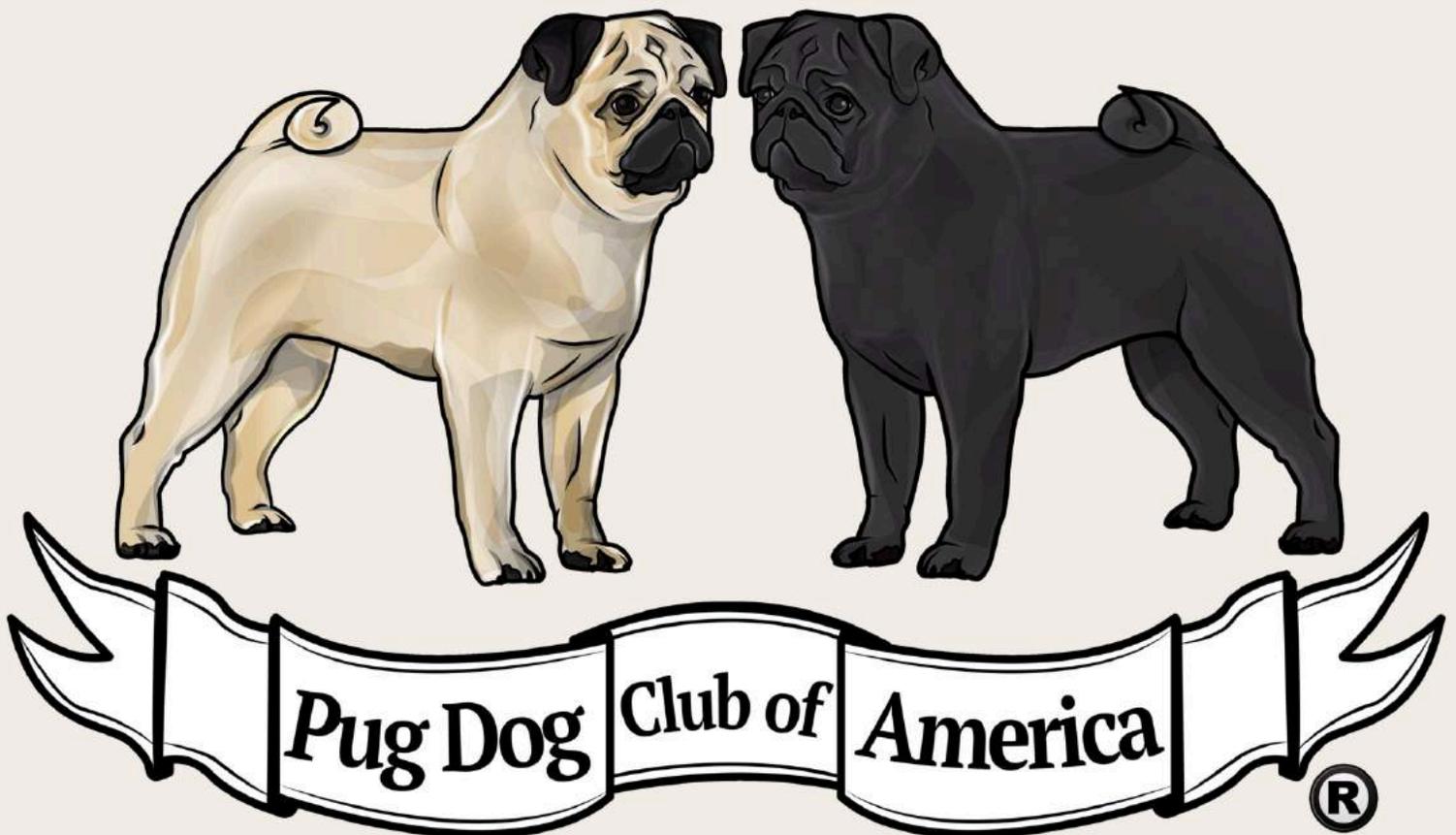


THE PUG ILLUSTRATED GUIDE

PRESENTED BY:



Bite

A Pug's bite should be slightly undershot (reverse scissor bite).

Very Undesirable

Teeth showing; wry mouth; lolling or peeking tongue.

Clarification

An overbite distorts the expression and sometimes gives a lippy, weak look. Too much underbite gives the face an uptilt. A lolling or peeking tongue is evidence of malocclusion (wry mouth) and should be penalized. Ideally, evenly spaced incisors insure proper breadth of chin and muzzle; a careful look at the teeth is not important unless the expression is in question.

The Judges Education Committee of the Pug Dog Club of America recommends the following procedure for examining the bite of a Pug:

Use your thumb to feel the bite. Do not pry the mouth open. Simply run your thumb over the front of the mouth and feel the very slight undershot bite. Please be careful to use the flat of your thumb and not block the nasal passages or gouge the gums with your nail.

***Junior Showmanship judges should simply ask the Junior to hold the head to the judge so that the judge can run his/her thumb over the mouth to check bite.*

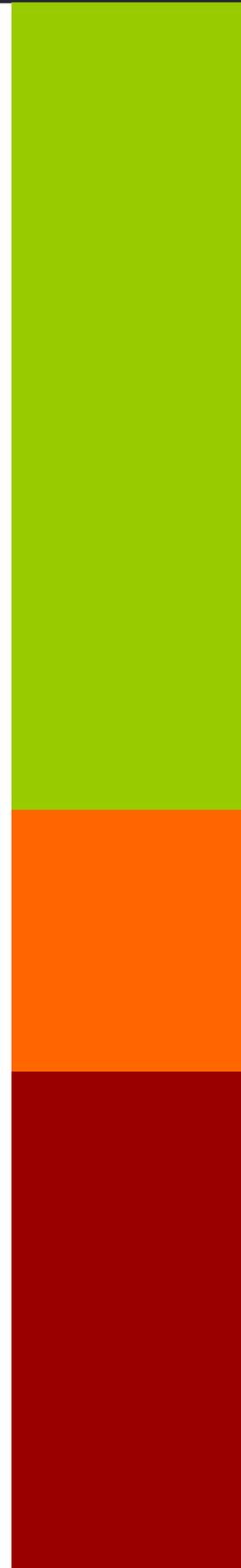
Pug Illustrated Guide



Correct Expression and Bite



Incorrect Expression and Bite (peeking tongue)



COAT

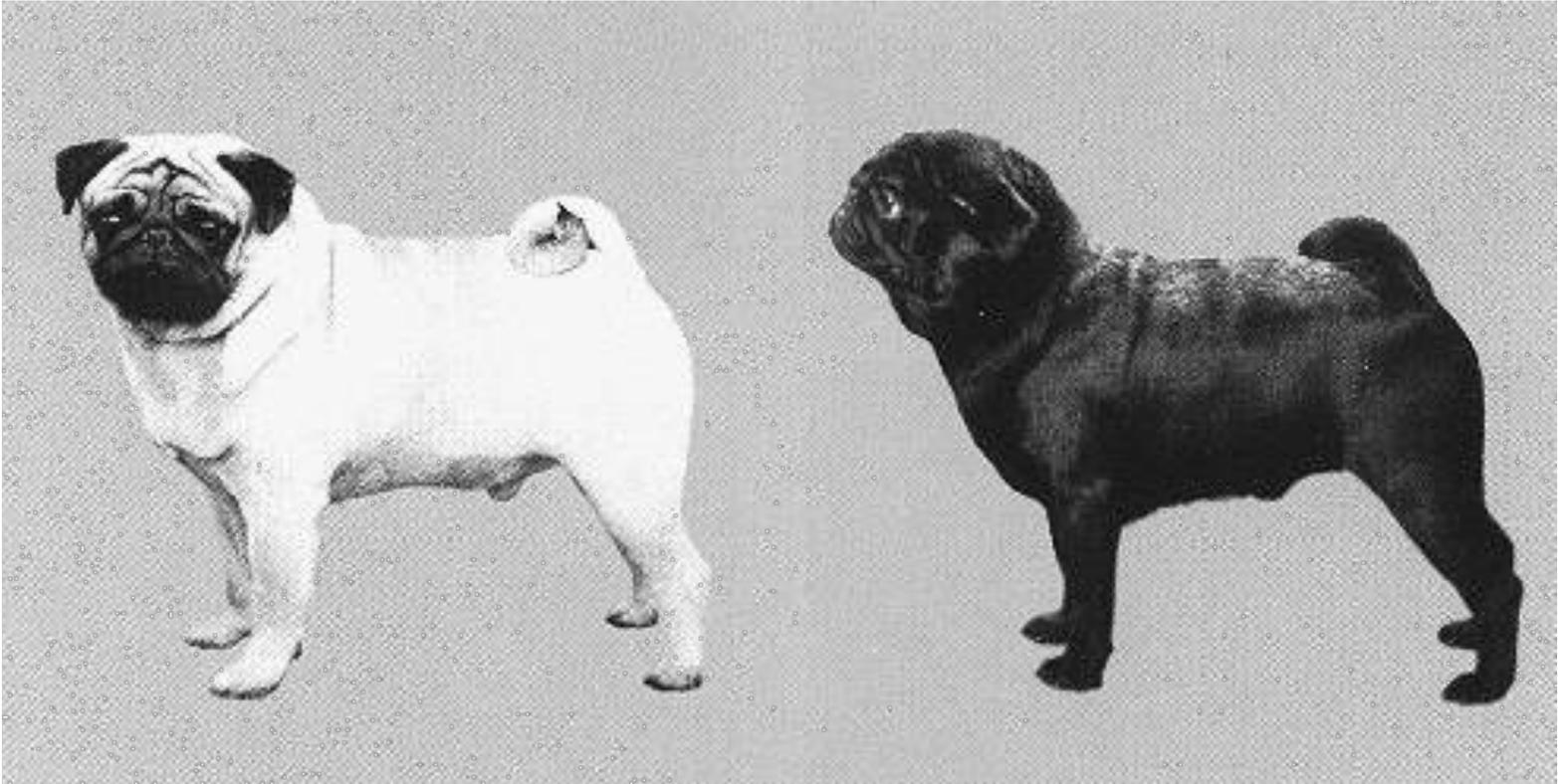


The coat is fine, smooth, soft, short and glossy, neither hard nor woolly.

Clarification

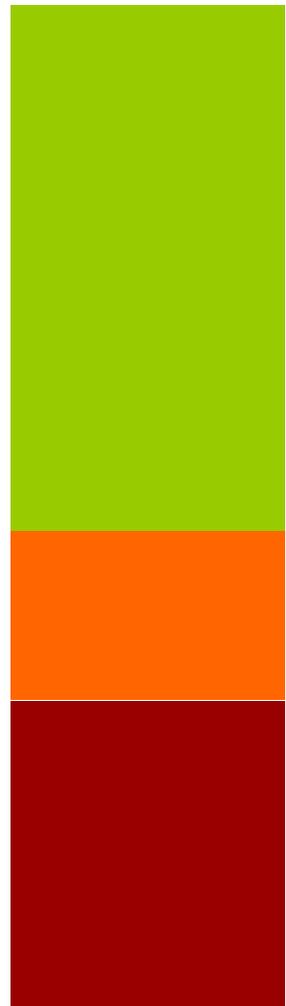
Single and double coats are both acceptable as long as they are not hard, long, or woolly. Guard hairs (when present) may be a little longer.

Pug Illustrated Guide



Correct Coat Type

Incorrect Expression and Bite (peeking tongue)



COLOR

The colors are fawn or black. The fawn color should be decided so as to make the contrast complete between the color and the trace and the mask.

Disqualification

Any color other than Fawn or Black.

Undesirable

Fawn: smuttiness; indistinctive colors; a ‘bleeding’ of the black areas into the fawn; broad saddles; white spots.

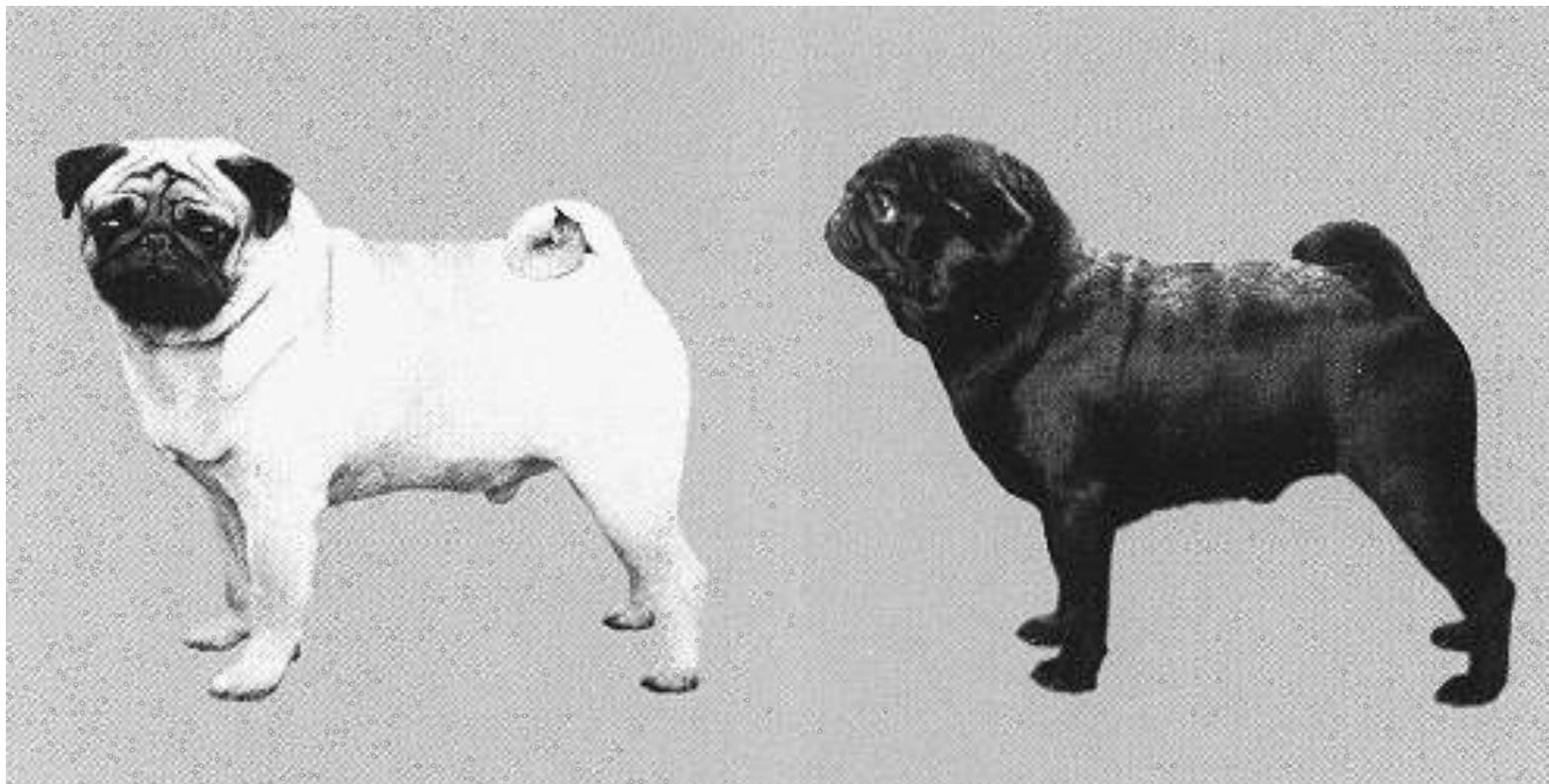
Black: grey or rusty cast; white spots.

Pugs should be judged with no preference for either fawn or black coat color. If the silhouettes are correct, the black Pug’s outline is an advantage over the fawn’s. If the silhouettes are equally faulty, the black will appear faulty to a greater degree. The black color also gives the optical illusion of finer bone, less substance, and smaller size. For this reason the judge must give particular attention to the black’s head and substance to ascertain that all necessary quality are present and are not overlooked. A few white hairs found on the chest of either fawn or black are permissible on an otherwise excellent specimen. As both colors age they may develop frosting on the muzzle. This should not be penalized.

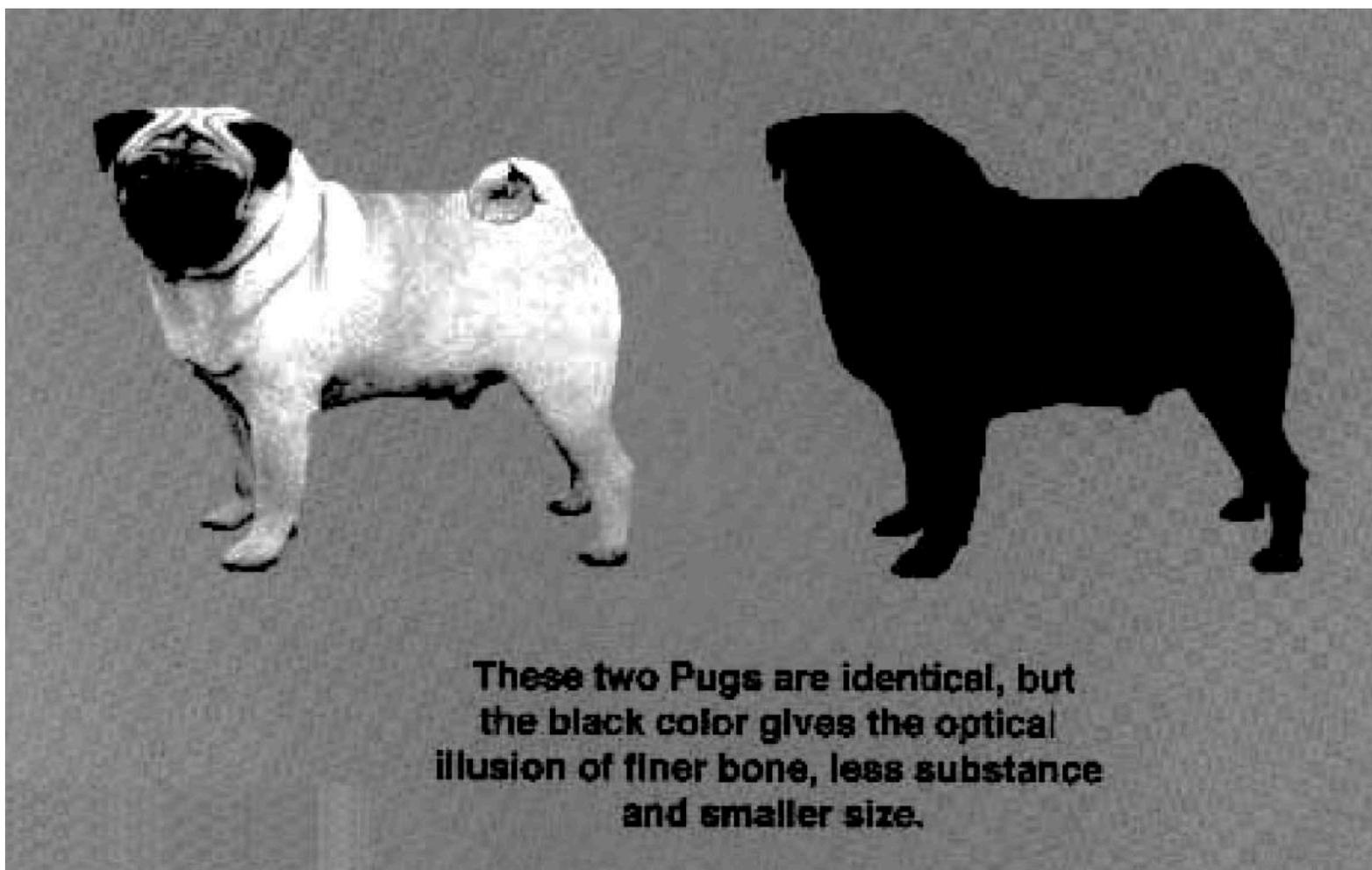
Clarification

Fawn is from apricot to silver and all shades between. The coat may, or may not, include black guard hairs. Smuttiness is when the coat has an overlay of black over the fawn. This usually does not cover the entire dog and sometimes it looks like a blanket over the back. There may also be darker coloring on the legs. Smuttiness is a fault not a disqualification.

Black is just that – black. Sometimes you will see a black Pug with a red cast to their coat. This is usually due to sunburn and is not a disqualification.



Correct Colors (fawn and black)



These two Pugs are identical, but the black color gives the optical illusion of finer bone, less substance and smaller size.

Correct Fawn and Black Pug Silhouettes

EARS

The ears thin, small, soft, like black velvet. There are two kinds – the “rose” and the “button”. Preference is given to the latter.

Undesirable

Flying button ears; light colored ears; ears set too high or too low; ears too thick or too large.

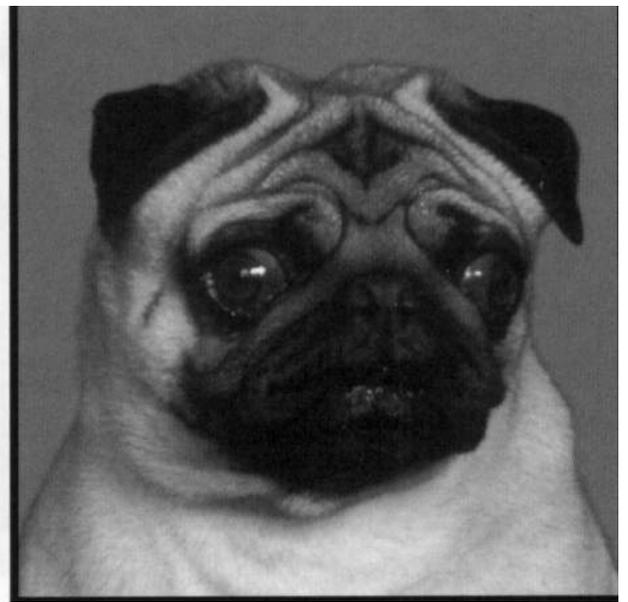
Clarification

The ears should be set wide on the head. The fold of the button ear is level with the top of the skull. When alert, the ear should not drop below the corner of the eye. The rose ear in the Pug appears smaller and is folded with the front edge against the side of the head (the inner burr should not show as it does in the Bulldog). Flying button ears are not rose ears. The rose ear is small and neat, and tends to give the head a smaller, more rounded look.

The size and shape of the ear should be in balance with the overall size and shape of the head. Both ears should be of the same type. Ears must be black.



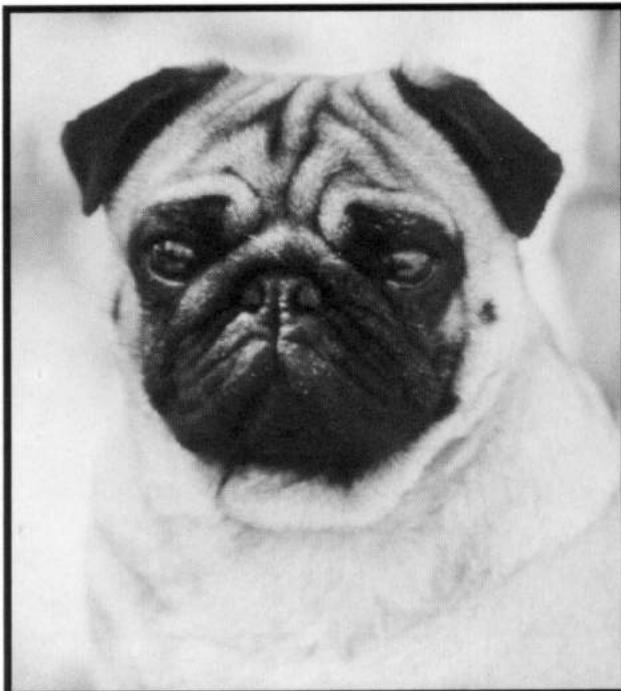
Correct (button ears)



Incorrect (too high)

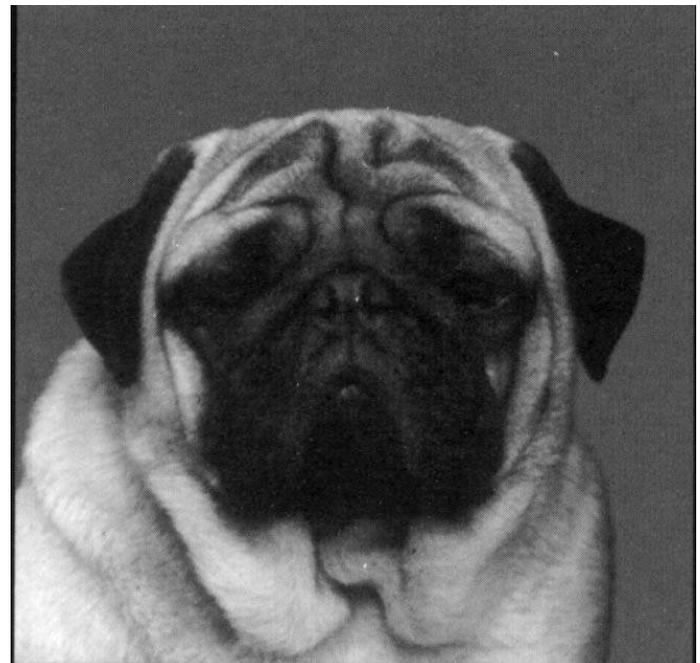


Incorrect (flying rose ears)



Incorrect (rose ears)

(right) Incorrect (too large and set low)



EYES

The eyes are dark in color, very large, bold and prominent, globular in shape, soft and solicitous in expression, very lustrous, and, when excited, full of fire.

Undesirable

White around the eyes; almond shaped, squinted, or bulging eyes; east-west, close-set, or high-set eyes.

Very Undesirable

Light colored or small eyes.

Clarification

A Pug's expression is largely dependent on its big, dark, appealing eyes. Eyes should be large, bold, and globular, but not bulging. At rest, the expression should be benign, intelligent and affectionate; when alert, the expression should be keen, curious, and very sparkling, showing a love of mischief.

While the standard makes no mention of eye position, it is accepted that the eyes should be set well apart. The center of the eyes should be in line with the top of the nose. Rims are black and usually encompassed by the black mask in the fawn Pug. East-west eyes are sometimes found, especially in young puppies. Expression (size, shape, and color of eyes) is the primary consideration.

Large, dark, soft and set well apart and in line globular eyes with top of nose



Correct

Small, almond shaped, close-set and high-set eyes, bulging east-west eyes



Incorrect

Feet and Pasterns

The pasterns are strong, neither steep nor down.

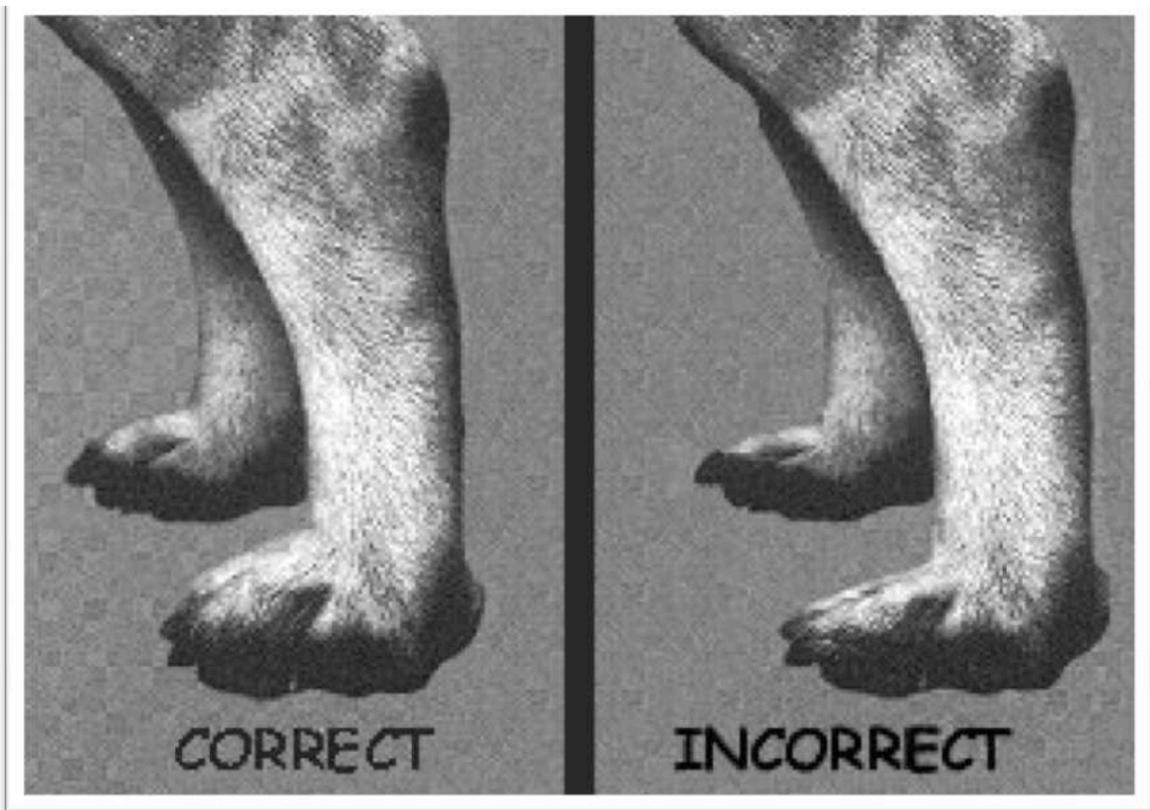
The feet are neither so long as the foot of the hare, nor so round as that of the cat; well split -up toes, and the nails black. Dewclaws are generally removed.

Undesirable

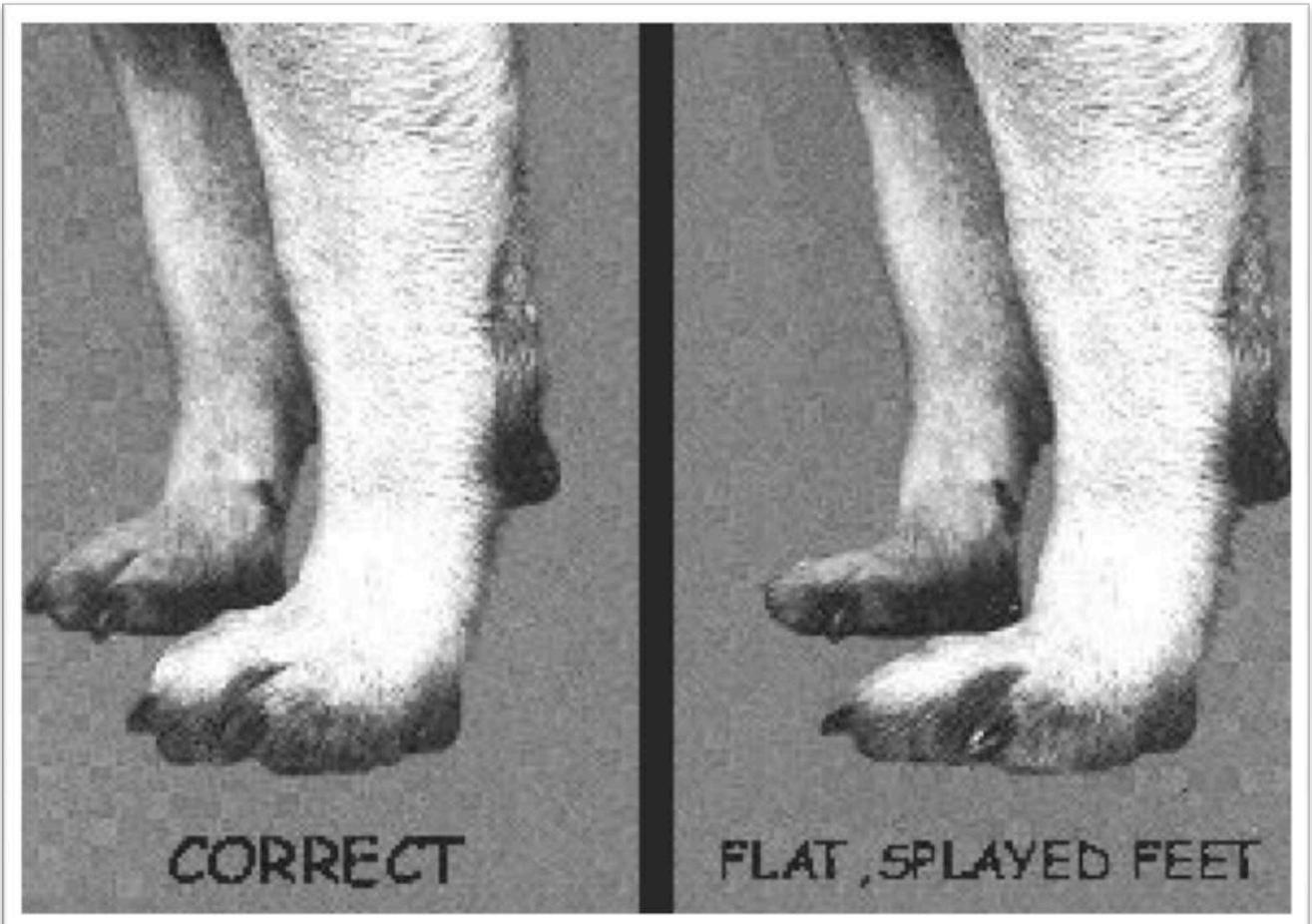
Straight or broken down pasterns; flat feet; splayed feet; white nails.

Clarification

A Pug's feet are more oval than round with well split-up toes and thick pads. The nails are black.



Correct Feet (left) and Incorrect Feet (right)



Correct Feet (left) and Incorrect Feet (right)

FOREQUARTERS

The legs are very strong straight of moderate length and are set well under.

The elbows should be directly under the withers when viewed from the side.

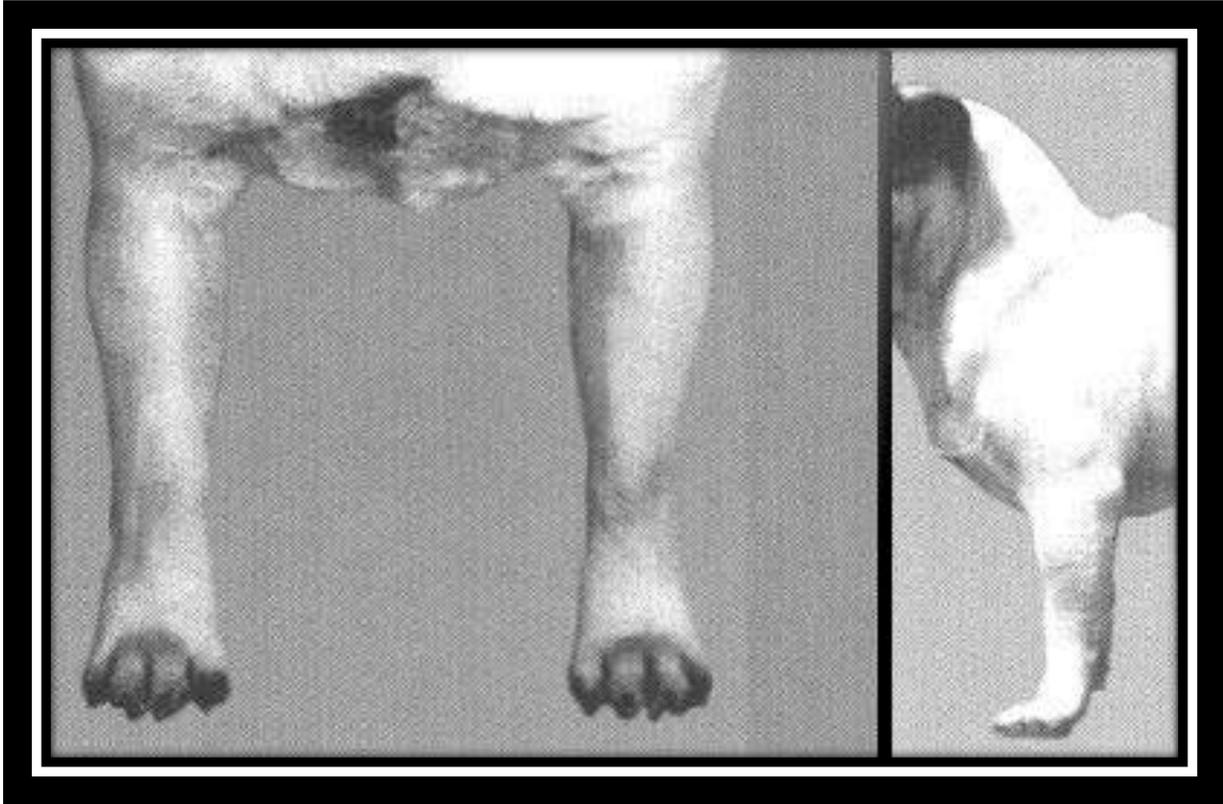
The shoulders are moderately laid back.

Undesirable

Steep shoulders; short upper arms; fiddle front; bone too fine or overdone; legs too short or too long; lack of forechest.

Clarification

“Very strong” means substantial bone and hard muscle. Viewed from the front, legs must come straight down from elbow. Some pugs have a muscle buildup on the outside of the forelegs which is permissible only if the inside lining of the leg is straight. The pug should never give the impression of a bowed front. Viewed from the side, elbows should lie close to the ribs. The back of the elbow should be directly under the point of the withers, thus setting the legs ” well under “. The chest should be rounded out past the point of shoulder.



Correct Front and Shoulder

GAIT

Viewed from the front, the forelegs should be carried well forward, showing no weakness in the pasterns, the paws landing squarely with the central toes straight ahead. The rear action should be strong and free through hocks and stifles, with no twisting or turning in or out at the joints. The hind legs should follow in line with the front. There is a slight natural convergence of the limbs both fore and aft. A slight roll of the hindquarters typifies the gait which should be free, self-assured, and jaunty.

Clarification

The Pug should be moved at a collected trot on a loose lead as befits a companion dog. Long, sweeping strides as in a Sporting dog would not be characteristic of a dog with the build of a Pug. The slight “convergence of the limbs” occurs as speed increases.



Correct



Incorrect
pulling,
close movement



Correct



Incorrect
spread hocks,
bandy



Correct



Incorrect
too short



Incorrect
too long



Incorrect
tuckney



Incorrect
pacing

Pug Movement

GENERAL APPEARANCE

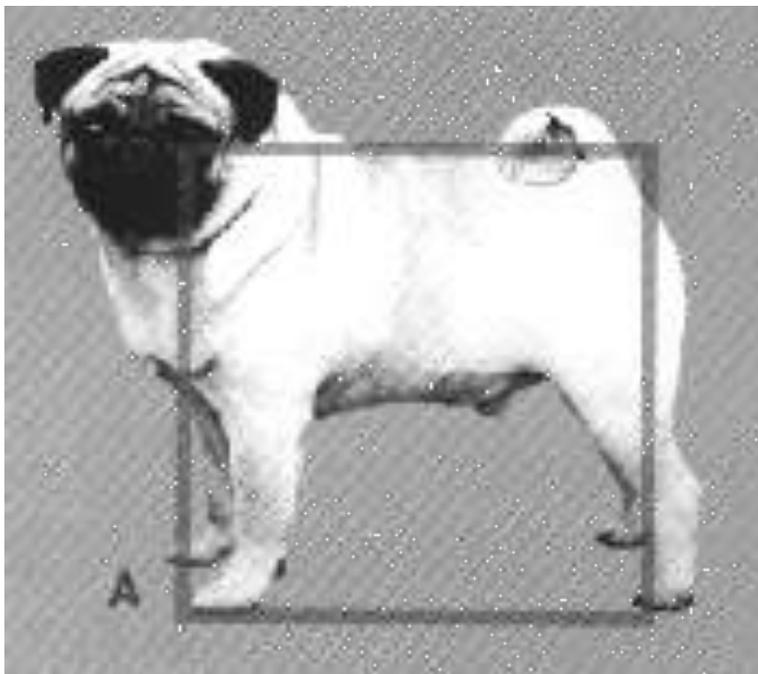
Symmetry and general appearance are decidedly square and cobby. A lean, leggy Pug and a dog with short legs and a long body are equally objectionable.

Undesirable

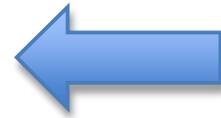
A lean, leggy, terrier-type Pug or one with short legs and a long body.

Clarification

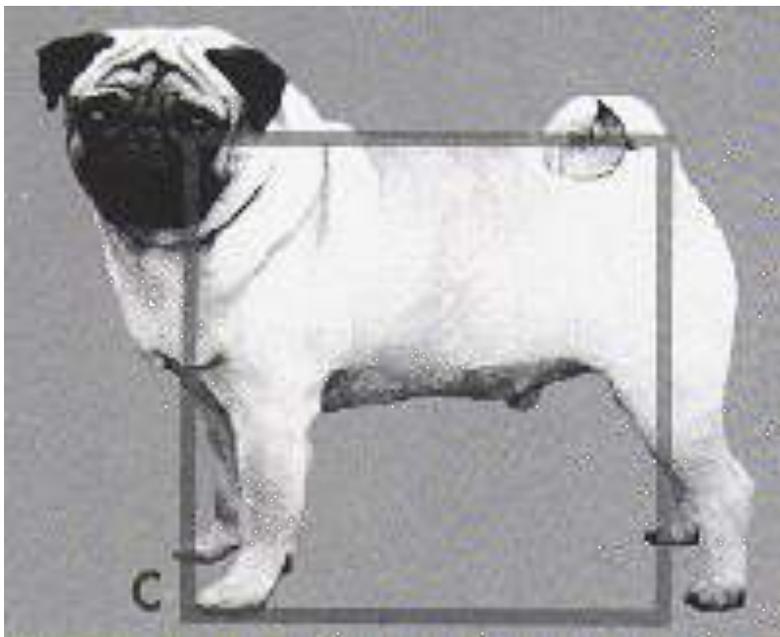
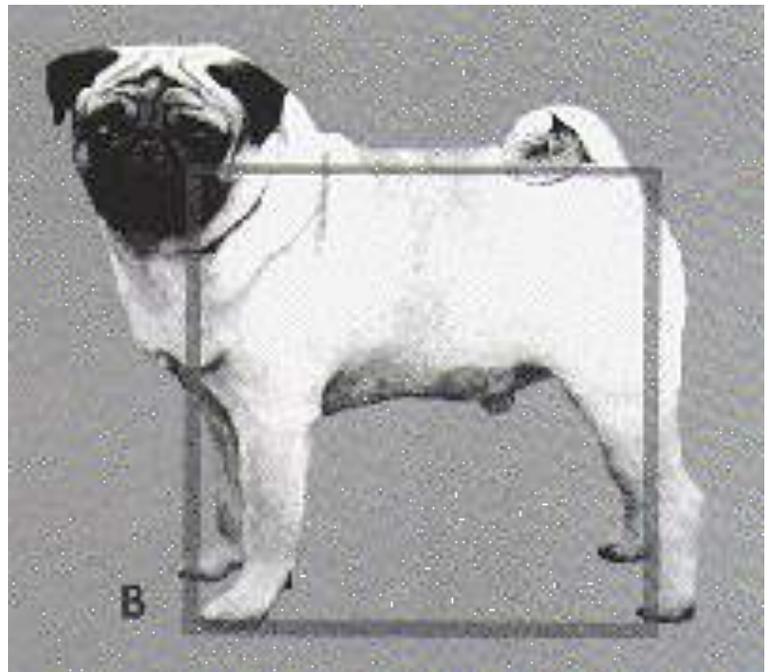
The Pug should give a strong impression of squareness when viewed from any angle. Cobby means short bodied, thickset and square. All of the parts must fit together to form a harmonious unit. The most important concept to remember is square.



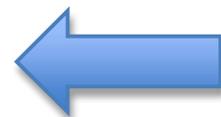
Correct
(decidedly short and cobby)



Incorrect
(too high on leg)



Incorrect
(too long in body)



HEAD

The head is large, massive, round- not apple-headed, with no indentation of the skull.

Undesirable

Domed skull; lack of balance; upfaced; protruding nose.

Clarification

The head should be broad and round when viewed from the front and flat when viewed from the side, neither upfaced (too much chin) nor down faced (not enough chin). A large head is essential but a head so large as to be out of balance with the rest of the dog is as unappealing as a small head. The Pug's head must be in proportion to the whole dog.



Correct Head



CORRECT ROUND HEAD

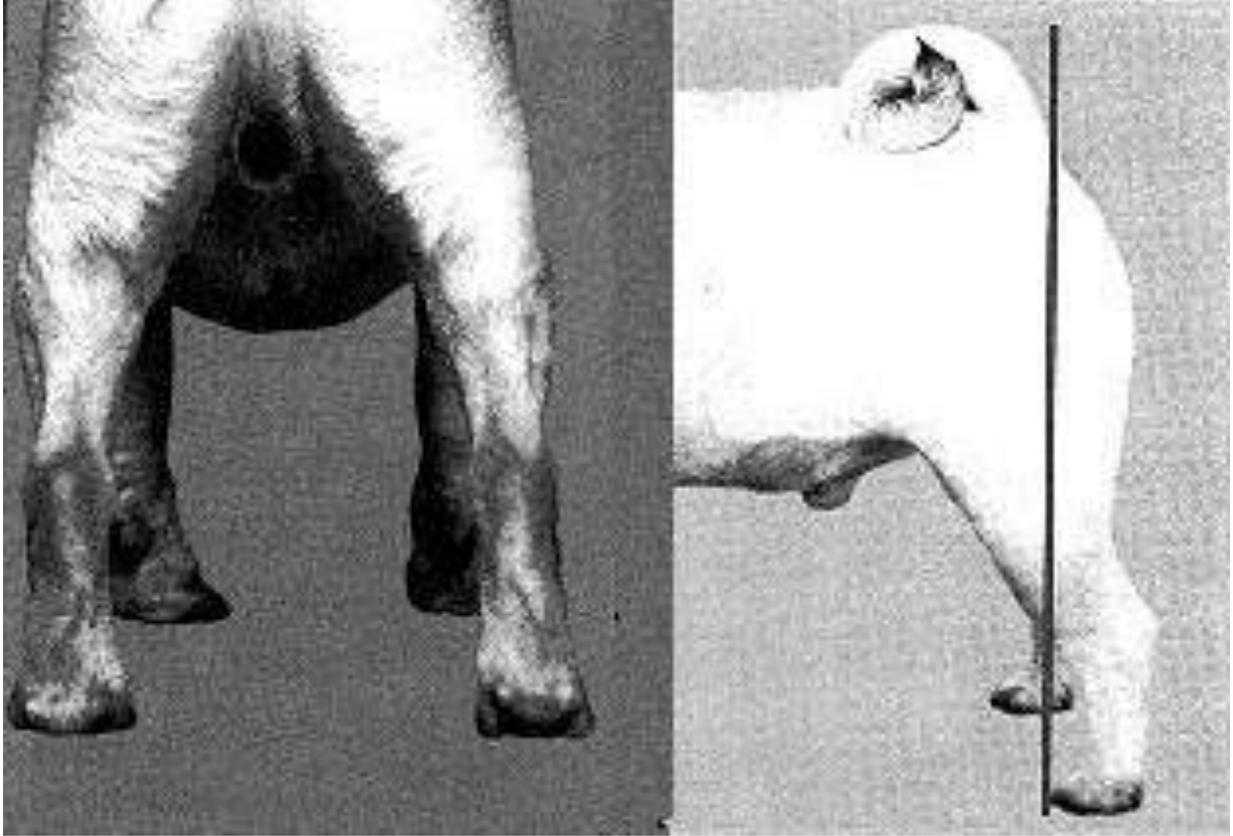
The nose is set approximately level with the jaws. Firm lipline, thick cushion under eyes and deep underjaw. this muzzle would have the correct bite. Wrinkles do not disguise the round broad skull and full cheeks.



INCORRECT RECTANGULAR

Eyes are set above the nose pad. Muzzle falls away under the eyes. Muzzle is lippy and may cover a narrow or shallow underjaw. This head type often conceals a length of nose and a scissors bite. Wrinkles disguise a narrow skull and a lack of flesh in the cheeks. This dog also lacks black pigment. Ears are large with thick leathers and hang well below the eyes.

HINDQUARTERS



(above) correct

The strong, powerful hindquarters have moderate bend of stifle and short hocks perpendicular to the ground. The legs are parallel when viewed from behind. The hindquarters are in balance with the forequarters. The thighs and buttocks are full and muscular. Feet as in front.

Undesirable: Straight or exaggerated stifles; fine or overdone bone; legs too short or too long; cow hocks; toeing in or out; thin thighs; narrow rear; (pear-shaped).

Clarification: Pugs should have strong, powerful hindquarters. They should have large, full, muscular thighs and buttocks with a moderate bend of stifle and short hocks. The hocks should not extend much beyond the point of the rump and should be perpendicular to the ground. Viewed from above, the rear should be approximately as wide as the shoulders.

MARKINGS

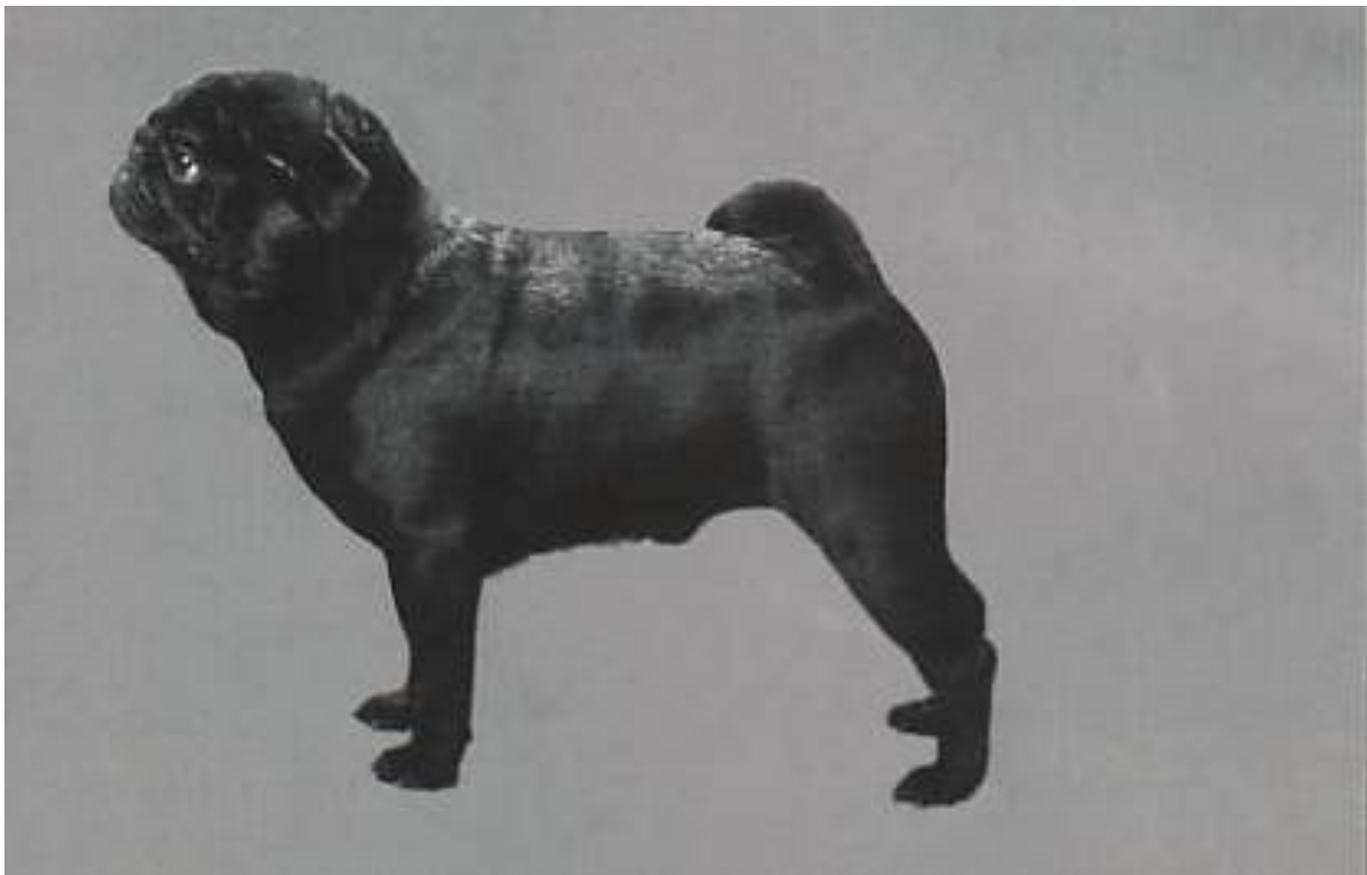
The markings are clearly defined. The muzzle or mask, ears, moles on cheeks, thumb mark or diamond on forehead, and the back trace should be as black as possible. The mask should be black. The more intense and well defined it is, the better. The trace is a black line extending from the occiput to the tail.

Undesirable

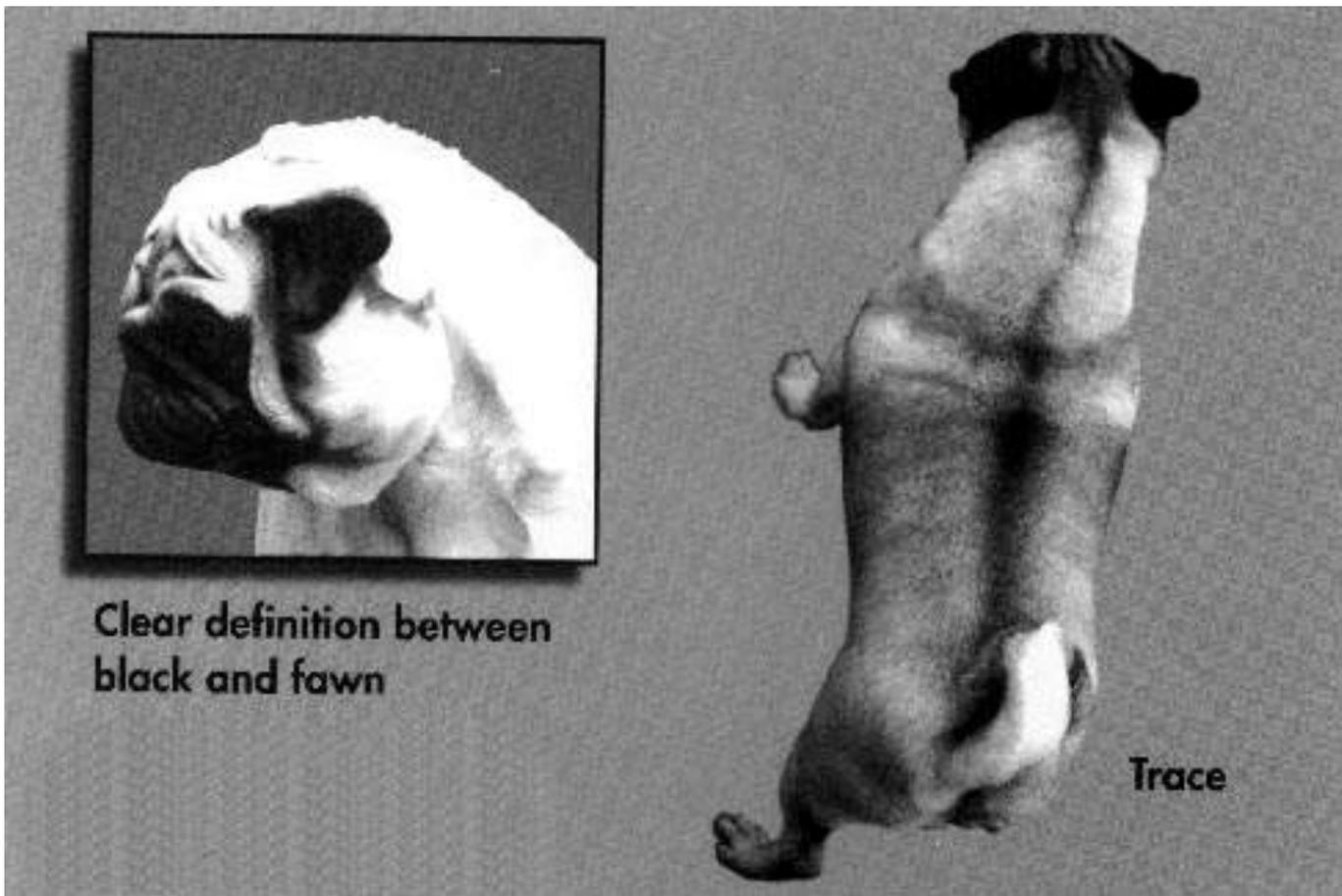
Fawn: lack of distinct demarcation (bleeding) between black and fawn areas; pale or washed-out pigment in the black points.

Clarification

Fawn: This portion of the Standard refers only to the fawn colored Pug. The mask should be as black as possible. There must be a distinct separation between the black markings and the fawn, not a gradual smutty shading from one to other. Ears should be densely black to the base. The moles on the cheeks should be noticeably black. The diamond or thumb mark, which is called for in the Standard, is not always seen. Ideally, the fawn head wrinkles appear to be ‘outlined’ in black, which sets off the thumb mark. The trace is a narrow dark line that extends along the spine from the occiput to the tail. This characteristic has largely disappeared. Today, a trace may best be defined as a definite darkening of coat color along the spine. The trace should never be confused with saddling or smut.



Correct Black Pug Markings (none)



Correct Fawn Pug Markings

MUZZLE

The muzzle is short, blunt, square, but not upfaced.

Clarification

The muzzle, being approximately one-half of the face, is extremely important. It should be as flat as possible when viewed in profile. The cushioning of the muzzle should appear to be equal to the width of the skull. The underjaw is wide and deep and creates a definite chin. The upper lips should be full but not so long as to hide the chin or hang below the jaw. The muzzle should neither fall away under the eyes nor distort head balance into an elongated rectangle.



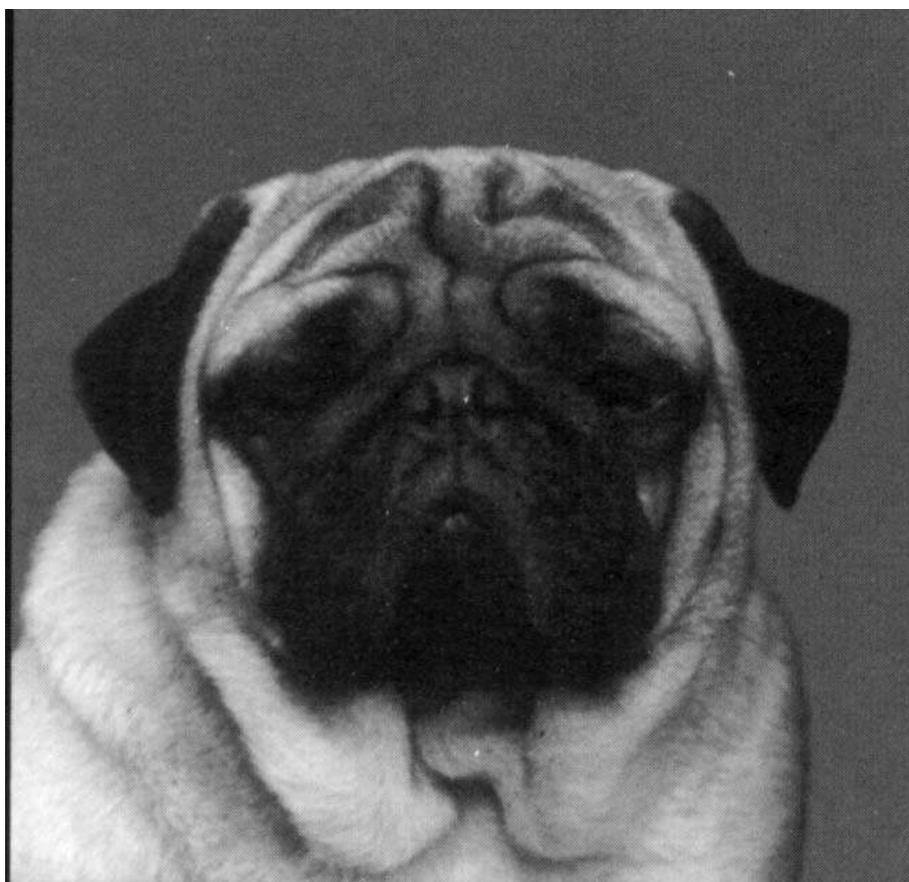
Correct (wide muzzle and good fill under eyes)



Correct Pug Profile



Correct (wide muzzle
and good fill under eyes)

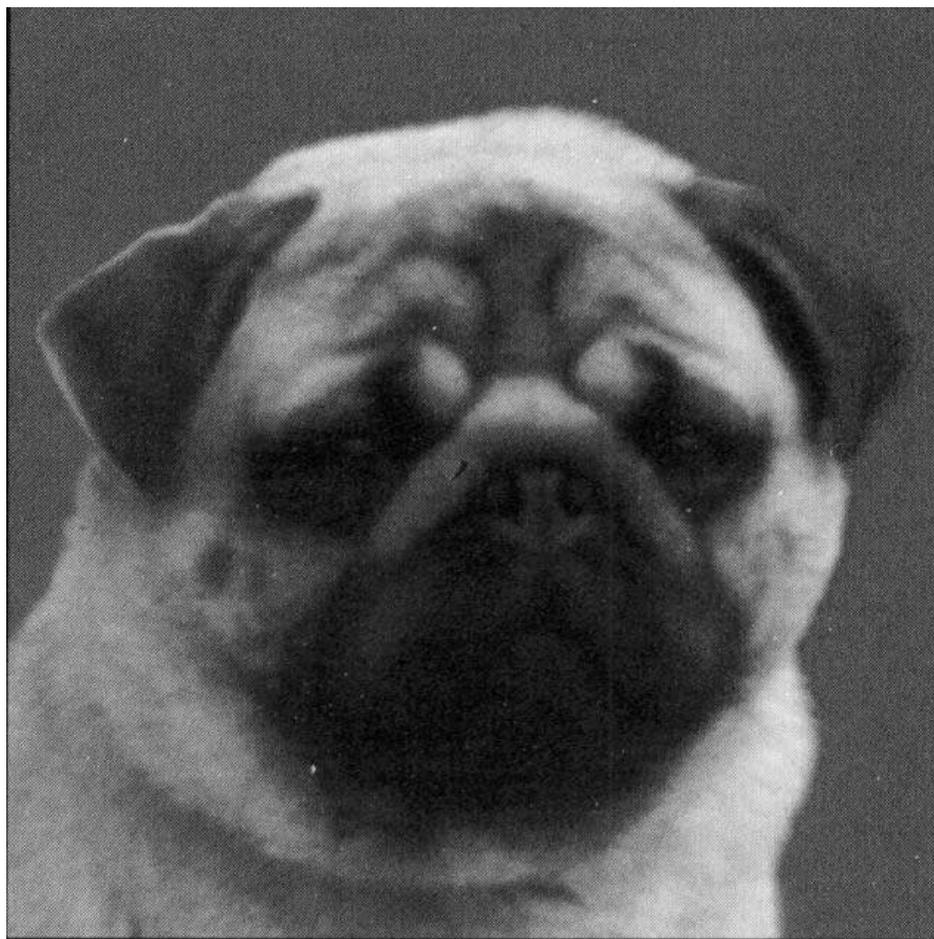


Incorrect (too lippy)

MUZZLE



Incorrect (face not flat and too lippy)



Incorrect (falls away under eyes)

NECK

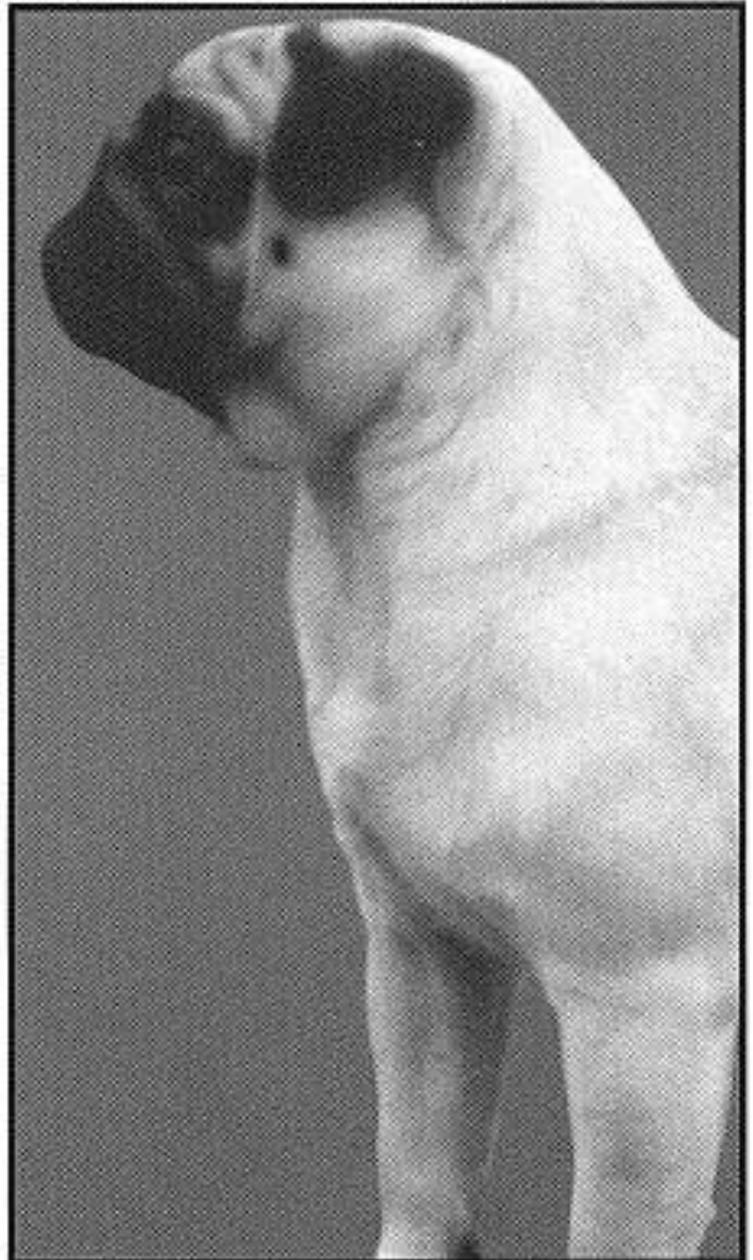
The neck is slightly arched.
It's strong, thick, and with
enough length to carry the
head proudly.

Undesirable

Thin neck ; neck too long or
too short; tight skin.

Clarification

A strong, well muscled neck
should have a slight rise or
crest behind the skull and
should increase in breadth as it
blends smoothly into the
shoulders. The position of the
shoulder blade in relation to
the backbone determines the
appearance of neck length. The
skin on the neck should be
loose but fit smoothly.



Correct Neck

NOSE

Although the standard does not mention the nose, a short discussion is necessary. The nose is black, wide, and lies flat, bisecting the eyes. The stop is concealed by an overnose wrinkle. An unbroken wrinkle over the bridge of the nose unifies the face. A skimpy or split nose roll on an otherwise splendid specimen is permissible.

Undesirable: Dudley or butterfly nose; pinched nostrils; split or lack of nose roll.

Clarification: Pugs labeled “correct” have the correct nose and nose roll. Pugs labeled “incorrect” have too much nose, a low set nose, and a split nose wrinkle. These traits are less desirable.

Below: Correct Nose and Nose Roll





Above & Below: Incorrect
(split roll with long and low set nose)



SCALE OF POINTS

Although the Scale of Points is no longer in our AKC Pug Standard, it is useful for both the breeder and the judge. It is a guide in evaluating the various aspects of the Pug. It should not be used in a literal or mathematical manner to consider individual parts above the dogs overall quality. Balance, condition and zest all contribute to make the Pug far more than merely the sum of his parts.

SCALE OF POINTS

	Fawn	Black
Symmetry	10	10
Size	5	10
Condition	5	5
Body	10	10
Legs and Feet	5	5
Head	5	5
Muzzle	10	10
Ears	5	5
Eyes	10	10
Mask	5	-
Wrinkles	5	5
Tail	10	10
Trace	5	-
Coat	5	5
Color	5	10
TOTAL	100	100

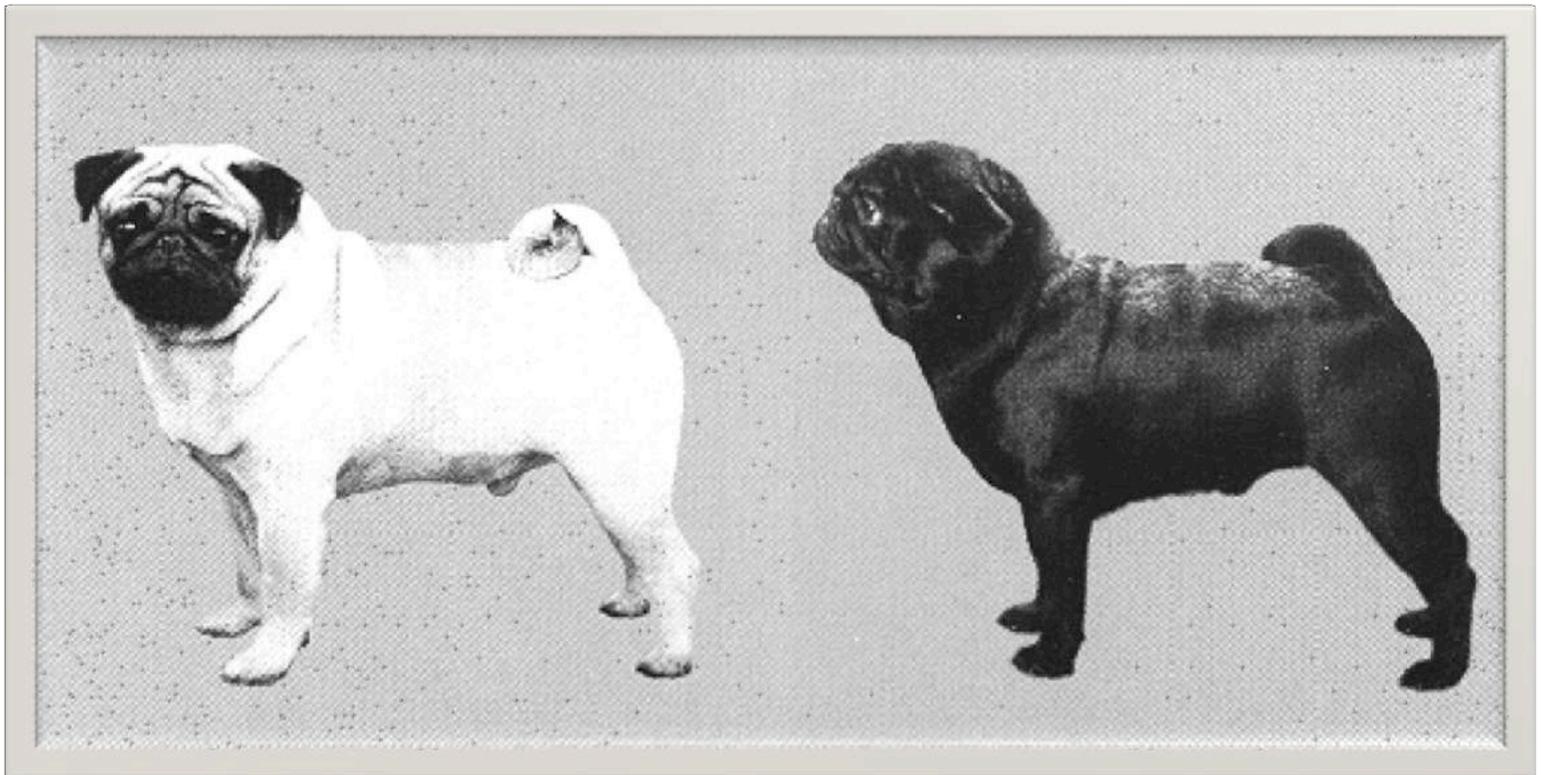
SIZE, PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE

The Pug should be *multum in parvo*, and this condensation (if the word may be used) is shown by compactness of form, well knit proportions, and hardness of muscle. Weight from 14 to 18 pounds (dog or bitch) desirable. Proportions square.

Undesirable: Excessively large or diminutive. Lacking in muscle tone

Clarification: The Latin phrase *multum in parvo*, translates as 'a lot in a little.' Pugs that are either fat or weedy are undesirable. Muscle must be sufficiently developed to permit sound movement .

The Standard describes size in only terms of weight. The Pug's weight has to be in proportion to it's height and bone. However, weight varies considerably according to body structure and density so that two Pugs of exactly the same measurements can vary as much by as much as three pounds. The Pug should be evaluated by it's bone, muscle and cobbiness in relation to it's size and estimated weight. Keep in mind that the Pug is a toy breed.



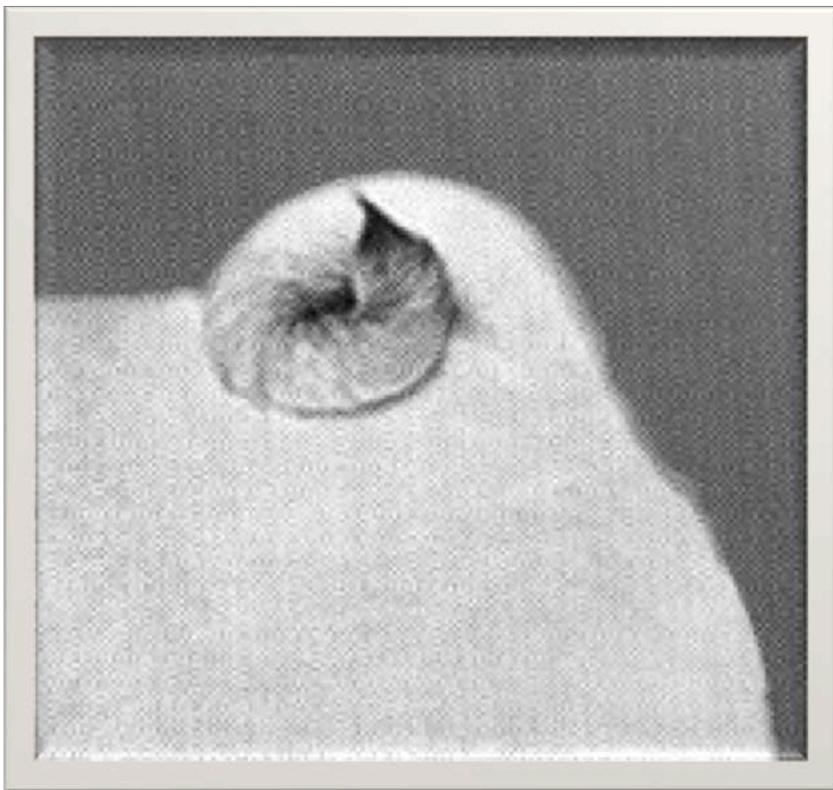
Correct (balanced and compact)

TAIL

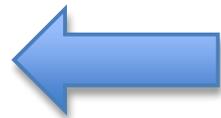
The tail is curled as tightly as possible over the hip. The double curl is perfection.

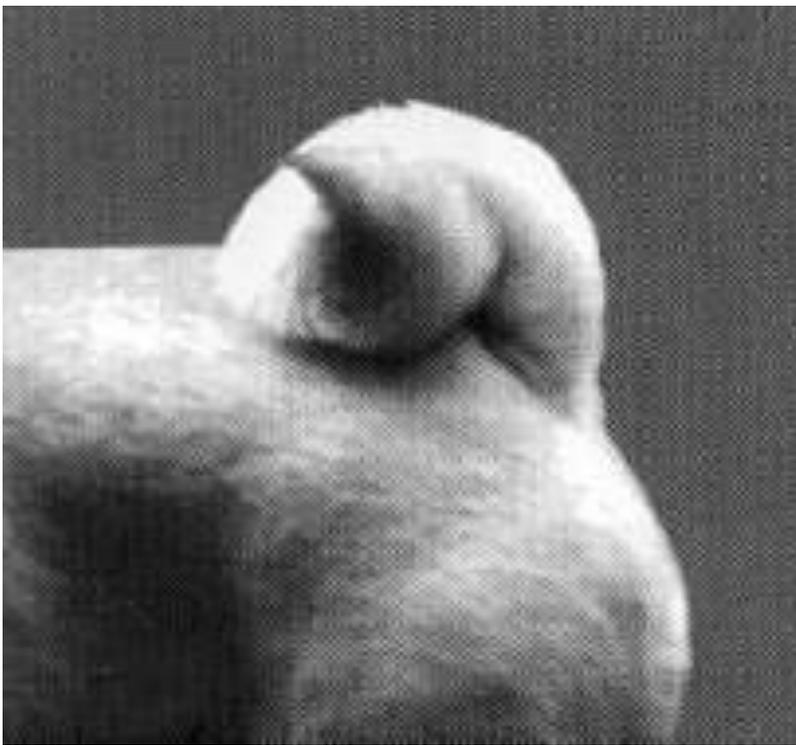
Undesirable: A floppy, loose curl not carried tight to the body; less than a single curl: low tail set; tail too thin; tail carried uncurled.

Clarification: The tail is another very distinctive Pug characteristic. It must be set well up on the back. A double curl is perfect, but a tight single or half twist should not be faulted. Although the Standard states that the tail be carried over the hip, it is now generally accepted that it may be carried on top of the back as well.



Correct Tail
(Set High and Tight)

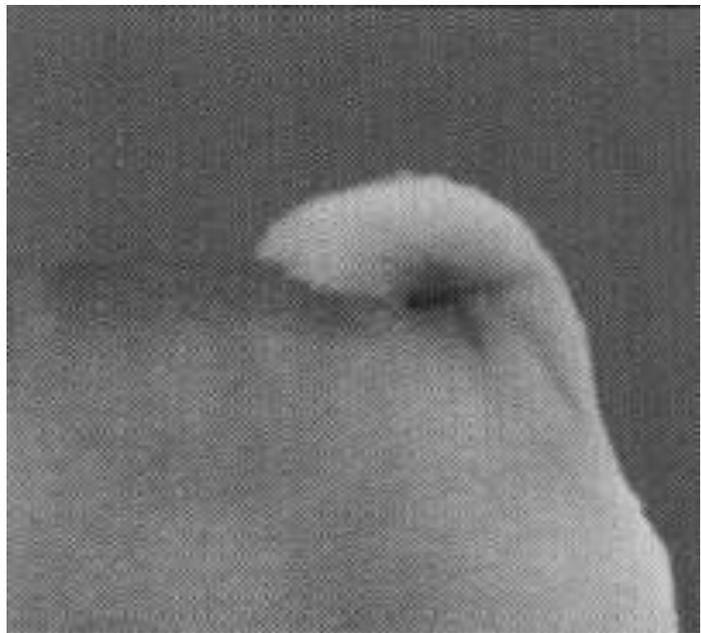




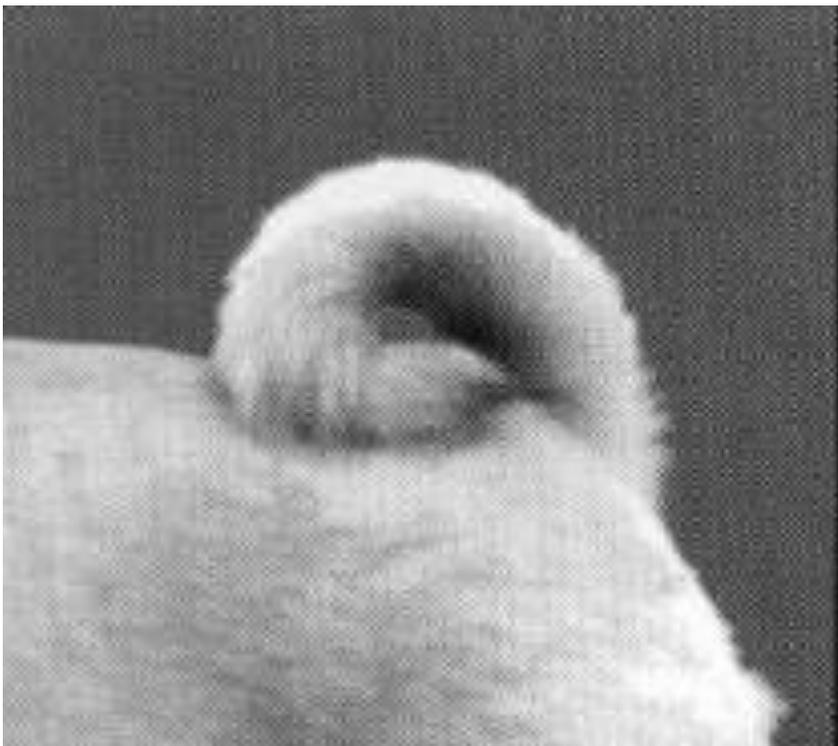
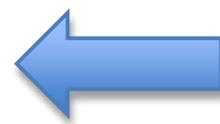
Incorrect Tail
(Double Curl but Set Low)



Incorrect Tail
(Tight but Moderately Low)



Incorrect Tail
(Set Low and Loose)



TEMPERAMENT

This is an even-tempered breed, exhibiting stability, playfulness, great charm, dignity, and an outgoing, loving disposition. Clarification: Pugs are outgoing, boisterous on occasion, gaily mischievous, stubborn, willful, and self-confident. The Pug is a cheerful, amiable little soul who exhibits high spirits and loves to play, but is not nervous or high strung. Pugs can be good alarm dogs and are very patient with children. The exhibition of their naturally high spirits in the ring should be considered favorably, whereas indications of shyness, nervousness, or aggressiveness toward dogs or people (other than in play) are unusual and unacceptable.

Sex Differences

Although the Pug Standard does not explore the differences in appearance between dogs and bitches, it should be well defined. Dogs should appear masculine and bitches feminine.

The male Pug is, on average, somewhat larger, with more bone and a larger, more wrinkled head. Although bitches tend to be smaller than dogs, they should always be in proportion, neither weedy nor lacking in head. While breed characteristics are more pronounced in the male they should not be overdone or coarse. The bitch shows femininity without weakness or over-refinement. There is little difference in temperament between male and female.

Grooming

The Pug is a natural dog. By this it is meant that very little exterior grooming is required to keep the Pug clean, neat, and in show condition. A bath, a nail clipping, a trim of the britches (if desired) and the Pug is ready for the ring. Removal of whiskers is optional. A Pug is shown in his natural state.



Pugs are loving,
playful and
devoted
companions.

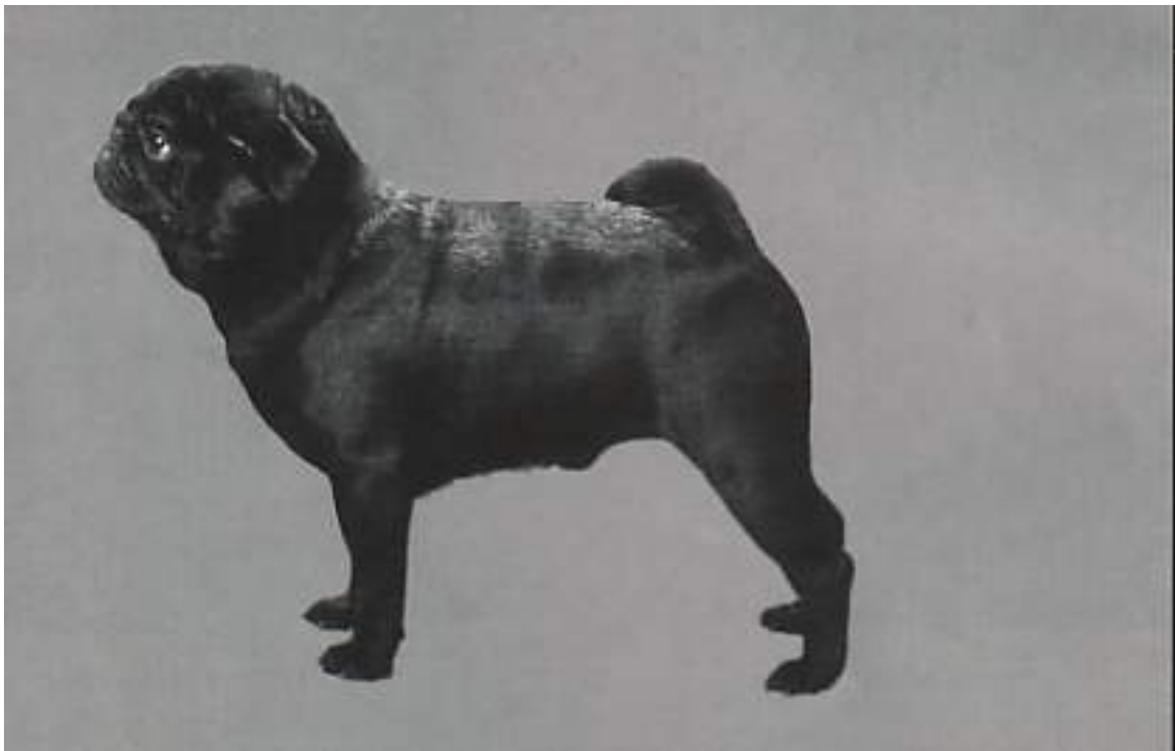


TOPLINE & BODY

The short back is level from the withers to the high tail set. The body is short and cobby, wide in chest and well ribbed up.

Undesirable: Low at the shoulders; roach or sway back; sloping croup; narrow chest; tuck-up; lean, rangey body; slabsides; pigeon breast; too fat or too soft; skin either too tight or overdone.

Clarification: The body should give a strong impression of thick-set squareness. The appearance of a short back is most desirable. Elbows should fit close to the body and should turn neither in nor out while the Pug is standing or moving. The topline should be level from withers to tail should be set high. The underline should continue the cobby appearance with no obvious tuck-up. A well ribbed-up Pug will have a broad chest with the sternum protruding forward of the front assembly; however, an abnormal projection of the breastbone (pigeon-breast) is undesirable. Moderate loose skin down the back is a matter of personal preference: the structure under the skin is the primary concern.



Correct Topline and Body

WRINKLES

The wrinkles are large and deep.

Clarification: The head wrinkles are important to the breed's typical expression. The wrinkles of the forehead should be deep and, in fans, set off by a darkening within the folds of the wrinkles. Wrinkles can, however, conceal an incorrect skull shape. To properly judge the head, the lead should be dropped so the head is up naturally and the bone structure can be examined more easily. The surplus skin under the throat and around the face form a large fold and ruff.



(above) Correct Head and Skull

(left) Correct Head and Skull at Repose

