

LAKELAND TERRIER

A Breed Standard is the guideline that 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 that could be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare, or soundness of this breed.

Most recent changes to this Standard have an effective date of 01/07/2023

ORIGIN

Great Britain.

UTILISATION

Terrier.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

[ed. For interest, from Wikipedia: The Lakeland Terrier]:

As one of the earliest Terriers (Latin derivation of 'earth'), dating from the 1700s, this 'earth' dog is a descendant of the old English Black-and-Tan and Fell Terriers. The Lakeland's original service was 'going to ground' on the farm in hunt for vermin. In the Lake District of England, the mountainous, rocky terrain was unsuitable for fox hunting on horseback, and foxes were hunted on foot. Whereas most Terrier breeds have only to bolt their quarry, or to mark it by baying, the Lakeland had to be able to kill foxes in their lair. It has been suggested that the Lakeland Terrier's great stamina derived from running all day with the Hounds, unlike his close cousin, the Fox Terrier, who would have been carried in a saddle bag to be released only when the fox had gone to earth. Its size and energy make it popular as a hunter in hard-to-reach places so the breed is among those eligible for competition in sanctioned Earthdog trials.



Illustration courtesy of NKU Picture Library

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Smart, workmanlike, well-balanced and compact.

CHARACTERISTICS

Gay, fearless demeanour, keen of expression, quick of movement, on the tip-toe of expectation.

TEMPERAMENT

Bold, friendly, and self-confident.

HEAD

Well-balanced. Skull flat and refined. Jaws powerful and muzzle broad but not too long. Length of head from stop to tip of nose not exceeding that from occiput to stop. Nose black, except in liver-coated dogs, when the nose will be liver.

Eyes:

Dark or hazel, moderately small, keen expression. Large, round, protruding or light eyes undesirable.

Ears:

Moderately small, V-shaped and carried alertly. Set neither too high nor too low on head.

Mouth:

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

NECK

Reachy, slightly arched, free from throatiness.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders well laid back. Forelegs straight, well-boned.

BODY

Chest reasonably narrow. Back strong, moderately short, and well-coupled.

HINDQUARTERS

Strong and muscular. Thighs long and powerful with well-turned stifles. Hocks low to ground and straight.

FEET

Small, compact, round, and well-padded.

TAIL

Previously customarily docked.

Docked: Well set-on, carried gaily but not over back or curled.

Undocked: Well set-on, carried gaily but not over back or curled. In overall balance with the rest of dog.

[*refer note below]

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Fore- and hind legs carried straight forward and parallel. Elbows move perpendicular to body, working free of sides, stifles turning neither in nor out. Good drive coming from well-flexing hindquarters.

COAT

Dense, harsh, and weather-resisting, with good undercoat.

COLOUR

- Black and tan, blue and tan, red, wheaten, red grizzle, liver, blue, or black.
- * Small tips of white on feet and chest undesirable but permissible.
* Mahogany or deep tan not typical.

SIZE

Height at withers:

Not exceeding 37cm (approx. 14½”).

Weight:

Males: 8kg.

Females: 7kg.

***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.*

***Regardless of the provisions of the current KUSA-adopted standard, docked or formerly docked breeds may be shown at all FCI- and KUSA-licensed shows in South Africa, whether their tails are docked or natural. Under no circumstances are Judges permitted to discriminate against exhibits on the grounds of docked or natural tails, and equal consideration for awards must be given to either.**

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.

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When judging this breed at FCI International Shows, use:

FCI Standard No. 70: LAKELAND TERRIER

FCI Classification: Group 3 – Terriers.

Section 1 – Large- and medium-sized Terriers .

Without working trial.