
English Toy Spaniel

(King Charles, Prince Charles, Ruby & Blenheim)

Origin and Purpose

It is generally thought that the English Toy Spaniel originated from small spaniels taken from Japan to Spain and England where it caught the fancy of the nobility. King Charles II was its most famous patron. Breeders crossed these small spaniels with popular oriental breeds such as the Pug, Pekingese and Japanese Spaniels which gave the English Toy Spaniel its characteristic round skull, short muzzle and upturned nose. The English Toy Spaniel we know today is a charming and loving companion dog.

General Appearance

Refined, compact and cobby, with distinctive domed head

Size

3.6 to 6.3 kgs (8 – 14 lbs.)

Coat and Colour

Coat: Long, silky and straight, slight wave allowed, never curly. Legs, ears and tail profusely feathered.

Colour:

Black and Tan: rich glossy black, with bright mahogany-tan markings on muzzle, legs, chest, linings of ears, under tail and spots over the eyes. White patch on chest is undesirable.

Tri Colour: ground pearly white, with well distributed black patches, brilliant tan markings on cheeks, linings of ears, under tail and spots over the eyes. Wide white blaze between eyes and up forehead.

Blenheim: ground pearly white, with well distributed chestnut-red patches. Wide clear blaze with the “spot” in the centre of the skull, should be a clear chestnuted mark about the size of a penny.

Ruby: whole coloured, rich chestnut red. White patch on chest is undesirable.

Head

Head and Skull: Skull large in comparison to size, well domed, full over the eyes. **Nose** black with wide-open nostrils, very short and turned up to meet skull. Stop between skull and nose well defined. **Muzzle** square, wide and deep, well turned up, lower jaw wide, lips exactly meeting, giving nice finish. Cheeks not falling away under eyes, but well cushioned. **Eyes:** Very large and dark, set wide apart, eyelids block square to face line, pleasing expression. **Ears:** Set on low, hanging quite flat to the cheeks, very long and well feathered. **Mouth:** Bite should be slightly undershot. A protruding tongue is highly undesirable.

Neck

Of medium length, arched, giving proud carriage of head.

Forequarters

Legs short, straight. Shoulders well laid back, elbows close to rib cage, turning neither in nor out.

Body

Chest wide and deep, back short and level.

Hindquarters

Sufficient muscle to give positive driving movement, stifles well bent, hocks well let down and defined. Straight when viewed from behind, turning neither in nor out. Feet: Compact, well padded and feathered, toes well knuckled, round cat-shaped foot, well cushioned, pasterns firm. Occasionally central pads and nails fused together.

Tail

Docking optional. Docked : Well feathered, not carried over or above level of back. Undocked: Well feathered, not carried over or above level of back. In overall balance with the rest of the dog.

Gait

Free, active and elegant, driving from behind. Sound movement is highly desirable.

Fault

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.