

## The Australian Standard

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### CHARACTERISTICS

The Lhasa Apsos should give the appearance of a well-balanced, solid dog, which is both happy and assertive, but wary of strangers. It should be free and jaunty in its movement.

### HEAD & SKULL

The head should have heavy furnishings, with a good fall over the eyes, good whiskers and a beard. The skull should be moderately narrow, falling away to the sides behind the eyes in a marked degree, but not quite flat. Neither should it be domed or 'apple' shaped. A straight foreface with a medium length. Nose must be black. Muzzle should be about 4cm. (1 1/2") long, but not square. The length from the tip of the nose should be about 1/3 the total length of the skull.

### EYES

Dark, medium sized eyes, which are frontally placed - not large and full or small and sunken. No white should show at the base or top of the eye.

### MOUTH

Upper incisors should close just inside the lower - this is a reverse scissor bite. Incisors (teeth across the front) should be nearly in a straight line. Full dentition is desirable.

### NECK

Strong, well covered with a dense mane, which should be more pronounced in dogs than in bitches.

### FOREQUARTERS

Shoulder should be well laid back. Forelegs straight, heavily furnished with hair.

### BODY

The length from the point of shoulders to the point of buttocks should be slightly greater than the height at withers. The dog should be well ribbed, with a level top-line along back and strong loins.

### HINDQUARTERS

Well developed with good muscle, good angulation and heavily furnished. The hock when viewed from behind should be parallel and not too close together.

### FEET

Round and cat-like with good pads and well feathered.

### TAIL

Well feathered, carried well over back and high set, but not like a hook. There is often a kink at the end of the tail.

### COAT

Top coat heavy, straight and hard, but not woolly or silky and of a good length, with a dense undercoat.

### COLOURS

Golden, sandy, dark grizzle, brown, white, cream, black, particolour, black/white - just about any colour is acceptable. Prefer with darker tips on ears.

### SIZE

Ideal height is 25.4 cms. (10") at the shoulder for dogs, with bitches slightly smaller. (Weight is not mentioned specifically).