

BOSTON TERRIER

GROUP: Terrier

SIZE:

Height 15-17 in. Weight 15-25 pounds. Sometimes divided into three classes of under 15 pounds; 15 pounds and under 20 pounds, and 20 pounds up to 25 pounds; APRI does not distinguish these classes at this time. All weights 25 pounds and under are judged together and equally with no preference given to any acceptable weight. Weights outside the desired range should be faulted to the degree of their variation.

COAT:

Short, smooth, bright, and fine in texture.

COLOR:

Brindle, black, or seal, all with white markings. Seal appears black except that it has a red cast when viewed in the sun or bright light. *Required markings* include white muzzle band, white blaze between the eyes, and white forechest. *Desired markings* include white muzzle band, even white blaze between the eyes and over the head, white color, white forechest, white on part or whole of the forelegs and hind legs behind the hocks. "Desired markings" not required if the dog is a correct specimen in other areas. A dog with white dominating the head or body must possess sufficient merit otherwise to counteract its deficiencies. *Disqualifications: Albinism.*

HEAD:

Square with a flat, skull; free from wrinkles; size in proportion to size of the dog; cheeks flat; well defined stop.

Muzzle: Short, broad and deep; free from wrinkles; in proportion to size of head; shorter in length than in width or depth; does not exceed in length approximately one-third of the length of the skull; parallel from stop to end of the nose with the top of the skull. ***Faults: Any tongue or teeth showing when mouth is closed.***

Eyes: Dark, large, round, and wide apart; set square in the skull; outside corners on a line with the cheeks when viewed from the front. ***Faults: Eyes showing too much white or haw. Disqualification: Any trace of blue in the eyes.***

Ears: Small and fine, carried erect; may be natural or cropped, with natural preferred but without penalty when cropped; placed as near the corners of skull as possible. ***Fault: Size out of proportion to size of head***

Nose: Black and wide with well defined line between nostrils. ***Faults: Pinched or wide nostrils. Disqualification: Dudley nose.***

Bite: Even or undershot enough to square the jaw. ***Faults: Wry jaw; any teeth showing when mouth is closed.***

NECK:

Medium length and slightly arched; setting neatly into shoulders; balanced with size of dog.

BODY:

Short back, strong loins and belly slightly drawn up; square body. ***Faults: blocky and/or chunky in appearance.***

Topline: Level with rump curving slightly to the set-on of the tail. ***Faults: Roach back; sway back.***

Chest: Deep with good width and well sprung ribs carried well back to the short, strong loins. ***Fault: Slab-sided.***

FRONT & REAR QUARTERS:

Forelegs: sloping and well-laid-back shoulders; straight and well muscled; elbows neither in nor out; short, strong pasterns. Hind legs: strong and well muscled thighs; stifles and hocks well bent; hocks short to the feet, turning neither in nor out.

Feet: Small, compact, and round with short nails; front feet with well arched toes, turned neither in nor out.

Tail: Set low, short, and tapered to a point; straight or screw; must not be carried above the horizontal.
Disqualifications: docked tail; no tail; tail carried gaily.

MOVEMENT:

Smooth flowing gait, with graceful movements; sure footed; legs moving straight ahead in line with perfect rhythm. ***Faults:*** rolling paddling, or weaving when walking; hackney gait.

TEMPERAMENT:

Alert, lively, friendly, and highly intelligent; excellent disposition; conveys an impression of determination, strength and activity.

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.

Dudley nose.

Docked or no tail; gaily carried tail.

Any trace of blue in eyes