

Utility

Boston Terrier

Like many breeds the Boston Terrier takes his name from the area where he was developed – in this case the New England city of Boston USA. The first club was founded in the 1890s in Boston and membership was confined to Bostonians. However, its fame soon spread throughout America and by the 1950s it was the most popular breed in the USA.

The Boston is the smallest of the Bull breed i.e. containing Bulldog blood. The founding father of the breed is reputed to be a dog known as Hooper's Judge, born in Liverpool, a cross between a Bulldog and an English White Terrier and exported to America. He inherited the brindle markings from the Bulldog and white markings from the Terrier, with the smart brindle/white being the accepted colour of the breed to this day. The colour pattern of white on legs, chest, collar and head make the Boston a very 'Dandy' dog and the term 'Boston marked' is sometimes applied to other breeds with similar colour patterns e.g. Mantle Great Danes.

Breed Group	Utility
Vulnerable Breed	No
Size	Small
How much exercise?	Up to 1 hour per day
Length of coat	Short
How much grooming?	Once a week
Supposedly sheds?	Yes
Town or Country	Either
Type of home	Flat, Small or Large House
Minimum garden size	Small/Medium
Lifespan	Over 10 Years

Health Information

You may be aware that some breeds of dog and their crosses can be susceptible to inherited disease. Of course you want to be sure that the dog you choose is as healthy as possible, and you would like to know that it has not inherited any undesirable disease-causing genes from its parents. There is some help in that DNA tests for diseases in purebred dogs are available for some conditions in some breeds, but there are not very many such tests just yet! There are also, however, a number of clinical veterinary screening schemes that dog breeders can use to increase the probability of producing healthy puppies.

Details of the various screening schemes, both veterinary and DNA, that are available to breeders in the UK can be found at www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth

Potential dog owners should be aware that, at present, the application of various health screening results to breeding programmes is not always straightforward, and breeders may make choices for various reasons. A responsible breeder though, will always be willing to discuss relevant health issues with you. Breed clubs are often useful sources of breed-specific information.

What Screening is relevant for the Boston Terrier?

Kennel Club Assured Breeders must use the following screening schemes for sires and dams BVA/KC

- Eye testing
- DNA test - HC-HSF4

The list above is not necessarily comprehensive. Breed clubs and experienced breeders are useful sources of information on health issues in the breed. All breeds have a Breed Health Coordinator.

Breeding Restrictions

The Kennel Club will not accept an application to register a litter when:

- 1) The dam has already whelped 4 litters (as of the 1st January 2012 the limit changed from 6 litters to 4 litters). As of this date the Kennel Club will no longer register any further litters from any bitch which our records show has already whelped 4 litters. Therefore for any litter born on or after the 1st January 2012, the system will automatically check to see how many previous litters the Kennel Club has an account of. Where the number previously recorded is 4 or more, the application will be rejected, or
- 2) The dam has already reached the age of 8 years at the date of whelping, (relief from this restriction may be considered normally provided an application is made prior to the mating, the proposed dam has previously whelped at least one other registered litter, and the application is supported by veterinary evidence as to the suitability of the bitch involved in the proposed whelping), or
- 3) The dam was under one year old at the time of mating, or
- 4) The offspring are the result of any mating between father and daughter, mother and son or brother and sister, save in exceptional circumstances or for scientifically proven welfare reasons, or
- 5) (From 1st January 2012) The dam has already had two litters delivered by caesarean section, save for scientifically proven welfare reasons and this only normally provided the application is made prior to the mating, or
- 6) The dam was not resident at a UK address at the date of whelping.

There are further Kennel Club Rules and Regulations that may prevent a litter from being registered; the full Kennel Club

Rules and Regulations are contained in the Kennel Club Year Book.

Breed Specific Breeding Restrictions

Boston Terrier Clubs

Name	Telephone
Boston Terrier Club	01942 884250
Boston Terrier Club Of Scotland	0141 641 8690
Northern Boston Terrier Club Of England	01706 219902

Boston Terrier Rescue Organisations

Name	Telephone
Boston Terrier Club Rescue	01892 652095
UK Boston Terrier Rescue	07770 880539