



# Real Sociedad Canina de España

Declarada de Utilidad Pública por Real Orden del Ministerio de Fomento de 27-02-1918.



Lagasca, 16 - Tel. 91 426 49 60\* - Fax: 91 435 11 13 - 28001 MADRID

www.rsce.es · E-mail: administracion@rsce.es

## Canary Dog

**FCI Standard No.** 346 / 15. 06. 2001 / GB

**Origin:** Spain

**Date of Publication of the original valid standard:** 04.06.2001

**Utilization:** Guardian and cattle dog.

**Classification F.C.I.:**

Group 2 Pinscher and Schnauzer-Molossoid Breeds – Swiss Mountain and Cattle Dogs and other breeds.

Section 2.1 Molossoid Breeds – Mastiff type.



### I. Brief historical summary

Molossoid type dog from Tenerife and Canary Islands, in the Canary Archipelago. Arisen as a result of cross-breedings between the «majorero», a pre-Hispanic cattle dog originated from the islands and molossoid type dogs brought to the archipelago.

These cross-breedings originated an ethnic grouping of Mastiff type dogs, of medium size, brindle or fawn and white spotted, strong morphology, typical of a Molossian but with agility and drive, strong temperament, rustic, active and loyal character.

During the 16th and 17th centuries, the population considerably increased, existing numerous allusions to him in the historical texts after the Conquest and above all to the 'Documents of the Town Council', in which the carried-out functions are explained, basically as guardian and cattle dog, as well as when serving the butchers to subjugate the cattle.

### II. General Appearance

Medium size molossoid type dog, eumetric, straight profile, with a black mask. Rustic and well proportioned.

It is a mesomorph whose trunk is longer than the height at withers, the longilineal character becoming slightly more noticeable in females.

### III. Temperament / Behaviour

His aspect is calm. Attentive gaze. Especially equipped for guard functions and traditionally for the handling and driving of cattle. His temperament is balanced and self-confidence. Low and deep bark. He is docile and noble in family, very fond of his owner and distrustful with strangers.

Confident expression, noble and a bit distant. When alert, his attitude is very firm and watchful.

### IV. Head

It is massive, brachicephalic, of solid aspect, covered by loose and unstuck skin. Its shape tends to a slightly long cube.

The proportion skull-muzzle is 60-40%. The width of the skull is 3/5 of the total length of the head.



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## CRANIAL REGION :

Skull : Slightly convex in anteroposterior and transverse direction, the frontal bone tending to flat. Its width is very similar to the length. Very marked zygomatic arcade, being the temporal and maseter muscles very developed, but without protuberances. The occipital crest is unappreciable.

Naso-frontal depression (stop) : Defined, but not abrupt. The medium furrow between frontal cavities is marked and occupies approximately two thirds of the skull. The craniofacial lines are parallel or slightly convergent.

## FACIAL REGION :

Nose : Wide, strongly pigmented in black. It is inserted in the same line as the nasal cane. The upper vertex is slightly behind the thick lip. The nostrils are big, appropriate for easy breathing.

Muzzle : Shorter than the cranium. Usually, a 40 % of the whole head. Its width is 2/3 of the skull. It is of a very wide base and slightly diminishes towards the nose. The nasal line is flat and of straight profile, without ridges.

Lips : Upper lips hang, without excess and when joined, viewed from the front, they form an inverted V. The interior lips are dark-coloured.

Jaws / Teeth : Scissor bite. Level bite is accepted although not desirable due to the tooth wear that it causes. A slight prognathism is acceptable. Canines show a wide transverse distance. The teeth are wide, with a strong implantation base, large molars, small incisors and well developed canines and correct fitting.

Eyes : Slightly oval, medium to large size, well separated, brevilineal, neither deep-set nor bulging. Well pigmented in black eyelids and well tight, never dropping. The colour varies from dark to medium brown, in accordance with the colour of the coat. Never light.

Ears : Medium size, well separated, short and thin hair, effortlessly drop to both sides of the head. If folded, they are in rose shape. Its implantation starts in a slightly higher point than the eye line. Ears set very high and joined are atypical. In the countries where the crop of ears is allowed, these will remain upright.

## V. Neck

Somewhat shorter than the total length of the head. The lower part presents loose skin that contributes to the formation of a slight dewlap. It is solid, straight, tending to cylindrical and very muscular.

## VI. Body

Longilineal, wide, deep, the length is 18-20 % longer than the height at withers, being this difference more marked in females. The flanks are little marked.

Top Line : Straight, without deformities, supported by a well developed musculature, but not very visible. It slightly rises from withers to the croup. Never saddled nor ridged.

Croup : Medium, wide and rounded. It should not be long, because it would limit its movement. Females usually have it wider.

Chest : Very wide, with very marked pectoral muscles. Its depth must arrive minimum down to the elbow, not only in profile but also from the front. The thoracic perimeter will be usually the same as the height at withers plus a 45% of this. Well arched ribs.

Lower Line : Slightly gathered in ascending sense, but never descending.



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## VII. Tail

Thick base, becoming narrower until the tip and not surpassing the hock. Medium insertion. In action, it rises in sabre shape, without coiling or pointing at the back. At rest, it hangs straight with a slight curve in the tip.

## VIII. Limbs

### Forequarters

**Shoulders:** Good sloping.

**Forelegs:** Good angulated, oblique and with perfectly right forearms, straight, of wide bones and good musculature.

**Elbows:** They should not be stuck to the ribs nor pointing outward. The distance from the elbow to the ground usually represents the 50 % of the total height and somewhat less in females.

**Metacarpal:** Very solid and slightly inclined.

**Feet:** Cat foot with rounded toes, not very closed together. Plantar pads are very developed and black. Nails are dark, as white are not desirable, although can appear according to the coat.

### Hindquarters

Strong and parallel, without deviations.

**Thighs:** Long and very muscled. Angulations are not very marked, without being scant.

**Hocks:** Always low.

**Feet:** Slightly longer than the front and of similar characteristics.

## IX. Gait / Movement

The movement must cover a lot of ground, agile and elastic. Long step. The bearing of the tail is low and scarcely rising the head over the dorsal line. While alert, the position of the head and tail is upright.

## X. Skin

Thick and elastic. Loose in and around the neck. While alert, it forms several symmetrical wrinkles having as axis the medium furrow between the frontal sinuses.

## XI. Coat

**HAIR :** Short, rustic, well flattened, without subhair (can be occasionally found in neck and buttocks), which presents a certain roughness when touching. Very short and thin in the ears, slightly longer in the withers and crest of the buttocks.

**COLOUR :** Full range of brindle, from very warm dark to very light grey or blond.

Full range of fawn to sandy.

White colour can appear on the chest, at the base of the neck or throat, on paws, being desirable that it is as much reduced as possible.

Mask always black, not surpassing the height of the eyes.

## XII. Size and Weight

Height at withers:

Males: 60 to 65 cm.



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Females: 56 to 61 cm.

In the case of very typical dogs, 1 cm deviation from the maximum and minimum heights will be admitted.

Minimum weight:

Males: 50 Kg.

Females: 40 kg.

## XI. Faults

Any deviation from the aforementioned criteria is considered as fault and the seriousness of this is considered in accordance to the deviation from the standard.

### SLIGHT FAULTS

- Excessive wrinkles in the craniofacial region, which do not spoil the expression.
- Level bite.

### SERIOUS FAULTS

- Head not having the established proportion.
- Very convergent craniofacial lines (excessive stop, very pronounced).
- Mask surpassing the height of the eyes.
- Paws turned out- or inward.
- Thick lips excessively hanging, brought back- or forward.
- Same height croup-withers.
- Excessive dewlap.
- Dropping eyelids.
- Ridged dorsal nasal hump.
- Scarce or excessive angulations.
- Descended lower line.
- Not very deep chest.
- Splayed feet.
- High tail insertion. Thin tail.
- Slender bones.

### VERY SERIOUS FAULTS

- Square profile.
- Triangular, narrow, not cuboid head.
- Slight appearance.
- Coiled, very thin tail, equally thick all along, or deformed.
- Very short or excessive sizes.
- Saddled or ridged dorsal line.
- Slender forechest.
- Weak front.
- Little arched ribs.
- Absence of wrinkles in the craniofacial region (tight skin without elasticity).
- Light colour eyes (yellow). Closed and oblique, bulging or deep-set eyes.
- Excessive prognathism.



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- Absence of any tooth (except the P1).
- Ears set very high.
- Rounded or vaulted skull.
- Divergent craniofacial lines.
- Smooth thin hair.
- Poor mask.
- Long, little massive neck.

## DISQUALIFYING FAULTS

- Aggressive or fearful dog.
- Unbalanced character.
- Total depigmentation of the nose, or interior of the lips. Total absence of mask.
- Undesirable white spots.
- Enognathism.
- Croup lower than the withers, descending dorsal line.
- Blue eyes with tonal difference.
- Amputated tail.
- Monorquids and cryptorquids specimens.
- Little developed chest.

Any dog showing clear signs of physical or behavioural abnormalities must be disqualified.

**N.B.** : Males must have both testicles of normal appearance and completely descended in the scrotum.

