

Fox Terrier (Wire)



A native breed, the Wire Fox Terrier is a classy dog, and really looks his best when nicely trimmed. He is a long-lived breed with an expected life span of well over ten years. Alert, very active, somewhat vociferous, he is a bold dog, originally known as the Rough-haired Terrier, when he was used for sporting pursuits.

It is probable that the rough coat was developed before that of the Smooth Fox Terrier but, strangely, the appearance of the Wire Fox Terrier in the showing was some twenty years later than that of the Smooth. A strain of rough coat terriers was kept for fifty-five years by the Revd Jack Russell, who gave his name to another terrier breed.

Cheerful and happy, he makes an excellent children's playmate and family pet. A great show dog, enjoying success in this field throughout the world.

What about Health Issues?

You may be aware that some breeds of dog (and crossbreeds too) can be susceptible to inherited disease. Of course you want to be sure that the puppy 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 on the Kennel Club's website at:

www.thekennelclub.org.uk/doghealth

Puppy buyers 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.

And what health screening is relevant for the Fox Terrier (Wire)?

There are not currently any veterinary screening schemes or DNA tests for disease relevant to this breed under the Accredited Breeder Scheme, however you should still ask breeders and refer to breed clubs about health issues in the breed.