

BULL TERRIER

standard



A.B.K.C. Inc.
PO BOX 2677
Spotsylvania, VA 22553

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Created by: Susan Fedorsha and Damir Markov

GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Bull Terrier is a stocky, strongly built, well balanced muscular dog. The Bull Terrier is courageous, intelligent, outgoing, inquisitive and can be notoriously stubborn and head strong. Almost clownish at times, the Bull Terrier is happy, thrives on affection, fearless and loyal to his owner. His need for attention makes the Bull Terrier suitable for an active family where he receives a great deal of interaction and companionship. The Bull Terrier does not do well left alone for extended periods of time. The Bull Terrier needs daily exercise, firm training and excels in a structured environment. Irrespective of size dogs should look masculine and bitches balanced and in good proportion. Substance—Muscular, heavy bone.



Bull Terrier



The head shall be long, strong and deep to the end of the muzzle. Full face it should be oval in outline giving the impression of fullness with a surface devoid of indentations. In profile it should curve gently downwards from the top of the skull to the tip of the nose.

Ears shall be small, thin and placed close together. They should be capable of being held stiffly erect, when they should point upwards.

The forehead should be flat across from ear to ear.

Eyes shall be well sunken and dark as possible. They should be small, triangular and obliquely placed; set near together and high on the dog's head.

Nose shall be black with well-developed nostrils bent downward at the tip.

Underjaw shall be deep and well defined. Lips shall be clean and tight.

Neck shall be very muscular, long, arched and clean, tapering from the shoulders to the head and it should be free from loose skin.

Chest shall be broad when viewed from the front, and there should be great depth from withers to brisket, so that the latter is nearer the ground than the belly.

The shoulders shall be strong and muscular but without heaviness. The shoulder blades should be wide and flat.

Legs shall be big boned but not to the point of coarseness; the forelegs should be of moderate length and perfectly straight.

Feet shall be round and compact with well-arched toes like cat.

Length = 19 to 25 inches (Shoulders to Rump)

The back shall be short and strong. The back ribs shall be deep and slightly arched over the loin.

Tail should be short, set low, fine, and ideally should be carried horizontally. Should be thick where it joins the body, and should taper to a fine point.

Height = 18 to 24 inches (Floors to Withers)

The body shall be well rounded with marked spring of rib.

Hind legs shall be parallel viewed from behind. The thighs very muscular with hocks well let down.



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HEAD

The Bull Terrier's most unique feature is his head. Its distinctive egg like appearance shows off its keen determined expression. The Bull Terrier's head should be long, strong oval looking in shape almost flat at the top from ear to ear sloping down to the nose, but not coarse (No stop). Viewed from the front it should be full completely filled in void of any depression, cavity or crater in its surface. It should not be sunken or concave. In side view, (profile) the head curves downwards from the top of the skull to the tip of the nose, which should be dark in color and bent downwards at the tip, nostrils well developed. The head should demonstrate the depth and strength of muzzle and underjaw, The underjaw should be deep and well defined. The Bull Terrier has a triangular (almond shaped) eye. The eyes are small, well sunken and closely set high up on the dogs head. There should be greater distance from nose to eyes than eyes to the top of skull A dark eye is preferred but any color except blue is permissible. Ears are high, small, thin and should sit erect. The Bull Terrier should have clean tight lips and teeth. The Bull Terrier's teeth should meet in either a level or in a scissor bite. A normal scissor bite is where the incisor teeth in the upper jaw are in contact with but slightly overlap those in the bottom jaw. A level bite is one where the incisor teeth meet exactly surface to surface.





HEAD



Correct



Incorrect-narrow muzzle



Incorrect-cheeks too strong



Incorrect-weak underjaw



Incorrect-short muzzle



Incorrect-visible stop





EARS



Correct



Incorrect--set down and
to wide



Incorrect-set too close



Incorrect-droop ears





EYES



Correct



Incorrect--set too close



Incorrect- round eyes



Incorrect--blue eyes





Scissor

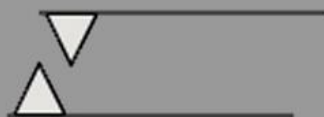


Level



BITES

Undershot



Overshot



NECK

Very muscular, long, arched, tapering from shoulders to head, no loose skin

CHEST

The Bull Terrier's chest, when viewed from the front, should be deep and broad. There should be great distance from withers to brisket so that the latter is nearer the ground than the belly.

BODY

The body of the Bull Terrier is well rounded with prominent spring of rib. The back should be short and strong, the back ribs deep. The backline behind the withers is level, arching or roaching slightly over broad well muscled loins. The Underline from brisket to belly forms a rising curve. The shoulders should be strong and muscular but without bulk or mass (overloaded). The shoulder blades should be wide and flat and there should be a very unmistakable backward slope from the bottom edge of the blade to the top edge forming an almost right angle with upper arm. Behind the shoulders there should be no dip at the withers.

LEGS

The Bull Terrier's forelegs have the strongest type of round quality bone. The forelegs should be of adequate length and the dog should stand soundly upon them. They should be perfectly straight. Elbows held straight and strong turning neither in or out,, pasterns upright. Hind legs in parallel when viewed from behind. Thighs muscular and second thighs well developed, stifle joint well bent and hock well angulated with bone to foot short and strong.

TAIL

Short set low and carried horizontally, thick at the base and tapers to a fine point.





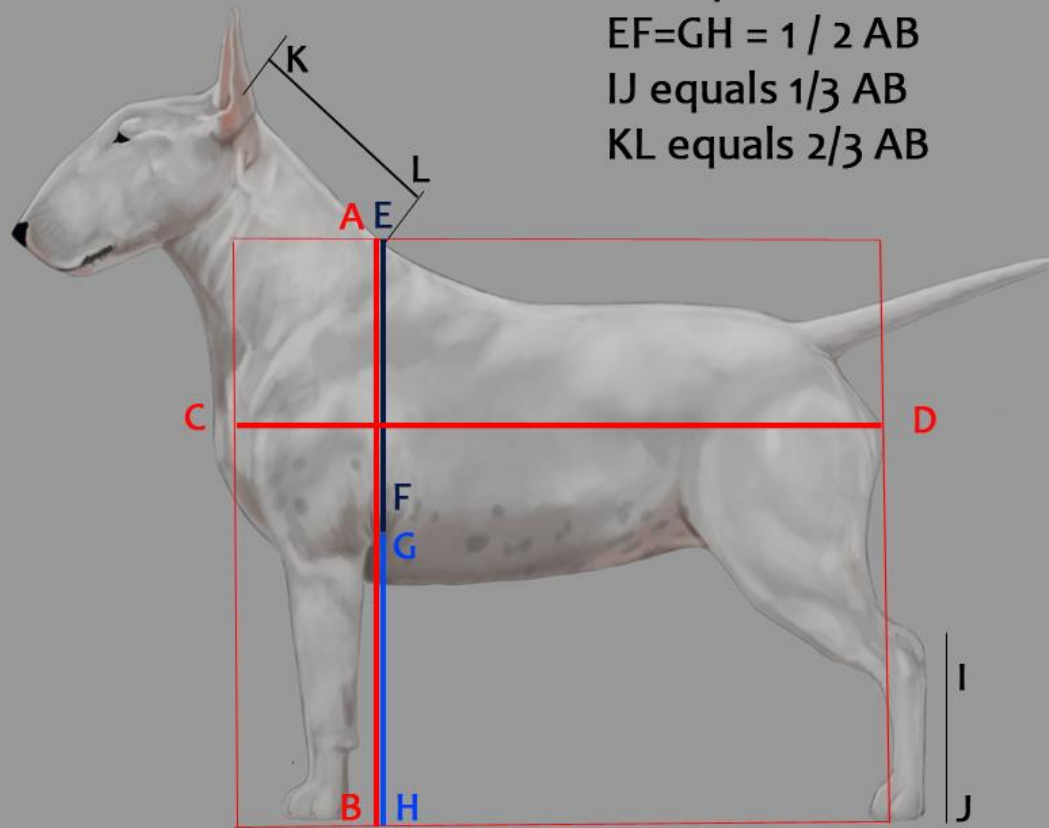
PROPORTIONS

AB equals CD

$EF = GH = \frac{1}{2} AB$

IJ equals $\frac{1}{3} AB$

KL equals $\frac{2}{3} AB$



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Correct



Incorrect -slight high rear

TOPLINES



Incorrect-roach back



Incorrect-sway back





Correct
correct length and carriage



Long tail



Kinked

TAILS



Correct
correct length
and carriage naturally



Gay



Set too low and long





Correct



Narrow



Too wide

FRONTS



Bowed front legs
east west feet



Feet tend to turn
inwards , overly loose elbow



Cathedral
(narrow concav front)



A-Frame
(restricted shoulders)





Correct



Incorrect-narrow



Incorrect-too wide

HINDQUARTERS



Incorrect-cow hocked



Incorrect-pigeon toed





Correct



Incorrect-over angulated
(too long lower thigh)



Incorrect-stright hock

HINDQUARTERS



Incorrect-crooked hock



Incorrect-long hock



FEET

Round and compact, well arched toes

COAT

Short, flat and shiny with a hard texture, no loose skin

COLOR

White and Colored. All colors and patterns acceptable with the exception of Merle

SIZE

There are no weight nor height limits, but each individual dog should exhibit the appearance of maximum substance in relation to its size.

MOVEMENT

The Bull Terrier covers ground with smooth easy strides. When trotting, movement parallel, front and back, only converging towards center line at faster speeds, forelegs reaching out well and hind legs moving smoothly at hip, bending well at stifle and hock, with great drive.

FAULTS

Undershot or Overshot mouth

DQ

- * Exhibiting human aggression
- * Failure to stand for Examination
- * Males must have two normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum





Miniature Bull Terrier

SIZE

Height 10 to 14 inches, there should be an impression of substance to size of dog consistent with quality and sex. Weight in proportion to height and balanced. The Miniature Bull Terrier should give the appearance of being square.

MOVEMENT

The Miniature Bull Terrier covers ground with smooth easy strides. When trotting, movement parallel, front and back, only converging towards center line at faster speeds, forelegs reaching out well and hind legs moving smoothly at hip, bending well at stifle and hock, with great drive.

FAULTS

- * Undershot or Overshot mouth

DISQUALIFICATION

- * Blue Eyes
- * Exhibiting human aggression
- * Failure to stand for Examination
- * Males must have two normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum

*****The Miniature Bull Terrier is considered its own breed with its own National Breed Club*****

