

## **Standard of the American Morkshire Terrier**

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**General Appearance:** The American Morkshire Terrier is a toy dog covered from head to foot with long, flowing uniquely colored hair. The coat is soft, silky and straight. The American Morkshire Terrier has a gentle affectionate-mannerism, friendly, smart and makes a loyal companion.

**Head:** Small and slightly rounded, the *skull* not too prominent, the stop moderate, the *muzzle* not too long with a sound level *bite*, the *ears* are small, may be upright or drop ears and not too far apart, the *eyes* are set not too far apart; dark in color and round with an alert expression, eye rims, *nose* and *lips* are black. Hair may be trimmed on tips of upright ears to give them a neat appearance.

**Neck:** The neck is sufficient length as promoting a high carriage of the head.

**Body:** Well compact and proportioned. The back is level in *topline* equaling the length from withers to tail.

**Legs and Feet:** *Forelegs* are straight, nicely feathered, *elbows* neither in nor out. *Hind legs* are straight but moderately angulated at stifles. *Feet* are round and small with black toe pads. *Dewclaws*, if any, on forelegs may be removed and generally removed from hind legs.

**Tail:** Carried well arched over the body, long plume of hair, tip lying to the side over the quarter.

**Coat:** The coat is single, this is, without undercoat. Hair is glossy, silky, soft and long over the sides of the body. The long head fall may be tied up in a topknot or parted in the middle and left hanging. Any suggestions of wavy, curliness or woolly texture is unacceptable.

**Color:** The American Morkshire Terrier is a uniquely colored toy terrier breed. **Head** - any combination of the following colors; Black/White/Tan/Gold-(rich-yellow). **Body** - Black, White, Gold or combination, amounts of each color have no dominating patterns, small amount of tan hair may be found on ears, anus, under tail and on legs and feet. Black hairs intermingled with tan furnishings is common. No amount of tan hair may be found on the back within the black coat.

**Chest:** Chest up through throat white and legs, feet are permitted.

**Size:** Weight under 9 pounds, with from 4 to 8 pounds preferred, some dogs slightly smaller or larger in some cases.

**Gait:** The American Morkshire Terrier has a graceful, flowing and jaunty gait giving impression of rapid movement when viewed from the side. In stride, forelegs reach straight and hind legs move in straight line. Tail must be up when in movement. Any suggestion of hind leg toeing in or out are faults.

**Temperament:** Intelligent, loyal, affectionate, and devoted to their human family. They are lively and confident with a gentle attitude making them a great companion for all ages.

**Severe Faults:** Over 10 pounds, rounded or roached back; high in front or rear.

**Disqualifications:** Blue eye(s), liver based or other color combinations of colors other than those described above.

**Effective June 1, 2019**

**\*Revised November 15, 2019**

**American Morkshire Terrier Club, Inc. (AMTC)**