

Norwich Terrier

General Appearance

The Norwich Terrier is one of the smallest of the terriers. Of a lovable disposition, not quarrelsome, tremendously active and with a hardy constitution. A small, low, keen dog, compact and strong with good substance and bone. Honourable scars from fair wear-and-tear should not be penalized unduly.

Temperament

Gay and fearless.

Size

Ideal height 10 inches (25 cm) at withers. This ideal height should not be attained by excessive length of leg.

Coat and Colour

Coat hard, wiry, and straight, lying close to the body with a thick undercoat. Longer and rougher on the neck, forming a ruff to frame the face. Hair on head and ears short and smooth, except for slight whiskers and eyebrows. Colour all shades of red, wheaten, black and tan, or grizzle. White marks or patches are undesirable.

Head

Skull wide, good width between the ears, and slightly rounded. **Muzzle:** wedge-shaped and strong, length about one-third less than a measurement from the occiput to the bottom of the stop, which should be well defined. **Mouth:** tight-lipped, jaws clean and strong. **Teeth** strong, rather large. Scissors bite. **Eyes** small and oval shaped, dark, full of expression, bright and keen. **Ears** erect, set well apart on top of skull. Of medium size with pointed tips. Held perfectly erect when aroused. Can be laid back when not at attention.

Neck

Strong, of good length, commensurate with correct overall balance, flowing into shoulders.

Forequarters

Shoulders well laid back. Legs short, powerful and straight; elbows close to body. Pasterns firm and upright.

Body

Level topline. Short back, compact body with good depth. Rib cage should be long and well sprung with short loin.

Hindquarters

Well developed, Legs very muscular. Hocks of moderate angulation. Dewclaws are not desired; if present, they must not obstruct gait. Feet broad, with strong toes, moderately closed, and with rather high knuckles. The so-called dewclaws which sometimes occur on the inside of the hind legs are imperfectly developed toes. They are of no use to the dog and are not taken into consideration in judging.

Tail

Medium docked. Set on high to complete a perfectly level topline. Carried erect.

Gait

Forelegs should be moving straight forward when travelling. Hind legs should follow in the track of the forelegs when moving, showing the pads and with hocks parallel.

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.

Note:

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