

1943 AKC Basenji Standard

HEIGHT

Approximately 17 inches males, 16 inches bitches.

HEAD

Of medium width, not coarse, tapering towards the eyes, well-chiseled with lofty carriage. The skull should be flat. The foreface should taper from eye to muzzle, and should be shorter than the skull. Teeth should be level. Wrinkles should appear upon the forehead when the ears are pricked, giving a puzzled expression. These are a special characteristic of the Basenji, but exaggerated wrinkle is to be avoided, as the excessive loose skin tends to give a Blood houndy appearance and spoils the clean lines of the breed.

NOSE

Black greatly desired, but a pinkish tinge should not penalize an otherwise first-class specimen.

EARS

Should be pointed and erect, set well forward and of fine texture.

EYES

Should be dark hazel, almond shaped, small, deep-set and far-seeing.

NECK

Of sufficient length, well-crested, and slightly full at the base of the throat. It should be well set into flat, laid-back shoulders.

CHEST

Deep and of medium width.

BODY

The body should be short and level. The ribs well sprung with plenty of heart-room and deep brisket, short-coupled and ending in a definite waist.

FEET

Small, narrow, with arched toes.

LEGS

Straight with clean bone and well defined sinews. Pasterns straight rather than otherwise, but not of the fox-terrier type.

HINDQUARTERS

Strong and muscular, with hocks well let down, and turned neither in nor out, with long second thighs.

TAIL

Set on top and curled tightly over to one side.

COLOUR

Chestnut with white points and tail tip; also black and white; and black, tan and white; red and white; faun and white.

COAT

Short and silky, skin very pliant.

MOVEMENT

Both hind legs and forelegs should be carried straight forward with springing strides, greatly resembling that of a racehorse trotting full out, this swift, tireless running gait being a special characteristic of the breed.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Basenjis do not bark. The appearance should be one of springy poise and alertness, greatly resembling an antelope.

Effective November 1943