

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

Coat clipped in traditional lion clip, tail also clipped, topped with plume, giving the appearance of the little lion. Strongly built, active, well balanced and alert.

CHARACTERISTICS

Gay, lively and alert little dog.

TEMPERAMENT

Intelligent, affectionate showing no sign of aggression.

HEAD & SKULL

Short, fairly broad. Skull flat between ears, head carried proud and high. Well defined stop; short, strong muzzle.

EYES

Round, dark, relatively large and intelligent, unbroken pigmentation of eye rims, pigment to be in accordance with coat colour.

EARS

Pendant, of moderate length with long fringing.

MOUTH

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

NECK

Good length, proudly arched.

FOREQUARTERS

Forequarters shoulders well laid. Forelegs straight with round bone, not too fine.

BODY

Short, strong and well proportioned. Level topline. Ribs well sprung. Strong loin with moderate tuck up.

HINDQUARTERS

Hindlegs well-muscled, with good turn of stifle; straight when viewed from rear.

FEET

Small, round.

TAIL

Medium length, clipped with a tuft of hair to resemble a plume. Carried gaily on the move.

GAIT/MOVEMENT

Free parallel movement fore and aft, no hackneyed action.

COAT

Fairly long, wavy, never curly. Single coat of silky texture. Coat to be shown in its natural state without scissoring or sculpting, apart from the traditional lion clip.

COLOUR

Any colour or combination of colours permissible. Merle is not acceptable.

SIZE

Height at withers 25-33 cm (10 - 13 in).

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. Only clinically and functionally healthy dogs with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.



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