



Official Breed Standard

Tibetan Spaniel (Utility 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, active and alert. Well balanced in general outline, slightly longer in body than height at withers.

CHARACTERISTICS

Gay and assertive, highly intelligent, aloof with strangers.

TEMPERAMENT

Alert, loyal but independent.

HEAD AND SKULL

Small in proportion to body, carried proudly. Masculine in dogs but free from coarseness. Skull slightly domed, moderate width and length. Stop slight but defined. Medium length of muzzle, blunt with cushioning, free from wrinkle. Chin showing some depth and width.

NOSE

Black preferred.

EYES

Dark brown, oval, bright and expressive, medium size, set fairly well apart but forward looking. Rims black.

EARS

Medium size, pendant, well feathered in adults, set fairly high. Slight lift from the skull desirable but must not fly. Large, heavy, low set ears untypical.

MOUTH

Slightly undershot. Teeth evenly placed and the lower jaw wide between the canine teeth. Full dentition desirable. Teeth and tongue not showing when mouth closed.

NECK

Moderately short, strong and well set on. Covered with a mane or 'shawl' of longer hair, more pronounced in dogs than bitches.

FOREQUARTERS

Moderate bone. Forelegs slightly bowed but firm at shoulder. Shoulder well laid.

BODY

Slightly longer from withers to root of tail than the height at withers, good spring of rib, level back.

HINDQUARTERS

Well made and strong, hocks well let down, straight when viewed from behind. Moderate turn of stifle.

FEET

Harefoot. Small and neat with feathering between toes often extending beyond the feet. Round cat-feet undesirable.

TAIL

Set high, richly plumed and carried in gay curl over back when moving. (Not to be penalised for dropping tail when standing).

GAIT/MOVEMENT

Quick-moving, straight, free, positive.

COAT

Top coat silky texture, smooth on face and front of legs, of moderate length on body, but lying rather flat. Undercoat fine and dense. Ears and back of forelegs nicely feathered, tail and buttocks well furnished with longer hair. Not overcoated, bitches tend to carry less coat and mane than dogs.

COLOUR

All colours and mixture of colours, except merle, permissible.

SIZE

Height about 25 cms (10 ins).

Ideal weight : 4-7 kgs (9-15 lbs).

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.

NOTE

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



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