

Lancashire Heeler

Origin & Purpose

Works cattle but has terrier instincts when rabbiting and ratting.

General Appearance

Small, powerful, sturdily built, alert energetic worker.

Temperament

Courageous, happy, affectionate to owner.

Size

Ideal height at shoulder:

Dogs: 30 cm (12 inches)

Bitches: 25 cm (10 inches)

Coat & Colour

Coat: Fine undercoat is covered throughout by weather resistant, short, thick, hard, flat topcoat. Topcoat slightly longer on neck. Undercoat should not show through topcoat nor allow any longer hair at the mane to stand off. Long or excessively wavy coat highly undesirable.

Colour: Black and tan or liver tan with pigment to tone with coat colour, with rich tan spots on cheeks and often above eyes. Rich tan on muzzle and chest and from knees downwards, inside hind legs and under tail. A distinct black or liver mark (thumb mark), according to coat colour, immediately above front feet is desirable. Richness of tan may fade with age. White to be discouraged. A small white spot on forechest, although permissible is undesirable.

Head

Head: In proportion to body. **Skull:** flat and wide between ears, tapering towards eyes which are set wide apart. Moderate stop equidistant between nose and occiput. Tapering continues toward nose. Skull and muzzle to be on parallel planes. **Eyes:** Almond-shaped medium size, dark colour except in liver where they may be lighter to match coat colour. **Ears:** showing alert lift, or erect. Drop ears showing no lift undesirable. **Mouth:** Lips firm. Scissor bite-jaws strong with a perfect regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws. Under or overshot to be discouraged.

Neck

Moderate length, well laid into shoulders.

Forequarters

Well laid shoulder, elbows firm against ribs. Amply boned. Pasterns allow feet to turn slightly outwards, but not enough to cause weakness or affect freedom of movement.

Body

Well sprung ribbing, extending well back with close coupling. Firm, level topline, never dipping at withers or falling at croup. Approximately 2.5 cm (1 inch) longer than height at withers. (Measured from withers to set on of tail).

Hindquarters

Muscular, with well turned stifles, hocks well let down. From rear should be parallel, when moving or standing. Never bandy or cowhocked. Feet: small, firm and well padded.

Tail

Set on high, left natural. Carried over back in a slight curve when alert, but not forming a complete ring.

Gait

Smart and brisk, Natural, free movement.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

Note:

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