

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel

General Appearance

Toy spaniel, active, graceful and well balanced, with gentle expression. The whole appearance is of a well-proportioned dog with no exaggeration. The breed should present a natural outline, with moderate bone and elegant movement.

Important Proportions

Length of body slightly exceeds height at withers. Skull to muzzle ratio approximately 1:1. Overall symmetry and balance are essential.

Behaviour / Temperament

Fearless and sporting in character, yet gentle and affectionate. Absolutely non-aggressive and free from nervousness. A companion dog of cheerful disposition.

Head

Cranial Region

Skull nearly flat between ears, slightly rounded but not domed. Stop shallow.

Facial Region

Nose well developed and black. Muzzle of moderate length, tapering slightly. Lips well developed but not pendulous. Eyes large, dark, round but not prominent, set well apart giving soft expression. Ears long, set high, with abundant feathering.

Neck

Moderate in length, slightly arched, blending smoothly into shoulders.

Body

Back level. Loin short and strong. Chest moderately deep with well-sprung ribs. Underline slightly tucked.

Tail

Length in balance with body, carried gaily but not much above level of back. Constantly wagging when in action.

Limbs

Forequarters straight with moderate bone. Shoulders well laid back. Hindquarters muscular with moderate angulation. Hocks well let down.

Feet

Compact, well padded, with good feathering between toes.

Gait / Movement

Free-moving and elegant with good reach in front and drive behind. Topline remains level. Movement should be sound and balanced.

Coat

Long, silky, free from curl. Slight wave permissible. Feathering profuse on ears, chest, legs, and tail. Natural presentation essential.

Colour

Blenheim: Chestnut on pearly white.

Tricolour: Black and white with tan markings.

Ruby: Whole-coloured rich red.

Black and Tan: Black with tan markings.

Size and Weight

Height: 30–33 cm. Weight: 5.9–8.2 kg. Dogs should be well balanced within these limits.

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness should be in exact proportion to its degree.