sage are all poisonous to dogs, so especially make sure these plants are not in your yard or are not accessible. Also keep yard supplies like rakes, rocks, and plastic bags out of reach so your dog doesn’t chew on them.

A Vet that Specializes in Bulldogs
Your bulldog puppy will come home with medical and inoculation records. If you don’t already have a family vet, ask friends to recommend one and visit several offices to check for efficiency and cleanliness. As soon as he’s settled in, have your bulldog puppy checked over by the vet you choose. That way, you’ll be prepared for emergencies before they happen. Make sure to use a Bulldog experienced Vet. That is a very important thing to do.