

# Black Russian Terrier

Height at maturity– Dogs 27” to 30”; Bitches – 26” to 29”.

A robust, large, balanced, agile, powerful dog. Large bone and well-developed muscles. Has great strength and endurance. Height to length proportion is 9.5 to 10.

**Eyes** are oval, medium size, dark. Rims black. **Ears** are medium size, triangular, set high but not above level of skull, hanging to mid-cheek. Not cropped. **Skull:** Moderately wide; Backskull flat and slightly longer than muzzle. **Stop:** Moderate. **Muzzle:** Broad with slight tapering towards the nose; parallel to backskull. **Teeth:** Large, white, full dentition. Scissors bite.

**Neck:** thick, muscular and powerful. **Chest:** Oval, extends to elbows or below. Forechest is pronounced. **Back:** Straight and firm. **Croup:** Wide, muscular and slopes slightly. **Tail:** Thick, set moderately high, docked, carried at 45°. If undocked, carried sickle or saber.

**Forequarters:** Shoulders well laid-back. **Forelegs:** straight and parallel.

**Pasterns:** Short, thick, almost vertical. **Dewclaws** should be removed.

**Feet:** Large, compact and round. **Nails:** Black.

**Hindquarters:** **Legs:** Straight and parallel. In balance with front.

**Thighs:** Muscular and broad. **Hocks:** Moderately short.

**Coat** is double, untrimmed length varies from 1 ½” to 6”. Trimming is needed to show outline, but should not be given more weight than structure, movement and balance.

Furnishings on head form fall over eyes and moustache and beard on muzzle.

**Color:** Solid black or Black with scattered gray hairs.

**Gait:** Should move freely in a smooth, fluid motion.

**Temperament:** Of utmost importance. Must be stable and reliable, calm, confident, courageous and self-assured.

**SERIOUS FAULTS:** Light bone; Lack of substance; Poor musculature; Over or under size; Light colored eyes; One missing tooth; Shyness or Excessive excitability.

## DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- Nose color other than black.
- Two or more missing teeth.
- Any bite other than a scissors bite.
- Any coat color other than solid black or black with scattered gray hairs.