

ENGLISH TOY SPANIEL

GROUP: Toy

SIZE:

Height in proportion to weight. Compact and essentially square in shape, built on cobby lines. Sturdy of frame and solidly constructed. Weight ranges from 8 to 14 pounds; general symmetry and substance are more important than actual weight; all things being equal, the small sized dog (9-12 pounds) is preferred.

COAT:

Profusely coated, heavy fringing on ears, body, and on chest, with flowing feathering on both front and hind legs and on feet; straight or only slightly wavy coat with silken, glossy texture; good coats and long ear fringes are desired and prized even though the Blenheim and the Ruby rarely gain the length of coat and ears of the Prince Charles and King Charles colors. *Faults: Over-trimming of body, feet or tail fringes.*

COLOR:

The following color varieties are acceptable:

* *The Blenheim* (red and white). Consists of a pearly-white ground with deep red or chestnut markings evenly distributed in large patches. Ears and cheeks are red. A white blaze extends from the nose, up the forehead, ending between the ears in a crescent-shaped curve. Red markings around both eyes are preferred. This variety often has a thumb mark, referred to as the "Blenheim Spot", on the top and center of the skull.

* *The Prince Charles* (tri-color). Consists of a pearly-white ground with evenly distributed black patches, solid black ears and black face markings. Black markings around both eyes are preferred. Rich tan markings are found on the face, over the eyes, in the ear linings and under the tail.

* *The King Charles* (black and tan). A rich, glossy black with bright mahogany tan markings found on the cheeks, in the ear linings, over the eyes, on the legs and under the tail. A small white chest patch, approximately quarter sized, or a few white chest hairs are not to be penalized. **Any other white markings are serious faults.**

* *The Ruby* (self-colored). Rich mahogany red. A small, white chest patch, approximately quarter sized, or a few white chest hairs are not to be penalized. **Any other white markings are serious faults.**

Disqualification: Albinism.

HEAD:

Large in comparison to size; plush, chubby look, but with a degree of refinement, preventing it from being coarse.

Expression: Soft and appealing, indicating an intelligent nature.

Eyes: Large, very dark brown or black, set squarely on line with nose with little or no white showing; black eye rims.

Ears: Very long, set low and close to head; fringed with heavy feathering.

Nose: Large, jet black, with large, wide open nostrils.

Bite: Slightly undershot, but teeth must not show. **Fault: Wry mouth. Serious fault: handing tongue.**

Muzzle: Very short, with nose well laid back; well developed cushioning under eyes.

Jaw: Square, broad, and deep, and well turned up, with lips properly meeting to give a finished appearance.

Skull: High and well domed; viewed from side, skull curves as far out over eyes as possible.

Stop: Deep and well-defined.

NECK:

Moderate length and nicely arched.

BODY:

Short, compact, square and deep, on cobby lines, with board back; sturdy of frame, with good rib and deep brisket

Topline: Level.

FOREQUARTERS:

Well laid back shoulders; strong, well-boned forelegs, dropping straight down from elbow; strong pasterns.

HINDQUARTERS:

Properly made and muscled; well-muscled hind legs, nicely angulated to indicate strength; parallel from hock to ground.

Feet: Neat and compact; fused toes are acceptable and often seen. Rear dewclaws, if any, must be removed; front dewclaws should be removed.

Tail: Docked at two to four inches in length, carried at or just slightly above back level; set of tail is at back's level; shorter or screw tail is acceptable if born that way; silky feather on tail, from three to four inches in length, forming a marked "flag" of square shape. The tail and its carriage is an index of the breed's attitude and character.

MOVEMENT:

Elegant with good reach in front, and sound, driving rear action. Gait as a whole is free and lively, evidencing stable character and correct construction. In profile, the movement exhibits a good length of stride; viewed from front and rear, it is straight and true, resulting from straight-boned fronts and properly made and muscled hindquarters.

TEMPERAMENT:

Bright and interested little dog, affectionate and willing to please.

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.