

COTON DE TULEAR

GROUP: NON-SPORTING

GENERAL APPEARANCE:

The Coton de Tulear is a small dog with long, cotton-like coat and round, dark, intelligent, expressive eyes; ratio of height (measured at withers) to body is 2:3.

SIZE:

Males, 9-7/8 in. to 12-1/2 in. tall, with 11 inches being ideal; females, 8-1/2 in. to 11 in. tall, with 9-7/8 inches being ideal. Weight males, 8-7/8 to 13-1/4 lbs.; females, 7-3/4 to 11 lbs. Weight is proportional to height, but must not exceed the maximum.

COAT:

Fine coat, slightly wavy with a cottony texture; approximately 3-1/2 inches in length. Skin is fine with good adherence to all body parts; may be pigmented with gray spots, more or less dark.

COLOR:

White with a few spots of yellow or light-to-medium gray permissible; Black and White; Tri-Color

HEAD & SKULL:

Head length is 2/5 body length. Skull length to muzzle length ratio is 9:5. In profile, head is short; top view is triangular; no perceptible occiput; in profile, top skull is slightly convex with a width of approximately 3-1/3 inches; brows (superciliary ridges) are not prominent; shallow central furrow; shallow stop; muzzle of approximately 2-1/3 inches in length, 1-3/4 in height, and 2 inches in width; muzzle and lower jaw are straight; thin, tight lips of black or dark brown pigment. ***Serious Faults:* Flat skull; round skull; stop too pronounced; total absence of stop; muzzle too small; muzzle too large; Roman nose.**

Eyes: Round, dark eyes, bright and lively, set well apart; fine eyelids with dark pigment.

Ears: Thin, triangular, dropped ears approximately 2-1/3 inches in width and 2-3/4 inches in length; set high on skull, broken at base, and thin at the tip.

Nose: Small, black nose with open nostrils; dark brown is tolerated, but not preferred.

Bite: Scissors bite, level, or slightly undershot acceptable. ***Serious faults:* Improperly aligned incisors, square teeth, undershot bite more than thickness of the incisors.**

NECK:

Robust and strong neckline, slightly arched; thick and muscular in shape; ratio of neck length to body length is 1:5; approximately 3-1/3 inches in length, and approximately 2-3/4 inches in width; neck skin is taut. ***Serious faults:* Slender neck; neck too long; neck too short.**

BODY:

Muscular backline, slightly convex (slightly roached), with slightly pronounced withers; ratio of thorax to lumbar region is 10:6; round belly not as broad as the chest; slight tuckup. ***Serious faults:* Back too long; underdeveloped chest.**

FOREQUARTERS:

Muscular shoulders are approximately 4 inches; shoulder assembly angulation is 120 degrees; muscular upper arm approximately 3-1/2 inches, sloping from front to rear; vertical forearm well-boned, approximately 4 inches long; elbow angulation is 120 degrees. Forelegs: Straight forelegs seen from both front and side; area encompassing carpal joint and pastern is approximately 1-1/3 inches in length. ***Serious faults:* Straight shoulders; out at pasterns; pigeon-toed; bow legs; poor angulation.**

HINDQUARTERS:

Hip angulation is 80 degrees; muscular upper thigh is approximately 4 inches in length; lower thigh is approximately 4 inches in length; ratio of upper thigh to lower thigh is 1:1. Hind Legs: Straight hind legs seen from both rear and side; hock is approximately 3/4 inch in width; vertical rear pastern is 2-3/4 inches in length and 3/4 inch wide. ***Serious faults:* Horizontal croup; narrow croup; thighs insufficiently muscled; bow hocks; bow legs; poor angulation.**

Feet: Small, round, well-formed front feet have tight toes; round, well-formed hind feet have tight, slightly-curved toes; front feet are approximately 1-1/3 inches long; pads are flat, well centered, and pigmented; all dewclaws should be removed.

Tail: Low-set, thick at base and thin at end; approximately 7 inches in length; tail is carried over back when dog is moving; tail falls downward below hocks, with tip curving upwards, when dog is at rest. ***Serious faults:* Tail too long; tail too short; cylindrical tail.**

MOVEMENT:

Normal walk; shortened stride; preferred gait is the trot.

TEMPERAMENT:

The Coton de Tulear is a little boisterous, cheerful, even a little clownish; extremely attached to their masters as their only purpose is as a companion; intelligent and easily trained; gentle temperament and not of a dominant nature. ***Faults are to be penalized according to the degree of seriousness.***

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:

Extreme viciousness or shyness.

Nose too light.

Insufficiently pigmented lips; pink spots on lips.

Pink spots on eyelids.

Double-hooked tail; straight tail, carried straight up or straight out from body; no tail.

Males over 12-1/2 inches in height; females over 11 inches in height.

Males over 13-1/4 pounds; females over 11 pounds.

Albinism.