What to Know About the Frenchie Doodle: A French Bulldog and Poodle Mix

Why the Frenchie Doodle Is Turning Heads

The Frenchie Doodle, a cross between a French Bulldog and a Poodle, has become a popular choice for people who want a compact companion with a softer coat and a playful personality. Also known as a French Boodle or Frenchiepoo, this designer dog blends the cheerful, laid-back nature of the French Bulldog with the intelligence and low-shedding coat of the Poodle. The result is a small-to-medium dog that fits well into apartments and houses alike, and whose appearance can vary quite a bit from one puppy to another.

Because the parents are so different in size, coat, and temperament, every Frenchie Doodle is a bit of a surprise. Some puppies take after the French Bulldog with a short, smooth coat and a stocky build. Others inherit the Poodle's curly or wavy fur, longer legs, and more athletic frame. This variety is part of the appeal, but it also means you should focus on the individual puppy rather than expecting a uniform look.

What Does a French Bulldog and Poodle Mix Look Like?

One of the first things people ask about a french bulldog and poodle mix is what it looks like. The honest answer is that it depends on which generation you are looking at. An F1 Frenchie Doodle is a direct cross between a purebred French Bulldog and a purebred Poodle. These dogs often have a wiry or slightly wavy coat, a sturdy body, and ears that might stand up like a Frenchie or flop over like a Poodle. An F1B, on the other hand, is a backcross, meaning the puppy is bred back to a Poodle to enhance the Poodle traits, especially the coat. F1B puppies tend to have curlier hair, less shedding, and a more Poodle-like face.

Size also varies. A standard Poodle is quite tall, but most Frenchie Doodles come from miniature or toy Poodles to keep the size manageable. A miniature Poodle stands about 11 to 15 inches at the shoulder, and a French Bulldog stands around 11 to 13 inches. So a Frenchie Doodle usually lands in the 12 to 16 inch range and weighs between 15 and 30 pounds, depending on the Poodle parent. If a standard Poodle is used, the dog can be larger, but that is less common.

Coat types range from short and smooth to long and curly. The curly or wavy coats are often preferred by people who want a dog that sheds less, but no crossbreed is truly hypoallergenic. The term "hypoallergenic" is used loosely here. It simply means that the dog produces fewer allergens, not that it is completely allergen-free. If you have allergies, spend time with the parent dogs and, if possible, with the puppy before you commit.

Personality and Temperament

The Frenchie Doodle tends to be affectionate, social, and eager to please. French Bulldogs are known for being people-oriented and somewhat stubborn, while Poodles are highly intelligent and trainable. The mix usually lands somewhere in the middle: a smart dog that wants to learn but might have a streak of independence. Early training and positive reinforcement work best. Keep sessions short and fun, and use treats or toys as rewards.

These dogs do well with children and other pets, especially when they are raised together. They are not typically aggressive, but they can be protective of their family. Early socialization helps them grow into confident adults. Expose them to different people, sounds, and situations from a young age, but do it gradually so they do not become overwhelmed.

One thing to keep in mind is that the French Bulldog side can bring some brachycephalic traits, which means a flat face and a shortened airway. This can make the dog prone to snoring, wheezing, and overheating in hot weather. The Poodle side, with its longer muzzle, can help reduce those issues, but not always. You might get a puppy with a moderate face that breathes more easily, or you might get one that has a flatter face and needs extra care in the heat. Watch for signs of respiratory distress, and avoid strenuous exercise in high temperatures.

Grooming and Coat Care

Grooming needs depend on the coat. A short-coated Frenchie Doodle that takes after the French Bulldog will need minimal brushing, just a weekly rubdown with a soft brush to remove loose hair. A curly or wavy coat, on the other hand, requires more attention. Curly hair can mat easily, especially behind the ears and under the legs. Plan to brush a curly-coated Frenchie Doodle several times a week, and consider professional grooming every six to eight weeks to keep the coat tidy and prevent tangles.

Bathing should be done only when needed, usually every month or so, using a gentle dog shampoo. Overbathing can dry out the skin. Also, check the ears regularly, especially if the dog has floppy ears, because moisture can get trapped and lead to infections. Clean the ears with a vet-approved solution and a cotton ball, and trim the nails every few weeks. Dental care is important too; brushing the teeth a few times a week helps prevent gum disease, which is common in small breeds.

Exercise and Training Needs

Frenchie Doodles are moderately active. They enjoy daily walks, playtime in the yard, and interactive games like fetch or puzzle toys. They do not need hours of vigorous exercise, making them a good match for apartment living. A couple of 20 to 30 minute walks a day, plus some indoor play, is usually enough. That said, the Poodle side can bring a higher energy level,

so be prepared to keep up with a dog that might want to run and play more than a typical Frenchie.

Training is where the Poodle intelligence shines. These dogs pick up commands quickly, but they can also get bored with repetition. Use a variety of training methods, keep sessions lively, and always end on a positive note. Crate training is helpful for housebreaking and gives the dog a safe space. Just be patient, because some French Bulldog traits, like a stubborn streak, can surface. Consistency and a calm, firm approach work best.



Because the french bulldog and poodle mix is a relatively new designer breed, there is no official breed standard. That means you cannot predict exactly how big the dog will get or what its coat will be like. Ask the breeder about the parent sizes, coat types, and temperaments. A

responsible breeder will have health testing results for both parents, including hip evaluations, eye exams, and genetic tests for conditions common in both breeds, such as patellar luxation, intervertebral disc disease, and certain heart issues.

Health Considerations

Like all crossbreeds, the Frenchie Doodle can inherit health problems from either parent. French Bulldogs are prone to breathing issues, skin allergies, and spinal problems. Poodles can develop eye disorders, hip dysplasia, and certain autoimmune conditions. The goal of crossing is to reduce the risk of breed-specific issues, but it is not a guarantee. Health testing of the parents is the best way to lower the odds. Ask the breeder for proof of testing, and do not be shy about asking questions.

Another consideration is the lifespan. French Bulldogs typically live around 10 to 12 years, while Poodles often live 12 to 15 years. The mix usually falls somewhere in that range, so you can expect a companion for a good while. Regular veterinary checkups, a balanced diet, and appropriate exercise all contribute to a longer, healthier life.

Feeding and Nutrition

Feed your Frenchie Doodle a high-quality dog food that matches its age, size, and activity level. Puppies need a formula designed for growth, while adults do well on a maintenance diet. The amount will vary, but a general guideline is about 1 to 1.5 cups of dry food per day, split into two meals. Watch the dog's weight, because French Bulldogs are prone to obesity, and extra pounds can worsen joint and breathing problems. Treats should be given sparingly, and always provide fresh water.

Some Frenchie Doodles have food sensitivities, especially if they inherit the French Bulldog's tendency toward allergies. If you notice itchy skin, ear infections, or digestive upsets, talk to your vet about possible dietary triggers. An elimination diet can help identify the culprit, but do not do this without professional guidance.

Finding a Responsible Breeder

If you decide that the Frenchie Doodle is the right dog for you, the next step is finding a reputable breeder. Look for someone who is transparent about their breeding practices, welcomes visits, and shows you the living conditions of the dogs. They should be willing to share health clearances for the parents and answer your questions about the puppies' lineage. Avoid breeders who sell puppies without any health testing or who seem more interested in making a sale than in matching you with the right dog.

Because the Frenchie Doodle is not a recognized breed, there are no breed-specific rescue organizations, but you can check local shelters and rescue groups. Sometimes designer mixes end up in need of homes, and adopting can be a rewarding way to bring one into your life. Just be prepared for the possibility that the dog's background may be unknown, so you will need to invest time in training and socialization.

Is a Frenchie Doodle Right for You?

Before bringing one home, consider your lifestyle. These dogs do best with people who are home often, because they crave companionship and do not like being left alone for long periods. They can develop separation anxiety if left by themselves too much. If you work long hours, you might need a dog walker or a pet sitter. Also, think about your living space. A Frenchie Doodle can adapt to a small apartment, but it still needs regular exercise and mental stimulation. A yard is a bonus, not a requirement.

Cost is another factor. Designer puppies can be expensive, and the price reflects the breeder's investment in health testing and care. Ongoing costs include food, grooming, vet visits, and pet insurance. Budget for these expenses before you commit. Also, consider the long-term commitment. A Frenchie Doodle can live for over a decade, so make sure you are ready for that responsibility.

In the end, the Frenchie Doodle offers a blend of charm, intelligence, and affection that many people find irresistible. With proper care, training, and a bit of patience, it can be a wonderful companion. Just go in with realistic expectations, choose your breeder carefully, and enjoy the journey of getting to know this unique crossbreed.