

ENGLISH BULLDOG BREED STANDARD

The English Bulldog is a compact, powerful breed known for its broad head, short muzzle, loose skin and muscular build. The breed should present balance, strength, and a distinctive wrinkled expression

VARIETIES

These types should all look like English Bulldogs – same overall breed type and temperament. Only differing primarily by size/style, not by correctness of structure.

Mini English Bulldog: Females 13” and Males 13.5” and under

Standard English Bulldog: Females 13” and Males 13.5” and taller

GENERAL STRUCTURE

Head: Large, broad head with a short muzzle. Heavily wrinkled face with rope over the nose. Skull is wide with pronounced cheek muscles. Deep and well-defined stop.

Eyes: Set low and wide apart. Dark in color preferred.

Ears: Set high forming the outline of the skull

Flews & Jaw: Thick flews overhanging the lower jaw. Lower jaw projects forward and turns upward. Undershot bite preferred. Teeth large and strong with prominent canines.

Neck: Thick, arched neck with loose skin at the base.

Body: Broad, deep chest with tucked belly. Back is short and slightly roached. Topline has a slight dip behind shoulders with rise over the loin. Ribs are well sprung. Muscular body with heavy skin rolls

Forequarters: Wide shoulders, muscular, Short, stout and wide set legs. Elbows slightly turned outward but not loose

Hindquarters: Strong, muscular, hind legs longer than forelegs giving the rear a higher appearance. Slight angle at the hock. Stifles slightly outward.

Feet: Round and compact. Slightly turned outward in front

Tail: Short tail, straight or screwed. Low set

Coat: Short and smooth

Colors & Patterns: All colors and patterns accepted, including merle.

MOVEMENT

The English Bulldog exhibits a distinctive rolling, side-to-side gait, often described as a waddle. Movement should be deliberate, steady, and balanced. Front legs move in a somewhat lifting motion. Rear provides drive with slight lift. The gait should not show weakness, excessive restriction, or instability

FAULTS

Bulging Eyes	Visible Excessive Haw
Erect Ears	Excessively Long or Narrow Muzzle
Tongue Excessively Visible When Mouth is Closed	Weak Rear
Cow Hocked or Straight Stifles	

MOVEMENT FAULTS

Crossing Over	Pacing
Restricted Movement	Rolling

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Aggressive Behavior Towards Humans	Cryptorchidism
Screwed Tail	Wry Jaw
Blindness	Deafness
Albinism	

Crossing Over: Crossing Over is a movement fault where a dog's legs move too close to the center line of the body, sometimes even crossing in front of each other instead of tracking straight.

Pacing Movement in the English Bulldog is a gait where the dog moves both legs on the same side of the body at the same time (right front with right rear, then left front with left rear), instead of the natural diagonal movement seen in a proper trot.

This type of movement is generally considered inefficient and a fault, as correct American Bully movement should be smooth, balanced, and coordinated with a diagonal gait (trotting). Pacing can sometimes indicate issues with structure, balance, or conditioning, though some dogs may pace when moving slowly or when they are tired.

Extreme Restriction: Is when the dog is severely limited in range of motion causing stiff, unnatural movement. Stride is short with choppy steps. Appears rigid and robotic in motion. There is a lack of reach and drive.

This can be caused by upright shoulders, poor joint angles and excessive bulk without flexibility.

Rolling Movement in the English Bulldog refers to a side-to-side, swaying motion of the body when the dog walks or moves. It typically happens because of a very wide chest, heavy muscle mass, and sometimes structural exaggeration, causing the dog's shoulders and hips to shift outward as it steps.

While this is the natural movement of the English Bulldog, excessive rolling is usually considered a fault in structure or movement, as proper movement should still be balanced, efficient, and free-flowing rather than exaggerated or unstable.