

Shih Tzu

Standard June 29, 1989

Oral Exam: Front

General Appearance

Sturdy, lively, alert toy. Long flowing double coat. Proud of bearing, distinctively arrogant carriage with head well up and tail curved over back. Compact, solid, good weight & substance.

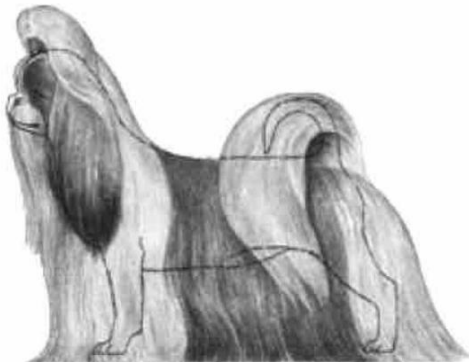


Size / Substance / Proportion

Regardless of size, always compact, solid, & carries good weight & substance.

Weight: 9 to 16 pounds

Proportion: withers to root of tail slightly longer than height at withers.



Head Developed by Karen Scholz 100177

Round, broad, wide between eyes, in balance with overall size of dog. Warm, sweet, wide eyed, friendly and trusting expression
Skull domed with definite stop



Ears

Large, set slightly below crown of skull, Heavily coated



Eyes

Large, round, not prominent placed well apart, Very dark, lighter on liver & blue pigmented dogs.

Fault: Small, close set, light or excessive white in eyes



Nose: nostrils broad, wide, open

Nose, lips, eye rims black on all colors except Liver & blue self colored

Fault: pink on nose, lips or eye rims

Muzzle square, short, unwrinkled w good cushioning set no lower than bottom eye rim, Never downturned

Ideally no longer than 1 inch tip of nose to stop

Front of muzzle flat

Lower chin/lip not protruding, not receding

Fault: snipiness, lack of definite stop

Teeth: Undershot

Jaw is broad & wide. Missing tooth or slightly unaligned teeth **not** severely penalized

Teeth/Tongue do not show when mouth closed

Fault: Overshot bite

Neck, Topline, Body

Neck Well set on flowing smoothly into shoulders. Of sufficient length to permit natural high head carriage in balance

Topline level

Chest Broad, deep, good spring, not barrel

Body Short coupled, sturdy, no tuck up
Slightly longer than tall

Elbow to withers slightly greater than elbow to ground

Croup flat

Fault: Legginess



Forequarters

Well angulated, well laid back, fitting smoothly into body

Pasterns strong, Perpendicular

Legs straight, well boned, muscular, set well apart under chest, elbows close to body

Feet

Firm, well padded, point straight ahead

Dewclaws may be removed

Temperament

Outgoing, happy, affectionate, friendly & trusting towards all

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Hindquarters

Angulation in balance with front

Hocks short, perpendicular to ground

Legs well boned, muscular, straight from rear

Well bent stifles, Hocks well let down, perpendicular

Dewclaws may be removed

Feet Firm, well padded, point straight ahead

Fault: Hyperextension of hocks

TAIL set on high, heavily plumed, carried in curve well over back.



Gait

Moves straight, must be shown at natural speed

Smooth, flowing, effortless

Good reach, strong drive

Level topline, High head carriage

Tail carried in gentle curve over back

Coat

Luxurious, double coated, dense, long, flowing
Slight wave permissible, Hair top of head tied up

Fault: Sparse coat, single coat, curly coat

Excessive trimming

Color

All are permissible and considered equally

