



Norfolk Terrier

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

The Norfolk Terrier is one of the smallest of the Terriers, but a “demon” for its size. Of a lovable disposition, not quarrelsome, with a hardy constitution. A small, low, keen dog, compact and strong with short back, good substance and bone. Honourable scars from fair wear and tear should not be penalized unduly.

Temperament

Alert and fearless.

Size

Ideal height 25 cm (10 in) at withers.

Coat and Colour

Coat hard, wiry and straight, lying close to the body. It is longer and rougher on the neck and shoulders. Hair on head and ears short and smooth, except for slight whiskers and eyebrows. Colour all shades of red, red wheaten, black and tan, or grizzle. White marks or patches are undesirable but shall not disqualify.

Head

Skull wide and slightly rounded with good width between the ears. Stop should be well defined. Muzzle wedge-shaped and strong; length of muzzle slightly less than half the length of the skull. Mouth tight lipped, jaw strong; teeth strong and rather large; scissors bite. Eyes oval shaped and deep set, in colour dark brown or black. Expression alert, keen and intelligent. Ears medium sized, V-shaped but slightly rounded at tip, dropping forward close to the cheek.

Neck

Medium length and strong.

Forequarters

Clean powerful shoulders with short, powerful and straight legs.

Body

Compact with short back, level topline, well-sprung ribs.

Hindquarters

Well muscled, good turn of stifle, hocks well let down and straight when viewed from rear; with great powers of propulsion. Feet round with thick pads.



Tail

Docked: Medium docked, set level with top line and carried erect.

Undocked: Tail of moderate length to give a general balance to the dog, thick at the root and tapering towards the tip as straight as possible, carried jauntily, but not excessively gay.

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.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness of the fault should be in exact proportion to its degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's purpose.

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

Breed Name: Norfolk Terrier
Year of Recognition: 1977
Effective Date: Jul 2016