



## What is a preservation breeder?

We, the Bull Terrier Club of America **Member Preservation Breeders**, are an entire community of enthusiasts, bonded by our mutual devotion to one breed, the Bull Terrier.

- We are a stable, highly motivated population of members whose intention is to preserve, promote and protect the legacy of the Bull Terrier. We work at moving our individual dogs and the entire breed forward through continued growth of both our skill and knowledge.
- We stand resolute to our mission of producing quality Bull Terriers, dogs that adhere to the **written standard** of our breed. (The Breed Standard is a description for how a breed should look, details the temperament of a breed and may reflect the use or purpose of a breed. It is the blueprint of the characteristics necessary for an ideal example of the breed. It is the benchmark or goal that true master breeders strive to attain). You wouldn't buy a house where the builder didn't use a blueprint and also ignored building codes.
- We are devoted guardians of the breed and the breed standard.
- We are voluntarily bound by a strict **code of ethics**.
- We will do all we can to ensure that the dogs used in our breeding programs are producing healthy puppies. We adhere to the comprehensive BTCA recommendations for health testing and use the testing to produce superior puppies that look and act like Bull Terriers should.
- Health tests on our dogs will be made available to you.
- Our dogs' health, conformation, temperament and skills have been proven in the public arena; through conformation dog shows, performance and obedience events. They hold titles, and not by accident.

- We will educate and mentor people who are just discovering our breed. Does mentoring mean we're going to sell you a puppy? No, but it does mean we're going to give you the best information we can and offer you the tools you will need to make an informed decision on how best to choose a dog for your lifestyle. We will tell you when a Bull Terrier might not be the best fit for you.
- Your Preservation Breeder will be your support structure and resource for information Bull Terrier for the dogs' entire lifetime.
- If you cannot or will not keep your Bull Terrier, our dogs come back to us! It is our promise to them. Yes, our commitment is that strong!
- We are so proud of what we do for the next generation of happy, healthy Bull Terriers. "The dogs are our heart". We work to ensure their well-being today and their safe place in the future. The Bull Terrier Club of America was founded in 1897, we have stood the test of time. Look for a BTCA member Preservation Breeder in our [Breeder Directory](#). We are the breeders who have invested heart, soul and resources to learn the science, and hone the art of creating dogs and lines of dogs, pedigrees, that will stand the test of time. It is our legacy.
- For further reading: <https://www.showsightmagazine.com/article/what-does-it-mean-to-be-a-preservation-breeder/124>
- Why you should choose a preservation breeder (in layman's terms).
- Reprint - Amanda Felmlee (Facebook post) April 2017.  
Bull terriers are weird. Not like your quirky hipster friend weird. I mean sensitive, obsessive, intense personality type weird. They are a dog that you need to mentally prepare for because I can almost guarantee you will at one point be crying thinking "what did I get myself into?"

I love these dogs, don't get me wrong. But I love them because they are like me. Stubborn, don't get along with everyone, independent, and well,

kinda' jerks. But when talking with a potential adopter, I am going to be honest about these things. I will tell you the good traits a dog has and the undesirable qualities we are still working on. I might tell you no to the bull terrier you are interested in and suggest a better match.

Why? Because I am \*not\* trying to sell you a dog. I want the matches I make to be lifelong commitments. Reputable breeders and rescues are very selective, you will likely have to wait until an ideal match comes along or get on a breeders' waiting list, and it will be a process of reference check and home visits. But if you don't have the patience for that, then you don't have the patience for a bull terrier.

You can skip all of that and go to a less than desirable breeder who will sell to the first person with cash in hand. They always have puppies available or coming soon and they advertise everywhere to sell them. They sell them too early, the parents have no health screening, and the breeder is certainly not going to assist you when issues arise.

I've seen numerous times people post that they "rescued" their dog from a backyard breeder saying they just couldn't leave it in that place. No, you gave that person your money and enabled them to continue breeding. I realize it's difficult to walk away from a puppy, especially when it's in poor conditions, but the only way it is going to stop is when the money stops.

If you truly love this breed and care about their well-being you will do extensive research first. Both into the breed and into where you are getting it from. Whether you choose to adopt or to buy from a breeder it's a \*HUGE\* commitment.

Choose wisely.