

THE FRENCH BULLDOG OF COLORADO

Choosing Your Puppy

A GUIDE FOR RESERVED FAMILIES

Congratulations — your deposit is received and your place in the choosing order is secured. This guide walks you through exactly what happens between now and the day your puppy comes home, so you know what to expect at every step.

The short version: you get three separate opportunities to confirm that your puppy is the right one for you, and your deposit is transferable at every single one of them. You are never locked into a puppy you are unsure about.

Your Timeline

WHEN	WHAT HAPPENS	CAN I SWITCH?
Deposit received Your place in line	Your deposit secures your place in the choosing order. Families are contacted to choose in the order their deposits were received — the earlier your deposit came in, the earlier your turn. Photos are taken in three sets: newborn to two weeks, four to six weeks, and eight weeks.	—
5 weeks Selection Day	You choose your puppy from photos and video, based on appearance — color, markings, size, and sex. Once you choose, that puppy is held back for you and removed from public availability.	Yes
8 weeks Video Meet & Greet	We schedule a live video call so you can meet your puppy in real time and see personality, energy, and temperament. You may also meet any other available puppies on that same call.	Yes
10 weeks Pick-Up Day	Your in-person meeting. You spend time with your puppy before finalizing. If the fit is not right, we will introduce you to any other puppies that are available that day.	Yes

Our promise to you

Three separate checkpoints to confirm your choice: 5 weeks, 8 weeks, and pick-up day.

Your deposit is transferable at every checkpoint. If the puppy is not the right fit, we move your deposit to another available puppy.

You will never be pressured to take home a puppy you are not confident about.

How the Process Works

AT 5 WEEKS — YOU CHOOSE ON LOOKS

At around five weeks, each puppy gets their own page on our website with their photos posted. We then text families in the order their deposits were received, and when your turn comes you make your selection based on appearance. At this age, puppies are still developing and their personalities have not fully emerged yet — which is exactly why we do not ask you to make a final decision here.

The moment you choose, that puppy is held back for you and pulled from public availability. Nobody else can claim your puppy while you are deciding.

AT 8 WEEKS — YOU MEET ON VIDEO

We schedule a live video call so you can meet your puppy in real time. This is the personality check: you see how they move, play, respond, and interact with their littermates. It is the best read on temperament available before pick-up day. Along with your call, you will also receive updated photos and video of your puppy.

If your puppy is not the personality match you were hoping for, just say so on the call. We will introduce you to the other available puppies and transfer your deposit — no fee, no awkwardness, no problem.

AT PICK-UP — YOUR FINAL MEET AND GREET

Pick-up happens at ten weeks. The day begins with time to hold and get to know your puppy in person, and this is your last confirmation point — the same rule applies: if it is not the right fit, we will show you what else is available and move your deposit.

Before your puppy leaves us, we record a wellness exit video documenting their condition on go-home day, and you receive their complete shot and deworming record.

In practice, almost nobody changes their mind at this stage — by then you have watched your puppy grow for weeks and met them on video. But the option is always there.

How Your Puppy Develops

Puppies change dramatically in their first ten weeks, and knowing what is happening at each stage makes the whole process easier to follow — including why we do things when we do them.

AGE	WHAT IS HAPPENING	WHAT WE ARE DOING
0–2 weeks Eat and sleep	Newborns do two things: nurse and sleep. They are born with their eyes and ear canals closed, cannot yet regulate their own body temperature, and depend entirely on mom. Eyes typically begin to open somewhere around two to three weeks. Progress at this stage is measured in daily weight gain.	Round-the-clock monitoring, daily weigh-ins, and keeping the whelping area warm, clean, and quiet.
3–4 weeks Finding their feet	Eyes are open and hearing comes online. Puppies go from wobbling to genuinely walking, start noticing their littermates, and begin the first clumsy play. Baby teeth start coming in toward the end of this window.	Gentle daily handling, early socialization, and introducing new sounds, surfaces, and textures.
5–6 weeks Weaning begins	Around four to five weeks we start introducing food alongside nursing. By six weeks puppies are eating well on their own. They are playful, active, and extremely cute — but at this age they are still all sweet little babies. Real personality differences are not visible yet.	Photos go up on each puppy's individual page on our website. This is Selection Day — you choose on appearance.
7–8 weeks Personality arrives	Weaning is complete between six and seven weeks. By eight weeks, real temperament emerges — bold versus thoughtful, busy versus snuggly, curious versus cautious. This is the first age at which what you see is a meaningful preview of the adult dog. First vaccination is given around eight weeks.	Your video call, along with updated photos and video of your puppy, so you can meet them and confirm your choice.
9–10 weeks Ready for home	Puppies are coordinated and confident, sleeping in longer stretches, and fully ready to bond with their own family. Ears may or may not be standing yet — both are normal at this age. Your puppy has had their first vaccination	Pick-up day at ten weeks: your wellness exit video, your final in-person meet and greet, your shot and deworming record, and home you go.

AGE	WHAT IS HAPPENING	WHAT WE ARE DOING
	and has been dewormed every two weeks since birth.	

A Few Important Ground Rules

- We do not host in-person visits before pick-up day. Puppies are not fully vaccinated and are highly vulnerable to illness carried in on shoes, hands, and clothing. Our nursery is a closed, controlled environment — this protects every puppy in the building, including yours.
- One puppy reserved per family at a time. This keeps availability fair for every family on the list.
- Puppies you pass on at five weeks are released to the general public. They are not held in reserve for you while you decide between them, so please choose with that in mind.
- Your deposit is transferable but not refundable. It moves with you to any currently available puppy, as many times as you need — but it does not come back as cash.
- The Prep for Your Frenchie course must be completed before we release the pick-up address and next steps. Please start it well ahead of pick-up day.
- Your puppy must be seen by your own veterinarian within four days of pick-up for your health guarantee to remain valid.

Frequently Asked Questions

VISITS AND SCHEDULING

Can I come see the puppies in person before pick-up day?

No. Young puppies have not completed their vaccine series and are extremely susceptible to parvovirus and other illnesses that adults can carry in on shoes, clothing, and hands without any symptoms of their own. Our nursery stays closed to outside visitors for that reason. Your first in-person visit is pick-up day.

Can I do a video call earlier than eight weeks?

Our scheduled video calls happen at eight weeks, when personalities are developed enough to actually tell you something useful. Before then, photos are posted at the set intervals listed above.

How often are photos taken?

Three times: newborn to two weeks, four to six weeks, and eight weeks. Those are the sets we do — we are not able to take photos on request outside of them.

Where do I see the photos?

On our website. Each puppy has their own individual page where their photos are posted — that is where you will go to make your selection. At eight weeks you will also receive updated photos and video of your puppy along with your video call.

Will you email me weekly updates?

No — photos come in the three sets above rather than weekly, and they live on the website rather than in your inbox, so you can look at them any time. We reach out by text at the two points that matter: when it is your turn to choose, and at eight weeks for your video call and updated photos and video.

How will I know when it is my turn to choose?

We text you. You will get a message letting you know the puppy pages are live and it is your turn to select.

Can you hold my puppy past ten weeks if I need more time?

Usually yes — if you need us to keep your puppy a bit longer for travel or scheduling, talk to us and we will work with you. One honest note: an extended stay does not come with additional photos or video. We are caring for a full nursery, and custom photo sessions for one puppy are not something we can sustain. Your puppy will be well cared for, exercised, and socialized the whole time.

Who schedules the eight-week video call?

We do. You will receive a message with available time slots as your puppy approaches eight weeks, and you pick what works for you.

Can my whole family come to pick-up?

Yes, and we encourage it. Meeting your puppy together is part of what makes pick-up day special. Please just let us know roughly how many people to expect.

CHOOSING AND CHANGING YOUR MIND

What if I do not like my puppy's personality at eight weeks?

Tell us on the call. We will introduce you to the other available puppies and move your deposit to whichever one feels right. This is a normal, expected part of the process — it is precisely why the eight-week call exists.

What exactly does my deposit reserve?

Your place in the choosing order — not a specific puppy or a specific litter. Families are contacted in the order their deposits were received, and when your turn arrives you choose from whatever is available at that moment. The earlier your deposit came in, the more puppies you will have to pick from.

Where am I in line?

Just ask and we will tell you. Keep in mind that your position is your position across our program rather than a claim on one particular litter, so exactly which puppies you will be choosing from depends on what is on the ground when your turn comes up.

What if none of the puppies available on my turn feel right?

You are never obligated to choose. If nothing available speaks to you, you keep your place and we bring you into the next selection round instead.

Can I reserve two puppies while I decide between them?

No — one puppy per family at a time. Holding two puppies takes an option away from another waiting family. You will get your chance to compare all available puppies during your eight-week video call.

Can I get back the puppy I passed on?

Only if that puppy is still available. Once you pass at five weeks, that puppy is released to the general public and can be claimed by anyone.

Is my deposit refundable?

Deposits are transferable but not refundable. That is an important distinction, and it works in your favor at every checkpoint: if a puppy is not the right fit, your deposit moves to another available puppy at no cost to you. What it does not do is come back as cash.

When is the balance due?

If you are picking up locally, your balance is due on pick-up day. If your puppy is traveling to you by flight or ground transport, the balance is due 72 hours before travel so that arrangements can be finalized. [Confirm accepted payment methods.]

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

One of my puppy's ears is standing up and the other is still down. Is something wrong?

Not at all — this is one of the most common questions we get. Frenchie ears come up on their own schedule, usually somewhere between five and fifteen weeks, and it is completely normal for one to stand weeks before the other. Ear cartilage strengthens as the puppy grows, and it rarely strengthens symmetrically. Roughly 99 percent of our puppies end up with both ears fully erect.

Can an ear that is already up fall back down?

Yes, temporarily. During teething — generally around four to six months — the body is pulling calcium toward the incoming adult teeth, and a standing ear can soften or flop for a few weeks. It almost always comes back up on its own once teething is finished.

My puppy has blue eyes. Will they stay blue?

It depends on whether your puppy is merle. Most puppies are born with blue or blue-gray eyes that shift toward their adult color between roughly eight and twelve weeks, and that change can continue a little past that — so for a non-merle puppy, expect the blue to fade.

Merle is the exception. Merle puppies can carry true blue eye color into adulthood, and it shows up in a few different ways: no effect at all, partial blue in one or both eyes, one fully blue eye, or two fully blue eyes. When it holds, it is a distinct crystal blue and it generally stays that way for life. We cannot predict at five weeks exactly how it will settle, so if permanent blue eyes matter to you, let us know and we will tell you what we are seeing as your puppy develops.

Will my puppy's coat color or markings change?

Slightly, yes. Coats often lighten or deepen as the puppy matures, brindle patterning can become more or less pronounced, and white markings sometimes shift a little as the puppy grows into their frame. The overall color you select at five weeks is what you will have, but expect some subtle change.

How big will my puppy get?

We can give you a good estimate based on the parents and our history with these lines, but it is an estimate, not a guarantee. Puppies from the same litter can finish at noticeably different sizes.

My puppy looks smaller than their littermates in the photos. Should I be concerned?

Usually not. Puppies grow in bursts rather than at a steady rate, and the smallest puppy at five weeks is frequently not the smallest at twelve. We monitor weight and condition daily and will always tell you directly if there is a health concern with your puppy.

Why does my puppy look different in every photo?

Puppies change fast at this age — a week is a long time in Frenchie development. Head shape, ear set, body proportion, and coat all shift noticeably from week to week. This is another reason the eight-week video call is so valuable: you see your puppy as they actually are, in motion, right before coming home.

BRINGING YOUR PUPPY HOME

What comes home with my puppy?

Your wellness exit video, a sample of Carna4 kibble, a deworming transition regimen, a probiotic sample, your health guarantee, the shot and deworming record, AKC papers, a puppy exit counseling sheet, and a free month of pet insurance.

What is the wellness exit video?

On pick-up day we record a head-to-tail wellness walkthrough of your puppy before they leave us — a documented record of their condition on the day they go home. You keep it, and it is a useful thing to have on hand for your first vet visit.

What vaccines will my puppy have had?

Our vaccine schedule is eight, twelve, and sixteen weeks. Since pick-up is at ten weeks, your puppy will have received their eight-week vaccine here, and the twelve- and sixteen-week boosters will be given by your own veterinarian. You will receive the complete shot record at pick-up so your vet knows exactly what has been given and when.

Has my puppy been dewormed?

Yes. Puppies are dewormed every two weeks from birth until the day they leave us, and that schedule is documented on the record you take home.

When does my puppy need to see my own vet?

Within four days of pick-up — this one is a requirement, not a suggestion. Every puppy is examined and cleared as healthy by our veterinarian before leaving us, and your own vet visit within four days confirms that your puppy arrived healthy. That visit is required for your health guarantee to remain valid, and it is also when your vet will set up the schedule for the remaining vaccines.

Bring your shot record and your wellness exit video to that appointment. Until the vaccine series is finished at sixteen weeks, keep your puppy away from dog parks, pet stores, and other high-traffic dog areas.

Do I have to complete the Prep for Your Frenchie course?

Yes. The course must be completed before we release the pick-up address and next steps. It is not busywork — it covers setup, feeding, the first 72 hours at home, and the early decisions that shape your dog's long-term health. Puppies whose families arrive prepared settle in dramatically better, and this is the single best thing you can do for your puppy before you ever meet them. Please start it well ahead of pick-up rather than the night before.

Who do I contact with questions?

Amanda, at 719-308-7444. Most families find texting works best, and it is the fastest way to reach me.

How quickly will I hear back?

For anything that is not an emergency, please allow 24 to 48 business hours for a reply. If that window passes and you have not heard from me, please text again — a message going unanswered is never intentional, and a follow-up is genuinely helpful rather than a bother. I would much rather answer a question twice than have you sitting on a worry.