



Official Standard for the Norfolk Terrier

General Appearance The Norfolk Terrier, game and hardy, with expressive dropped ears, is one of the smallest of the working terriers. It is active and compact, free-moving, with good substance and bone. With its natural, weather-resistant coat and short legs, it is a "perfect demon" in the field. This versatile, agreeable breed can go to ground, bolt a fox and tackle or dispatch other small vermin, working alone or with a pack. Honorable scars from wear and tear are acceptable in the ring.

Size, Proportion, Substance *Height* at the withers 9 to 10 inches at maturity. Bitches tend to be smaller than dogs. Length of back from point of withers to base of tail should be slightly longer than the height at the withers. Good *substance* and bone. *Weight* 11 to 12 pounds or that which is suitable for each individual dog's structure and balance. Fit working condition is a prime consideration.

Head *Eyes* small, dark and oval, with black rims. Placed well apart with a sparkling, keen and intelligent *expression*. *Ears* neatly dropped, small, with a break at the skull line, carried close to the cheek and not falling lower than the outer corner of the eye. V-shaped, slightly rounded at the tip, smooth and velvety to the touch.

Skull wide, slightly rounded, with good width between the ears. *Muzzle* is strong and wedge shaped. Its length is one-third less than a measurement from the occiput to the well-defined *stop*. Jaw clean and strong. Tight-lipped with a scissor *bite* and large teeth.

Neck, Topline, Body *Neck* of medium length, strong and blending into well laid back shoulders. Level *topline*. Good width of *chest*. *Ribs* well sprung, chest moderately deep. Strong *loins*. *Tail* medium docked, of sufficient length to ensure a balanced outline. Straight, set on high, the base level with the topline. Not a squirrel tail.

Forequarters Well laid back *shoulders*. Elbows close to ribs. Short, powerful *legs*, as straight as is consistent with the digging terrier. Pasterns firm. *Feet* round, pads thick, with strong, black nails.

Hindquarters Broad with strong, muscular *thighs*. Good turn of *stifle*. *Hocks* well let down and straight when viewed from the rear. *Feet* as in front.

Coat The protective coat is hard, wiry and straight, about 1½ to 2 inches long, lying close to the body, with a definite undercoat. The mane on neck and shoulders is longer and also forms a ruff at the base of the ears and the throat. Moderate furnishings of harsh texture on legs. Hair on the head and ears is short and smooth, except for slight eyebrows and whiskers. Some tidying is necessary to keep the dog neat, but shaping should be heavily penalized.

Color All shades of red, wheaten, black and tan, or grizzle. Dark points permissible. White marks are not desirable.

Gait Should be true, low and driving. In front, the legs extend forward from the shoulder. Good rear angulation showing great powers of propulsion. Viewed from the side, hind legs follow in the track of the forelegs, moving smoothly from the hip and flexing well at the stifle and hock. Topline remains level.

Temperament Alert, gregarious, fearless and loyal. Never aggressive.

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