

CESKY TERRIER

explanation of the FCI-Standard N° 246



by Dr. Gabriela van Ruiten Hajnová

Photographs by:

Cesky Terriers: Martina Urbanová, Vlastimil Ďurčík, Anne Persin,
Václava Šafaříková, Roman Nemesszeghy, Alice van Kempen and
Gabriela van Ruiten Hajnová
Scottish Terrier: Goran Gladic

All pictures used with permission of the author.

ORIGIN: Czech Republic.

UTILIZATION: Formerly a Terrier breed for hunting foxes and badgers, today more a house-and companion dog.



Even today Cesky Terriers are used for hunting. Pictured training with wild boar, the dog exercises courage and agility. Strong built, flexible body is a requirement for this work.



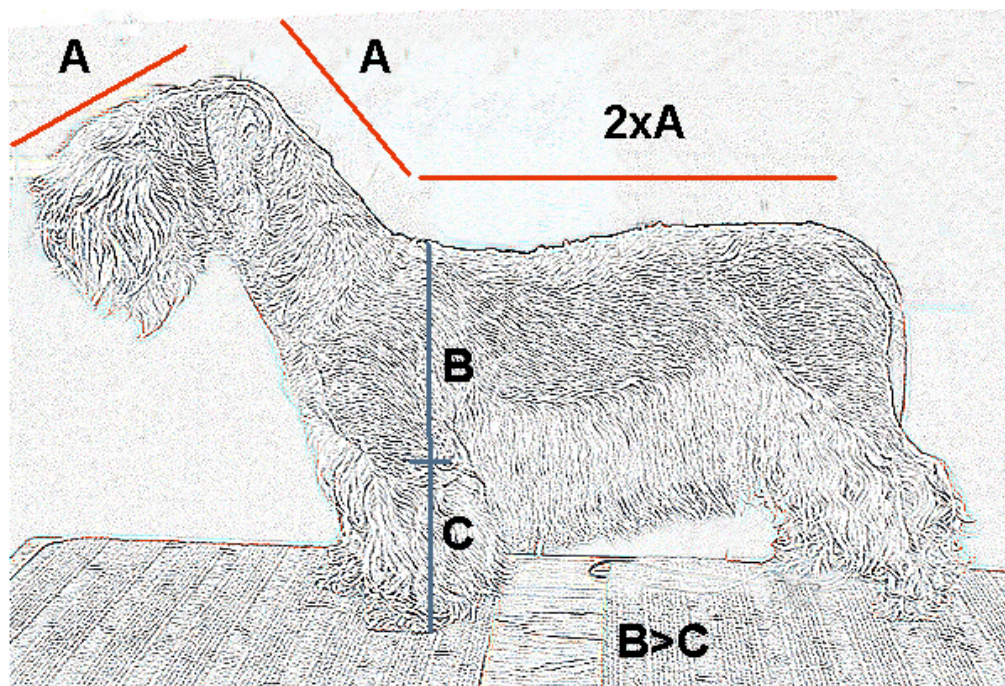
Cesky Terriers are very talented agility dogs.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:

The Czech Terrier is the result of an appropriate crossbreeding between a Sealyham Terrier dog and a Scotch Terrier bitch, with the aim to develop a light, short legged, well pigmented hunting Terrier, with practical drop ears, easy to groom and easy to train. In 1949 Mr.Frantisek Horák from Klánovice near Prague started to improve the breed by fixing their characteristics. In 1959 these dogs were shown for the first time, and the breed was finally recognized by the FCI in 1963.

There must be clear difference between a Cesky Terrier and the two original breeds: the Cesky should never look like a gray Sealyham or a Scottie with drop ears.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Short legged, long haired, well made and well muscled Terrier with smallish drop ears, of a rectangular format.



Ideal proportions. Give attention to sufficient length of the body (the dog must be able to turn under the ground while hunting) and correct length of the legs (legs are bit longer than in Scottish Terriers, while excessive length of the legs is not typical and undesirable).

IDEAL MEASURES	Male	Female
Height at withers	29cm	27cm
Length of skull	21cm	20cm
Width of skull	10cm	9cm
Girth of thorax (behind elbows)	45cm	44cm
Length of body	43cm	40cm

Different types:



Young male of correct type and proportions. The furnishings are not matured in length and colour, but of a correct silky texture.



Adult male in show condition. Note the correct medium grey colour with the furnishings a shade lighter than the body colour and dark markings at the ears and the tail.

Different types:



Young female of correct type and proportions. Note the colour: born as black&tan, the colour turns in blue&cream with some reddish shades at the muzzle and the feet. This is a correct colour in the Cesky Terrier.



Adult female of correct type in show condition. Note the correct dark grey colour and correct white markings.

Different types:



Not correct, rather heavy type. Head of good length, but too short in neck. Note the correct topline and tailset.



Another heavy type, this one also with a short head.

Different types:



Not correct, leggy type. Note also lack of angulation in both front and rear.



Not correct, too short on legs. Note also the poor expression caused by rather large, rounded eye. Permitted white markings.

BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT: Balanced, non-aggressive, pleasant and cheerful companion, easy to train; somewhat reserved towards strangers; of calm and kind disposition.

In the show ring Cesky Terrier shows often not much temperament, he will usually not exuberant greet the judge. This should not be penalised, while clearly anxious or aggressive dogs are certainly not typical for this breed.



Do not penalize under-the-body tail carriage on the table. Cesky Terrier presents himself better on the ground, standing free or with only slightly tension on the leash. Top&tail handling is not done in this breed.



HEAD

Shaped like a long, blunt, not too broad wedge, the plane of the forehead forming a distinctive breaking with the bridge of the nose.



The lines of the skull and the muzzle are not parallel as in f.e. Scottish Terrier.

Parallel lines give the typical keen expression of a Scottie head, while the standard of the Cesky Terrier asks for more open, friendly expression. The length of the skull is equal to the muzzle.



To compare: parallel lines of a correct Scottish Terrier head. Note also the different grooming.

CRANIAL REGION :

Skull : Not too broad between the ears and tapering moderately towards the supraorbital ridges. Occipital protuberance easy to palpate; cheek bones moderately prominent. Frontal furrow only slightly marked.

Stop : Not accentuated but apparent.

Not explicitly mentioned in the standard, but the skull is flat – not as in the Sealyham Terrier where the standard asks for skull slightly domed and wide between ears.

Look for correct balance between the skull and the muzzle. Sometimes too broad, coarse skull, falling away under the eyes is seen, which is not correct.

FACIAL REGION :

Nose : Dark and well developed. It should be black on Terriers with a grey-blue coat and liver-coloured on light-coffee brown Terriers.

Nasal bridge : Straight.

In black&tan (blue&creme) Cesky Terriers there is sometimes a little bit lack of nose pigmentation. In this colour and if not excessive, it is acceptable.

Jaws/teeth : Strong jaws. Scissors or level bite; complete dentition (the absence of the 2 M3 in the lower jaw not being penalized).

Teeth strong, regularly aligned and set square to the jaw.

Lips : Relatively thick, fitting neatly.

Cheeks : Cheek bones not too prominent.

Cheeks are not as flat as in the Scottish Terrier, while excessive cheeky is also not correct.

Eyes : Of medium size, slightly deep set, with a friendly expression; well covered by the overhanging eyebrows. Brown or dark brown in grey-blue coated dogs, light brown in light-coffee-brown dogs. Eyelids black in grey-blue dogs, liver-colour in light-coffee-brown dogs.

The standard asks not for a black eye which would give more piercing expression. The typical friendly expression is given by a warm brown eye (hazel-nut till dark brown), in a brown Cesky Terrier the eye may be rather light.

Ears : Of medium size, dropping in such a way as to well cover the orifice. Set on rather high and falling flat along the cheeks.

Shaped like a triangle, with the shorter side of the triangle at the fold of the ear.

Ideally, the ears are fully closed against the cheek, pointing to the ground (not to the eye). The ears are pointed, not rounded. The earpoint extends not beyond the outer eye corner.

Cesky Terrier head



*Strong, clean head of an adult male.
Correct proportions.
Correct ears and oval eyes.
Correct grooming.*

Ears:



Correct ears (almost fully) closed to the cheeks.



Acceptable ears (left: diverted point, right: lower set+slightly rounded point)



Not correct ears (left: wrong folded; right: too light+ open)

NECK: Medium long, quite strong, carried on a slant.
The skin at the throat is somewhat loose but without forming a dewlap.

*Strong neck of a sufficient length is an important point in hunting dogs, bringing together with a long head an important part of the body in front of the front legs.
Breed specific is the slightly slanting neck carriage. This is in contrast to the Scottish Terrier where the neck is carried more upright.*



Correct strong, yet elegant, slightly curved neck in an adult male.

BODY: Oblong.

Upper line : Not straight because loins and rump are always moderately arched.

Withers : Not very pronounced; neck set on rather high.

Back : Strong, of medium length.

Loins : Relatively long, muscular, broad and slightly rounded.

Croup : Strongly developed, muscular; pelvis moderately slanting. Hip bones often slightly higher than the withers.

Chest : More cylindrical than deep; ribs well sprung.

Belly : Ample and slightly tucked up. Flanks well filled.

Construction of the body is maybe the most specific breed point, clearly different from the two original breeds, the Scottish and the Sealyham Terrier. In Cesky Terrier the chest is never as deep and broad as in a Scottie, even the forchest is less pronounced. There is always enough light under the body. Good reach of the ribs gives plenty of space inside.

The loins are very muscular and flexible, the dog should be easily able to touch the buttocks with his nose.

The whole body gives the impression to be strong and flexible.

The arch over de loins develops with the age, so do not penalize the youngest puppies for rather flat topline. The arch is often more explicit in the females.



An excellent adult female, showing correct body construction and topline.

Pictures showing the importance of a strong, flexible back and arched loins, working in the movement as a spring. Note also the strong developed muscles.



Toplines:



Correct topline in a male.



Correct topline in a female. Note also the correct blue&cream colour.



Acceptable topline in a 4 months old puppy. The development is not finished yet.



Acceptable topline in an adult male. The arch over the loins could be more pronounced.



Not correct, rising topline, caused by steep rear angulation.



Not correct, too flat topline with a short croupe and a (not correct) high tailset.

TAIL: The ideal length is 18-20 cm; relatively strong and low set.
At rest hanging downward or with a slight bend at the tip; when alert the tail is carried sabre shape horizontally or higher.

Tailset is relatively low, it means not as low as f.e. in the Bedlington Terrier, but decided not as high as in the Scottish Terrier.

The standard is not very clear what is the ideal carriage of the tail. Definition of sabre-shaped is ambiguous, such as drawings below show (may be slightly anecdotal).

Choose your sabre ...



German



Napoleonic



Pirate



Turkish

As a general guideline can be assumed that the tail may be carried not over the vertically line at the tail root, lower tail carriage is preferred, low tail carriage should not be penalised unless this is caused by anxiety.

Correct length of the tail is not longer than till the hock.



Correct tailset and tailcarriage at movement.

LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS : The forelegs should be straight, well boned and parallel.

Shoulders : Muscular.

Elbows : Somewhat loose, yet neither turned in nor out.

Forefeet : Large; well arched toes and strong nails. Pads well developed and thick.

The forelegs should be as straight as possible in a short-legged dog.

Pay attention to the correct length of the legs, the slightly longer legs are usually more straight, but exaggerated length is undesirable. Cesky Terrier should be a short-legged dog.

The shoulder muscles are very well developed without being overloaded.

There is a clear space between the elbow and the chest. The elbows are never under the body and move effortlessly beside the body.

Fronts:



Correct fronts: not too wide (not more than one handpalm) and as straight as possible. Feet pointing forwards.



Incorrect fronts: left crooked legs, too close in pasterns, weak feet indicated by too long nails; right wide front with a short, upright upper arm and out at elbows.

HINDQUARTERS : Hindlegs strong, parallel, well angulated and muscular.
Lower thigh : Short.
Hock joint : Set relatively high, strongly developed.
Hindfeet : Smaller than the forefeet.

*Cesky Terrier will often tend to stand with rear legs a little bit underneath the body, this should not be penalized unless this is caused by anxiety.
In such a stand the arched topline would be more explicit, make sure the topline is correct also if the dog is standing with rear more extended backwards.
Exaggerated extension of the rear will flattened the topline.*



Strong rear for powerfull propulsion.

GAIT / MOVEMENT: Free, enduring, vigorous, with drive.
Gallop rather slow but lasting. The forelegs extend in a straight forward line.



Low, long stride, hindfeet pads good visible when going up, holding correct topline.



Cesky Terrier puppy with a lot of temperament, covering plenty of ground while on the move.

SKIN: Firm, thick, without wrinkles or dewlap, pigmented.

COAT

TEXTURE : Hair long, fine but firm, slightly wavy with a silky gloss; not too much overdone.

The Czech Terrier is groomed by scissors (clipping).

At the forefront of the head the hair is not to be clipped thus forming brows and beard. On the lower parts of the legs, under the chest and belly the hair should not be clipped either.

In show condition the hair at the upper side of the neck, on the shoulders and on the back should not be longer than 1 - 1,5 cm; it should be shorter on the sides of the body and on the tail and quite short on the ears, cheeks, at the lower side of the neck, on elbows, thighs and round the vent. The transition between clipped and unclipped areas should be pleasing for the eye and never abrupt.

Please keep in mind that a Cesky Terrier is still a working terrier.

In general, the model will accentuate the elegant, harmonious lines of the body.

Exaggerated full coat or excessive length of the beard or the leg and body hair is undesirable.



Acceptable, slightly woolly coat in a 7 months old puppy. In an adult Cesky Terrier, this type of coat is undesirable.



Undesirable curly coat before grooming and the same dog after grooming. Also after the grooming, the coat has a tendency to curl (good visible at the head), does not shine and will tangles easily. Note also the undesirable rather large, low set ear with a rounded tip.



Grooming before and after:



COLOUR : The Czech Terrier has 2 varieties of coat colour :

- grey-blue (puppies are born black)
- light-coffee-brown (puppies born chocolate brown)

In both colour varieties yellow, grey or white markings are permitted on the head (beard, cheeks), neck, chest, belly, the limbs and round the vent.

Sometimes there is also a white collar or a white tip of the tail. The basic colour, however, must always be predominant.

The colour can vary from very light to dark in all shades of grey. Brown is extremely rare. In the pale Cesky Terriers white markings are almost not visible. It is very important to pay attention to the white markings, especially at the parts of the body where white is a disqualifying fault (f.e. on the skull). The yellow markings (tan at birth) change later to pale yellow, light grey or even optical almost white. This should not be confused with real white markings. Under the yellow markings the skin is always well pigmented and are the nails black.

Development of the black&tan colour. The same Cesky Terrier at the age of 5 weeks and the age of 5 months:



Different colours:



Excellent silver-blue colour with typical dark mask. Correct silky/glossy coat, but grooming of the head is too much a Sealyham-look, making the head looks too heavy.



Excellent medium grey colour.



Excellent medium grey colour with light grey furnishings (this is not a white colour as the skin is fully pigmented!) and typical dark, almost black ears. Note the typical topline in this 11-years old female.



Brindle coat, acceptable in a young Cesky Terrier, mostly not visible in an adult dog any more. Please, pay attention to this colour as the genetic basis is incorrcet brindle colour.



Two litter-sisters, both born as a black&tan, the left one in dark-grey shade, the right one pale. Both these Cesky Terriers are of correct colour and have no one white hair!



Correct blue&cream colour. Also this high quality male has no white hair.

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT:

Height at withers between 25 - 32 cm. Ideal size for a dog = 29 cm, for a bitch = 27 cm. The weight must not be less than 6 kg and more than 10 kg.

No well balanced Cesky Terrier in a good condition shall be penalized for being only slightly outside the suggested weight, although the dog would always be able to work under the ground and/or fight the game.

To determine the right size in the show ring, measuring of the chest circumference with a tape measure is more useful than the weight. Correct chest circumference is not more than 50 cm.

FAULTS:

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

- Weak construction.
- Temporary loss of nasal pigmentation (snow nose).
- Weak, short or snipey foreface, with weakly developed teeth.
- Absence of one (1) incisor.
- Eyes too big or protruding.
- Ears too big or too small, or different in shape or carriage as described in the standard.
- Back too long or too short.
- Crooked forelegs, incorrect front.
- Coat too fine or too coarse

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.
- Absence of more than 4 teeth altogether; absence of 2 or more incisors.
- Canine placed in vestibulo position.
- Entropion or ectropion.
- Chest circumference more than 50 cm.
- Curled tail or carried over the back.
- Long brindled coat on dogs older than 2 years.
- Coarse or curled cotton-wool type hair.
- White markings covering more than 20%; white blaze on the head.
- Irregular, jerky, spasmodic movements ("Scottie cramp")
- Weight above 10 kg or less than 6 kg.
- Shyness, unbalanced or aggressive disposition

N.B:

- Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.
- Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation, should be used for breeding.