



GROUP VII: HERDING DOGS

MUDI

RECOGNIZED: 2020

Effective: January 2021

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.

ORIGIN & PURPOSE

The breed came into being during the 18th to the 19th century from cross breeding Hungarian herding dogs with various prick-eared German herding dogs. Because of his courageous disposition he is very popular with the shepherds for the use in herding large and difficult livestock. He is even used for the battue of wild boar. Excellent guard and companion dog. A dog used for searching out drugs. Watch and alarm dog. Excellent agility dog, lovable house pet. Because of his relatively short coat and his excellent adaptability, it is no problem to keep him in the house.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Medium sized herding dog with a wedge-shaped head. Prick ears. Body topline is distinctly sloping towards the rear. The head and the limbs are covered by short, smooth coat. The other parts of the body have a somewhat longer, very wavy to slightly curly coat. There are different variations of colour.

Important proportions: The body length is approximately equal to the height at the withers. The depth of the brisket is slightly less than half of the height at the withers. The length of the muzzle is slightly less than half of the total length of the head.

TEMPERAMENT

The Mudi is extremely able to learn, of lively temperament, courageous, watchful, keen to work, alert and adaptable.

SIZE

Height at the withers:

Dogs, 41 to 47 cm (16.25 to 18.5 in); ideal height 43 to 45 cm (17 to 17.75 in)

Bitches, 38 to 44 cm (15 to 17.25 in); ideal height 40 to 42 cm (15.75 to 16.5 in)

Weight: Dogs, 11 to 13 kg (24.25 to 28.75 lb); bitches 8 to 11 kg (17.75 to 24.25 lb)

COAT

Hair: Head and front of limbs are covered by short, straight and smooth hair. On other parts of the body, the coat is uniformly very wavy or slightly curled. It is dense and always shiny, about 3 to 7 cm (1.25 to 2.75 in) long. At some spots, cowlicks and ridges are formed. The coat is longest on the back of the forearms and the upper thighs, where it forms pronounced featherings. **Skin:** Tight, without wrinkles.

COLOUR

Fawn, black, blue merle (i.e., black speckled, striped, brindle or spotted on lighter or darker bluish grey primary colour), ash colour, brown. Only slightly extensive white markings are tolerated but not desired. A white patch on the chest, less than 5 cm (2 in) in diameter, and small white markings on the toes are tolerated but not desired.

HEAD

The most striking part of the Mudi is undoubtedly his head. To the observer it should give the impression of an alert, always energetic, cheerful and intelligent animal without any trace of timidity or aggressiveness. The head is wedge-shaped, tapering towards the nose. **Skull:** Skull and forehead are slightly domed. Occiput not pronounced. Superciliary ridges only slightly developed. **Stop:** Barely pronounced. **Nose:** Narrow, rounded at front with moderately wide nostrils. In the colours black, white, fawn and blue merle, the nose is always black; in the other colours, the nose harmonizes with the coat colour – e.g., the nose in a brown dog is brown and grey in grey dog. Brown (liver brown) coloured dogs have a brown nose and brown eye rims. **Muzzle:** Moderately strong. Bridge or nose straight. **Lips:** Tight-fitting to the teeth. Corner of mouth slightly jagged. The lip pigment corresponds with the pigment of the nose leather. **Jaws/teeth:** Complete scissors bite according to the dentition formula. Regular teeth of medium size. **Eyes:** Narrow, slightly pointed at inner and outer corners, set slightly oblique, thus has a “dare devil” expression. The eyes should be as dark as possible. Only in blue-merle dogs, wall (white or blue) eyes are not faulty. Rims of lids are tight, close-fitting to the eyeball and evenly pigmented. **Ears:** High set prick ears which are of a reverse V-shape and covered with abundant hair reaching beyond the edges of the external ears. The response of the ears to stimulation is very lively. The dog can turn the ears independently of each other like a radar screen. Ears are approximately 10% to 15% longer than their width at the base.

NECK

The slightly high-set neck forms an angle of 50° to 55° to the horizontal. It is of medium length, barely arched and well muscled. Without dewlap or pronounced neck ruff. In male dogs there can be a barely developed mane; this must, however, never be noticeable.

FOREQUARTERS

Shoulders: The shoulder blade is moderately sloping and well muscled. The forechest is cured, the point of the sternum only slightly protruding. **Upper arm:** Of medium length. At 45° with the horizontal. **Elbows:** Close-fitting to the body. **Carpal joint:** Firm, dry. Pastern: Steep. **Forefeet:** Round and well-knit toes. Little hair between and under the toes. Pad springy. Nails slate grey and hard.

BODY

Topline: Clearly sloping towards croup. **Withers:** Pronounced, long and muscular. **Back:** Straight, short. **Loins:** Of medium length. Firmly coupled. **Croup:** Short, very slightly sloping, of medium breadth, muscular. **Chest:** Forechest slightly curved. Ribs somewhat broad and rather flat. **Underline:** Slightly tucked up.

HINDQUARTERS

The hind legs are a little overstretched beyond the rear. **Upper thigh:** Long, well muscled. **Metatarsus:** Short and steep. **Hind feet:** Like front feet. Dewclaws may be removed.

TAIL

Set on at medium height. In repose, hanging, with lower third raised almost to horizontal. When alert and during active movement, the tail is carried in sickle shape, higher than the topline. Docking of tail is undesirable but is not regarded as a fault. If the tail is docked, two or three of the tail vertebrae must be visibly left. Dogs born without or with a natural stump tail are rare; this is not regarded as a fault. The tail is abundantly coated; the hair on the underside can even be 10 to 12 cm (4 to 4.75 in) long.

GAIT

The Mudi's characteristic movements are mincing steps.

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.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Aggressive or overly shy
- Flesh-coloured, liver-brown or spotted nose in black, white, blue-merle, fawn or ash-coloured dogs. Flesh-coloured or spotted nose in brown dogs.
- One or more missing teeth (incisors, canines, premolars 2-4, molars 1-2). More than two missing PM1. The M3 are disregarded.
- Overshot or undershot mouth, wry mouth. Gap of more than 2 mm (0.075 in) between upper and lower incisors.
- Yellow eyes in black dogs
- Drop ears
- Short, smooth, flat coat on the body; long hair on the head. Coat tending towards matting.
- Wolf grey colour, black and tan with yellow to brown markings
- Height at the withers below 38 cm (15 in) or over 47 cm (18.5 in)
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities

Note: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

