

AIREDALE TERRIER

GROUP: Terrier.

GENERAL APPEARANCE:

The breed is well proportioned and somewhat cobby, without exaggeration of leg or body length. It has a harsh, tight coat that is black and tan in color and a moderately long, erect, docked tail.

SIZE:

Males approximately 23 inches in height; females slightly less; both well-boned and well muscled.

COAT:

Outer coat should be dense, hard, and wiry; lies straight and close, covering the dog well over the body and legs. At the base of the hard very stiff hair should be a shorter growth of softer hair as an undercoat. Some of the wiriest hair will be slightly waved or crinkled. **Serious Fault: Soft, curly, or ragged outer coat**
Disqualification: Artificial stiffening of the hair coat

COLOR:

The head and ears should be tan, the ears being darker than the rest. Dark markings on either side of the skull are permissible. The legs up to the thighs and elbows and the under part of the body and chest are also tan with the tan frequently running into the shoulder. Sides and upper parts of the body should be black or a dark grizzle. A red mixture is often found in the black and is permissible. A small white blaze on the chest is acceptable. **Disqualification: Artificial coloring of any kind**

HEAD:

Well balanced with little difference between the length of skull and foreface and a barely visible stop.

Skull and Muzzle: Long and flat, not overly broad between the ears and narrowing very slightly to the eyes. Scalp should be free from wrinkles, cheeks level and free from fullness. The foreface should be deep and powerful, well filled below the eyes but delicately chiseled to prevent plainness. Lips are tight.

Eyes: Dark, small, not prominent, full of terrier expression, keenness, and intelligence. **Serious Fault: Yellow eyes**

Ears: V-shaped, carried slightly to the side of the head, not pointing to the eyes, small but not out of proportion to the size of the dog. The topline of the folded ear should be above the level of the skull. **Serious Fault: Hound ears**

Nose: Black and not too small.

Bite: Strong and white, free from discoloration or defect with level or vise-like bite. A slight scissors bite is permissible without fault. **Serious Fault: Undershot or overshot bite**

NECK:

Moderate length and thickness, gradually widening towards the shoulders; tight skin, no looseness.

BODY:

Short, strong, level back; well sprung ribs; the chest should be deep but not broad, being approximately on a level with the elbows; muscular loin of good width; should be only a small space between the last rib and the hip joint.

FOREQUARTERS:

Shoulders should be long and sloping well into the back; shoulder blades flat; forelegs perfectly straight with sufficient muscle and bone; elbows perpendicular to the body, always working free of the sides; thighs long and powerful with muscular second thigh, stifles well bent, not turned either in or out; hocks well let down and parallel with each other when viewed from behind. Feet should be small, round and compact with good depth of pad, well cushioned the toes are moderately arched, also not turned either in or out. **Serious Fault: White feet**

HINDQUARTERS:

Strong and muscular with no droop. Hind legs are well bent at the stifle, with short rear pasterns that are parallel when viewed from behind.

Tail: The root of the tail should be set well up on the back. It should be carried gaily, but not curled over the back. It should be of good strength and substance and of fair length.

MOVEMENT:

Movement should be free. Seen from the front, the forelegs should swing perpendicular from the body, free from the sides, the feet the same distance apart as the elbows. Seen from the rear, the hind legs should be parallel with each other, neither too close nor too far apart, but so placed as to give a strong well-balanced stance and movement. Toes should be straight ahead. ***Serious Fault: Poor movement***

TEMPERAMENT:

Independent, determined, reserved, and intelligent, combining an affectionate and dignified nature with, in a working situation, tenacity and boldness.

Any departure from this standard should be considered a fault, and the final score should reflect the seriousness of the deviation from the standard

Disqualifications:

VICIOUSNESS OR EXTREME SHYNESS.

ALBINISM

ARTIFICIAL COLORING

ARTIFICIAL STIFFENING OF THE HAIR