

COLLIE

GROUP: Herding

SIZE:

Males, 24 to 26 inches at withers; females, 22 to 24 inches at withers. Weight for males, 60 to 75 pounds; females 50 to 65 pounds.

COAT:

Two varieties: *Rough Coat* and *Smooth Coat* with both varieties being double coated. *Rough Coat* is very dense with outer coat straight and harsh to touch; soft and furry undercoat nearly hiding the skin; abundant mane and frill; face (mask) is smooth; forelegs and area above hocks on hind legs are well feathered; smooth hind legs below hocks; tail profusely covered with hair. **Faults: Soft, open, or curly outer coat. *Smooth Coat* has short, hard, dense, flat outer coat of good texture with abundance of undercoat.**

COLOR:

Acceptable colors are tri-color, sable and white, blue merle, and white. tri-color has main body color of black with white and tan markings; Sable and white main body color is sable, varying in shades from light gold to mahogany, with white trim; Blue merle is a mottled or marbled color, predominately blue gray or a silvery blue, splashed and marbled with black, but white trim and tan markings are acceptable; White has the main, predominant body color of white with sable, tri-color or blue merle markings. Favorable white markings include white on legs; white blaze may be carried on muzzle, extending to skull.

HEAD:

In proportion to dog's size; flat skull from stop to occiput, moderately wide between ears, tapering toward eyes; viewed from front, head resembles a well-blunted wedge, tapering to well-rounded muzzle, and never appears too large; back skull is flat; slight stop evident when viewed from side. **Fault: Snipey muzzle.**

Eyes: Bright eyes showing great expression; medium sized, almond shaped, set obliquely; brown in color except in merles where one or both may be blue, although brown is preferred. **Serious fault: Large, round eye.**

Ears: Carried erect with tips slightly drooping; set not too closely together. **Fault: Prick ears.**

Nose: Must be black. **Serious faults: Any other color.**

Bite: Scissors bite. **Serious Fault: Overshot bite. Very serious fault: Undershot bite.**

NECK:

Well-arched, firm muscular neck, clean and heavily maned, especially in males.

BODY:

Firm back with slight rise over loin; length of back is slightly longer when compared to height of dog at withers; well-sprung ribs. **Faults: Short or cobby body; cumbersome appearance.** Topline is level, supported by powerful hips and thighs. Chest is deep, but not too broad.

FOREQUARTERS:

Well-angulated, sloped shoulders; Straight, muscular forelegs, neither in nor out at elbows, with a fair-to-moderate amount of bone; strong, flexible pasterns.

HINDQUARTERS:

Muscular hindquarters at thigh and well bent at thighs, but not cowhocked.

Feet: Oval and comparatively small; close together and well arched toes; tough, well-cushioned pads; front dewclaws should be removed; rear dewclaws must be removed.

Tail: Moderately long with last bone of tail reaching to, or just below, hock joint; tail carried low when quiet and gaily when excited, but never over the back. **Serious fault: tail carried over back.**

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MOVEMENT:

When moving, front feet strike the ground fairly close together (too wide a chest would prevent this); viewed from rear, hocks are parallel, powerful and full of drive; viewed from side, gait is smooth; dog single tracks as speed increases; reasonably long stride. ***Fault: Out at elbows. Serious fault: Crossing over.***

TEMPERAMENT:

Easily trainable, oriented to people and duty; good watchdog, whether of family's property, the children or the livestock.

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.