

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL



Extended Breed Standard of **THE ENGLISH TOY TERRIER** **(Black & Tan)**

Produced by
The Australian National Kennel Council

Standard adopted by Kennel Club (London) 1994. Amended 2009

Standard adopted by ANKC 1994

Standard amended by ANKC 2009

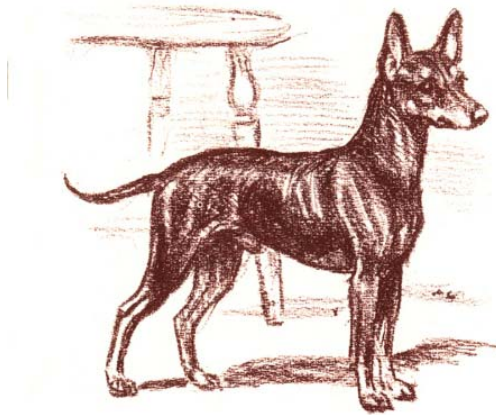
FCI Standard No: 13

Breed Standard Extension adopted by ANKC 2009

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Country of Origin ~ United Kingdom

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HISTORY OF THE BREED

The ancestry of the English Toy Terrier (Black and Tan) is interwoven with the Black and Tan Terrier and the Manchester Terrier.

Over one hundred and fifty years the Kennel Club (London) has, at various times, registered the breed under the names Black and Tan Toy Terrier, Manchester Miniature Terrier, Manchester Toy Terrier and English Toy Terrier (Black and Tan). Similarly it was not until 1923 that The American Kennel Club stabilised the Breed under the name Toy Manchester Terrier. Before then the name Black and Tan Toy Terrier was used.

Black and Tan Terriers have existed in Great Britain for hundreds of years and are cited as one of the oldest of the terriers. A breeder from Manchester, John Hulme, is credited with crossing the Rough Black and Tan Terrier with the Whippet in the 1800s to produce the sleek, agile and powerful Manchester Terrier we see today. Some have suggested that Italian Greyhounds and Dachshunds may have also played a role in the creation of the Manchester Terrier. The Manchester Terrier in turn is credited as a foundation dog used in the development of other dog breeds, including the Doberman Pinscher, the Australian Terrier, the German Hunting Terrier and the Lancaster Heeler.

Manchester Terriers were initially bred to be vermin hunters, a task they excelled at. In addition to being a companion animal, they were used to rid both homes and ships of rats and mice. Eventually a sport developed in England involving the killing of rats. Dogs were put into pits and bets were placed as to which dog could kill the greatest number of rats in a given period of time.

A 5 pound Toy Manchester Terrier named “Tiny” was reported to have killed 300 rats in 54 minutes and 50 seconds. This “sport” eventually fell out of favour and is no longer practiced.

The Manchester Terrier reached the height of its popularity in the Victorian era. During this time it was prized both for its ratting ability and its good looks. The standard Manchester Terrier was thought to be a suitable companion for the discerning gentleman. Victorian women, on the other hand, desired a smaller version of the Manchester and a toy was developed by repeatedly breeding the smallest of the standard Manchester's. Unfortunately this practice was carried to an extreme and the result was very small, very unhealthy animals. The modern day English Toy Terrier is a much healthier, sounder and larger animal than its ancestors from this earlier period.



Now only one colour combination is acceptable for the Breed, namely black and tan. However, in the mid-1800s there was some interest in different colour variations including whites, blues, and reds and these colour variants began appearing at competitions. The English White, in particular, often displayed a number of health problems. These colour variations eventually fell out of favour and are no longer bred for or are acceptable.

In 1895 ear cropping was outlawed in England and this greatly decreased the Manchester Terrier's popularity. As the English Toy Terrier's ears had traditionally been cropped, it was largely unnecessary for breeders to consider ear type when selecting breeding stock. Once ear cropping was outlawed many did not like the look of the English Toy's uncropped ears. It took quite a while for English breeders to develop the lovely Candle-flame shaped ears, which are now required in the English standard

How do you describe a dog that wraps itself around your heart in a way that no breed you've ever owned has done; who greets each day so full of joy that you'd think he'd invented it; who entertains, outwits, and totally charms you; who has enough courage for a pride of lions and possesses such pristine beauty that you can't stop admiring him; who reaches as far back as legends? Three words describe such a dog: English Toy Terrier. A bit of history as old, perhaps, as the British Isles to which it is indigenous, the English Toy possesses a unique and distinctive beauty characterized by a clean and gracious outline, which is enhanced by rich chestnut markings. Well muscled,

yet sleek, the breed's physical appearance attests to its ability to perform the work for which it was bred.

Frequently depicted in British art, the Breed was used to exterminate many kinds of vermin but was famed as a ratter and was a favoured competitor in the once fashionable gambling activity of rat killing contests, which took place in British pubs. Tiny dogs of the toy variety served not only as pampered ladies companions but were efficient ratters as well. Unlike many breeds, the English Toy retains a keen hunting instinct and has the strength, speed, stamina, and courage to excel at its original purpose.



● GENERAL APPEARANCE

Well balanced, elegant and compact, sleek and cleanly built.

This sums up the English Toy Terrier and sets the breed apart from all others. From the distinctive markings to the tapering tail. The symmetry should be pleasing, harmonious and a well-proportioned blend-in of the dog's parts and features, shape, size, and structure. The muscular body expresses great power and agility, keeping in mind that excessive development of individual muscle, on and around the limbs result in a relatively restricted, cumbersome and lumbering movement.

The English Toy Terrier, overall, is slightly longer than tall. The height, measured vertically from the ground to the highest point of the withers, is slightly less than the length, measured horizontally from the point of the shoulders to the rear projection of the upper thigh. The bone and muscle of the English Toy Terrier is of sufficient mass to ensure agility and endurance.



Fig. 1 – Excellent specimen of the Breed

● CHARACTERISTICS

Toy with Terrier characteristics.

Although rightly designated to the Toy Group, the English Toy Terrier possesses the characteristics of a keen, alert, enthusiastic, sporting dog.

● TEMPERAMENT

Alert, remembering that historically he could acquit himself satisfactorily in the rat pit. Never unduly nervous.

The English Toy Terrier is neither aggressive nor shy. He is keenly observant, devoted, but discerning. Not being a sparring breed, he is generally friendly with other dogs. Excessive shyness or aggressiveness should be considered a serious fault.

● HEAD AND SKULL

Head long, narrow, flat skull, wedge-shaped without emphasis of cheek muscles, well filled up under eyes. Top and bottom jaws held tightly together within compressed lips. Slight stop. Foreface tapers gently to provide wedge-shaped impression, in profile similar to that seen when viewed from front. Although an illusion of being overshot can result, any suggestion of snipey appearance is undesirable. Nose black.

The head is wedge shaped, of greater diameter at its origin. The skull is long, narrow, tight skinned, and almost flat with a slight indentation up the forehead. The head resembles a blunted wedge in frontal and profile views. There is a visual effect of a slight stop as viewed in profile. The **muzzle** and **skull** are equal in length. The **muzzle** is well filled under the eyes with no visible cheek muscles. The underjaw is full and well defined and the **nose** is black. Tight black **lips** lie close to the jaw.



Fig.2 – Demonstrating correct stop, head proportions and planes.

● EYES

Dark to black, without light shading from iris. Relatively small, almond shaped, obliquely set and sparkling,

The nearly black, almond shaped **eyes** are small, bright, and sparkling. They are set moderately close together, slanting upwards on the outside. The eyes neither protrude nor sink in the skull. Pigmentation of the eyelids must be black.



Fig.3 – correct eye shape.

● EARS

Candle-flame shape, slightly pointed tips, placed high upon back of skull and proportionately close together. A guide to size can be obtained by bending the ear forward – it should not reach the eye. From nine months of age ear carriage must be erect. Entire inside of ear should face front. Leather of ear thin.

The naturally erect ear should face forward, be wider at the base tapering to slightly pointed tips, and carried well up on the skull and relatively close together. Wide, flaring, blunt tipped, or soft ears are a serious fault.



Fig.4 – correct ear placement and “Candle-flame” shape.

● MOUTH

Jaws strong, with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws. Teeth level and strong.

Although full dentition of 42 teeth is considered most desirable, it is not unusual for dogs to have missing teeth. Those commonly absent are the premolars. This is really not surprising when it is realized, from the skulls discovered at excavation sites that the first 3 premolars in each jaw were absent in most prehistoric specimens. The jaws should be full and powerful with full and proper dentition. The teeth are white and strongly developed with a true scissors bite.

● NECK

Long, graceful, slightly arched. Shoulders well laid back. Line of neck flowing into shoulders, and sloping off elegantly. Throatiness undesirable.

The slightly arched neck should be slim and graceful, and of a length that balances with the overall dog. It gradually becomes larger as it approaches, and blends smoothly with the sloping shoulders. Throatiness should be penalised.



Fig.5 – Correct neck shape.

● FOREQUARTERS

Legs falling straight from shoulders with elbows close to chest providing a straight front. Fine bone eminently desirable.

Obliquely placed shoulders are slanting, sloping, well-angulated and well laid back. 60% of a dog's weight is carried on the front end. The pasterns are almost perpendicular. The ideal slope, 20-25 % from the perpendicular, is considered correct. It is sufficient to say that for normal function some degree of pastern slope is essential.

The shoulder blades and the upper arm should be relatively the same length. The distance from the elbow to the withers should be approximately the same as the distance from the elbow to the ground. The elbows should lie close to the brisket. The forelegs are straight, of proportionate length, and placed well under the brisket.

● BODY

Body compact, head and legs proportionate thus producing correct balance. Back very slightly curving from behind shoulder to loin, falling again to root of tail. Chest narrow and deep with ribs well sprung. Loins well cut up. Buttocks gently rounded.

The topline shows a **very** slight curving from behind the shoulders to the end of the loin, falling gently again to the root of the tail. A soft or roached back to be penalised. An arched loin is symptomatic of strength and agility in that area. This is due to muscular development over the spine and minor differences in the angles of lumbar vertebrae and pelvis. The chest of the English Toy Terrier should be narrow between the legs and deep in the brisket. These were “diggers” who worked in the soil. Accordingly, they were bred with generally narrow fronts and straight legs placed relatively close together so that when digging, the loose earth could be propelled between their spread rear legs. Spring of rib is a reference to the shape of ribs after their emergence from where they are joined with the thoracic vertebrae. The spring of ribs has a direct influence upon chest capacity. The more pronounced the arch or spring (within reason), the greater the lung and heart development and consequently, the greater the anticipated stamina. A dog with correct rib curvature and development is said to be well sprung, rounded or arched in rib. The tuck-up is the appearance produced by the abdomen’s underline as it sweeps upwards into the flank and or hindquarters region.



Fig. 6 – Typical of the Breed (Male).

● HINDQUARTERS

Well rounded loin leading to a good turn of stifle; hocks well let down; turning neither in nor out; a 'tucked under' appearance undesirable.

The thigh should be muscular with the length of the upper and lower thighs being approximately equal. The stifle is well turned. The well let down hocks should not turn in or out as viewed from the rear.

Rear pasterns constructed and angulated in such a manner that the distance from point of hock to ground is correct for the breed. The shorter the rear pastern and the more acute the hock joint angle, the more "let down" do hocks appear. Well let down hocks are not more than 1/5 of the height of the dog at the withers. The hind legs are carried well back.



Fig.7 – Typical of the Breed (Female).

● FEET

Dainty, compact; split up between toes; well arched, with jet black nails, two middle toes of front feet rather longer than others, hind feet cat-like. Hare feet undesirable.

A cat foot is a round, compact foot with well arched toes tightly bunched or close cupped. The two centre toes being only slightly longer than those on the outside and inside. Front feet are compact and well arched. The two middle toes should be slightly longer than the others. The pads should be thick and the toenails should be jet black. The hind feet are shaped like those of a cat with thick pads and jet-black nails.

A hare foot is when the centre toes are considerably longer than associated outer and inner ones. Toe arching is less marked making feet appear longer, over all.

● TAIL

Thick at root, tapering to point. Set low and not reaching below hock. 'Gay' tail undesirable if displayed to excess.

The taper style tail is a short-coated tail that tapers to a point. Set on at the end of the croup, the taper style tail is moderately short reaching no further than the hock joint. The tail is carried in a slight upward curve, but never over the back.



*Fig. 8 – Correct
Topline and
Underline and
Tail Carriage.*

● GAIT/MOVEMENT

Ideal fore-movement akin to the ‘extended trot’; hackney action not desirable; equally a ‘shuffling gait’ undesirable. Hind action smooth with ease and precision combined with drive, there should be flowing quality to indicate true soundness.

The gait should be free and effortless with good reach of the forequarters, showing no indication of hackney gait. Rear quarters should have strong, driving power to match the front reach. Hocks should flex allowing the rear pasterns to fully extend. Each rear leg should move in line with the foreleg of the same side, neither thrown in nor out. When moving at a trot, the legs tend to converge towards the centre of gravity line beneath the dog.

Good reach is a reference to the distance covered with each stride. A dog said to have plenty of reach is one with maximal stride length. You DO NOT want to see the Hackney action, which is exaggerated lift from the elbow with a bend at the pasterns before extending the limb. Rear: Strong driving power, this is used to describe hind - quarter propulsion. Single tracking: In normal canine movement, irrespective of breed, the tendency is for the legs to incline more and more under the body as the speed increases. Eventually, the paws come to travel in a single line. Such action is referred to as single tracking. In judging gait, anatomically incorrect specimens are rarely if ever capable of sound movement.

● COAT

Thick, close and glossy. A density of short hair required.

A smooth coat is a short, close, dense and tight lying hair. Glossy is a shiny, lustrous coat denoting health and well being. It can be up to 1/2 inch in length. The coat should not be soft

● COLOUR

Black and Tan. The black ebony, the tan likened to a new chestnut deeply rich. Colours not running or blending into each other, but meeting abruptly, forming clear and well defined lines of colour division. Forelegs tanned to knees in front. The tan then continuing inside and at back of forelegs to point just below elbows, the thin black line up each toe (pencilling) and a clearly defined black mark (thumb mark) on centre of each pastern, and under chin. Hindlegs well tanned in front and inside with black bar dividing tan at centre of lower thigh. Heavy tan on outside of hindquarters (breeching) undesirable. Muzzle well tanned. Nose black, the black continuing along top of muzzle, curving below eyes to base of throat. A tan spot above each eye and a small tan spot on each cheek. Under-jaw and throat tanned, lip line black. Hair inside ears tan (tan behind ears undesirable). Each side of chest has some tan. Vent and under root of tail, tan. White hairs forming a patch anywhere totally undesirable.

The coat colour should be jet black and rich chestnut tan, which should not run or blend into each other, but abruptly form clear, well defined lines of colour. There shall be a very small tan spot over each eye, and a very small tan spot on each cheek. On the head, the muzzle is tanned to the nose. The nose and nasal bone are jet black. The tan extends under the throat, ending in the shape of the letter V. The inside of the ears are tan. There shall be tan spots, called "rosettes," on each side of the chest above the front legs. These are more pronounced in puppies than in adults. There should be a black "thumbprint" patch on the front of each foreleg at the pastern. The remainder of the foreleg shall be tan to the carpus joint. There should be a distinct black "pencil mark" line running lengthwise on the top of each toe on all four feet. Tan on the hind leg should continue from the pencilling on the toes up the inside of the legs to a little below the stifle joint. The outside of the hind legs should be black. There should be tan under the tail, and on the vent, but only of such size as to be covered by the tail. White on any part of the coat is a serious fault, and shall disqualify whenever the white shall form a patch or stripe measuring as much as one half inch at its longest dimension. Any colour other than black and tan shall be disqualified.

● SIZE

Ideal weight 2.7-3.6 kgs (6-8 lbs).

Ideal height 25-30 cms (10-12 ins) at the shoulder.

● 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.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

English Toy Terrier (Black and Tan) Club. United Kingdom.

Charles and Wanda Walker, Newborn, Georgia USA.

American Manchester Terrier Club USA.

Jo Ann Emrick, past President of the American Manchester Terrier Club USA.

The Australian National Kennel Council sincerely thanks the above Clubs and individuals for their help in the preparation of this Breed Standard Extension.