



Clyde Kennels

Breed Descriptions – Bichon Frise



CANADIAN KENNEL CLUB

Bichon Frise

Origin and Purpose

The Bichon Frise originated in the Canary Islands and was formerly called the Bichon Teneriffe after the largest of this group of islands. It has been bred as a companion dog because of its friendly and affectionate nature.

General Appearance

The Bichon Frise is a small, sturdy, white powder puff of a dog. Its dark-eyed, intelligent expression, and plumed tail carried jauntily over the back attest to its merry temperament and create an overall air of elegance and dignity.

This is a breed that has no gross or incapacitating exaggerations and therefore, there is no inherent reason for lack of balance or unsound movement.



Any deviation from the ideal described in the standard should be penalized to the extent of the deviation. Structural faults common to all breeds are as undesirable in the Bichon Frise as in any other breed, even though such faults may not be specifically mentioned in the standard.



Temperament

Alert, gentle mannered, playful and affectionate. A cheerful attitude is the hallmark of the breed and one should settle for nothing less.

Size

Dogs and bitches 9.5 inches to 11.5 inches are to be given primary preference. Only where the comparative superiority of a specimen outside this range clearly justifies it, should greater latitude be taken. In no case, however, should this latitude ever extend over 12 inches or under 9 inches. The minimum limits do not apply to puppies.

Coat and Colour

The texture of the coat is of utmost importance. The undercoat is soft and dense, the outer coat of a coarser and curlier texture. The combination of the two gives a soft but substantial feel to the touch which is similar to plush or velvet and when patted, springs back.

The coat is trimmed to reveal the natural outline of the body. It is rounded off from any direction and never cut so short as to create an overly trimmed or squared off appearance. The furnishings of the head, beard, moustache, arch of neck, ears and tail are left longer. The longer head hair is trimmed to create an overall rounded impression. The topline is trimmed to appear level. The coat is long enough to maintain the powder puff look which is characteristic of the breed, and when bathed, brushed and trimmed, the coat stands off the body, creating an overall powder puff appearance. A wiry coat is not desirable. A limp silky coat that lies down, or a lack of undercoat are very serious faults.



Highlights

- Great with kids
- Happy
- Playful
- Small
- Smart
- Hypo-allergenic
- Friendly
- Alert

The colour is white. There may be shadings of buff, cream or apricot around the ears or on the body. Any colour in excess of 10% of the entire coat of a mature specimen is a fault and should be penalized, but colour of the accepted shadings should not be faulted in puppies.

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