

## TOY FOX TERRIER

*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 01/06/2016

### ORIGIN

United States of America.

### UTILISATION

Companion dog.

### BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

*[ed. for interest – from Wikipedia: The Toy Fox Terrier]:*

Some Toy Fox Terrier breeders can trace their dogs' lineage back to a Smooth Fox Terrier called "Foiler", the first Fox Terrier to be registered by the Kennel Club in Britain, circa 1875/76. It is believed that careful breeding from smaller Smooth Fox Terriers with crosses to other Toy breeds, such as the Manchester Terrier and Chihuahua, resulted in the Toy Fox Terrier of today. Toy Fox Terriers were recognised by the United Kennel Club (UKC) in 1936 and placed in the Terrier Group, and by the American Kennel Club (AKC) in 2003 (Toy Group).



### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Toy Fox Terrier is truly a Toy and a Terrier, and both have influenced his personality and character. As a Terrier, the Toy Fox Terrier possesses keen intelligence, courage, and animation. As a Toy he is diminutive, and devoted with an endless abiding love for his master. The Toy Fox Terrier is a well-balanced Toy dog of athletic appearance, displaying grace and agility in equal measure with strength and stamina. His lithe muscular body has a smooth elegant outline that conveys the impression of effortless movement and endless endurance. He is naturally well-groomed, proud, animated, and alert. Characteristic traits are his elegant head, his short glossy and predominantly white coat, coupled with a predominantly solid head, and his short high-set tail.

### SIZE, PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE

#### Size:

Height at the withers: 21.5cm – 28cm (approx. 8½" – 11½") acceptable; 22.5cm – 29cm (approx. 9" – 11") preferred. *Disqualification:* Any dog under 21.5cm (approx. 8½") or over 28cm (approx. 11½").

#### Proportion:

The Toy Fox Terrier is square in proportion, with height being approximately equal to length (the height measured from withers to ground and length measured from point of shoulder to buttocks). Slightly longer in bitches is acceptable.

#### Substance:

Bone must be strong, but not excessive and always in proportion to size. Overall balance is important.

### HEAD

The head is elegant, balanced, and expressive with no indication of coarseness.

**Expression:** Intelligent, alert, eager, and full of interest.

**Skull:** Moderate in width, slightly rounded, and softly wedge-shaped. Medium stop, somewhat sloping. When viewed from the front, the head widens gradually from the nose to the base of the ears. The distance from the nose to the stop is equal to the distance from the stop to the occiput. The cheeks are flat and muscular, with the area below the eyes well filled in. **Faults:** Apple head

**Muzzle:** Strong rather than fine, in proportion to the head as a whole and parallel to the top of the skull.

**Nose:** Black only, with the exception of self-coloured in chocolate dogs. *Disqualification:* Dudley nose.

**Lips:** Small and tight-fitting.

#### **Eyes:**

Clear, bright, and dark, including eye-rims, with the exception of chocolates, whose eye-rims should be self-coloured. The eyes are full, round, and somewhat prominent, yet never bulging, with a soft intelligent expression. They are set well apart, not slanted, and fit well together into the sockets.

#### **Ears:**

The ears are erect, pointed, inverted V-shaped, set high and close together, but never touching. The size is in proportion to the head and body. *Disqualification:* Ears not erect on any dog over six months of age.

#### **Mouth:**

A full complement of strong, white teeth meeting in a scissor bite is preferred. Loss of teeth should not be faulted as long as the bite can be determined as correct. *Disqualification:* Undershot, wry mouth, overshot more than 0.3cm (approx. 1/8").

### **NECK, TOPLINE, BODY**

**Neck:** Carried proudly erect, well set on, slightly arched, gracefully curved, clean, muscular and free from throatiness. It is proportioned to the head and body and widens gradually, blending smoothly into the shoulders. The length of the neck is approximately the same as that of the head.

**Topline:** Level when standing and gaiting.

**Body:** Balanced and tapering slightly from ribs to flank. Depth of chest extends to the point of elbow. The back is straight, level, and muscular. Short and strong in loin with moderate tuck-up to denote grace and elegance. The croup is level with topline and well-rounded.

**Tail:** Set high, held erect, and in proportion to the size of the dog. Docked to the third or fourth joint.

[\*refer note below]

### **FOREQUARTERS**

Forequarters are well-angulated. The shoulder is firmly set and has adequate muscle, but is not over-developed. The shoulders are sloping and well laid back, blending smoothly from neck to back. The forechest is well-developed. The elbows are close and perpendicular to the body. The legs are parallel and straight to the pasterns, which are strong and straight while remaining flexible. Feet are small and oval, pointing forward turning neither in nor out. Toes are strong, well-arched and closely knit with deep pads.

### **HINDQUARTERS**

Hindquarters are well-angulated, strong, and muscular. The upper and lower thighs are strong, well-muscled, and of good length. The stifles are clearly defined and well-angulated. Hock joints are well let down and firm. The rear pasterns are straight. The legs are parallel from the rear and turn neither in nor out. Dewclaws should be removed from hindquarters if present.

### **COAT**

The coat is shiny, satiny, fine in texture, and smooth to the touch. It is slightly longer in the ruff, uniformly covering the body.

### **COLOUR**

- **Tri-colour:** Predominately black head with sharply defined tan markings on cheeks, lips, and eye dots. Body is over 50% white, with or without black body spots.
- **White, chocolate and tan:** Predominately chocolate head with sharply defined tan markings on cheeks, lips, and eye dots. Body is over 50% white, with or without chocolate body spots.
- **White and tan:** Predominately tan head. Body is over 50% white, with or without tan body spots.
- **White and black:** Predominately black head. Body is over 50% white, with or without black body spots.

\* Colour should be rich and clear.

\* Blazes are acceptable, but may not touch the eyes or ears.

\* Clear white is preferred, but a small amount of ticking is not to be penalised.

\* Body spots on black-headed tri-colours must be black; body spots on chocolate-headed tri-colours must be chocolate; both with or without a slight fringe of tan alongside any body spots near the chest and under the tail as seen in normal bi-colour patterning.

*Faults:* Colour, other than ticking, that extends below the elbow or the hock.

*Disqualifications:* A blaze extending into the eyes or ears. Any colour combination not stated above. Any dog whose head is more than 50% white. Any dog whose body is not more than 50% white. Any dog whose head and body spots are of different colours.

### **GAIT**

Movement is smooth and flowing with good reach and strong drive. The topline should remain straight and head and tail carriage erect while gaiting. *Fault:* Hackney gait.

## TEMPERAMENT

The Toy Fox Terrier is intelligent, alert, and friendly, and loyal to its owners. He learns new tasks quickly, is eager to please, and adapts to almost any situation. The Toy Fox Terrier, like other Terriers, is self-possessed, spirited, determined, and not easily intimidated. He is a highly animated Toy dog that is comical, entertaining, and playful all of his life. Any individuals lacking good Terrier attitude and personality are to be faulted.

***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.

### Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Any dog under 21.5cm (approx. 8½") or over 28cm (approx. 11½").
- Ears not erect on any dog over six months of age.
- Dudley nose.
- Undershot, wry mouth, overshot more than 0.3cm (approx. 1⁄8").
- A blaze extending into the eyes or ears.
- Any colour combination not stated above. Any dog whose head is more than 50% white. Any dog whose body is not more than 50% white. Any dog whose head and body spots are of different colours.

©Copyright AKC – Reprinted with permission

The publisher of this edition is the Kennel Union of Southern Africa. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without permission in writing from the publisher.



**There is no FCI standard for this breed.**