



Official Breed Standard

## Norwich Terrier (Terrier Group)



*A Breed Standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function with soundness essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be mindful of features which could be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed.*

### **GENERAL APPEARANCE:**

Small, low, keen dog, compact and strong with good substance and bones. Honourable scars from fair wear and tear not to be unduly penalised.

### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

One of the smallest of the terriers. Loveable disposition, not quarrelsome, tremendously active with hardy constitution.

### **TEMPERAMENT:**

Gay and fearless.

### **HEAD & SKULL:**

Muzzle wedge shaped and strong. In length two thirds of measurement from occiput to bottom of well-defined stop. Slightly rounded, wide skull, good width between ears.

### **EYES:**

Relatively small, oval shaped, dark, full of expression, bright and keen.

### **EARS:**

Erect, set well apart on top of skull. Medium size with pointed tips. Perfectly erect when aroused, can be laid back when not at attention.

### **MOUTH:**

Tight lipped, jaws clean and strong. Rather large, strong teeth with perfect, regular scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

### **NECK:**

Strong of good length, commensurate with correct overall balance, flowing into well laid shoulders.

### **FOREQUARTERS:**

Legs short, powerful and straight; elbows close to body. Pasterns firm and upright.

### **BODY:**

Short back, compact with good depth. Ribcage long and well sprung with short loin. Level topline.

### **HINDQUARTERS:**

Broad, strong and muscular, well-turned stifle. Low set hock with great propulsion.

**FEET:**

Rounded, well-padded and cat like. Pointing straight forward standing and moving.

**TAIL:**

Docking previously optional.

(a) Medium docked. Set high, completing perfectly level topline.

Carried erect.

(b) Tail of moderate length to give a general balance to dog, thick at root and tapering towards tip, as straight as possible, carried

jauntily, not excessively gay, completing perfectly level topline.

**GAIT / MOVEMENT:**

Forelegs should move straight forward when travelling; hind legs follow in their track; hocks parallel and flexing to show pads.

**COAT:**

Hard, wiry, straight, lying close to body, thick undercoat. Longer and rougher on neck forming a ruff to frame face. Hair on head and ears short and smooth, except for slight whiskers and eyebrows.

**COLOUR:**

All shades of red, wheaten, black and tan or grizzle. White marks or patches are undesirable.

**SIZE:**

Ideal height at withers 25 cms (10 ins).

**FAULTS:**

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect on health & welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

**NOTE:**

Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.



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Most recent changes to this Standard has an effective date of 01.01.2017

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