

GRIFFON BRUXELLOIS



With special thanks to various
photographers especially Michael
Trafford, Barbara Kilworth, Mark
Haseldine and Frank Pieterse

By Lee Pieterse

GENERAL APPEARANCE

- A cobby well balanced, square little dog, giving appearance of measuring the same from withers to tail root as from withers to ground



Too fine in bone &
body – off type



Cobby - correct

CHARACTERISTICS

- Smart little dog with disposition of a terrier. Two varieties rough coated, Griffon Bruxellois and smooth coated, Petit Brabancon.

Both with pert, monkey-like expression, heavy for size.

- TEMPERAMENT: Lively and alert

A shy or sad griffon with it's tail down should not be awarded any prize. Temperament is a large part of 'Type' in Griffons



HEAD AND SKULL

- Head fairly large in comparison to body, rounded but in no way domed, moderately wide between the ears. Hair on skull, in roughs rather coarse. Nose black, with large wide-open nostrils and definite stop between muzzle and skull. Relatively short, wide muzzle, neat lips, with good turn-up. Chin prominent, in roughs furnished with beard.



■ rounded but in no way domed

Domed - incorrect



*Correct – see
the flatter bit
in the middle?*



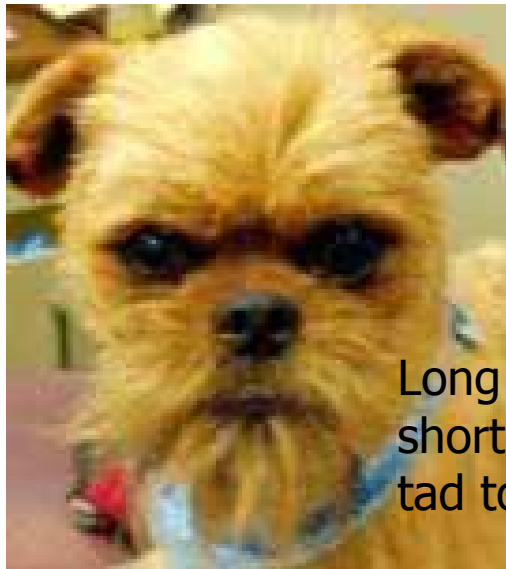
■ Relatively short, wide muzzle



Affenpinscher with perfect equilateral triangle proportion between nose tip and outside eye corners.



Griffon muzzles should not be so short as to be recessed into the skull – they need SOME muzzle



Long low nose – too short for Affen and a tad too long for Griffon





Too long in muzzle –
more Affenpinscher type

This is not a
prominent
Chin – it is
Blunt muzzle
– not correct
in a Griffon



This is TOO
prominent and the
bite will be too
undershot



■ Chin prominent



correct



EYES

- **Black-rimmed, very dark, round, clear and well spaced. Moderately large; size should be in proportion to size of skull. Alert expression.**



Too bulging and too east/west, and showing too much white.

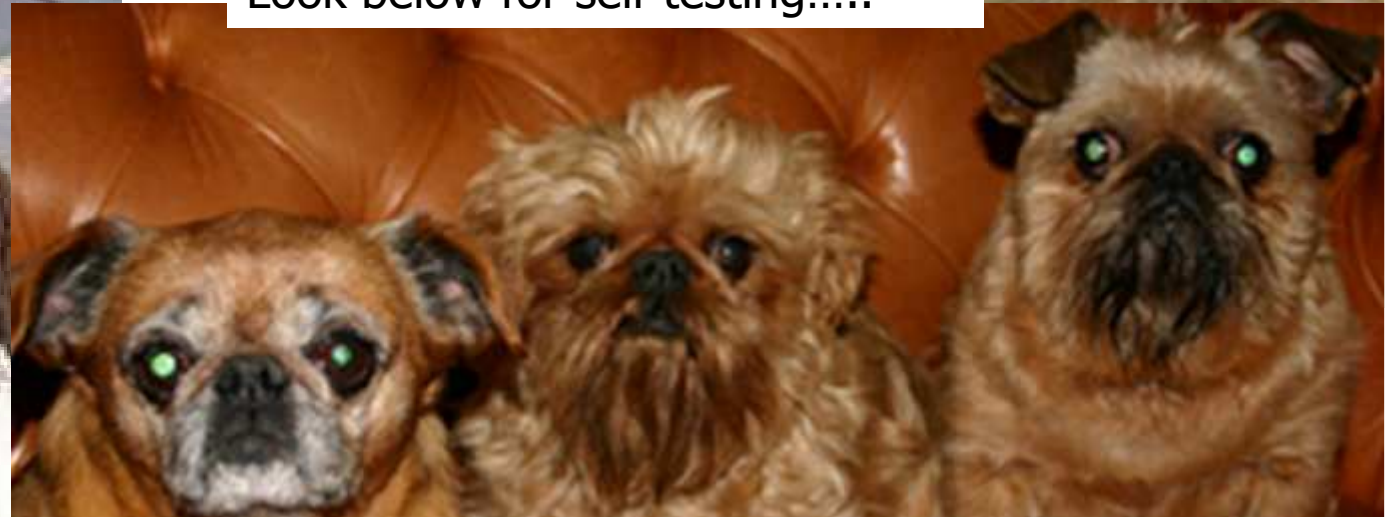
Correct eyes



Small eyes



Look below for self testing.....



Ears

- Semi erect, high set, the smaller the better.



Very good



Rosed but OK

Tip of ear should not hang below eye corner



Low set and too large

EARS

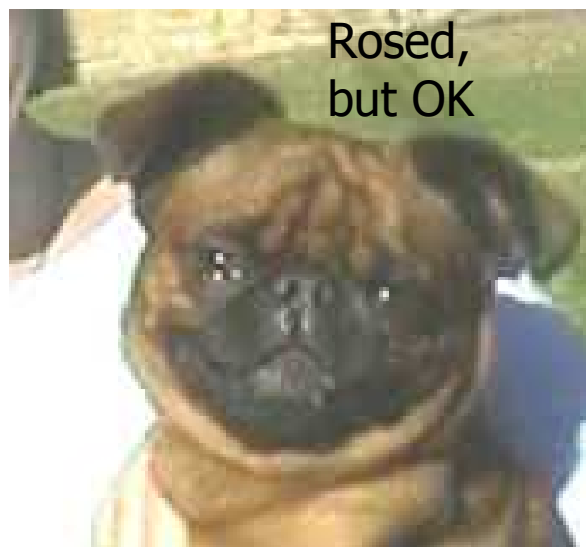
- Semi-erect, high set, the smaller the better



excellent



Large/low –
tips below eye corner



Rosed,
but OK



Really large and
off type – no 'lift' at
'seton'

NOSE



always black, with large, open nostrils

PINCHED!!!!

Withhold on
this!!!



The larger and more open the nostrils the better, narrow nostrils, or any difficulty in breathing should be heavily penalised

At right – the best nostrils are at the top and as you go down, they get less impressive

Puppies noses start out low and as they grow appear to travel upwards



Puppy placement (would be too low if on adult)



good/excellent nose placement



Mouth

- Slightly undershot with even teeth, not showing teeth or tongue



These are **not** 'hanging tongues' – just panting dogs, mouths open – that is normal.

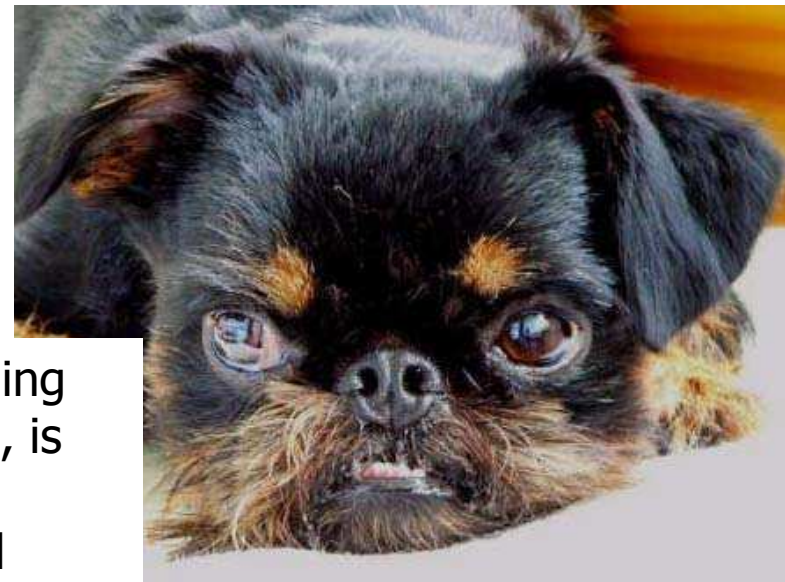


Too undershot



Showing teeth

**Are from a
closed mouth**



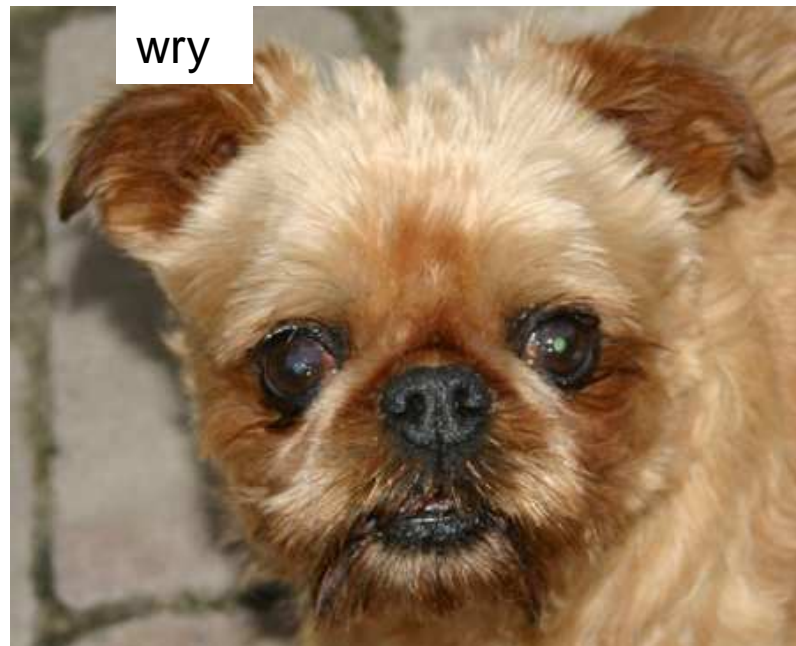
A hanging
tongue, is
from a
closed
mouth.

Wry bites... there is no need to open a griffon mouth to check the bite,

Assess the midline on the nose – septum – draw an imaginary line down over the bottom lip – if there is more lip on one side than the other – then the bite is wry.

It is much easier to see a wry bite from outside this way, than trying to open a griffon mouth.

If you still want to see the teeth, ask the exhibitor to show you the bite – do not go in there yourself, as unless you are a toy dog brachycephalic specialist, you are going to get it wrong, and upset the dog and the handler.



NECK

- **Medium length, slightly arched, springing from well laid back shoulders.**



NB "Medium" does NOT mean LONG....

Forequarters and Body

- Short back, level from withers to tail root, neither roaching nor dipping; deep; well-sprung ribs; short, strong loin.

- Chest rather wide and deep, legs straight of medium length and bone



square

long

tuby



More on Body.....

- A cobby well balanced, square little dog, giving appearance of measuring the same from withers to tail root as from withers to ground (from General Appearance). ????????



- giving appearance of measuring the same from withers to tail root as from withers to ground. (*really?*)



Or should this read “same from point of shoulder to point of buttock, as from withers to ground??? Other countries standards ask for ‘same from point of shoulder to point of buttock, as from withers to ground



Above: measures the same from withers to root of tail as withers to ground

Hindquarters

- Well muscled thighs of good length, hocks low to ground, turning neither in nor out, stifles well bent.



correct



Too straight and too thin



Over angulated

Feet

- Small, thick, cat-like with black toenails.



Maturity – roughs.

Griffs are slow maturers – these are the same dog.

7 weeks



10 months



5 years



Maturity – smooths.



5 weeks

These are all
the same dog



3 yrs



18 months



4 yrs

COAT

- Roughts, harsh, wiry, free from curl, preferably with undercoat. Smooths, short and tight. .



Roughs have to be stripped out –
terrier style – nose to tail to feet

NOT SCISSORED OR CLIPPED



Littermates – rough & smooth



“Frosting” can appear on the
faces of smooths as they
mature – do not penalise this



- Roughts, harsh, wiry, free from curl, preferably with undercoat.
Roughts have a wiry coat, with undercoat and must be stripped out – ‘terrier’ style.



'blown' coat
Needing
stripping



Colour - Clear red, black or black and rich tan without white markings. In clear red, a darker shade on mask and ears desirable. Ideally each hair should be an even red from tip to root. Frosting on muzzles of mature smooths should not be penalised.



Clear Red

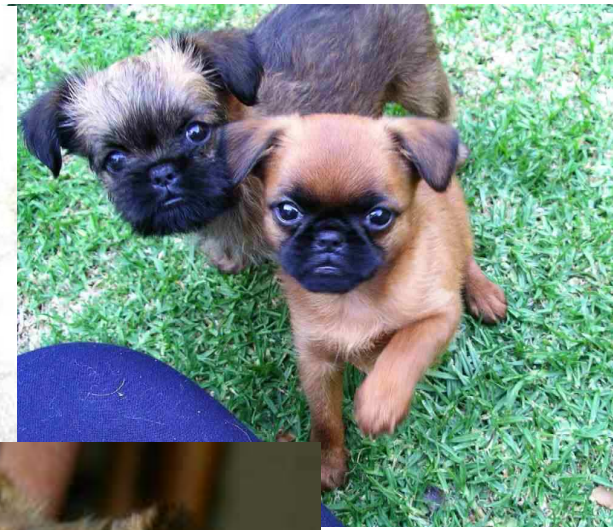


Not quite 'clear'

Shows a smattering of black through the saddle area

More on red

Red puppies start out like this



and end up like
this – hopefully!
Above puppy is
10mths at right...



Black tips on
ears and
moustache
are
immaterial

Colour

- Black and rich tan without white markings.



Black & Tan rough



Black & Tan smooth



"Belge" rough

Belge is an allowable colour in most countries – but not in Australia or UK – however it is just one 'fault' to be considered in its exact degree and does not compromise the quality of the dog.

More black and tan

smooth



Rough – (too
blown to show)



Colour

■ black,



Red at rear, has liver pigment
dog at front is a chocolate & tan

More on black

Blacks should be true black, no red smut
and not too many white hairs throughout



TAIL

- **Docked:** Docked short, high set, emerging at right angles from the level topline
- **Undocked:** High set, emerging at right angles from level topline. Of moderate length, curved gently over back when moving.

Assess the base and set on, more than what the top half does –



Movement

- Free with good drive from rear. Moving true coming and going. High stepping front movement undesirable.



SIZE

- Weight: from 3.2-5kgs (7-11 lbs)

most desirable 3.6-4.5kgs (8-10lbs)

There is no height maximum or minimum for Griffons.

Type components of Griffons being 'heavy for size' and 'cobby' are more important than actual size.



Leggy, fine and off type



Clearly heavy for size – good type

Some important Hallmarks:

- Cobby
- Square
- Smart & terrier like
- Monkey-Like expression
- Heavy for size
- Prominent Chin
- Round Eyes
- Rough OR Smooth coated
- Free movement

