
Miniature Pinscher

General Appearance

The Miniature Pinscher originated in Germany and named the Reh Pinscher due to his resemblance in structure and animation to a very small species of deer found in the forests. This breed is structurally a well-balanced, sturdy, compact, short-coupled, smooth-coated toy dog. He is naturally well groomed, proud, vigorous, and alert. The natural characteristic traits which identify him from other toy dogs are his precise Hackney gait, his fearless animation, complete self-possession, and his spirited presence.

Faults

Structurally lacking in balance, too long or short-coupled, too coarse or too refined (lacking in bone development causing poor feet and legs), too large or too small, lethargic, timid or dull, shy or vicious, low in tail placement and poor in action (action not typical of the breed requirements). Knotty overdeveloped muscles.

Size

Desired height 11-11-1/2 inches (28-29 cm) at the withers. A dog of either sex measuring under 10 inches (25 cm) or over 12-1/2x inches (32 cm) shall be disqualified.

Coat and Colour

Coat smooth, hard and short, straight, and lustrous, closely adhering to and uniformly covering the body.

Colour

- (a) Solid red or stag red.
- (b) Lustrous black with sharply defined tan, rust-red markings on cheeks, lips, lower jaw, throat, twin spots above eyes, and chest, lower half of forelegs, inside of hind legs and vent region, lower portion of hocks and feet. Black pencil stripes on toes.
- (c) Solid brown or chocolate with rust or yellow markings.

Faults

Thin, too long, dull coat; upstanding coat; curly coat, dry coat; area of various thickness or bald spots. Any colour other than listed; very dark or sooty spots.

Head

In correct proportion with the body. From top: Tapering, narrow with well-fitted but not too prominent foreface which should balance with the skull. No indication of coarseness. From front: skull appears flat, tapering forward towards the muzzle. **Muzzle** itself strong rather than fine and delicate, and in proportion to the head as a whole; cheeks and lips small, taut and closely adherent to each other. **Teeth** in perfect alignment and apposition. From side: Well balanced with only a slight drop to the muzzle, which should be parallel to the top of the skull. **Nose** black only (with the exception of chocolates, which may have a self-coloured nose). **Eyes** full, slightly oval, almost round, clear, bright and dark, even to a true black; set wide apart and fitted well into the sockets. **Ears** well set and firmly placed. When cropped, upstanding pointed, and carried erect in balance with the head. When natural, either prick or drop ears set high. V-shaped with the inner edges lying close to the cheeks, turned forward towards the temple. Folds to be parallel and should be in alignment with the top of the skull.

Faults

Too large or too small for the body, too coarse or too refined, pinched and weak in foreface, domed in skull, too flat and lacking in chiselling, giving a vapid expression. Nose any colour other than black (with the exception of chocolates which may have a self-coloured nose). Jaws and teeth overshot or undershot. Eyes too round and full, too large, bulging, too deep-set or set too far apart; or too small, set too close (pig eyes). Light-coloured eyes not desirable. Ears poorly placed, low-set hanging ears (lacking in cartilage) which detract from head conformation. (Poorly cropped ears if set on the head properly and having sufficient cartilage should not detract from head points, as this would be a man-made fault and automatically would detract from general appearance.)

Neck

Proportioned to head and body. Slightly arched, gracefully curved, clean and firm, blending into shoulders, length well balanced, muscular and free from a suggestion of dewlap or throatiness.

Faults

Too straight or too curved; too thick or too thin; too long or short; knotty muscles; loose, flabby or wrinkled skin.

Forequarters

Shoulders clean, sloping with moderate angulation, co-ordinated to permit the true action of the Hackney pony. Strong bone development and small clean joints. As viewed from the front, straight and upstanding; elbows close to body, well knit, flexible yet strong with perpendicular pasterns.

Faults

Shoulders too straight, too loose, or too short and overloaded with muscles. Forelegs bowed or crooked, weak pasterns, feet turning in or out, loose elbows.

Body

From top: Compact, slightly wedge-shaped, muscular with well-sprung ribs. From side: Back level or slightly sloping towards the rear. Length of males equal height at withers. Females may be slightly longer. Forechest well developed and full, moderately broad. Depth of brisket, the base line of which is level with the points of the elbows; short and strong in loin with belly moderately tucked up to denote grace in structural form. From rear: High tail-set; strong, sturdy upper shanks, with croup slope at about 30 degrees; vent opening not barrelled.

Faults

From top: too long, too short, too barrelled, lacking in body development. From side: too long, too thin, too short or too fat, hips higher or considerably lower than the withers, lacking depth of chest, too full in loin, sway back, roach back or wry back. Forechest and spring of rib too narrow (or too shallow and underdeveloped). From rear: quarters too wide or too close to each other, overdeveloped, barrelled vent, underdeveloped vent, too sloping croup, tail-set low.

Hindquarters

Well-knit muscular quarters set wide enough apart to fit into a properly balanced body. All adjacent bones should appear well angulated with well-muscled thighs or upper shanks, with clearly well-defined stifles, hocks short, set well apart turning neither in nor out, while at rest should stand perpendicular to the ground and upper shanks, lower shanks and hocks parallel to each other. Feet cat-like, toes strong, well arched and closely knit with deep pads and thick blunt nails.

Faults

Too narrow, under muscled or over muscled, too steep in croup. Too thick or thin bone development, large joints, spreading flat feet. Thin underdeveloped stifles, large or crooked hocks, loose stifle joints.

Tail

Docked: Set high, held erect, docked to 1/2 – 1 inch (1-3 cm). Natural: a sabre (set high and held erect) or sickle (set high and held slightly curling over the back). Tail carriage is sought after.

Faults

Set too low, too thin, drooping, hanging or poorly docked.

Disqualifications

Thumb marks or any area of white on feet or forechest exceeding 1/2 inch (1 cm) in its longest dimension. A dog of either sex measuring under 10 inches (25 cm) or over 12-1/2 inches (32 cm) shall be disqualified.

Scale of Points

General appearance and movement (very important)	30
Skull	5
Muzzle	5
Mouth	5
Eyes.....	5
Ears.....	5
Neck	5
Body.....	15
Feet	5
Legs.....	5
Colour.....	5
Coat	5
Tail	5

TOTAL**100**