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American bully ears not cropped

P.S.: Victor Corrales American Bulldogs and Pitbulls have that distinct feature that sets them apart from other canine breeds – cropped ears! If you are a bully parent, you might consider getting an ear cropping procedure to achieve this unique look. However, you might also be worried about the safety of your pup and the process. But do you need to crop your pup’s ears? Some of the most common questions that Bully parents ask include the best age and the type of ear crop that is suitable for their pup. This popular procedure has triggered many debates from both sides because ear cropping is still misunderstood by many. For first-time Bully parents, here are some essential things you should know about it. If you breed an American bully or Pit Bull and you want your pet to look extraordinary then crop your dog ears. Cropping Dog Ears is very popular for American Bully and Other Bully Pit Popular Ear Crop Styles for Bully Breeds Apart from American Bulldogs and Pitbulls, some other breeds that often sport the cropped ear style include Boxers Doberman Pinschers Great Danes and Boston Terriers. Usually, the procedure is done when the puppy is about eight to twelve weeks old, and the ear cartilage is not fully developed. The most common styles for the American Bully and Pitbulls are the Battle Crop, Short Crop, and Show Crop. Show Crop – this style is the most popular ear crop done on American Bulldogs. It is the longest of the three conventional methods, and it gives Bullies the general appearance of alertness. Short Crop – this style is best for all American Bully and Pitbulls. It is a combination of the Show and Battle Crop. It does not look too flat or too long on your Bully’s head. Battle Crop - the battle crop style is the shortest among the three ear-cropping for American Bully and Pitbulls. It is trendy among Bully fans, but sporting this kind of look makes your pet’s ear more prone to infections. If you decide to get this kind of look for your dog, make sure to clean properly and use veterinarian recommended medications. Common FAQs About American Bully Cropping What is the Best Age to Have American Bully Ears Cropped? Typically, Bully puppies take ear cropping surgery at eight to 16 weeks old. Most people believe that the ears will stand better if cropped while they are still puppies. However, this is not true. A bully’s ears will stand up regardless of the age when cropped. If you want, you can have the procedure at any age. Just keep in mind that the older your dog is, the more challenging it will be to treat and heal their wounds. Likewise, ear cropping at a very young age may take a while to heal because the cartilage is still not well developed. How Long Does Healing Take After Cropping? Healing time for each dog varies widely. Usually, the stitches need to be cleaned and removed in two to three weeks after the procedure. In case the area is injured for some reason, healing time may extend up to three to four weeks. Be on the lookout for signs of infections during the healing stage too. What is the Price Range for Ear Cropping in American Bulldogs and Pitbulls? The cost of ear cropping procedure varies widely. Since this is a painful surgery, only professional Veterinarians should conduct ear cropping procedures. You can expect to find charges from \$150.00 to \$800.00. But the average price is around \$250.00 and includes follow-up visits, medications, and, if necessary, antibiotics. Is Ear Cropping on American Bully Necessary? Ear Cropping in Bully breeds is purely cosmetic. It is typically done to make the American Bully and Pitbulls look extraordinarily good. But fans of this practice claim that it has plenty of health benefits for your dog. Often, the prevention of ear infections or Canine Otitis Externa is cited as one of the significant benefits of ear cropping. It is said to improve airflow to the ear canal and potentially reduce the risk of bacterial and fungal ear infections. But the American Veterinary Medical Association states that floppy ears in Bully breeds do not increase the likelihood of such diseases. More so, no specific dog breeds have a higher propensity for this medical issue over other breeds. Aftercare Tips for Quick Recovery of Cropped Ears in Bullies After an ear cropping surgery, your veterinarian will provide a set of instructions on how to clean and take care of your Bully during the recovery period. In most cases, antibiotics are prescribed to be administered for at least 10 days after the operation. It is essential to follow these instructions religiously and ensure that no injury will come to your pet’s ears during the recovery period. Cleaning is twice a day using Bactine spray to reduce discomfort, irritation, and prevent infections. Then apply hydrocortisone cream around the area and triple-antibiotic cream on the stitches and cuts. Apply Bactine spray and hydrocortisone cream when you notice your pup attempting to scratch the ears. This care should be maintained until the stitches are removed, and the cuts have recovered. Related: Best Dry Dog Food For Pitbulls What Are The Best Medicines That Can Help American Bully Ears Crop Heal Fast Conclusion: Ear cropping is mainly suggestive of American Bully and Pitbulls as it has been done in their ancestors. If you are considering having your Bully’s ears cropped, it should be done by a certified professional veterinarian to ensure safety and proper surgical operation. We at the American Bully Daily do not advise ear cropping, and this discussion is for information purposes only. Read Also: Save Save Save Save Save It is essential to understand what ear cropping is exactly. Different practices can be implemented for specific breeds by vets depending on the desired look. American bully puppy ear cropping generally involves cutting off the floppy part of a puppy’s ears while they are anesthetized.Then the ears are taped to a hard surface for a period so that they will grow standing in an upright position. While there is some pain involved in the initial healing from the procedure, it is not as long-lasting or as painful as common surgeries like spaying/neutering.Ear cropping, when done correctly under the care of a trained vet, is a humane augmentation eat does not negatively affect the dog.What Is the Truth Behind American Bully Ear Cropping Myths?When most people think about ear cropping on American bully’s, they are picture fighting dogs, or aggressive dogs kept on thick chain leads. This image is a stereotype perpetuated by the media. Most American bully owners want the very best for their furry friends and find there are multiple benefits for ear cropping.The majority of dog owners do not attempt augmentations for purely cosmetic purposes, and it is nearly impossible to locate a willing vet for such procedures.Augmentations are done mainly to improve the life of the dog and are done by trained professionals–Dog Kennel Clubs around the world support ear cropping for purposes of standardization. American bully ear cropping does not set out to make the dog look menacing or create an image of a fierce dog.This idea is a myth. Mostly, ear cropping is for performance enhancement or to decrease the likelihood of medical issues in the future, such as ear infections.Why Should You Crop Your American Bully’s Ears? There are several good reasons to follow the historical standard as it generally was started for a practical purpose and not aesthetics, as most people assume. For example, the American bully has worked as a farm guard dog, among other historical duties, and cropped ears would assist in increasing hearing.Another added benefit is that they will not be able to get caught in anything if your American bully tends to get itself into awkward situations. Many also believe that cropping the ears of certain breeds like the American bully can aid in circulation and make it harder for ear infections to set in by decreasing trapped moisture in the ear canal.How Does Ear Cropping Affect Home Pets vs. Show Dogs?Many breed standards include specific looks that may not be natural for the dog. The American Bully is an example of a breed that has several elective surgery options that can take place at a few weeks of age, which will significantly impact their appearance as they grow.The American Kennel Club “currently recognizes 20 breeds with cropped ears”, which means that any dog of those breeds without cropped ears would be considered not up to standard in a showroom. The appearance of cropped ears, especially in the Show Crop style, tends to give the dog an alert look that is attractive to many dog breeders though this is not the sole reason for the procedure.If an American Bully will be a house pet instead of a show dog, then this cropping procedure can create problems later on with the perception of both fellow canines and human strangers. For example, a study by the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada “provide(s) evidence that ear cropped and tail docked dogs are perceived differently than an identical dog in its ‘natural’ state.Modified dogs were perceived as being more aggressive, more dominant, less playful and less attractive than natural dogs”. If you are intending to keep the dog or sell it as a family pet it is important to know the study showed feature alterations such as ear cropping, “have significant impacts on how modified dogs and their owners are perceived by others.”How Does It Affect a Dog’s Ability to Communicate With Other Dogs?Because this augmentation will affect your American bully for the rest of its life, you should understand how it will affect its ability to communicate with other dogs. Studies have shown that cropped ears or docked tails can impede communication.Ear and tail signals are some of the most common body language cues shared between dogs. In 2018, a study showed “dogs with permanently erected ears or with a very short tail lost part of their behavioral repertoire expressed by these anatomical structures.”Your dog still will live a full, healthy, happy life with shortened ears. In addition to other benefits, it helps to prevent painful chronic ear infections. For such a permanent surgery, it is crucial to speak to your vet and understand the consequences of electing for this surgery.When Should You Crop Your American Bully’s Ears?The best time to crop an American bully puppy’s ears is between six and twelve weeks old when they are still too young to be fully alert. Doing it at a young age will ensure that the dog does not remember the experience.Doing the ear cropping then will ensure that your American bully is not as affected. Puppies are also much easier to control, which makes it uncomplicated to follow through with proper after surgery care.No reputable vet will crop the ears of an adult dog unless it is a medical emergency. Attempting to ear crop an adult dog is considered animal cruelty in most states and countries.How Long Does It Take for the Ears to Heal After Cropping?Once the floppy part of the ear is removed, the remainder of the ears will be taped to a hard surface for several weeks so that it will heal upright. This period is not harmful to the puppy. Generally, it can take four to eight weeks to recover fully.The healing process happens in several stages. After the bandages and sutures get removed from the ears, which can happen seven to fourteen days after the surgery, there is another period of two to four weeks where the puppy’s ears are propped in some way and taped in place so that their ears will heal completely upright giving the ears the alert look most breed standards require.Do Vets Do Ear Cropping?Vets will crop ears for breed standards or medical considerations but, generally, if it takes place for cosmetic purposes, they will decline.The price will vary by vet office but the standard cost is between \$150 – \$600 though more expensive vets do not guarantee better crops. Research your vet before making a choice.What Are the Kinds of Ear Crop for American Bullies?There are several different American bully ear crop styles. The best ear crop for an American bully is shorter crops. The styles include:Battle Crop: the shortest crop which takes most of the ear and leaves the dog vulnerable to debris entering the ear canal. It got its name back in the days when dog fighting was a very popular sport. Because the crop is a close cut to the head, the opponent wouldn’t have much to grab on during the fight.Short Crop: A bit longer than the previous and it is the most recommended one. Many owners choose this crop because it’s a great combo of the battle and the show crop. Show Crop: As its name says, it is a crop for show dogs. Although, it’s not obligatory for your dog to have this crop in order to participate in a contest, it is what the most owners choose for their show dogs.Long Crop: Also called the Tall Crop, this is the most extended version of the ear crop and leaves behind about three-fourths of the original ear length. This is not very popular and you will rarely see an American Bully with this crop.What to Do After Cropping Ears?The ears are bandaged after the initial surgery, and the bandages will usually need to be replaced by your vet weekly until the ear is fully healed. The vet will provide detailed instructions, but these are some general aftercare tips: Stop your puppy from disturbing the ears. You can get a cone from your vet.Without getting the bandages wet, clean and apply antibiotics to the ear incisions as instructed by your vet.As scabs begin to form, you can briefly soak the ear in warm water and gently remove them so that they do not interfere with healing.Visit your vet at any signs of infection.Although the sutures are generally removed after seven to ten days, the entire healing process can take up to eight weeks. During that time, try to ensure that the ears remain clean and are not scratched by the puppy. Your vet will provide pain medication immediately after the surgery.Is It Legal to Crop American Bully Ears in My Area?It is essential to make sure you know the laws and regulations involving ear cropping of breeds in your area. Some entire countries have outlawed ear cropping, and nine American states regulate ear cropping. These states are Connecticut, Maryland, New Hampshire, New York, Maryland, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania.Most of these American regulations involve ensuring that a licensed veterinarian does the procedures and that they are not done for purely cosmetic reasons.Multiple states have mentioned possibly banning such feature augmentations as ear cropping and tail docking, but as of this writing, none of them have passed any such laws. Keep up to date by looking for regulations in your state and city. Cropped ears on your dog can look great. But you want to make sure the procedure is done properly and safely, to ensure you get the results you want—while keeping your dog as safe and comfortable as possible.The first question you have to ask yourself when considering this procedure is, when should you have it done?The Best Age for Ear CroppingMany people believe that your dog’s ears will only stand up if they’re cropped as a puppy. This is actually a myth—your dog’s ears will stand up regardless of when they’re cropped. In fact, you can actually get your dog’s ears cropped at any age if you really want to. Just keep in mind it’s a more traumatic and painful surgery for older dogsThat said, it’s best to get the procedure done before 12 weeks of age. (Most vets recommend having it done between 7 and 12 weeks of age.)Is there an age limit for cropping your dog’s ears?Most vets will actually refuse to crop a dog’s ears after a certain age... although if you look around, you can probably find a vet who is willing to crop a full-grown dog’s ears.The typical cut off date ranges from 12 – 16 weeks. Some veterinarians may also refuse to crop a dog’s ears at a certain weight. The typical cut off weight ranges from 15 – 20 pounds.Other veterinarians have no cut off date and will perform the ear cropping procedure at any age, or weight.Choosing an Ear Crop StyleThe next thing you need to do is choose an ear crop style.It’s important to choose an ear crop style before you go looking for a vet, because some vets will only perform one style of crop.There are four main crop styles for American Pit Bull Terriers & American Bullies:Short crops and show crops have the greatest chance of standing erect. Ears that are cropped too long, or too short, are less likely to stand erect.When a dog’s ears are cropped too short, they are more likely to lay flat on the dog’s head.When a dog’s ears are cropped too long, the cartilage within pinna may be too thin to support the weight of the ear.Choosing a VetThis procedure is going to determine how your dog looks for the rest of their life, so make sure to do your homework and find a good vet.It’s a good idea to ask your breeder (or other local breeders) where they get their dog’s ears done, because they probably know who’s best at this type of procedure.You can also find local vet that performs ear cropping surgeries here: Vets That Crop Ears in the United States.When you talk to the vet, you’ll want to ask them two things:1) The PriceOn average, you can expect to pay anything from \$150 to over \$600. Keep in mind, a more expensive vet does not necessarily mean you’ll get a better crop. A fair price that you should expect to pay for a good crop is probably about \$250.This price should include everything, including the procedure itself, the follow-up visit, and any medications (pain medicine and potentially antibiotics).2) Picture of Prior CropsIn addition, it’s a good idea to bring in a few pictures of ear crops that you like. Show them to the vet and ask if they are willing and able to crop ears in that style.(Some vets will only crop ears one way, so make sure they can provide what you want.Initial VisitSo you’ve decided on a vet. The next step is to take your dog in for a visit so the vet can make sure that your puppy is able to handle the anesthesia. Some vets will do a blood test at this point.The vet will also give you any instructions on what to do the night before the surgery. You’ll probably restrict food the night before the procedure, and restrict water the morning of. But make sure to pay attention and follow your vet’s recommendations.After the ProcedureYour vet may keep your dog overnight, or you might be able to take them home the same day. They should also provide you with pain medication, so make sure to ask for some if they forget. The vet will also attach some kind of foam support or plastic rack to your dog’s ears before sending them home.Your dog will definitely be out-of-sorts for a night or two. The anesthetic will make them drowsy, and their ears may be sore. If it looks like your pup is in pain, give them some pain medication—after all, that’s what it’s for.Aftercare Tips1) Follow the Vet’s Instructions.This should go without saying, but make sure to follow all your vet’s instructions! Your dog has just had surgery, and it’s important to do everything you can to help them heal properly.2) Use the Cone.You can remove the cone from your dog as long as you are supervising them, but put the cone back on whenever you’re not watching. The cone is there to prevent your pup from ripping their stitches, which is very important to the proper healing process.3) Keep the Ears Clean.You need to keep the skin clean until it’s had a chance to heal. This is important in preventing infections that could require an emergency trip to the vet. Use peroxide and Neosporin at least 2 or 3 times a day.4) Remove scabs.When you were a kid, your mother may have told you not to pick at scabs. Well that might be good advice for yourself, but when it comes to cropping ears, you want to remove any scabs on your dog’s ears immediately.This is important because the scabs could interfere with the ears properly standing up.The best way to remove these scabs is to soak them in water for 5 minutes first, to soften them up and make them easier/less painful to pick off.5) Watch for Infections.Whenever you wash your dog’s ears (you are cleaning them 2-3 times a day, right?), be on the lookout for signs of infection. This could come in the form of redness, swelling, pain, or red streaks extending away from the affected area. If you see any signs of infection, take your dog back to the vet right away for treatment.6) Nourish Your Dog Through a Healthy Diet.Finally, make sure your dog is eating well and getting all the essential nutrients they need to recover properly. We recommend giving your pup dog a full serving of Bully Max twice a day during this post-op recovery period.

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