



Official Breed Standard

Italian Greyhound (Toy 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

A Greyhound in miniature, more slender in all proportions.

CHARACTERISTICS

Elegant, graceful and quick moving.

TEMPERAMENT

Intelligent, affectionate and vivacious; may appear aloof.

HEAD AND SKULL

Skull long, flat and narrow; slight stop. Muzzle fine and long. Nose dark in colour.

EYES

Rather large, bright; full of expression.

EARS

Rose shaped, placed well back, soft and fine, not pricked.

MOUTH

Jaws strong, with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws. Teeth even.

NECK

Long, gracefully arched.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders long and sloping. Legs straight; well set under shoulders; fine, strong bone and pasterns.

BODY

Chest deep and narrow. Good length of rib and brisket. Back slightly arched over loin.

HINDQUARTERS

Long, well muscled thigh; hind legs parallel when viewed from behind; well bent stifle, hocks well let down.

FEET

Hare feet.

TAIL

Low set, long, fine, carried low.

GAIT/MOVEMENT

High stepping and free action. Front and hindlegs to move forward in a straight line with propulsion from behind.

COAT

Skin fine and supple. Hair, short, fine and glossy.

COLOUR

Black, blue, cream, fawn, red, white or any of these colours broken with white. White dogs may be broken with one of these colours. Black or blue with tan markings, or brindle not acceptable.

SIZE

Ideal Height 32 – 38 cms (12½–15 ins) at withers. Ideal Weight 3.6 – 4.5kgs (8–10 lbs). Overall type and elegance essential.

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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