

AFFENPINSCHER

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 have an effective date of 01/01/2020

ORIGIN

Germany.

UTILISATION

House and companion dog.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

Originally used as a house dog in the region of Southern Germany. His ancestors were depicted by Albrecht Dürer (1471 – 1528) in his woodcuts. First entries of Affenpinscher go back to the year 1879. These Toy dogs were very popular around the turn of the century; they evolved from the rough-coated Pinschers. The harsh ring of hair around the head emphasised the monkey-like expression. The colours ranged from self coloured yellowish, reddish, or grey-white, to dark grey, black-grey, and pure black.



Illustration courtesy of NKU Picture Library

GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Affenpinscher is rough-haired, small, and compact, with a monkey-like expression.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

The ratio of length to height shall make his build appear as square as possible.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT

Fearless, alert, persistent, and devoted, sometimes full of quick-tempered passion. He is an agreeable family dog in all aspects.

HEAD

Cranial Region:

Skull: Round rather than elongated, altogether not too heavy, high-domed with pronounced forehead.

Stop: Clearly defined.

Facial Region:

Nose: Nose leather round, full, and black. Well-opened nostrils.

Muzzle: Short and straight, not curved upwards. Bridge of nose straight.

Lips: Tight-fitting to the jaws. Lips are black.

Jaws and teeth: Complete (42 teeth) set of pure white teeth. The lower jaw protrudes beyond the upper jaw and is slightly turned upwards. The incisors in a healthy mouth are set as regularly as possible in a slightly rounded row. The canines and the incisors must not be visible when the mouth is closed, neither must the Affenpinscher show his tongue when the mouth is closed. The lack of two of the PM1, PM2, or PM3, or a combination of two of these teeth is tolerated.

Eyes:

Dark, rather round, and full. Black-pigmented, close-fitting eyelids, framed by a circle of harsh hair.

Ears:

Set on high, carried evenly, turned forward. V-shaped, the inner edges lying close to the head. Prick ears should be small, evenly erect, and carried as upright as possible.

NECK

Straight, strong, rather short, with strong set-on. Throat skin tight-fitting without folds.

BODY

Strong, square, and compact.

Topline: Slightly sloping in an almost straight line from the withers towards the rear.

Withers: Forming the highest point of topline.

Back: Strong, short, and taut.

Loin: Short and strong. The distance from last rib to hip is short, to make the dog appear compact.

Croup: Short, slightly rounded, imperceptibly blending into the tail set-on.

Chest: Only slightly flattened at sides, moderately broad, reaching to beyond the level of the elbows.

Underline and belly: Belly moderately tucked-up. Underline and topline (from withers to tail set-on) are more-or-less parallel.

TAIL

Natural; a sabre or sickle carriage is sought after.

LIMBS

Forequarters:

General appearance: Front legs sturdy, straight, parallel, and not close together.

Shoulder: Well-muscled. The shoulder blade is long, sloping (at an angle of approx. 45°), and flat.

Upper arm: Lying close to the body, strong, and muscular.

Elbow: Correctly fitting, turning neither in nor out.

Forearm: Strongly developed. Straight when seen from any direction.

Carpus (wrist): Firm and strong.

Metacarpus (pastern): Vertical, seen from the front; slightly sloping towards the ground, when seen from the side. Strongly developed and muscled.

Hindquarters:

General appearance: Seen from side, standing obliquely with moderate angulation. Seen from rear, parallel.

Upper thigh: Strongly muscled, broad.

Stifle (knee): Turning neither in nor out.

Lower thigh: Long and strong.

Hock joint: Moderately angulated.

Metatarsus (rear pastern): Vertical to the ground.

FEET

Forefeet: Short and round. Toes well-knit and arched (cat-feet), pads resistant, nails short, strong, and black.

Hind feet: Somewhat longer than forefeet. Toes well-knit and arched. Nails short and black.

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Relaxed, fluent, mincing with moderate drive from the hindquarters. Seen from the front and the rear, straight forward and parallel.

SKIN

Close-fitting over the whole body.

COAT

The body coat should be harsh and dense. The head is typically adorned by bushy, bristly eyebrows and wreath-like hair surrounding the eyes, by an impressive beard, by the top-knot, and by the hair on the cheeks. The coat on the head should be as hard, straggly, and sticking-out as possible. It contributes essentially to the general monkey-like expression.

COLOUR

- Pure black with black undercoat.

SIZE

Height at withers:

25cm – 30cm (approx. 10" – 12").

Weight:

4kg – 6kg.

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.

- Clumsy, light, low, or leggy build.
- Light eyes.
- Low set, very long, or unevenly carried ears.
- Fly-away ears.
- Too long, tucked-up, or soft back.
- Roach back.
- Croup falling away.
- Tail-set inclined towards head.
- Hindquarters too angulated or open-hocked.
- Long feet.
- Short, soft, wavy, shaggy, silky, white, or spotted coat.
- Over- or undersize up to 1 cm.

Severe faults:

- Lack of sexual type (i.e. doggy bitch).
- Too fine bones.
- Muzzle Griffon-like, upturned, or long.
- Too markedly undershot or pincer bite.
- Protruding eyes.
- Elbows turning out.
- Hocks turning in.
- Over- or undersize by more than 1cm but less than 2cm.

Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Malformation of any kind.
- Lack of breed type.
- Severe faults in individual parts, such as faults in structure, coat, and colour.
- Faults in mouth, such as a scissor bite or wry mouth.
- Over- or undersize by more than 2 cm.

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FCI Standard No 186: AFFENPINSCHER

FCI Classification: Group 2: Pinscher & Schnauzer, Molossoid, and Swiss Mountain & Cattle dogs

Section 1.1. Pinscher and Schnauzer type
Without Working Trial