

DACHSHUND CLUB OF AMERICA, Inc.
**QUICK GUIDE TO JUDGING
THE DACHSHUND**

General Appearance: “Low to ground, long in body and short of leg, with robust muscular development ...” and medium bone.



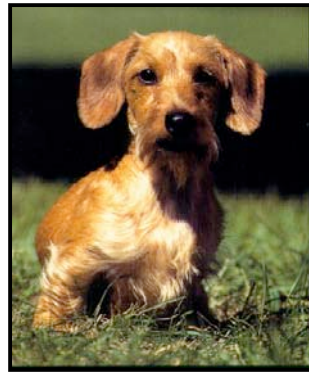
“...well balanced with bold and confident head carriage and intelligent, alert facial expression.”



“Head: Viewed from above or from the side, the head tapers uniformly to the tip of the nose.

Eyes are of medium size, almond-shaped and dark-rimmed, ... very dark in color. The bridge bones over the eyes are strongly prominent.

Ears are set near the top of the head, not too far forward, of moderate length, rounded... Carriage, when animated, is with the forward edge just touching the cheek, so that the ears frame the face. ...”



“Skull is slightly arched, neither too broad nor too narrow, and slopes gradually, with little perceptible stop, into the finely formed, slightly arched muzzle, giving a Roman appearance.



Lips are tightly stretched ... **Teeth** fit closely in a scissors bite.”

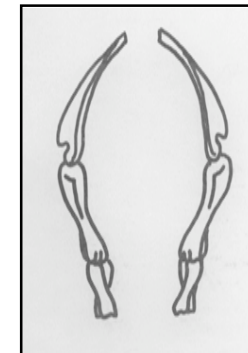
“Neck: Long, muscular, ... without dewlap, slightly arched in the nape, flowing gracefully into the shoulders without creating the impression of a right angle. **Trunk:** The trunk is long and fully muscled. ... the back lies in the straightest possible line between the withers and the short, very slightly arched loin. ... **Abdomen** – slightly drawn up.”

“Forequarters in detail: Chest – The breastbone is strongly prominent in front so that on either side a depression or dimple appears. When viewed from the side, the thorax appears oval and extends downward to the mid-point of the forearm. ... The keel merges gradually into the line of the abdomen and extends well beyond the front legs. ...

Shoulder blades – long, broad, well laid back ... closely fitted to the withers. ...

Upper arm – Ideally the same length as the shoulder blade and at right angles to the latter, ... elbows close to the body, yet capable of free movement. **Forearm** – short, ... slightly curved inwards. The joints between the forearms and the feet (wrists) are closer together than the shoulder joints, so that the front does not appear absolutely straight.

The inclined shoulder blades, upper arms and curved forearms form parentheses that enclose the ribcage, creating the correct ‘wraparound front.’ ”



The Dachshund's front legs are placed well under the body; an imaginary line drawn up through the front leg intersects the withers, not the neck.

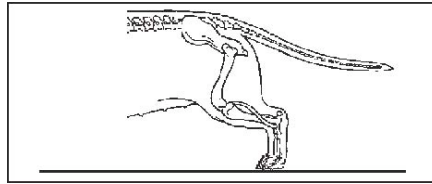


Correct shoulder layback and placement on the ribcage; good length and angle of the upper arm

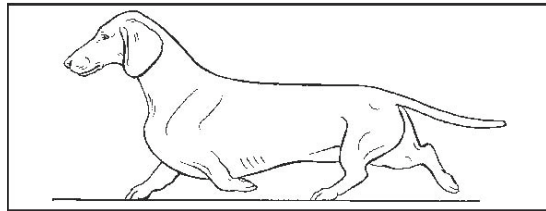


Incorrect upright shoulder – note the right angle at the neck; forward shoulder placement on the ribcage; short upper arm

Hindquarters: The bones of the rear are of equal length and “give the impression of a series of right angles.” The croup is “rounded and full, sinking slightly toward the tail,” which is “set in continuation of the spine ...” and is “not carried too gaily.”



Gait: Good reach and drive; no excessive raising of front feet or lift of rear feet toward the abdomen. Hind legs reach full extension and clearly expose the pads.



Coats – Smooth: short and shining.

Long: straight or slightly wavy with longer hair on the ears, forechest, underside of body, backs of legs and on the tail. Wire: tight, short, thick, hard outer coat with finer, softer undercoat; facial furnishings of beard and eyebrows.

Acceptable colors: Red or cream. Black, chocolate, fawn, wild boar and blue, all with tan or cream markings. Points may not be evident on wild boars; in all other cases, absence of tan or cream markings is a fault.

Acceptable patterns: Brindle, dapple (merle), sable. A small area of white on the chest is acceptable but not desirable. (Dapples may have a large area of white on chest.) Areas of white other than on the chest are unacceptable.

Temperament: “Courageous to the point of rash- ness ... Any display of shyness is a serious fault.”

POINTS TO REMEMBER in order of importance

Essential elements of breed type: 1) long, low, level outline with a slightly arched loin, visible forechest, no indication of a right angle where the neck meets the shoulder, and deeply angled quarters; 2) the unique front assembly; 3) the distinctive headpiece.

“Wraparound” oval front has prominent breast bone; front legs are under the withers, not the neck. Brisket extends down to mid-point between elbow and wrist. Feet are round and compact with well-arched toes.

Bones of the rear are of equal length and give the impression of a series of right angles. Croup is rounded and sinks slightly to the tail, which is set in continuation of the spine and is not carried too gaily. Gait is fluid and smooth with good reach and drive. There is no excess lifting of the front feet or raising of the rear feet toward the abdomen.

Coming and going, front legs incline slightly inward and hind legs turn neither in nor out. Head tapers uniformly when viewed from above and from the side, has little perceptible stop and a slightly arched muzzle with good underjaw. Eyes are dark, medium-sized, almond-shaped. Ears are set high and frame the face when animated. Lips are tight.

ALSO VERY IMPORTANT

Size: Standard Dachshunds are usually 16 to 32 pounds. Miniatures weigh 11 pounds and under and can be weighed only in the Open Miniature Class. Unless over 32 pounds, size is of little importance in other classes.

Unacceptable color: Judges are advised to excuse any Dachshund with an area of white anywhere other than on the chest. (Write

“Excused: Color” in judge’s book.)

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