

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

Upstanding, well knit and proportioned, well developed and muscular body.

CHARACTERISTICS

Compact, powerful Terrier, showing gracefulness and an attitude of alert determination, with definite Terrier style and character throughout.

TEMPERAMENT

Disciplined gameness.

HEAD & SKULL

Well balanced, long, proportionally lean, with slight stop and flat over the skull. Foreface and jaw very strong, deep and punishing; nose black; nostrils of due proportion.

EYES

Dark as possible. Small to medium with keen Terrier expression.

EARS

Small to medium and V shaped; carried forward but not too high.

MOUTH

Gums and roof of mouth dark with perfect, regular scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

NECK

Strong and reachy, running into sloping shoulders.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders flat as possible with elbows carried close to body while standing or moving. Legs straight, bone powerful. Front straight, neither too wide nor too narrow.

BODY

Short coupled with good depth of brisket and well sprung ribs. Deep chest, topline level.

HINDQUARTERS

Large and well developed, stifle bent and hocks close to ground giving perfect freedom of hind action.

FEET

Round and small. Nails black.

TAIL

Previously customarily docked.

Docked: Set on high and carried erect.

Undocked: Set on high of moderate length to give an overall balanced appearance. Thick at the base and evenly tapering to tip, straight as possible and carried jauntily. An excessively gay or curled tail undesirable.

[*refer note below]

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Free and powerful. Fore and hindlegs moving straight and parallel, stifles turning neither in nor out.

COAT:

Soft and silky, plentiful and wavy.

COLOUR

Any shade of blue with or without black points. Tan permissible in puppies, also a dark colour up to the age of 18 months. A small white patch on chest should not be penalised.

SIZE

Ideal height:

Dogs: 46 - 48cm (18 - 19in) at shoulder; bitches slightly less.

The most desirable weight for a fully developed dog is 15-17kg (33-37lb), and bitches should weigh proportionately less, but 16kg (35lb) is the most desirable weight to aim for.

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 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 full descended into the scrotum.

*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. (Amended DR/Feb 2018)



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Most recent changes to this Standard has an effective date of 01/01/2017

Click here to download the PDF version of the official KUSA breed standard.

