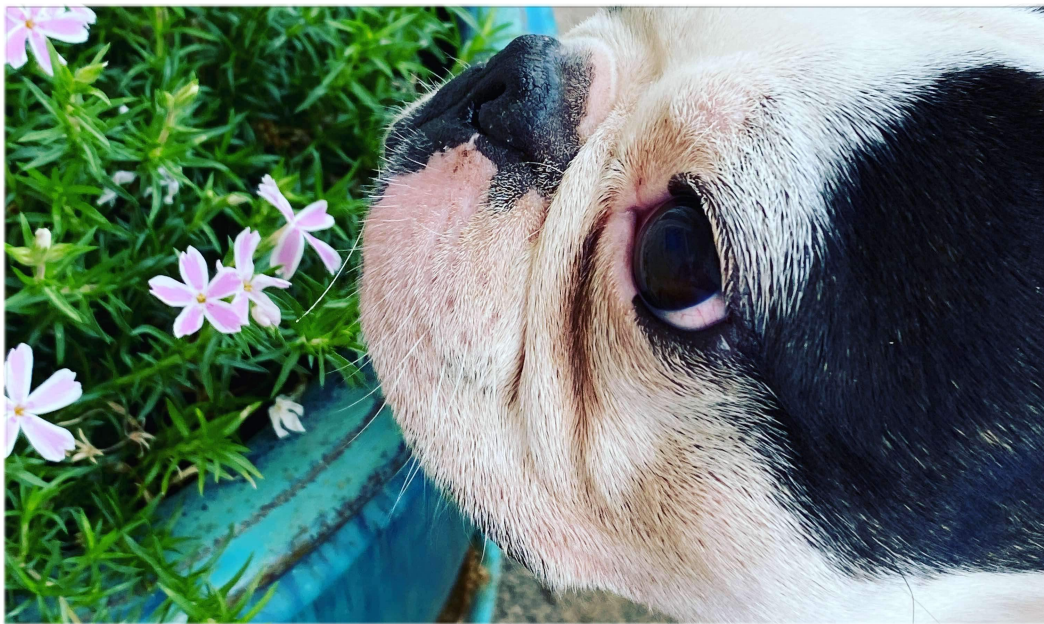


# Brachycephalic pets

We love our Frenchies, Bostons, Bulldogs, Pugs, Persians, etc!!



## Brachycephalic—

Literally translates as a “broad/short skull”

Brachycephalic dogs and cats have wonderful personalities and while their short noses add to their overall appearance and charm, there are also some important medical considerations in caring for these dogs and cats over their lifetime. They may also be predisposed to certain breathing problems along with other potential issues with their heart, lungs, GI tract & skeletal system.

1

### EDUCATE YOURSELF

Before your puppy comes home, set up time with us to discuss their special needs.

2

### BE PROACTIVE

During your puppy exams we will discuss preventative care and proactive measures.

3

### LIFELONG CARE

Weight control, chiropractic care, and proper husbandry are very important.



### Growing popularity =>

French bulldogs were ranked #1 by AKC!



### Healthy patients <3

Our doctors will discuss all the normal recommendations for preventative care for your pet as well as any special considerations.



### Snoring is not normal!!

And always deserves medical attention!

## BOAS—

### Brachycephalic obstructive airway syndrome

Primary comments of BOAS are nasal stenosis [see below], a narrower than usual airway, a broad tongue, an elongated soft palate where tissue hangs down in the back of their throat, and a differently shaped nasal cavity. Over time, increased resistance and struggling to breathe can lead to secondary changes in their tonsils and throat, collapse of their airway, inflammatory bowel disease, and heart disease. Proactive care as young dogs may be able to mitigate these long term problems.

Please remember that any increased noise associated with breathing-this includes snoring, snorting, or any gargling noises while eating/drinking-is not normal. The noise you hear is due to turbulent air flow and ongoing tissue damage in the back of the throat and respiratory system. As this noise continues over the patient's lifetime, there is increased scarring and permanent damage may result. Take the time to discuss any concerns with our doctors during your initial puppy visits!



## We love puppies and kittens!! But...

SVC is privileged to work with many responsible breeders of brachycephalic critters!

In addition to regular health care, remember that all breeding animals require additional health screening and that artificial insemination and delivery via cesarean section is almost always required in these breeds. This adds an additional level of expense and responsibility to anyone considering management of an intact male or female. Please educate yourself beforehand and be prepared for the time and financial commitment that breeding involves.

## NASAL STENOSIS—EASY TO FIX!

Nasal stenosis-nostrils that are narrower or more collapsed-are one of the easiest components of brachycephalic syndrome to see outwardly and to address early on [usually by the age of spay/neuter surgery, or 6-12 months of age]. Cambridge University recently published this chart [see right] to help grade nasal stenosis. They also posit that early surgical correction of cases that are moderate or severe not only significantly decrease airway noise, but may also decrease the incidence of secondary changes and complications by up to 5x later on in life! This surgery can easily be done in a general practice setting while alternate methods later in life may require a specialty referral.

