

**The Illustrated Discussion
of
The Yorkshire Terrier**



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Preface

Following the first Breeders' Seminar there was discussion by the Board of Directors of the Yorkshire Terrier Club of America, Inc. about the need for revision of our Standard. We came to the conclusion that the present standard is a good one; what was needed more than a new standard was a clarification of our present one. I was happy to accept the appointment to produce this booklet.

In THE ILLUSTRATED DISCUSSION OF THE YORKSHIRE TERRIER we are presenting a blueprint or guide to what we consider the ideal Yorkshire Terrier. We hope it will benefit both breeders and judges in comprehending the standard better and the meaning of the various portions.

The large section devoted to color(s) is certainly an important one since coat texture and color are of prime importance in our Breed. In this section on color we have done our best in the discussion to describe fully the two Yorkie colors. There is no printers ink that would exactly match the true colors of a Yorkie, but we came as close as we could, mechanically. We, of course, could show none of the shadings of the live animal.

In the illustrations, all faults have been slightly exaggerated in order to show the fault or faults more clearly.

We anticipate that breeders using this booklet as a guide will be able to evaluate their puppies more knowledgeably. It is our hope that all Yorkshire Terrier breeders will recognize that we are the guardians of our Breed.

ANNE H. GOLDMAN
EDUCATION CHAIRMAN
YORKSHIRE TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA, INC

THE YORKSHIRE TERRIER

GENERAL APPEARANCE - That of a long-haired Toy Terrier whose blue and tan coat is parted on the face and from the base of the skull to the end of the tail and hangs evenly and quite straight down each side of the body. The body is neat, compact and well proportioned. The dog's high head carriage and confident manner should give the appearance of vigor and self-importance.

HEAD - Small and rather flat on top, the skull not too prominent or round, the muzzle not too long, with the bite neither undershot nor overshot and teeth sound. Either scissor or level bite is acceptable. The nose is black. Eyes are medium size and not too prominent; dark in color and sparkling with a sharp intelligent expression. Eye rims are dark. Ears are small V-shaped, carried erect and set not too far apart.

BODY - Well proportioned and very compact. The back is rather short, the back line level, with height at shoulder the same as at the rump.

LEGS and FEET - Forelegs should be straight, elbows neither in nor out. Hind legs straight when viewed from behind, but stifles are moderately bent when viewed from the sides. Feet are round with black toe-nails. Dew claws, if any, are generally removed from the hind legs. Dew claws on the forelegs may be removed.

TAIL - Docked to a medium length and carried slightly higher than the level of the back.

COAT - Quality, texture and quantity of coat are of prime importance. Hair is glossy, fine and silky in texture. Coat on the body moderately long and perfectly straight (not wavy). It may be trimmed to floor length to give ease of movement and a neater appearance, if desired. The fall on the head is long, tied with one bow in center of head or parted in the middle and tied with two bows. Hair on muzzle is very long. Hair should be trimmed short on tips of ears and may be trimmed on feet to give them a neat appearance.

COLORS - Puppies are born black and tan and are normally darker in body color, showing an intermingling of black hair in the tan until they are matured. Color of hair on body and richness of tan on head and legs are of prime importance in ADULT DOGS to which the following color requirements apply:

BLUE - Is a dark steel blue, not a silver blue and not mingled with fawn, bronzy or black hairs.

TAN - All tan hair is darker at the roots than in the middle, shading to still lighter tan at the tips. There should be no sooty or black hair intermingled with any of the tan.

COLOR ON BODY - The blue extends over the body from back of neck, to root of tail. Hair on tail is darker blue, especially at end of tail.

HEADFALL - A rich golden tan, deeper in color at sides of head, at ear roots and on the muzzle, with ears a deep rich tan. Tan color should not extend down on back of neck.

CHEST AND LEGS - A bright rich tan, not extending above the elbow on the forelegs nor above the stifle on the hind legs.

WEIGHT - Must not exceed seven pounds.

Approved April 12, 1966

DISQUALIFICATION - Any solid color or combination of colors other than blue and tan as described above. Any white markings other than a small white spot on the forechest that does not exceed 1 inch at its longest dimension.

Approved October 1, 2007

Table of Contents

General Appearance	8-9
Head, Muzzle, Nose	10-11
Teeth	12
Skull	13
Eyes, Ears	13-14
Neck, Body, Back	15-16
Tail	15-17
Body-Top View	17
Legs and Feet - Forequarters	18
Legs and Feet - Hindquarters	19
Movement	20
Weight	20
Coat Texture and Color - Blue	21-24
Coat Texture and Color - Tan(Gold)	25-27
Disqualification Directive	28
Color Placement	29
Terminology	30-32

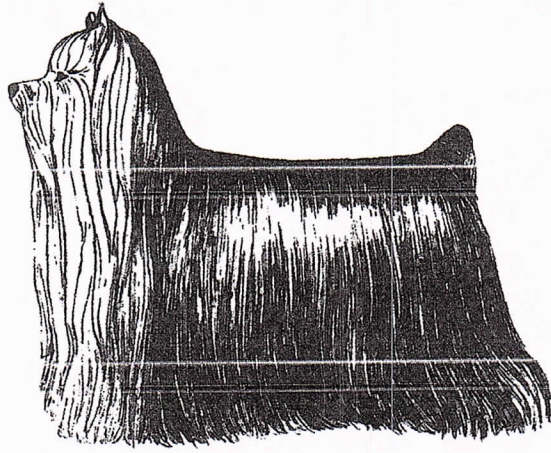


Fig. 1
STACKED IN GOOD SHOW POSE

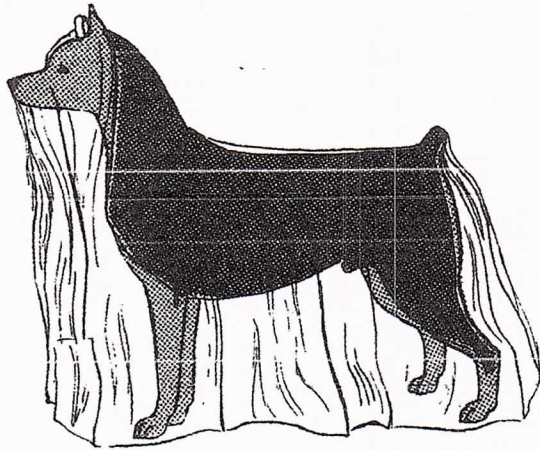


Fig. 2
STACKED IN GOOD SHOW POSE



GENERAL APPEARANCE

That of a long-haired toy terrier whose blue and tan coat is parted on the face and from the base of the skull to the end of the tail and hangs evenly and quite straight down each side of the body. The body is neat, compact and well-proportioned. The dog's high head carriage and confident manner should give the appearance of vigor and self-importance.

DISCUSSION - GENERAL APPEARANCE

Many adjectives can be used to describe the Yorkshire Terrier as he is a well balanced, neat, small, sound, square appearing, elegant, long coated Toy Terrier, readily identified by his straight, flowing silky body coat of bright, shiny, lustrous steel blue and clear shaded golds. He has a straight level back and carries himself in a self confident, sparkling and vigorous manner.

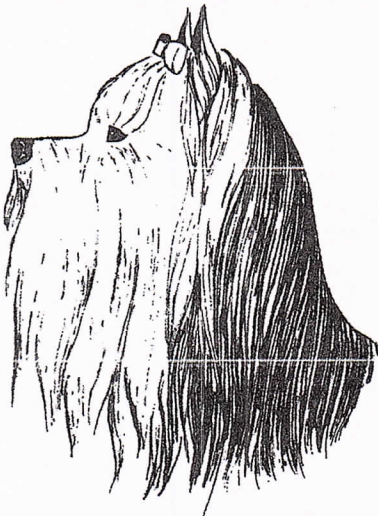


Fig. 3
CORRECT HEAD

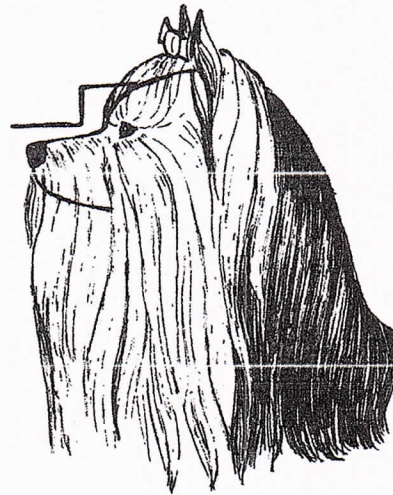


Fig. 3A
CORRECT ANGLE OF SET-ON

HEAD

Small and rather flat on top, the skull not too prominent or round, the muzzle not too long, with the bite neither undershot nor overshot and teeth sound. Either scissors bite or level bite is acceptable. The nose is black. Eyes are medium in size and not too prominent; dark in color and sparkling with a sharp intelligent expression. Eye rims are dark. Ears are small, V-shaped carried erect and set not too far apart.

DISCUSSION - HEAD

The head of the Yorkshire is one of its most distinctive and important features, and the correct head is **ALWAYS** pleasing to the eye. It is never coarse in any feature.

The standard calls for a small head, flat on the crown. With a large head, balance and breed type are lost, giving the appearance of coarseness.

DISCUSSION - MUZZLE

Ideally the muzzle is set on at a 90° angle to the head forming the stop or 'step'. When a puppy is very young, the breeder should check the set-on of the puppy's muzzle. Yorkshire Terrier puppies with a muzzle set on at an angle greater than 90° will have a muzzle grow longer than desired and become a down-faced adult which is highly undesirable. Yorkies with a muzzle set-on at an angle of less than 90° will be "dish-faced" which is also very undesirable.

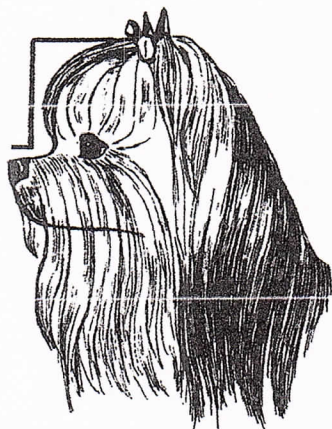


Fig. 4
"PUSSY CAT" OR "DOLL FACED"
MUZZLE TOO SHORT; TOO DEEP A STOP

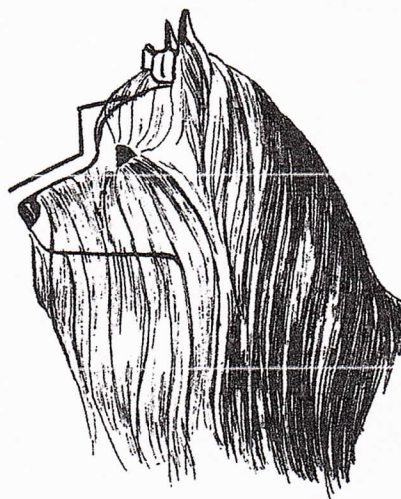


Fig. 5
DOWN FACED

The muzzle is broad with a slight tapering toward the nose. The bridge or top of the muzzle is straight and parallel to the top of the head. The muzzle is medium in length and never so very short that it creates what some people call a "doll face" or a "pussy cat" face, because that Yorkie usually has a round, apple-head with too deep a stop, both of which are improper. From the standpoint of breed type, a snipey (narrow) muzzle is very undesirable.

The ideal length and breadth of muzzle has jaws that are capable of supporting a full set of teeth with the proper bite.

DISCUSSION - NOSE

The nose is jet black. A dog whose nose is not black lacks pigmentation, a serious hereditary fault.

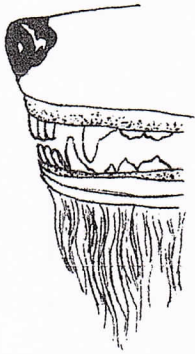


Fig. 6
SCISSORS BITE PREFERABLE

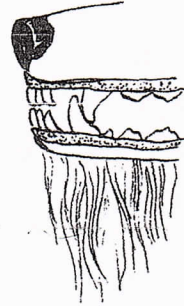


Fig. 7
LEVEL OR EVEN BITE
ACCEPTABLE

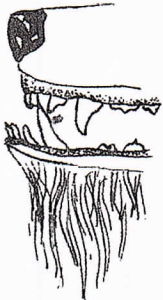


Fig. 8
UNDERSHOT BITE

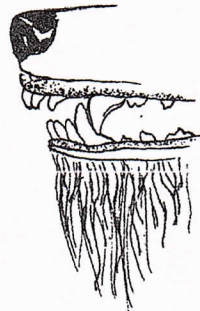


Fig. 9
OVERSHOT BITE

TEETH

The bite neither undershot nor overshot and teeth sound. Either scissors bite or level bite is acceptable.

DISCUSSION - TEETH

Scissors bite preferred. Size of teeth in direct proportion to size of dog.



Fig. 10
CORRECT SKULL SHAPE
ALMOND SHAPED EYE
SMALL PRICK EARS
GOOD EAR SET

EYES

Eyes are medium in size and not too prominent; dark in color and sparkling with a sharp intelligent expression. Eye rims are dark.

DISCUSSION - EYES

Eyes are intelligent and expressive with eyes and eye rims very dark, appearing black. Oval shaped eyes are preferred. A terrier's eye looks straight ahead which plays a major part in his expression. The eye fits well into the socket, never protruding or sunken. A large round eye is generally found with a too-round skull. Yorkies with red-orange coloring on head and muzzle have a tendency toward lighter eyes and eye rims which are undesirable as it spoils the necessary keen expression.

A "small beady eye" is highly undesirable and detracts from expression.

EARS

Ears are small, V-shaped carried erect and set not too far apart.



Fig. 11
SMALL, BEADY EYE
EYES SET TOO CLOSE
TOGETHER
SNIPEY NOSE
EARS TOO TALL



Fig. 12
FULL ROUND EYE,
TOO PRONOUNCED
DOMEY APPLE HEAD
EARS SET TOO WIDE
POOR EAR CARRIAGE

DISCUSSION-EARS

Breeders cherish small expressive ears, carried erect, that are set high on the head, close together, and V-shaped. Low set ears detract from expression and are as highly undesirable as ears that are too large, rounded on tips, bat-shaped or set too wide.

The ear fringe hair is trimmed off the edge of the ear leather about one third down from the tip. Long hair on the front and back of the ear is smoothly trimmed one third down from the tip.

It should be noted that ear fringes should not be caught up in the Yorkie's topknot, as this practice does not permit free movement of the ears. Movement of ears is very important to expression.



Fig. 13
EYES SET TOO
FAR APART
WALL EYE



Fig. 14
BAT EARS
VERY WIDE SET AND
ROUNDED TIPS

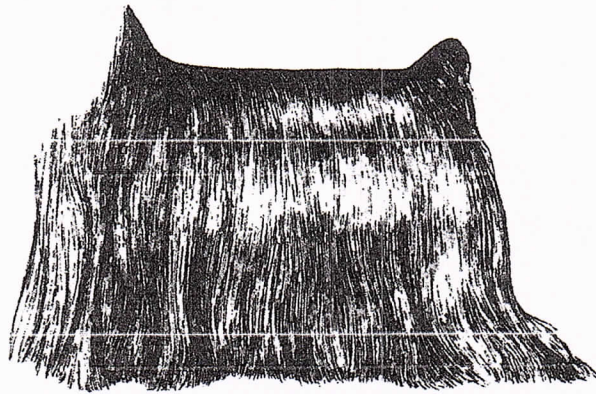


Fig. 15
CORRECT BACK
CORRECT TAIL SET
CORRECT TAIL CARRIAGE

BODY

Well proportioned and very compact. The back is rather short, the back line level, with height at shoulder the same as at the rump.

DISCUSSION - NECK AND BODY

The Yorkshire Terrier is a sound, well balanced, compact, neat, square appearing dog though there is little or nothing specific in our standard describing the length of neck, type, placement, carriage of, etc. The same applies to qualities describing back, ribs, chest, loin, rump or tail.

For a Yorkie to carry his head proudly, his neck is of moderate length and blends smoothly into his shoulders. Neither an overly long neck nor an extremely short one is desirable. The neck is a definite separate entity dividing the Yorkie's head and shoulders and adds to the dog's overall elegance and style. A well balanced outline is very important in our Breed and is obtained by having the ideal length of neck, the ideal length of straight level back, and the ideal length of legs. This overall harmonious effect, where every part seems to fit properly, is what is described as a well balanced Yorkshire Terrier. (See Fig. 1 and Fig. 2)

The Yorkshire Terrier has a straight, level back from the withers to the set-on of the tail. The croup is short and straight. A sloping croup is undesirable. A back that is not straight and level totally detracts from the overall appearance and breed type.

Yorkshire Terrier breeders want a compact, well-bodied animal with a good spring of rib and adequate depth of brisket and forechest for heart and lung capacity. Overly long bodies or exaggerated short ones are both undesirable. The ideal spring of rib is oval in shape with a gradual rounding toward the base and is of sufficient depth to meet the Yorkie's elbows.

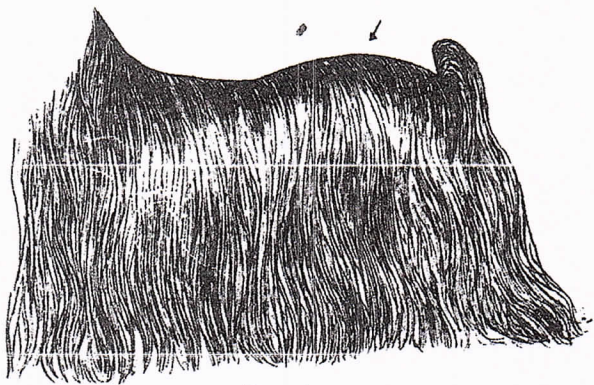


Fig. 16
ROACH BACK
SLOPING CROUP - LOW TAIL SET
GAY TAIL

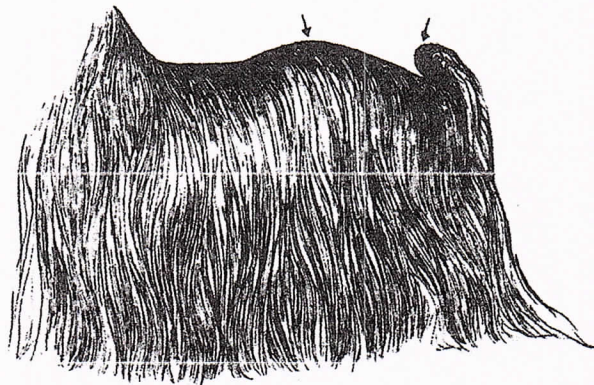


Fig. 17
CAMEL BACK
SLOPING CROUP - LOW TAIL SET
SQUIRREL TAIL

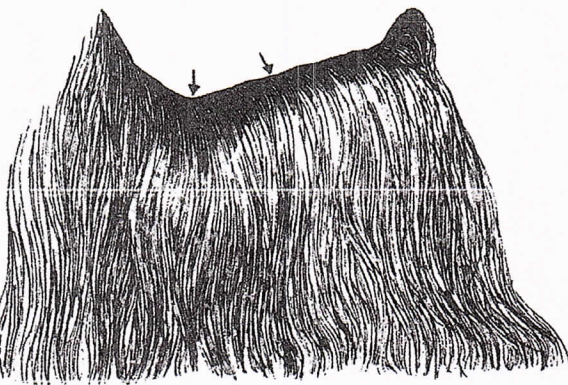


Fig. 18
DOWN IN THE SHOULDERS
CORRECT TAIL SET

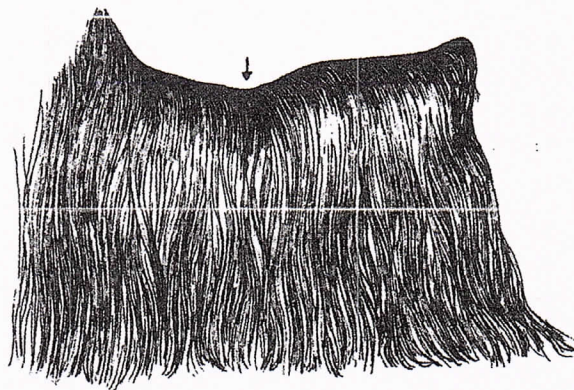


Fig. 19
SOFT, WEAK TOPLINE
SLIGHTLY LOW TAIL SET