

IBIZAN PODENCO

A breed standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance including the correct colour of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function. Absolute soundness is essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be careful to avoid obvious conditions or exaggerations which would be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed. If a feature or quality is desirable it should only be present in the right measure. However, if a dog possesses a feature, characteristic or colour described as unacceptable, it must not be rewarded in the show ring.

Most recent changes to this Standard have an effective date of 01/02/2021

ORIGIN

Spain (Balearic Islands).

UTILISATION

Without the hunter using guns, the Podenco Ibizenco is mainly used for hunting rabbits by day and at night.

Thanks to his particularly good scenting ability, which, coupled with hearing, he uses more than sight, he scents and hunts out rabbits with ease, even in dense cover. Nimble and bright, he catches his prey quickly, especially when hunting together with other dogs.

When one dog indicates game, he is surrounded by all the others, which keep a certain distance and stand in wait. They bark only when they see or hear the game and when they have surrounded it. Both when indicating and catching game, all dogs wag their tail fast, but are easily put off their waiting attitude. The Podenco Ibizenco is also used for hunting hare and large game. He is a good retriever. With certain

exceptions, only bitches are used for the formation of a pack or, at most, with one male only, as the latter do not work together during a hunt, being quarrelsome. When a pack has caught several thousand rabbits, it can happen with this breed that some dogs from the same pack no longer want to hunt until they have had a considerable rest. The Spanish expression “enconillarse” (go to rest) refers to this peculiarity.



Illustration courtesy of NKU Picture Library

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

This breed originates in the Balearic Islands of Majorca, Ibiza, Minorca, and Formentera, where it is known by the original name of “Ca Eivissenc”. It is also widely found in Catalonia, around Valencia, in the Roussillon, and in the Provence, where it is known by the names Mallorquí, Xarnelo, Mayorquais, Charnegue, Charnegui, and Balearic Dog. Probably these dogs were brought to the islands by the Phoenecians, Carthaginians, and eventually also the Romans. This dog is a typical primitive and robust representative of one of the oldest of still-existing breeds. Illustrations of these dogs are found in the graves of the Pharaohs and on objects in museums, so that the existence of the breed can already be proved in the year 3,400 BC.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

- The distance from the tip of the muzzle to the eyes is equal to that from the eyes to the occiput.

HEAD

Seen as a whole, the long, fine head has the appearance of a cone cut off near its base; completely dry, rather small in relation to body.

Cranial Region:

Skull: Long and flat (dolichocephalic). Occipital bone protruding. Forehead fine and flat.

Stop: Barely pronounced.

Facial Region:

Nose: Nose leather flesh colour. Nostrils open. Nasal bridge slightly arched.

Muzzle: Nasal bridge and nose protrude over lower jaw; fine, long, and according to colour of coat, flesh

colour. **Lips:** Thin, close-fitting, flesh colour.

Jaws & teeth: Perfect-fitting bite, scissor bite, white, and regular.

Eyes:

Slanting, small, light amber colour, reminiscent of caramel colour. The amber colour can be more or less intensive according to coat colour. Without seeming very noble, the expression shows intelligence but also fear and mistrust.

Ears:

Always stiff, very mobile. Pointing forward or sideways in a horizontal plane or held backwards. Upright when dog is animated. The center of the ear set on is level with the eyes. The shape is that of an elongated rhomboid, which has been cut off by a third of its long diagonal. They are fine without hair on the inside of the ear opening; of medium, not exaggerated size.

NECK

Very dry, both in its upper and lower part. Its length is one-quarter the length of the body, slightly arched and muscular. Skin is taut, smooth, without dewlap. Normally, the coat is longer and denser in the region of the set on to the body, especially in the smooth variety.

BODY

Regarded as a whole, the body is symmetric, slightly convex and of medium, even proportions, compact, and slightly longer than tall, without the differences being laid down exactly.

Withers: Well-defined, high, dry, and long.

Back: Long, straight, and pliable. Muscles strong, yet flat.

Loins: Arched, of medium breadth, strong and firm.

Croup: Strongly sloping with bone structure visible; it shows very strong, hard muscles

Chest: Deep, narrow, and long, but not reaching to the elbows. Forechest pointed and strongly protruding.

Ribs: Flat.

Underline and belly: Well drawn up.

TAIL

Set on low; there should be some longer and coarser, slightly off-standing hairs (like ears of grain) towards the tip; long. When the tail is pulled through between the legs, it should reach the spine. Slightly thicker at set on, gradually tapering towards the tip. Hanging naturally in repose; in movement carried in sickle-shape, more-or-less tightly curved. Preferably not carried upright or too much curled over back.

LIMBS

Forequarters:

Vertical, symmetric. Seen from front, the position of the front legs is very close together; altogether sturdy, with long limbs that give the impression of a slim, fast, yet strong animal.

Shoulder: Shoulder blades slanting, strong, and freely mobile.

Upper arm: Very long, straight, strong, and very close in position.

Elbow: Broad, set well apart from the body, parallel to the median plane of the body, but never loose.

Forearm: Broadening towards front pastern.

Pastern: Strong, firm, broad, and well-upright

Hindquarters:

Vertical with long, strong, flat muscles.

Hock joint: Well-angulated, broad, set low, vertical, turning neither out nor in.

FEET

Almost hare-foot. Toes long and close together. Profuse hair in space between toes; nails very strong and normally white, occasionally according to coat colour. Pads very hard.

GAIT / MOVEMENT

The preferred movement is a suspended trot. Gallop is very fast and gives the impression of great agility.

SKIN

Taut, close fitting to body; reddish pigment, but may be a different colour where coat colour differs.

COAT

Smooth rough or long hair.

- The smooth should not be silky, but strong and shiny.
- The rough should be hard and very dense, somewhat shorter on head and ears, and somewhat longer on

rear of thighs and underside of tail. A beard is highly valued. The long hair is softer and should have at least a length of 5cm. The head is very densely coated.

COLOUR

- Preferred are white and red, or entirely white or red.
- Fawn dogs are permitted, provided it is an exceptionally good specimen

*In smooth coats, the fawn colour is not permitted.

SIZE

Height at withers:

Males: 66cm – 72cm. (approx. 26" – 28½")

Females: 60cm – 67cm. (approx. 23½ - 26½")

Without undue strictness, dogs that are close to the required measurements can be accepted, provided they are well-proportioned and aesthetic.

***N.B.** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.*

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 upon the health and welfare of the dog, and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

Severe Faults:

- Head short and broad.
- Stop markedly pronounced.
- Missing a premolar.
- Drop ears.
- Barrel ribs.
- Elbows turned outwards.
- Cow hocks.
- Feet turned out.
- Crossing of feet and hocks in movement.

Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Skull in the shape of a stair (plane of skull too high in relation to nasal bridge).
- Brown pigment or black spots on nose leather.
- Any form of prognathism [*ed. overshot or undershot*].
- Eyelids and lips: Reddish brown.
- Evidence of crossing with a "Galgo" or other form of Sighthound:
 - Folded ears.
 - Dark eyes.
 - Croup broad.
 - Barely defined forechest.
 - Front legs wide apart.
 - Thighs rounded and broad with visible veins.

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FCI Standard No 89: PODENCO IBICENCO (IBIZAN PODENCO)

FCI Classification: Group 5 – Spitz and primitive types

Section 7. – Primitive type – Hunting dogs.

Without Working Trial