

KLEINER MÜNSTERLÄNDER

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 has an effective date of 01/02/2021

ORIGIN

Germany.

UTILISATION

Versatile working Gundog.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The breeding of this breed in the north German Münsterland has been documented since around 1870. The blood of hundreds of years of old flushing and pointing dogs flowed in the Kleiner Münsterländer. In 1912, the "Association for Kleiner Münsterländer Pointing Dogs (Heidewachtelhunde)" was founded in the parent country, Germany, to preserve and promote these dogs as an independent hunting breed. Hunters were to be provided with a medium-sized, passionate, intelligent, and affectionate, fully versatile hunting dog in the field, forest, and water. In 1921, Dr. Friedrich Jungklaus created the first breed standard, which has been regularly enhanced since then. Today, the Kleiner Münsterländer is a versatile hunting dog that is very popular with hunters worldwide because of its performance capabilities.



Illustration courtesy of NKU Picture Library

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Strong and harmonious build of medium size, showing balanced proportions with a lot of quality and elegance. Distinguished head. In upright posture, the dog displays flowing outlines with horizontally carried tail. Its front legs are well feathered; the hind legs with breeches; the tail has a distinct flag. Its glossy coat should be straight or slightly wavy, dense, and not too long. Its movement is harmonious and far-reaching. The overall appearance of the breed must always show its utility as a hunting dog.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

- The length of the body measured from the prosternum to the point of the buttock should exceed the height at the withers. The goal is a ratio 1 : 1.1.
- The length of the skull from the occiput to the stop is equal to the length of the muzzle from the stop to the nose.
- The distance from the ground to the elbows should be approximately equal to the distance from the elbows to the withers.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT

The Kleiner Münsterländer is intelligent and capable of learning, full of temperament but even, with steady character; its attitude towards people is alert and friendly (suitable for family life), with good social behaviour, and keeps close contact with his master (team spirit); with passionate, persevering predatory instinct, versatile hunting aptitudes, strong nerves, and keenness for game. The dog must have the natural abilities required to hunt in close co-operation with its handler in the field, forest and water (versatility), and to retrieve game to the hunter.

HEAD

The expression of the head is part of the type.

Cranial Region:

Skull: Distinguished, lean, flat to slightly arched.

Stop: Only slightly pronounced but distinctly recognisable.

Facial Region:

Nose: Whole-coloured brown.

Muzzle: Powerful, long, straight.

Lips: Short, tightly closing, well-pigmented; whole-coloured brown.

Jaws and teeth: Large, white teeth. Powerful jaws, with regular and complete scissor bite with the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth and set square to the jaws. 42 teeth according to the dentition formula. An over- or under number of two P1s is permissible.

Cheeks: Strong, well-muscled.

Eyes:

Of medium size, neither protruding nor deep-set; as dark brown as possible. Eyelids tight-fitting to the eyeballs, covering the haws.

Ears:

Broad, set on high, lying close to the head, tapering towards the tips, ear leather should not reach beyond the corner of the mouth.

NECK

Its length in balance with the general appearance; gradually widening towards the body. Nape-line slightly arched, very muscular. Tight-fitting throat skin.

BODY

Topline: Slightly sloping in a straight line.

Withers: Pronounced.

Back: Firm, well-muscled. The spinal processes should be covered by the musculature.

Loin: Short, broad, muscular.

Croup: Long and broad, not short-slanting, only slightly sloping towards the tail; well-muscled. Broad pelvis.

Chest: Rather deep than broad, breastbone reaching as far backwards as possible. Ribs well-arched.

Underline and belly: Slight tuck-up towards the rear in an elegant curve; lean.

TAIL

Set on high, with long flag following the topline, strong at the base, then tapering. Of medium length. Carried downwards in repose, horizontally, and not too high above the level of the topline, with a slight sweep when in action. In the lower third it may be curved slightly upwards.

LIMBS

Forequarters:

General appearance: Viewed from the front, straight and rather parallel; viewed from the side, legs set well under the body. The distance from the ground to the elbows should be approximately equal to the distance from the elbows to the withers.

Shoulders: Shoulder blades lying close to the body, strongly muscled. Shoulder and upper arm forming a good angle of approximately 110°.

Upper arm: As long as possible, well-muscled.

Elbows: Close to the body, turning neither in nor out. The upper arm forming a good angle with the forearm.

Forearm: Strong bones, perpendicular to the ground.

Carpus (wrist): Strong

Pasterns: Very slightly sloping.

Hindquarters:

General appearance: Viewed from the rear, straight and parallel. Correct angulation in stifles and hocks. Strong bones.

Upper thigh: Long, broad, muscular; forming a good angle with the pelvis.

Stifle: Strong, upper and lower thigh forming a good angle.

Lower thigh: Long, muscular, and sinewy.

Hock joint: Strong.

Metatarsus: Short, perpendicular to the ground.

FEET

Round and arched with well-knit toes and sufficiently thick, tough, robust pads. Not too heavy coat. Parallel in stance or in movement, neither turning in nor out.

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Ground-covering, with good drive and appropriate reach, straight forward and parallel coming and going, with well-upstanding posture. Pacing gait is undesirable.

SKIN

Tight-fitting, without folds.

COAT

Hair dense, of medium length, not (or only) slightly wavy, close-lying, water-repellent. The outlines of the body may not be hidden by too-long coat. By its density, it should provide as good a protection against weather, unfavourable terrain conditions, and injuries as possible. Short, smooth coat on the ears is faulty. Forelegs feathered, hind legs with breeching down to the hocks, tail with a long flag and white tip, abundant coat on the forechest is undesirable.

COLOUR

- Brown-white or brown roan with brown patches; brown mantle or brown ticking; blaze permitted.

* Tan coloured markings on the muzzle, the eyes and around the anus, and on the ears, tail and legs are permissible ("Jungklaus markings").

SIZE

Height at withers:

Males: 54cm (approx. 21")

Females: 52cm (approx. 20½")

A deviation of ± 2 cm is within the standard.

***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:

- Clumsy, big-boned conformation.
- Serious deviations from the correct proportions of body, neck and height and withers. More than 50% of the nose flesh-coloured or spotted.
- Pointed muzzle. Dished nose bridge. Eyes too light.
- Croup too short.
- Serious lack of depth of chest or too flat-sided brisket. Barrel-shaped brisket.
- Elbows heavily turning out or in.
- Steep pasterns.
- Strongly cow-hocked or barrel-legged, in stance as well as in movement. Splayed toes; flat feet.
- Clumsy movement.
- Smooth hairless ears, or too-long and curled fringes on the ears.
- Coat too curled.
- Deviation of the size limits between ± 2 cm and ± 4 cm.

Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Fearfulness, aggressiveness, game or gun-shyness.
- Gross deviations from the gender type, sexual malformations.
- Completely unpigmented nose.
- All deviations from the correct scissor bite except the lack or excess of two P1.
- Split jaw or split lip.
- Bird's eye.

- Ectropion, entropion, distichiasis, (double eyelash line).
- Pronounced dewlap.
- Distinct roach back.
- Pronounced swayback; crooked spine.
- Malformation of the ribcage e.g. sternum cut-off.
- Kinked tail, ring tail, other tail abnormalities e.g. too short or too long tail.
- Whole-coloured dogs.
- Deviation in height of more than $\pm 4\text{cm}$.

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FCI Standard No 102: KLEINER MÜNSTERLÄNDER

FCI Classification: Group 7 - Pointing Dogs

Section 1.2. Continental Pointing Dogs – Spaniel type

With Working Trial