

BRAZILIAN TERRIER

A breed standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance including the correct colour of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function. Absolute soundness is essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be careful to avoid obvious conditions or exaggerations which would be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed. If a feature or quality is desirable it should only be present in the right measure. However, if a dog possesses a feature, characteristic or colour described as unacceptable, it must not be rewarded in the show ring.

Most recent changes to this Standard have an effective date of 01/01/2016

ORIGIN

France.

UTILISATION

Hunting dog for small game, guard dog, and companion.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, many young Brazilians studied in the European universities, especially in France and England. These young people often returned married, and their wives brought with them a small Terrier-type dog. The young Brazilians and their families went back to the farms they had left. The little dogs adapted to farm life and crossed with local dogs and bitches. Thus, a new type was formed and the phenotype was fixed in a few generations. With the development of large cities, the great urban centres attracted farmers, their families, and employees. In this way the small dog underwent another change of environment.



GENERAL APPEARANCE

Medium-sized dog, slender, well balanced, with firm, but not very heavy structure, square-shaped body with curved lines.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

Square dog: the length of its body, measured from the shoulder to the tip of the iliac, is approximately the same as the height at the withers.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT

Restless, alert, active, and keen; friendly and gentle to friends, suspicious of strangers.

HEAD

Viewed from the top, the head is triangular in shape, broad at its base, with ears well apart, narrowing notably from the eyes to the nose-tip. Viewed in profile, the upper line rises slightly from the tip of the nose to the stop, mainly between the eyes, and continuing to the occipital bone with a slight convexity.

Cranial Region:

Skull: Rounded, with moderately flat forehead. Its side lines, seen from the top, converge to the eyes. The distance from the external eye-corner to the set of the ears, is equal to the distance between the two external eye-corners. Medial frontal groove well-developed.

Stop: Well-marked.

Facial Region:

Nose: Moderately developed, dark-coloured according to the coat colour, with wide nostrils. The eyes, with a sloping root of muzzle, accentuate the stop.

Muzzle: The muzzle is a truncated cone [ed. like a point cut off a cone shape] that gradually tapers from its base towards the nose. It is strong and well-modelled under the eyes.

Lips: Dry and firm, the upper lip just over the lower, covering the teeth, allowing the mouth to close completely.

Cheeks: Dry, well-developed.

Jaws and teeth: 42 teeth, regularly set and well-developed, scissor bite.

Eyes:

Set half-way between the occipital protuberance and the nose tip, well-apart, the distance between the two external eye-corners being equal to the distance from the external eye-corner to the nose tip. Looking straight forward, moderately prominent, large, with slightly accentuated superciliary arches [*ed. brows*]. Rounded, well-opened, alive, with a keen expression; as dark as possible according to the coat colour. The blue variety has bluish grey, the brown variety has brown, green or blue eyes, and the isabella variety, besides the brown variety colours, also may have amber, from light to dark.

Ears:

Set on laterally, in line with the eyes, well-apart from each other. Triangular-shaped with pointed tips; carried half-pricked, with the folded tip falling down and pointing to the external eye-corner.

NECK

Of moderate length, well-balanced in relation to the head, harmoniously set to head and trunk. Well-defined, clean, dry; upper line slightly curved.

BODY

Well-balanced, not too heavy, square appearance with well-defined curved lines.

Topline: Firm and straight, going slightly upwards from the withers to the croup.

Withers: Well-pronounced and harmoniously connected to the front legs.

Back: Relatively short and well-muscled.

Loin: Short and firm, harmoniously connected to the croup.

Croup: Slightly sloping, low-set tail. Well-developed and muscled.

Chest: Long, deep, reaching to the level of the elbows. Well-arched ribs. The sternum is moderately curved.

Forechest not very pronounced, moderately broad, allowing free movement of the forelegs.

Underline and belly: Slightly curved, rising to the rear but no extreme tuck-up.

TAIL

Naturally short or long. In the latter case, it does not reach below the hock. Vigorous and low-set, happily carried and, when long, in a gentle curve, not curled over the back.

LIMBS

Forequarters:

General appearance: Viewed from the front, straight, moderately apart, but in line with the hind legs, which are also straight, but more apart.

Shoulder: Long.

Upper arm: Approximately the same length as the shoulder blade, forming, with this, an angle of approximately 110°.

Elbow: Set tightly to the body, at the same level as the chest underline.

Forearm: Straight, thin, and dry.

Metacarpus (pastern): Very moderate, straight and thin, nearly perpendicular to the ground.

Hindquarters:

General appearance: Strongly muscled, well-developed thighs, more apart than the forelegs.

Upper thigh: Well-developed and muscled.

Stifle (knee): Moderately angulated.

Lower thigh: In proportion to the upper thighs.

Hock joint: Moderately short and set perpendicular to the ground when standing.

Metatarsus (rear pastern): Straight.

FEET

Forefeet: Tight, neither turned in nor out; the two median toes are longer.

Hind feet: Tight, with longer toes than the forefeet.

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Elegant, free, short, and quick movement.

SKIN

Well-applied, not loose. Dry.

COAT

Short-haired, smooth, fine, but not soft, laid close to the skin. One cannot see the skin through it. Finer on the head, ears, under the neck, on inner and lower parts of forequarters, and backside of the thighs.

COLOUR

- Ground colour predominantly white with black, blue, brown, or isabella markings.
- * The following typical and characteristic markings must always be present:
 - Tan markings above the eyes, on both sides of the muzzle and inside, and on edge of ears.
 - These markings may extend to other body regions' bordering markings.
 - The head must always present black, blue, brown, or isabella markings in the frontal region and ears
 - There might be a white blaze and marks, preferably on the frontal groove and sides of the muzzle, distributed as harmoniously as possible.

SIZE

Height at withers:

Males: 35cm – 40cm (approx. 14" – 16").

Females: 33cm – 38cm (approx. 13" – 15").

Weight:

Approx. 10kg.

N.B. Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.

FAULTS

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog, and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

- Thinning coat showing the skin, long, or atypical hair.
- Faults in the typical characteristic markings.
- Too heavy or too loose in shoulder.
- Arched hind legs.
- Lack of harmony, atypical build.

Severe faults:

- Downward topline from the withers to the croup.

Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Flat croup.
- Overshot or undershot bite.
- Fully erect ear.

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FCI Standard No 341: TERRIER BRASILEIRO

FCI Classification: Group 3: Terriers

Section 1 – Large and medium-sized Terriers.
Without Working Trial