



GROUP IV: TERRIERS

MANCHESTER TERRIER

RECOGNIZED: 1889

Effective: January 2004

The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

A terrier calculated to take his own part in the rat pit and not of the Whippet type.

SIZE

Weight: 5.5 to 10 kg (12 to 22 lb)

COAT

Coat close, short and glossy; not soft.

COLOUR

Black and tan, as distinctive as possible; the tan should be a rich mahogany colour. A tan spot over each eye, and another on each cheek, the latter as small as possible. The lips of the upper and lower jaws should be tanned, the tan extending under the jaw to the throat, ending in the shape of the letter V. The inside of the ear is partly tanned. The forelegs tanned to the knee, with a black patch “thumb mark” between the pastern and the knee. The toes have a distinct black mark running up each, called the “pencil mark.” The tan on the hind legs should continue from the pencilling on the feet up the inside of the legs to a little below the stifle joint, and the outside of the legs should be perfectly black. There should be tan under tail, and on the vent, but only of such size as to be covered by the tail. In every case the tan should meet the black abruptly.

HEAD

Narrow, almost flat, with a slight indentation up the forehead, long and tight-skinned. Slightly wedge-shaped, tapering to the nose, and well filled up under the eyes, with tight-lipped jaws. **Nose** should be perfectly black. Level in mouth, with no visible cheek muscles. **Eyes:** Small, bright and sparkling, set moderately close to together, as near black as possible; oblong in shape, slanting upwards on the outside. They should neither protrude nor sink in the skull. **Ears:** Erect, or button, small and thin; smaller at the root and set as close together as possible at the top of the head. If cropped to a point, long and carried erect.

NECK

The neck should be slim and graceful, gradually becoming large as it approaches the shoulders, and perfectly free from throatiness; slightly arched from the occiput.

FOREQUARTERS

The **shoulders** slope off elegantly. **Legs** perfectly straight, and well under the body; strong, and of proportionate length. **Feet** compact, split up between the toes, well arched, with jet-black nails; the two middle toes in the front feet rather longer than the others.

BODY

Short, with powerful loins, the back being slightly arched at the loin, and falling again to the joining of the tail to the same height as the shoulder. **Chest:** Narrow between the legs, deep in the brisket. **Ribs:** Well sprung out behind the shoulders.

HINDQUARTERS

The hind feet shaped like those of a cat.

TAIL

Should be moderately short and set on where the arch of the back ends; thick where it joins the body, and gracefully tapering to a point; not carried higher than the back.

FAULTS

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.