



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:

Compact, elegant and sound with substance.

CHARACTERISTICS:

Keen, alert, gay and sporting. Compact, elegant and sound with substance.

TEMPERAMENT:

Discerning and devoted.

HEAD & SKULL:

Long skull, flat and narrow, level and wedge-shaped, without showing cheek muscles, well filled up under eyes, with tapering tight lipped mouth.

EYES:

Relatively small, dark and sparkling. Almond shaped, not prominent.

EARS:

Small and V shaped, carried well above top line of head and hanging close to head above eyes.

MOUTH:

Jaws level, with perfect, regular scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

NECK:

Fairly long and tapering from shoulder to head and slightly arched at crest; free from throatiness.

FOREQUARTERS:

Shoulders clean and well sloped. Front narrow and deep. Forelegs quite straight, set on well under dog; and proportionate length to body.

BODY:

Short with well sprung ribs, slightly arched over the loin and cut up behind ribs.

HINDQUARTERS:

Strong and muscular, well bent at stifle. Hindlegs neither cow-hocked nor with feet turned in.

FEET:

Small, semi-harefooted and strong with well arched toes.

TAIL:

Short and set on where arch of back ends, thick where it joins body, tapering to a point, carried not higher than level of back.

GAIT/ MOVEMENT:

Straight, free and balanced with good reaching forequarters and driving power in hindquarters.

COAT:

Close, smooth, short and glossy, of firm texture.

COLOUR:

Jet black and rich mahogany tan distributed as follows: On head, muzzle tanned to nose, nose and nasal bone jet black. Small tan spot on each cheek and above each eye, under jaw and throat tanned with distinct tan V. Legs from knee downward tanned with exception of toes which shall be pencilled with black, a distinct mark (thumbmark) immediately above feet. Inside hindlegs tanned but divided with black at stifle joint. Under tail tanned, vent tanned by marking as narrow as possible so that it is covered by tail. A slight tan mark on each side of chest. Tan outside hindlegs, commonly called breeching, is undesirable. In all cases black should not run into tan or vice versa, but division between colours clearly defined.

SIZE:

Ideal height at shoulders: Dogs: 41cm (16 in); Bitches: 38cm (15in).

FAULTS:

Any departure from the foregoing 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 the 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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