

BULL TERRIER

GROUP: Non-sporting.

GENERAL APPEARANCE:

The Bull Terrier is strongly built and muscular, presenting a symmetrical appearance, with a determined and intelligent expression. The breed is active with a mild disposition and responds well to discipline. Dogs should look masculine; bitches should look feminine.

SIZE:

The Bull Terrier has no height or weight limits, but there is an impression of maximum substance in relation to the size of the individual dog.

COAT:

Short, flat, glossy, and harsh textured; the skin should fit tightly.

COLOR:

The breed is categorized in two color varieties: White and Colored

White—The dog is white, though markings on the head are permissible. Skin pigmentation on the body is permissible.

Colored—Any color other than white. The preferred color is brindle, but they may also be red, fawn, and black & tan. The colored dogs may or may not have white markings.

HEAD:

The head is long, strong, and deep right to the end of the muzzle. The face is full and oval in outline and filled in completely, giving the impression of fullness, with no hollows or indentations (in other words, egg shaped), without excessive muscle in the cheeks. In profile, it curves gently downward from the top of the skull to the tip of the nose. The forehead is flat across from ear to ear. The distance from the tip of the nose to the eyes is noticeably greater than the distance from the eyes to the top of the skull. The under-jaw is deep and well-defined. The lips are clean and tight. **Faults: Coarse head**

Eyes: Well-sunken and as dark as possible with a piercing glint; small, triangular, and obliquely placed; set near together and high up on the dog's head. **Disqualification:** Blue Eyes

Ears: Small and thin, placed closely together. Should be capable of standing stiffly erect and should point upwards.

Nose: Should be black, with well-developed nostrils bent downward at the tip

Bite: Scissors or level bite. In the scissors bite the upper teeth should fit in front of and closely against the lower teeth. They should be strong and regular.

NECK:

Should be very muscular, long, arched, and clean, tapering from the shoulders to the head.

BODY:

When viewed from the front, the chest is broad, with great depth from the withers to the brisket; the brisket being nearer to the ground than the belly (underline of abdomen). The underline, from the brisket to the belly, forms a graceful upward curve. The body is well-rounded. The spring of rib is well marked and carried well back. The back is slightly arched over the loin. **Faults: Slack withers. Dip at withers**

FOREQUARTERS:

The shoulders are strong and muscular, but not heavy. Shoulder blades are wide and flat. There is a very pronounced backward slope from the bottom edge of the blade to the top edge.

HINDQUARTERS:

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The hind legs are big boned, but not coarse. When viewed from the rear, they are parallel. The thighs are very muscular. The stifle joint is well bent, with a well-developed second thigh. The hocks are well let down. The rear pasterns are short and upright.

Feet: The feet are round and compact. The toes are well arched (like a cat).

Tail: The tail is short, is set on low, and is carried horizontally. It is thick at the root, tapering to a fine point.

MOVEMENT:

The Bull Terrier moves smoothly, exhibiting a free, easy, ground-covering stride. When viewed from front or rear, front and hind legs move parallel to each other. The forelegs reach out well. The head is carried high, and the back remains level. The hind legs move smoothly at the hip, flexing well at the stifle and hock. The dog exhibits a jaunty air, suggesting agility and power.

TEMPERAMENT: Peaceful and tractable, with a jaunty air.

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:

Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid

Viciousness or extreme shyness

Blue eyes

Deafness in one or both ears