

THE POINTER



PRESENTED BY
AMERICAN POINTER CLUB, INC.



The following presentation combines the written breed standard enhanced with photographs as well as centuries old art reflecting that while some breeds would now be unrecognizable the "Pointer" has changed very little.

Our desire is for this presentation to add visual support to the written standard.

GENERAL APPEARANCE



The Pointer is bred primarily for sport afield; he should unmistakably look and act the part. The ideal specimen gives the immediate impression of compact power and agile grace; the head noble, proudly carried; the expression intelligent and alert; the muscular body bespeaking both staying power and dash.

This artwork demonstrates that after a century the Pointer's characteristics remain unchanged



Artist: Maud Earl Early 20th Century

Artist: Boris Riab Mid 20th Century







Marguerite Kirmse
American 1885-1954



Marguerite Kirmse was a versatile and dedicated artist, and although her reputation is deservedly based on her many etchings, she also worked in pencil, pastel, oil and executed a series of bronzes which have become increasingly rare.



Here is an animal whose every movement shows him to be a wide-awake, hard-driving hunting dog possessing stamina, courage, and the desire to go. And in his expression are the loyalty and devotion of a true friend of man.



POINTER ARTWORK



Thomas Blinks 1853-1910



The Pointer is bred primarily for sport afield; he should unmistakably look and act the part. *Before making a final decision, ask yourself, “Could this dog do what it was bred to do?”*



Italic text is commentary

TEMPERAMENT

The Pointer's even temperament and alert good sense make him a congenial companion both in the field and in the home. He should be dignified and should never show timidity toward man or dog.



HEAD

The skull is of medium width, approximately as wide as the length of the muzzle, resulting in an impression of length rather than width. Slight furrow between the eyes, cheeks cleanly chiseled. There should be a pronounced stop. From this point forward the muzzle is a good length, with the nasal bone so formed that the nose is slightly higher at the tip than the muzzle at the stop.





HEAD

Maud Earl
20th Century
Artist



Parallel planes of the skull and muzzle are equally acceptable. The muzzle should be deep without pendulous flews. Jaws ending square and level, should bite evenly or as scissors. Nostrils well developed and wide open.





HEAD

Maud Earl
20th Century
Artist



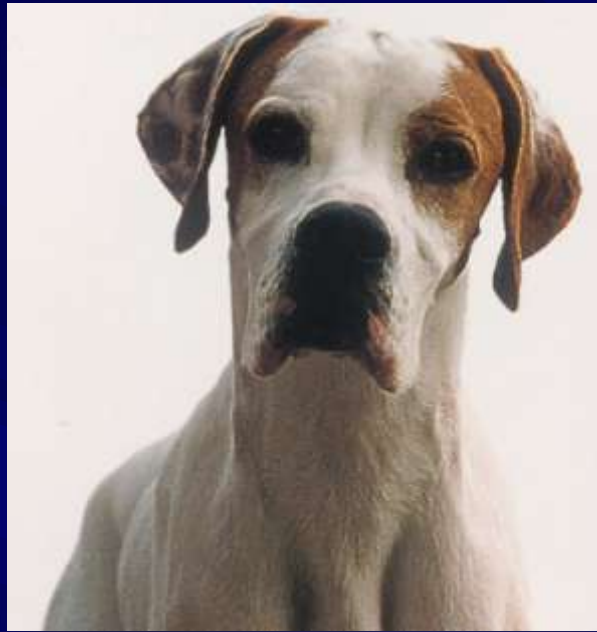
The head is a characteristic of the breed. We have the only standard that allows for 2 different head planes - parallel and dished. Parallel planes of the skull and muzzle are equally acceptable.



HEAD



Coat color may vary from light to dark. The Nose and Eye Rim color determines
Lemon (Self Colored Nose/Eye Rims) ~ Orange (Black Nose/Eye Rims)
There is one Lemon Head here.....



Nostrils

well

developed

and

wide

open



Small pinched nostrils

Do you see the similarity?



Same dog, different color !





EARS

Set at eye level. When hanging naturally, they should reach just below the lower jaw, close to the head, with little or no folding. They should be somewhat pointed at the tip-never rounded-soft and thin in leather.

The ear leather should be thin so that the veins are visible.....



EYES

Eyes - Of ample size, rounded and intense. The eye color should be dark in contrast with the colors of the markings, the darker the better.



*An Orange Pointer
(Black nose & eye rim)
has a darker eye.*



*A Lemon Pointer (self colored nose) will have a lighter eye.
It is genetically impossible for them to have a black eye or rims.*

Choose the correct heads



Results



Correct Parallel Planes



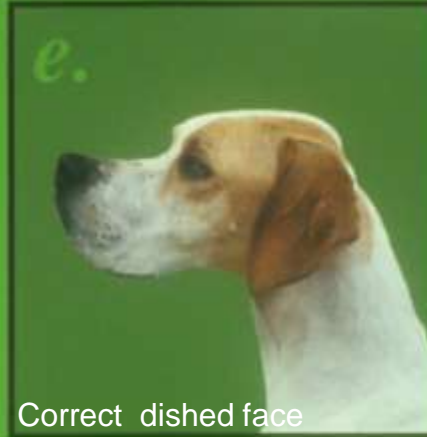
Too short in muzzle



Lacking in depth of muzzle



Lacks balance, head planes not parallel & lacking depth in muzzle



Correct dish face



Rounded back skull

NECK ~ SHOULDERS

Neck - Long, dry, muscular and slightly arched, springing cleanly from the shoulders.

Shoulders - Long, thin and sloping, the top of the blades close together.



FRONT

Elbows well let down, directly under the withers and truly parallel so as to work just clear of the body. Forelegs straight and with oval bone. Knee joint never to knuckle over. Pasterns of moderate length, perceptibly finer in bone than the leg, and slightly slanting. Chest, deep rather than wide, must not hinder the free action of forelegs. The breastbone bold, without being unduly prominent. The ribs well sprung, descending as low as the elbow-point.



BACK

Back - Strong and solid with only a slight rise from croup to top of shoulders. Loin of moderate length, powerful and slightly arched. Croup falling only slightly to base of tail. Tuck-up should be apparent, but not exaggerated.



TAIL

Tail - Heavier at the root, tapering to a fine point. Length no greater than the hock. A tail longer than this or docked must be penalized.

Carried without a curl, and not more than 20 degrees above the line of the back; never carried between the legs.



HINDQUARTERS

- Hindquarters- Muscular and powerful with great propelling leverage. Thighs long and well developed. Stifles well bent. The hocks clean; the legs straight as viewed from behind. Decided angulation is the mark of power and endurance.



FEET



Oval, with long, closely set, arched toes, well padded and deep. Cat foot is a fault. Dewclaws on the forelegs may be removed.

Correct

Oval Feet
Side
&
Front
View



Incorrect
Cat Feet

COAT

Short, dense, smooth with a sheen

COLOR

Liver, Lemon, Black, Orange;

either in combination with white or solid colored. A good Pointer cannot be a bad color. In the darker colors, the nose should be black or brown; in the lighter shades it may be lighter or flesh-colored.

~ Black & White ~



~ Liver & White ~



~ Orange & White ~



~ Lemon & White ~



~ Solid Pointer ~



Markings may cause optical illusions



GAIT

Gait - Smooth, frictionless, with a powerful hindquarters' drive. The head should be carried high, with nostrils wide, the tail moving from side to side rhythmically with the pace. Giving the impression of a well-balanced, strongly built hunting dog capable to top speed combined with great stamina.

Hackney gait must be faulted.

Moving







Lisa Canfield



BALANCE & SIZE

Balance and overall symmetry are more important in the Pointer than size. A smooth, balanced dog is to be more desired than a dog with strongly contrasting good points and faults. Hound or terrier characteristics are most undesirable. Because a sporting dog must have both endurance and power, great variations in size are undesirable, the desirable height and weight being within the following limits:

Dogs: Height - 25-28 inches
 Weight - 55-75 pounds

Bitches: Height - 23-26 inches
 Weight – 45-65 pounds

The Pointer in Performance



The Pointer as a family member



Pointers Aim to Please





THE END