

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL



Extended Breed Standard of the **PETIT BASSET GRIFFON VENDÉEN**

Produced by

The Australian National Kennel Council

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Country of Origin ~ France

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For the purpose of this Extended Standard the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen will be referred to as the PBGV and the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen as the GBGV. The reason the GBGV is mentioned in this standard, is because these two breeds were once bred from the same litters and today you still occasionally see GBGV features in the PBGV and visa versa. It is vitally important that the reader should know both standards well, so as to be able to recognise these very distinct differences.

THE NAME

The translation of the name gives a great insight into how this breed looks.

- * **Petit** – Meaning small, but not ‘toy like’ - the standard asks for strong bone for the size.
- * **Basset** – Means low to the ground. NOT long or heavy in bone like a Basset Hound
- * **Griffon** – Wiry, rough coat. The French suggest it should feel like the hair of a goat.
- * **Vendéen** – From the Vendée region of France, where the breed originated.

Pronunciation

Puh-TEE..... Bah-SAY.....Gree-FOHN.....VON-day-uhn

BASSET

The word ‘basset’ means low to the ground (*bas – set*), it does not mean that the PBGV resembles a Basset Hound in any other way.



Basset



PBGV

HISTORY OF THE BREED



History has shown that the PBGV was one of four particular breeds developed specifically to hunt game in the rugged terrain of the region in France called *The Vendée*, known for its dense, thorny brambles and brush undergrowth.



The Vendée region in France

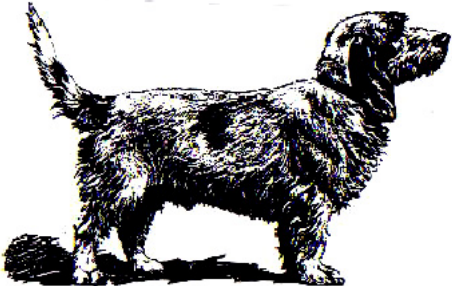
It is believed cross breeding between the early rough-coated Greyhound type dogs with various dogs valued for their hunting prowess, regardless of their type, size and colour was the very early foundation of this breed. Some of these crosses included ancestors of the ancient *St Hubert hound* that were known for producing long legged or short legged type hounds. A great influence on the appearance of the modern day PBGV and its larger cousins, especially with regard to its colour and coat patterns, was the breeding done with the *Chien Blanc du Roi* (translated as the white dog of the king), descendants of a white St Hubert-type dog named *Souillard*. Although called 'white dogs', they actually ranged in colour from almost pure white to spotted or patched with red, black, lemon, or badger markings.

French hounds evolved into their present day form, in direct relation to their particular geographic area and conditions. The Vendée area needed a special type of dog to hunt in its specific terrain, a hound which had to be *rustic and hardy* (words which have stayed with the breed to modern day).

He had to possess a *thick skin* and a *coat that was wiry and rough* so as to not be torn to pieces by these harsh conditions. Ideally he needed to have white colouring on his body so that he could be easily seen and not shot by the hunter and so a powerful rough coated hound emerged called **the 'Griffon Vendéen'**, the direct ancestor of the four rough coated breeds we see today from the region - **the Grand Griffon Vendéen**, the **Briquet Griffon Vendéen**, the **Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen** and the **Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen**.

Grand Griffon Vendéen	Briquet Griffon Vendéen
	
<p>M - 24½in to 26¾in, F - 23½in to 25½in M - 62cm to 68cm. F - 60cm to 65cm</p>	<p>M - 19½in to 21½in F - 19in to 21in M - 50cm to 55cm, F - 48cm to 53cm</p>

These large *Griffon Vendéens* were perfect for the noblemen on horseback to hunt larger game such as stags, however the poorer peasants and farmers needed a dog they could follow on foot, which could pursue smaller, table fare such as rabbits and hare. Gradually off-shoots of these larger animals developed by interbreeding with smaller scented dogs of the area, hence the emergence of the **'Basset Griffon Vendéen'**



(Extrait de L'Acclimatation : Journal des Éleveurs).
Ch[®] Farino : Basset Griffon
Appartenant à M. Déramy, à La Chaise-le-Vicomte (Vendée).

These dogs appeared with the height of a large Petit but with a long head, a long, heavy body and with mostly crooked or half-crooked front legs, looking like rough-coated Basset Hounds without the extra skin or wrinkle.

It was the Comte Christian d'Elva who attempted to improve the soundness of these hounds. His hounds were taller and straight-legged and the forerunners of the Grand Basset of today. His famous dog "Royal Combattant" is a good example of the quality of his hounds at the turn of the century, where he won the Prix d'Honneur de la Republique.



Eventually during this period the breeds began to be divided by size and type into the **Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen** and his smaller cousin the **Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen**.

The size and characteristics of the BGV (*Basset Griffon Vendéen*) at around 12 months old determined whether it would be called and used as a **Grand** to hunt larger game such as roe deer and boar, or a **Petit** used to trail and drive smaller game such as rabbit and hare.

Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen



34cm – 38cm
13½" to 15"

Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen



M - 40cm-44cm F - 39cm- 43cms
M - 15¾in to 17½in F - 15½in to 17in

Note – Both have a tolerance of 1cm (3/8in) either side

MODERN HISTORY

Beginning in the late 1890s and then flourishing in the next century, the breed made enormous strides and the nature and type of the 'Grand' and 'Petit' were firmly defined and established. The name D ezamy (also Desamy) is virtually synonymous with BGVs in France, where the one family over three generations established the breed(s), formed the Club du Griffon Vend een, wrote the definitive standards and continuously served as Presidents of the club from 1907 until 1985. At this time M Renaud Buche took over the Presidency.

During World War II the Basset Griffon Vend een breed almost died out and it was only because of the dedication of a few huntsmen who needed the smaller type of hound that the PBGV survived. In fact it not only survived but, due to the abundance of rabbits at the time its popularity in France grew, and consequently its numbers increased more so than its larger cousins. The breed continued to separate itself from the *Grand Basset Griffon Vend een* and eventually in 1947 Abel Desamy wrote a test standard specifically for the *Petit Basset Griffon Vend een*, in which he underlined their more *compact type* and *features less excessive* than those of the Grand Basset Griffon Vend een. It was acknowledged, for the first time, that the Petit and Grand were two different breeds. In 1952 a new standard was agreed upon and finally the Petit was able to be registered as a separate breed.

In 1972, the President-elect of the *Club Griffon Vend een*, Hubert Desamy, requested that inter-breeding between the GBGV and the PBGV be stopped, but it was not until 1977 when, as President, he banned the practice completely. As interbreeding was practised so much in the past, it was almost impossible to predict whether offspring from a litter would look more like GBGV or PBGV and so, at a year old, puppies would be seen by a *confirmateur* and registered depending how they looked. Finally in 1985, when Renaud Buche took over as President, the registration of both Petits and Grands from the one litter was discontinued.

Important to Note

The modern history of the breed is most significant for the PBGV, as there is still a slight possibility of seeing *Grand* characteristics turning up in the PBGV, so Therefore those wishing to breed or judge the PBGV should make a point of learning those very essential and important differences which distinguish the PBGV from its close cousin the GBGV.

The French still to this day are passionate hunters and the art of *venery* (defined as man hunting with the use of a hound) is very much alive in France. This has kept these rough little hounds just as they are supposed to be - '**rustic and hardy**'. They are mainly hunted in packs or braces although they work quite well individually. In Europe and especially in France there are still many packs maintained and hunted for competition or just the pleasure.



THE STANDARD

The words in ***bold italics*** are the actual wording from the Breed Standard. Each section is followed by an extended description.

- **BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY** -

For a long time the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen had the same standard as the Grand Basset, only the size was different (from 34 to 38 cm). The result in utilization was not very brilliant, because they were semi-crooked and as heavy as the Grand Basset. That is why that M. Abel Dezamy created a separate standard for them. To define this hound, let us remember what Paul Daubigné wrote: “It is no longer a small Vendéen by simple reduction of the height, but a small Basset harmoniously reduced in all his proportions and in its volume, that is naturally endowed with all moral qualities which presuppose the passion for hunting”. A team of Petit Bassets won the first edition of the France’s Cup on rabbit.

From this Summary we understand

Before M. Abel Dezamy created a separate standard for the Petit Basset, two types of Basset Griffon Vendéen were recognised:

34cm – 38cm (13½in - 15ins), usually with crooked legs;

38cm – 42cm (15in -16½ ins), always with straight legs.

The salient point to remember from the literal description of the Petit Basset is:

“It is not longer a small Vendéen by simple reduction of the height, but a small Basset harmoniously reduced in all his proportions and in its volume.”

The PBGV is not a large dog on shortened legs. It also does not have the heavier boned, substance of the GBGV. The whole dog has been reduced in size, both in bone and length in a number of areas.

It is important to remember that, compared with the GBGV the PBGV should be shorter in length of –

- * muzzle
- * ears
- * back (*more compact*)
- * tail

The inclusion of Paul Daubigné’s description of the reduction in size of the PBGV in the Historical Summary, **underlines the importance placed on the differences between the two breeds.**

● GENERAL APPEARANCE



Small, active and vigorous hound, with a slightly elongated body. Proud tail carriage. Coat hard and long without exaggeration. Expressive head; leathers well turned inwards, covered with long hair and set below the level of the eye, not too long.

Small – this breed should never exceed **39cms (15½ins)**, the top height being 38cms (15ins) with a tolerance of 1cm (½in).

Again, most important are the words **“with a slightly elongated body”**. Although slightly longer than tall, the PBGV is not a ‘long’ dog, it is **compact** and should never be long in loin. When viewed from the side it should be **slightly longer from point of shoulders to point of buttocks, than its height from withers to ground.**

It is active and should always move with its head and tail carried proudly, looking alert and at ease.

● CHARACTERISTICS – (UTILIZATION)

Devil in the country, angel in the house, that’s our Basset. It’s a passionate hunter that must, from an early age, get used to obeying. Perfect assistant to the hunter with a gun on territories of medium size, specialist for rabbit, but no other game escapes from it.

Until the 1960s, when PBGVs were exported from France to other countries for the show ring or as companion dogs, in their country of origin they were mainly kept in packs and hunted regularly. Even to this day, conformation remains secondary to the Frenchman’s prime passion of hunting. Hundreds of generations of ‘purpose bred hunting dogs’ behind them has developed a dog that obeys its nose and pack rules above all else, giving the need to mention training **to obey from an early age**. This also explains the **‘angel in the house, devil in the country’** part of their characteristics. Indoors with no scent distractions they are a joy to own and full of fun but, once they get their nose to the ground outside, their natural instincts take over and the angel that wants to please, turns into a devil that will be ‘off and away’ without another thought to anyone or anything else.

● TEMPERAMENT



Passionate hunter, courageous, likes the bramble and scrub. Docile but wilful and passionate.

A PBGV's scenting ability stems from hundreds of years of selected breeding, which has produced a very efficient hunter. Once he gets onto a scent, it becomes his one and only thought. He possesses a happy, confident nature that should show in his demeanor and tail carriage at all times.



- **HEAD**

CRANIAL REGION

Skull

Slightly domed, not too elongated nor very broad, well chiselled under the eyes, the occipital protuberance quite developed.

The skull is neither large nor long as it is in keeping with the balance of the whole dog. It should be only **slightly** domed when viewed from the front and side and not too broad, with the occipital protuberance easily felt. There should be good, clean cut definition (chiselling) below the eyes avoiding any appearance of wedginess, plainness or thickness in this area.



Petit Head



Grand Head

Notice the slight doming on the Petit compared to the more exaggerated head of the Grand

Important to Note

The PBGV standard asks for only slightly domed skull whereas the GBGV standard asks for a convex (domed) skull. This is one of the noticeable differences between the two breeds.

- **STOP**

Frontal indentation defined.

The 'Stop' should be clearly defined, being well cut away under the eyes.

FACIAL REGION



● NOSE

Prominent, well developed; nostrils open, black apart from the white and orange coats where a brown nose is tolerated.

For scenting power a good size nose with large, wide, open nostrils is vital. Even though a brown, or lighter, nose is tolerated in orange and white coated dogs, lack of pigment in this area, especially two-tone or butterfly, is highly undesirable.

● MUZZLE

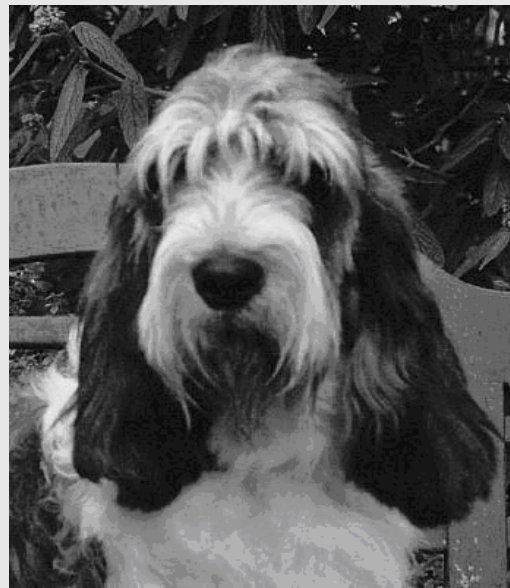
Much shorter than that of the Grand Basset but nevertheless very slightly elongated and straight. Muzzle square at its end.

The muzzle (distance from the point between the eyes – the stop - to the end of the nose) should **never** be longer than the skull (distance from the point between the eyes to occipital point). Slightly shorter is preferable; however too short is also a fault. It should be straight and strong. A GBGV has a muzzle that is noticeably longer than the PBGV and the bridge of the nose is slightly Roman.

The muzzle should be square at its end when viewed from the front, to show good strong underjaw. This can also be felt underneath the beard.



PBGV Head (shorter muzzle)



GBGV Head much (longer muzzle)

*** Important to Note ***

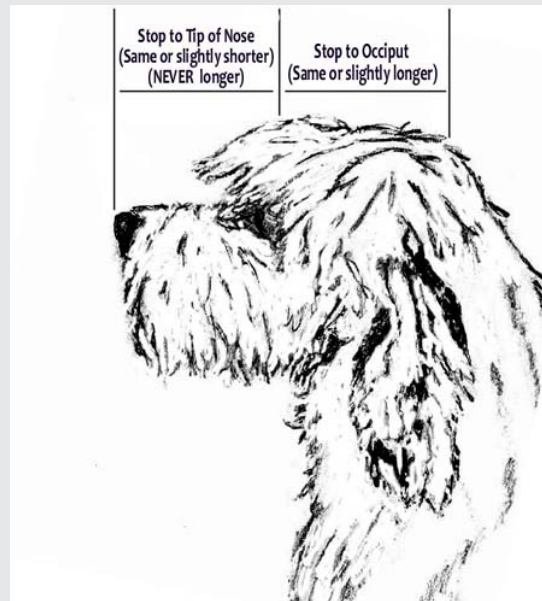
The PBGV standard asks for a much shorter muzzle than the GBGV, which must have a muzzle that is longer than the length from occiput to stop. If the muzzle looks long in a PBGV the head begins to resemble that of a GBGV.

● **LIPS**

Covered with abundant moustaches.

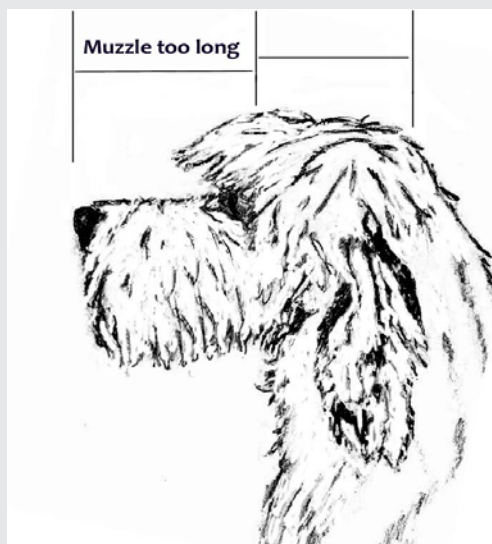
The lips are well covered with hair that forms a beard and moustache.

HEAD PROPORTIONS

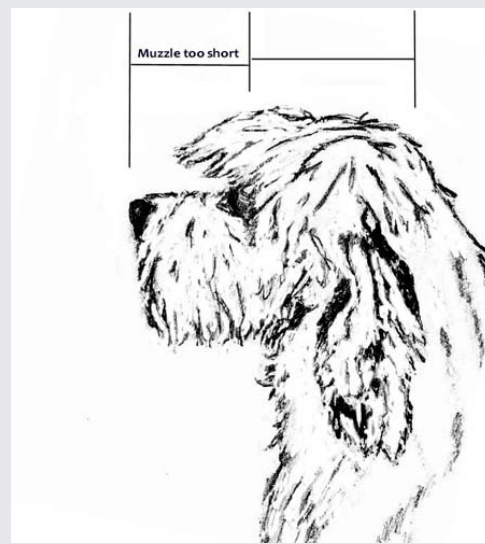


Stop to Nose – same or slightly shorter than Stop to Occiput

CORRECT BALANCE



Muzzle too long for length of skull

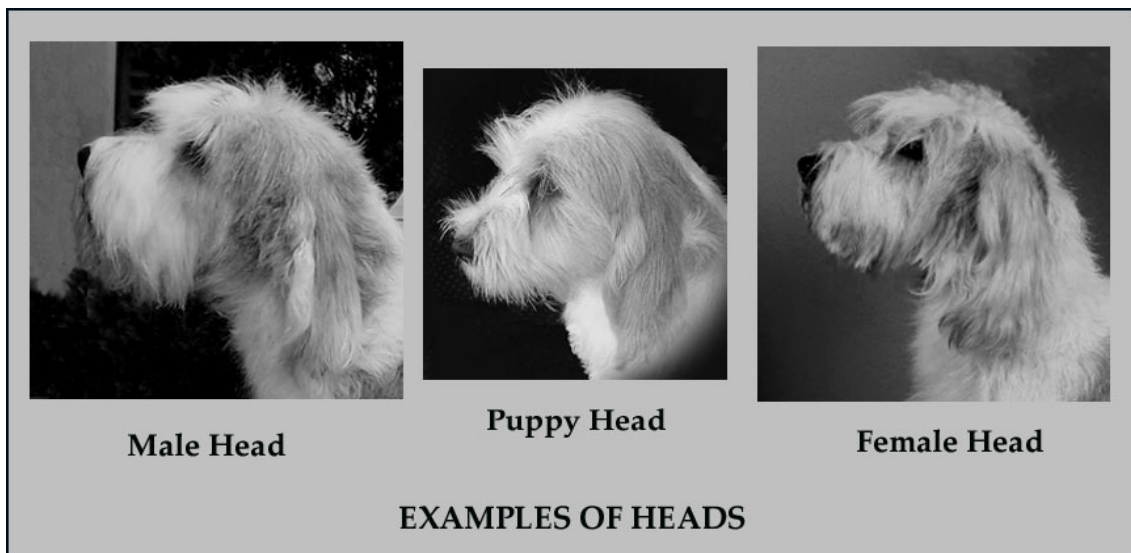
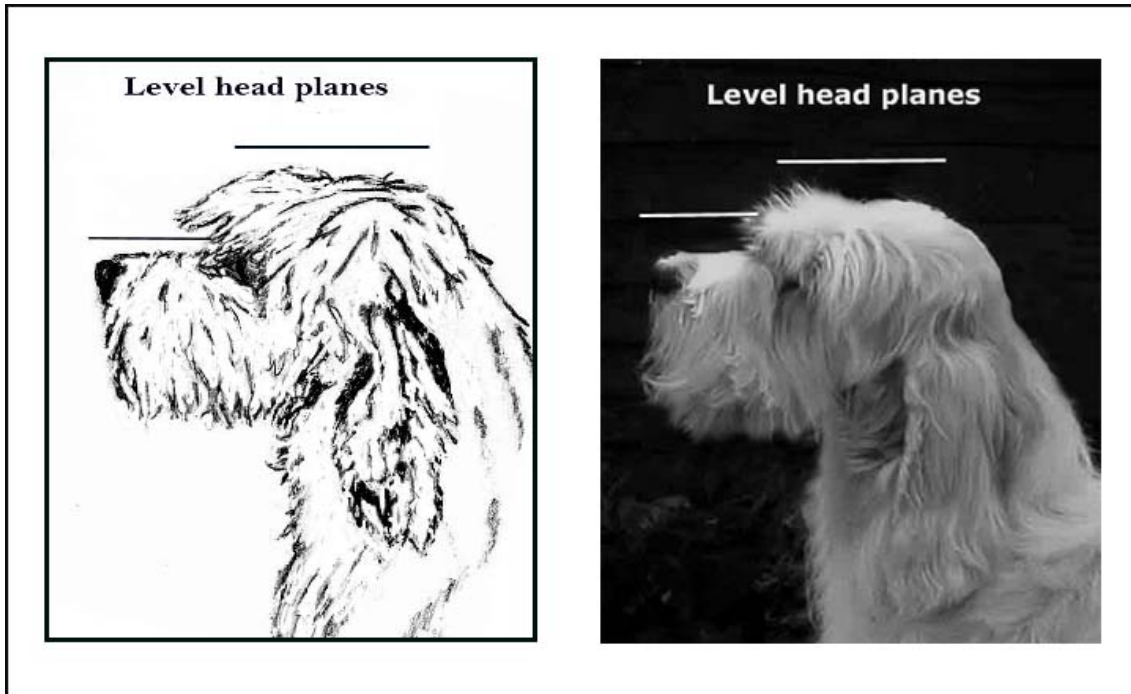


Muzzle too short for length of skull

BOTH THESE HEADS ARE UNBALANCED

HEAD PLANES

Although not mentioned in the Breed Standard, when viewed from the side, the head planes of the PBGV are basically level.



● EYES

Quite large with an intelligent expression, showing no white; the conjunctiva must not be apparent. The brows surmounting the eyes stand forward but must not obscure the eyes. Eyes must be of a dark colour.

Eyes are reasonably large, somewhat oval and dark. There should be no visible white or red haw apparent. The brows are surmounted by long protective hair that stands forward but not so profuse that the eye is not visible. They should impart a happy, confident, intelligent expression.



(Notice the large dark eyes and big nose with open nostrils for scenting)

● EARS - (LEATHERS)

Supple, narrow and fine, covered with long hair, ending in a slight oval, turned inwards and not quite reaching the end of the muzzle. Well set below the level of the eye.

This is not a heavy ear flap but narrow and fine, folding inwards which assists in holding the scent when the dog is on trail. (Wide, flat ears are a fault). The tip of the ear leather should not quite reach the end of the muzzle and the leather should be covered in long hair. (Long ears that reach beyond the end of the muzzle are a serious fault as this is one of the GBGV characteristics and not acceptable in the PBGV).



Well curled ears. (these have been stripped as an example to show curl & correct length)

Measuring the correct length of ear



Correct length of ear



Note that the ear length is measured to the end of the leather (ear flap), NOT to the end of the excess hair on the end of the flap.

**PBGV
(short)**



**GBGV
(longer)**



Important to Note

The PBGV ear does not quite reach the end of the muzzle whereas the GBGV ask for them to be able to reach beyond the end of the muzzle.

- **MOUTH – (JAWS & TEETH)**

Scissor bite.

Should have strong teeth, with the upper teeth closely overlapping the lower teeth. A level (pincer) bite is unacceptable.

- **NECK**

Long and strong; well muscled; strong at set on; without dewlap; carrying head proudly.



The PBGV should have **proud** head carriage which means he carries his head up with a confident air. The neck needs to be long, well muscled and set in to well placed shoulders, enabling the dog to easily drop his head to follow the scent of a trail. There should never be any sign of throatiness.



Head should be carried up with a confident air.

● FOREQUARTERS

Limbs: Bone structure quite strong but in proportion to size

Shoulders: Clean, oblique, well attached to the body.

Forearm: Well developed.

Wrist (carpus): Very slightly defined.



The forequarters should be well boned although not heavy so as to make the PBGV look unbalanced. In other words they should look suitably strong enough to compliment the size of the body. The legs should be straight, (this breed **is not a low slung breed** and **crooked or half crooked is an eliminating fault**) and the elbows should be close to the body.

The shoulders and forearm should be well angled and smooth, giving a smooth transition from the flowing neck into the shoulder muscle and a strong forward-reaching stride, with free movement. Looking down over the dog, or from the side, there should never be any sign of lumpiness or coarseness this area.

The pasterns are strong and slightly sloping.

Important to Note

The length of leg of both the PBGV and GBGV is what distinguishes them from their larger counterparts the Grand Griffon Vendéen and Briquet Griffon Vendéen. Although “basset” breeds, as hunting dogs both the PBGV and GBGV need enough leg under them for speed, to scramble over logs and other obstacles in their path and, for the GBGV especially, to be able to leap in and out of thick undergrowth The Petit Basset is extremely well made for burrowing into and flushing out smaller game from the thick undergrowth, the Grand Basset for stamina and speed over longer distances in pursuit of hare and small deer.

In essence, both breeds need enough leg for endurance when hunting and to be able to move correctly. Both should have equidistant withers to elbow and elbow to ground, but, as the GBGV is a taller dog with longer limbs, his bone structure is obviously longer (unless in the same height range as a PBGV). If either breed lacks leg then they are incorrectly balanced. If they look too tall on leg, this will give them an incorrect square appearance rather than the ideal slightly elongated outline.

● BODY



Back: Straight, topline level.

Loin: Muscled.

Croup: Well muscled and quite wide.

Chest: Not too wide. Rather deep, reaching the elbow level.

Ribs: Moderately rounded.

In keeping with the statement included in the *General Appearance* of the breed, “with a slightly elongated body”, the PBGV is slightly longer than tall when measured from point of shoulder to point of buttocks than from withers to ground. The topline is level right to the set on of the tail, however the well muscled and strong loin can give the appearance of a very slight rise in this area, especially when on the move.

The chest is not too wide, but is rather deep and must reach the level of the elbow. Although not exaggerated, a prosternum should be felt on examination under the coat.

The rib cage is moderately rounded but not barrelled in any way. It should extend well back to protect the vital organs whilst working in harsh conditions. A pronounced tuck-up is undesirable and uncharacteristic of the breed.

The croup is well muscled and should look quite wide when viewed from the top.

Important to note

The PBGV standard asks for a chest that is *not too wide* whereas the GBGV standard asks for a *broad chest*.

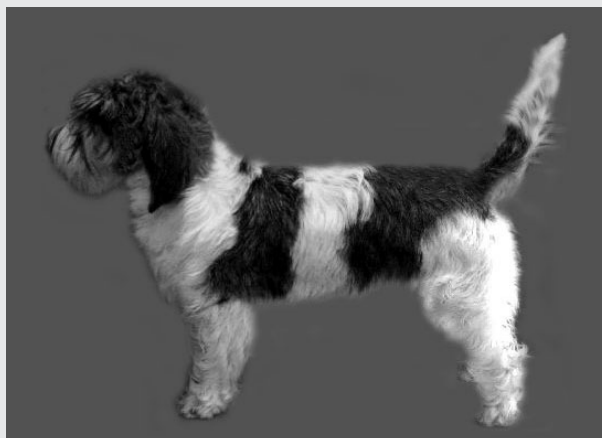
Important to note

The PBGV’s ribs are *moderately rounded* whereas the GBGV standard asks for a *rounded ribcage*.

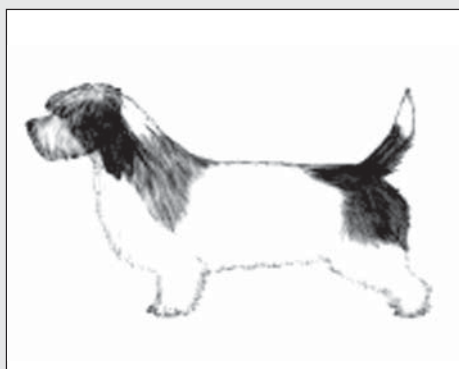
BODY PROPORTIONS



Correct body length and balance



Too square and lacking body



Too long in body and not enough length of leg

● HINDQUARTERS

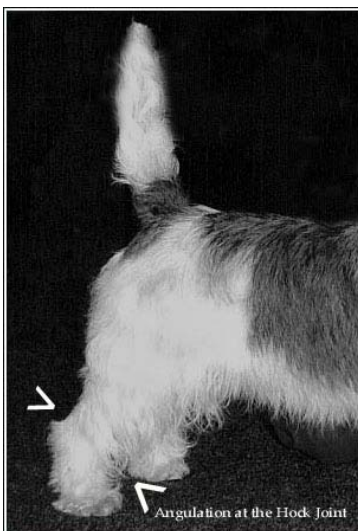


Limbs: Bone structure quite strong but in proportion to size

Thigh: Muscled and only slightly rounded.

Hock: Quite wide, slightly angulated, never completely straight.

The PBGV uses its hindquarters to propel its body with power. Like the forelegs, the hind legs are well boned although not heavy so as to make the dog look unbalanced. The thighs should be well muscled and wide to match the forequarters, with adequate rear angulation to allow good drive and true movement. The hocks should be short and when, viewed from behind, quite wide apart which is in keeping with the wide croup. There should always be enough angulation at the hock joint, to give plenty of flexibility in this area. Stiff hocks and stifles would prevent the hound from doing the job for which it was bred.



Notice the angulation of the hock joint

● FEET

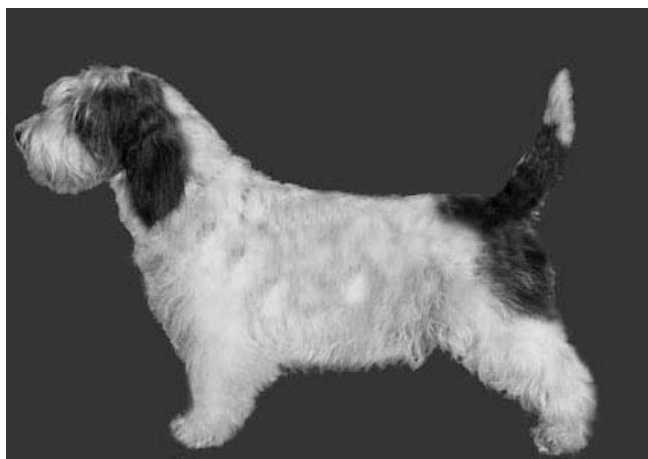


Not too strong, pads hard, toes very tight, nails solid. Good pigmentation of the pads is desirable.

The feet are not large or long but slightly rounded and tight with tough, hard pads to protect when hunting in the harsh terrain of the Vendée. A dog with flat, open feet would be unable to last long hunting in these conditions. Solid coloured nails which are stronger than white ones and, if possible, good dark pigmentation (once again tougher than light colouring) on the pads is also important for this breed.

● TAIL

Set high, quite thick at its base, tapering evenly to its tip; rather short, carried sabre fashion.



A good indication of the correct length of the tail is, when carried proudly, the tip should be approximately level with the skull. It is set high (almost straight off the back line), thick and strong at the base, tapering to the tip and well furnished with harsh hair. As stated it is too be carried proudly in a sabre (slightly curved sword) fashion at between approximately 1 and 2 o'clock.

Visual Description of a 'Sabre'

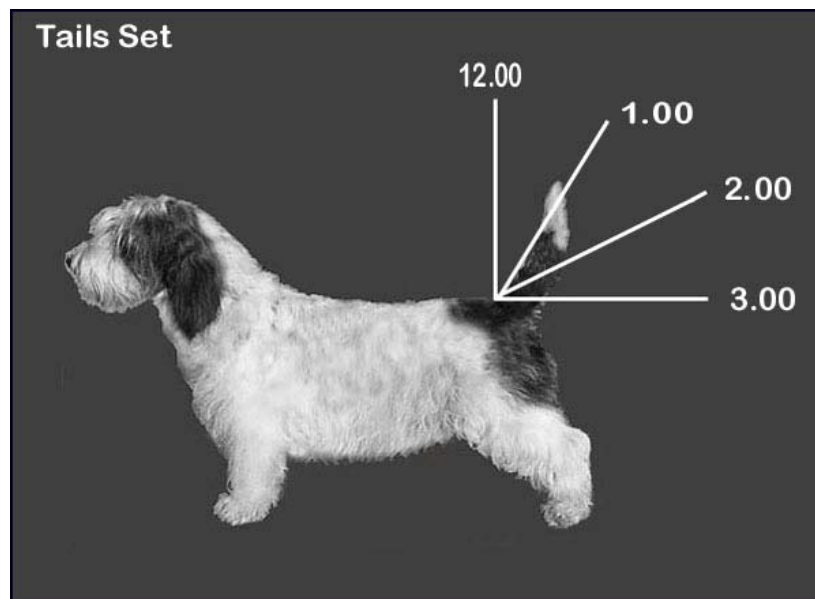


Sabre - (Curved sword)

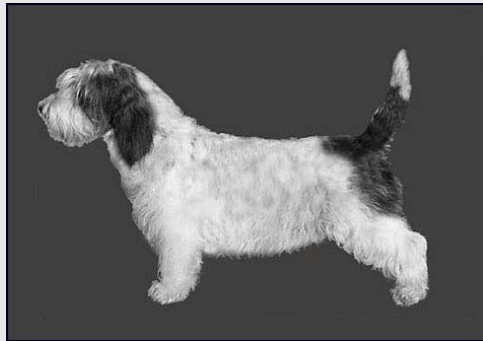


Similarity to PGBV tail carriage

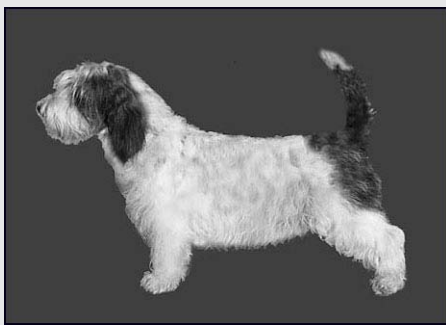
Understanding the set on of the tail



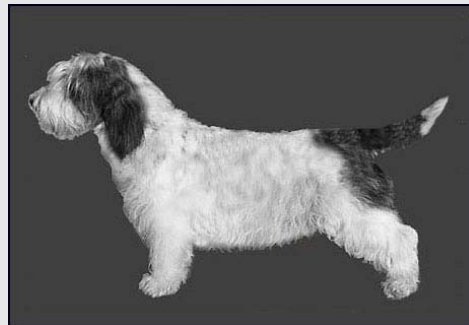
When explaining tail carriage in a 'clock description', the angle the tail leaves the back is the position on the clock. The most correct position for a PGBV tail to retain its proud bearing and have the end of the curve at almost vertical so that the huntsman can see the tail in the grass is **1 o'clock**. Acceptable levels of carriage are between 1 and 2 o'clock. As you can see by the examples below the tail carriage of 12 o'clock places the tip of tail in an incorrect 'gay' position and a tail carried at 3 o'clock places the tail in a position where it would not be noticeable whilst hunting. Anything below 3 o'clock shows a nervousness in the behaviour of the dog and should be penalised heavily.



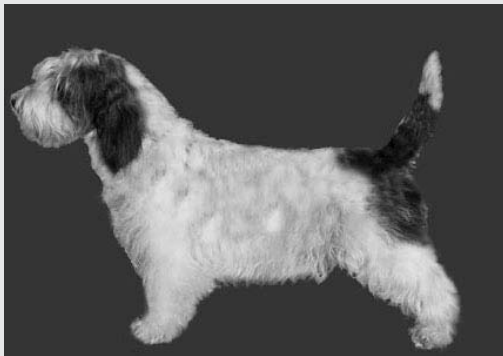
Correct tail set at 1 o'clock



Tail in a 'gay' position set at 12 o'clock



Set too low at 3 o'clock



PBGV tail rather short



GBGV tail rather long

Important to note

The tail is another of the important distinctions between the GBGV and the PBGV. The PBGV standard calls for a *short tail*, whereas the GBGV standard calls for a *long tail*.

- **GAIT**

Very free and effortless.

This description says it all. For a dog to hunt all day it must have easy, unconstrained, natural and strong movement. Desirable equal angulations front and rear is most important and best seen when the dog is moving. If this is lacking, effort will be wasted with an up and down, choppy movement and the dog will not cover ground easily. A dog with this action cannot perform the work for which it was developed - *hunting all day.*



Very free and effortless gait

- **SKIN**

Quite thick, often marbled in tricolour subjects. No dewlap.

The combination of thick skin and harsh coat affords protection from brambles and thorns when hunting. Skin quality should therefore not be ignored.

- **COAT**

Harsh but not too long, never silky or woolly.

The PBGV has a double coat consisting of a thick undercoat with a topcoat that is harsh and coarse to the touch. Once again this rough, harsh coat is an extremely important part of the PBGV's protection against injury from the difficult areas it is required to hunt in, consequently silky or woolly coats should be penalised. The coat **is not too long**, however long enough – around 3.8 to 5cms (1½ins to 2ins) – to give a rough, tousled appearance. The head has long, protective hair over the eyes and long lashes around the eyes. It also has long hair that forms a moustache and beard on the muzzle. The legs are completely covered in similar length and quality coat though the tail hair is shorter and harsher.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE

ALTHOUGH THIS BREED SHOULD BE PRESENTED CLEAN AND TIDIED UP FOR THE SHOW RING, IT SHOULD NEVER BE TRIMMED EXCESSIVELY OR STYLISED TO CHANGE ITS NATURAL 'RUSTIC' APPEARANCE.

● COLOUR

Black with white spotting (white and black). Black with tan markings (black and tan). Black with light tan markings. Fawn with white spotting (white and orange). Fawn with black mantle and white spotting (tricolour). Fawn with black overlay. Pale fawn with black overlay and white spotting. Pale fawn with black overlay. Traditional names: hare colour, wolf colour, badger colour or wild boar colour.

The colours are many and varied, however traditional hound colours are the norm, with muting of these colours occurring in the longer hair of the breed. A single hair shaft may contain two or three different colours. The hunter has always preferred a reasonable amount of white on the PBGV giving easy visibility in the field. However good specimens with little or no white such as the 'Black and Tan' coat pattern are also acceptable.



Almost all white



Fawn with black overlay (no white)

Both these examples are acceptable

Important to Note

Often translation from one language to another, can sometimes not convey what the translator is actually trying to say. This seems to be the case in the English translation of the *Colour Description* in this Standard. *The French word that means 'spotting' is also the same one which describes 'patches' and which is a more correct translation of the PBGV coat patterns.* It is also interesting to note that although a description is made such as black with white spotting, it is then described in brackets as (white and black). *Other than the Black and Tan coat pattern most PBGVs are white with various accepted coloured patches. (To the French reading their standard in their own language this is very clear, to the Englishman reading the translation, it can certainly be confusing.)*

The colours and coat patterns are as follows;

Black with white spotting (white and Black) – Black with white patches.

Black with tan markings (black and tan) – Black with tan markings. Tan, (not necessarily uniformly placed).

Black with light tan markings – As above but with light tan markings.

Fawn with white spotting (white and orange) – White with orange patches.

Fawn with black mantle and white spotting (tricolour) – Fawn with a black mantle and white patches (Tricoloured.)

Fawn with black overlay – Sable.

Pale fawn with black overlay and white spotting. – Sable or grizzled colour with white patches.

Pale fawn with black overlay. – Light sable.

Traditional names of coat colours that are also acceptable accompanied by white patches.

Hare colour - Colour of a hare.

Wolf colour - Silver or grey with black tips (not tan, white or cream).

Badger colour - A greyish-brown colour that may be mixed with a few dark hairs.

Wild boar colour - Dull grey hairs intermingled with black hairs.

- **SIZE**

**Height at withers: From 34 to 38 cm. With a tolerance of 1 cm more or less.
(Height 34cm (13½ in) to 38cm (15 in), with a tolerance of 1 cm (¾ in).**

Therefore the absolute

Minimum height is 33cm (13in)

Maximum height is 39cm (15½in).

With the 1cm or ¾ in tolerance, it can be seen that a PBGV at the top end of the height range (39cm or 15½in) may be the same height as a GBGV at the lower end of its height range. It is therefore vitally important to know the distinct differences between the two breeds and bear in mind those features which distinguish the PBGV.

A good specimen of the breed should not be discounted merely because it is on the top or lower end of the height range. What matters most is an overall harmonious, pleasing and balanced outline.



PBGV at top end of height range



GBGV at lower end of height range

*** Notice ***

Although similar in height you can see the longer body of the GBGV, longer tail, longer ears and longer muzzle.

IN SUMMARY

Remember first and foremost that the Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen is a 'rustic' hound. He is a hunter with stamina, good voice and a sound body structure capable of a full days work. Every breeder, every judge and every owner should bear in mind these important qualities for, without them, there is no true PBGV.

(Taken from the Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen "A Definitive Study" by Linda Skerritt and Valerie Link)

● 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 on the health and welfare of the breed.

Head:

Too short.

Flat skull.

Depigmentation of nose, lips or eyelids.

Short muzzle.

Pincer bite.

Light eye.

Leathers set high, long, insufficiently turned in or lacking hair.

Body:

Too long or too short, lacking harmony.

Topline insufficiently firm.

Slanting croup.

Tail:

Deviated stern.

Limbs:

Insufficient bone.

Lack of angulation.

Slack in pasterns.

Coat:

Not dense enough, fine hair.

Temperament:

Timid subject.

- **ELIMINATING FAULTS**

Fearful or aggressive subject.

Lack of type.

Overshot or undershot mouth.

Wall eye/Eyes of different colours (Heterochromia)

Lack of space in the sternal region: ribs too narrow towards the lower part.

Kinky tail.

Crooked or half-crooked forelegs.

Woolly coat.

Self-coloured black or white coat.

Important depigmentation.

Size outside the standard.

Noticeable invalidating fault. Anatomical malformation.

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

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

Examples of correct balance

The following are photographic examples of the different balance between the PBGV and the GBGV.

- HEADS -

PBGV



GBGV



***Notice - The GBGV has a more domed head, longer muzzle, and longer ears.**

- BODIES -

PBGV



Correctly Balanced PBGVs

GBGV



Correctly Balanced GBGVs

***Notice - the differences. The GBGV has a, longer ear, longer muzzle, longer body, longer tail.**

COMPARISONS



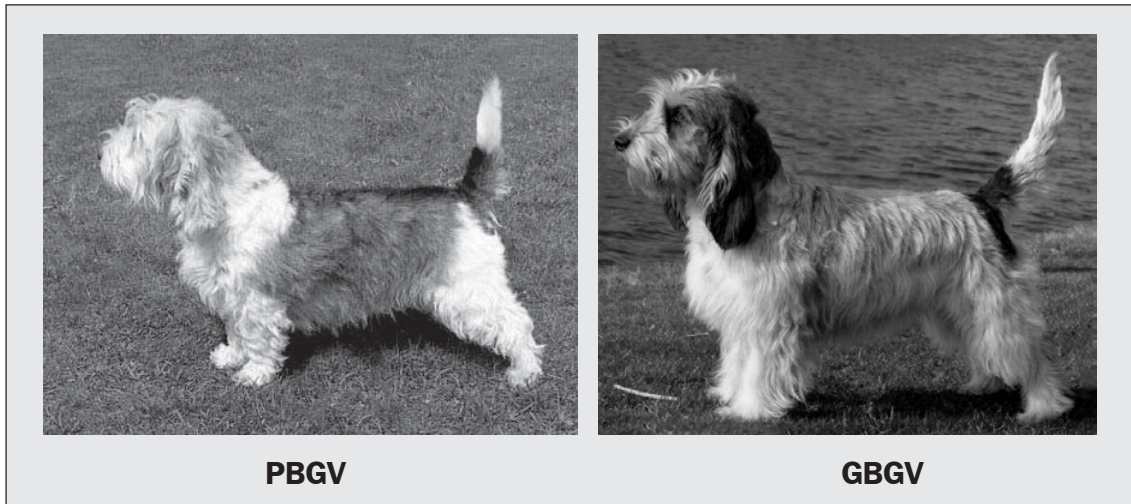
**PBGV & GBGV sitting together.
In both photos the differences are very obvious.**



**In these two photos (above & below) standing and moving together
once again notice the differences.**



QUICK REFERENCE - COMPARISON



It is generally agreed that one needs to remember 6 main differences that should be very obvious distinctions between these two breeds.

Compared to the GBGV the PBGV is –

1. Shorter in body length (*More compact*)
2. Shorter in ear length (*Ear not quite to the end of the muzzle*)
3. Shorter in Muzzle (*Equal, or shorter, in length to the skull*)
4. Shorter in tail length. (*Only to reach the hock when lowered*)
5. Not as heavy in bone, body or all over substance as the GBGV
6. Shorter in leg (*unless compared to a GBGV at the same height range i.e. a PBGV at the top of it's height range and a GBGV at the bottom of it's height range*)

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Following is a Pictorial Reference of examples of good balance and type in the PBGV both male & female.

Pictorial Reference - (Correct PBGV Balance)



Pictorial Reference of PBGV Dog and Bitch Heads



Male Head



Female Head



Male



Female



Male



Female



The Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen