

BREED STANDARD

STANDARD APPROVED BY THE PRESIDUM OF THE RUSSIAN KYNOLOGICAL FEDERATION
(RKF) 3.4.2014

For the examination on the territory of the Russian Federation

EAST-EUROPEAN SHEPHERD

New Edition



This illustration does not necessarily show the ideal example of the breed

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: USSR

PATRONAGE – Russia

LAST VALID STANDARD PUBLICATION DATE: 01.11.2002 (*Vestnik RKF No. 5(44) 2003, p.6*).

UTILISATION: Working dog. Family dog, companion dog.

<u>FCI CLASSIFICATION:</u>	Group 1	Sheepdogs and cattle dogs (except Swiss Cattle dogs)
	Section 1	Sheepdogs
	With working trial	

SHORT HISTORY OF THE BREED: The breed was developed in the Soviet Union in the 1940s. The purpose of the breeding was to get dogs which were well adapted for service in the army, border guard, Ministry of the Interior and national economy in diverse climatic conditions of the country. In 1924–1936, a few small groups of German Shepherds of different types and qualities were imported from Germany to the Soviet Union. The purpose was to create a new shepherd breed on the basis of these German Shepherds which would be more suitable for use in the Soviet Union considering its nature and climatic conditions. Blood taken from local dogs, the origin of which was unknown but genotype suitable, were used for this purpose. The breeding resulted in a new breed which was named "The East-European Shepherd": The first breed standard was confirmed in 1955. The Russian Kynological Federation (RKF) approved the breed standard of The East-European Shepherd in 2002.

GENERAL APPEARANCE: The East-European Shepherd (VEO) is well-built, above medium size, rectangular shape, powerful, harmoniously proportioned, with dry, strong muscle. Sexual dimorphism is well pronounced, males are larger and heavier than females.

IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:

- The body length is 10-17% greater than the height at the withers
- The head length is 40% of the height at the withers
- The forelimb length from elbow to the ground equals approximately half of the height at the withers

BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT: The East-European Shepherd is balanced, confident, attentive, a quick learner, a reliable partner and guardian.

HEAD: Wedge-shaped, proportional to body, (the head length is 40% of the height at the withers), massive yet elegant.

CRANIAL REGION:

Skull: Skull is flat, rather broad and moderately deep.

Forehead is almost flat, with or without a slightly marked longitudinal groove.

Brow ridges are moderately expressed. The upper longitudinal lines of the skull and muzzle are parallel. Occiput is weakly expressed.

Forehead to muzzle transition (Stop): medium length, moderately pronounced.

FACIAL REGION:

Nose: Nose is large, black.

Muzzle: Wedge-shaped tapering to the nose, moderately long — approximately half the head length. Nose bridge is straight. The muzzle should not be pointed.

Lips: Lips are tight with dark gums pigmentation.

Jaws/ Teeth: Upper and lower jaw well developed, strong and powerful. Teeth are large, white, tight to each other, in complete (42 teeth according to the dentition formula). Scissor bite.

Cheekbones: Not issued, slightly rounded.

Eyes: Medium size, oval-shaped, widely and moderately obliquely set, dark, with close-fitting black eyelids. Eye colour should be as dark as possible.

Ears: Medium-sized or slightly bigger, in the form of an isosceles triangle, up, high and fairly wide apart, with slightly rounded tips. At rest, the ends of the ears are directed slightly to the side; with excitation set vertically and parallel to each other and the ends of ears directed straight up.

NECK: Muscular, without dewlap, widening to shoulders a little, approximately equal to the length of the head. Set at an angle of 40-45° to the line of the back.

BODY: Harmonious, proportional, somewhat stretched, rectangular shape, well balanced.

Withers: Well-defined, long. Height at withers slightly greater than the height at the croup.

Back: Strong, broad, straight, long.

Loin: Short, wide, muscular, slightly arched.

Croup: Wide, rounded, long, muscular, slightly sloping.

Chest: Oval shaped, long, wide and deep, the bottom line is about chest level or below elbow height. Depth of chest is 48-50% of the height at the withers. Ribs rounded enough.

Underline and belly: Belly is reasonably tucked up.

TAIL: Sabre-shaped, tail base is a continuation of the croup. At rest carried down, reaching the hock or slightly below. In action the first third of the tail reaches the back line and then gradually bends upward, but never over the back. Uniformly covered with dense hair.

LIMBS:

FOREQUARTERS: Straight and parallel. Forelimb length from the elbow to the ground can be a little more than half the height at the withers.

Shoulder: Moderate length, close fitting to the chest, sloping - angled at 45° to the horizon.

Upper arm: Moderate length, obliquely set. Angles of shoulder articulations about 100°. Muscles are well developed.

Forearms: Straight, set parallel to each other.

Elbows: Directed straight back and turning neither in nor out.

Pasterns: Long, strong, springy, when viewed from the side set a little obliquely.

Forefeet: Oval, arched and tight; pads thick and dark; claws strong, dark colour.

HINDQUARTERS: Seen from the rear parallel, slightly drawn-out, moderately broad hocked.

Upper thighs: Moderate length, broad, well-muscled.

Stifle: Normal stifle angulation

Lower thighs: Moderate length.

Hocks: Strong, dry, well angulated.

Pasterns: Strong, set vertically. Dewclaws must be removed.

Hind feet: Oval, arched and tight; pads thick and dark; pigmented claws.

GAIT / MOVEMENT: Free, smooth, sweeping, well-balanced. Good drive from hindquarters, good groundcover forelimbs. When viewed from the front or rear, trotting limbs move in a straight line. With an increase in the rate of limb movements tend to approach the median line; joints of the front and hind limbs freely unbend; back and waist elastic spring.

COAT:

HAIR: Dual. The guard hair is thick, harsh to the touch, straight, medium length, tight-fitting; undercoat is well developed, thick and soft, usually lighter than guard hairs. Hair on the head, including the inside of the ears, on the front of the legs, on feet and toes is short, round neck slightly longer and thicker. On the back of the thighs coat is longer and forms moderate "pants."

COLOUR:

- Black and grey, black and fawn with varying degrees of intensity (saddle, different depths), black colour with some markings of light grey or pale yellow, which can be placed over the eyes, on the cheeks, on the chest, on the front and hind limbs, or only on the fingers, around the anus.
- Solid black; with a solid black coat colour is acceptable but not desirable small white mark on the chest.
- Sable grey, sable-red colours (with a dark mask of varying intensity).
- Colours with bright red markings are permitted but not desired.

SIZE:

Height: Males 67-72 cm, females 66-67cm

FAULTS: Any deviation from the above provisions should be regarded as fault, and the seriousness of the fault should be evaluated proportionate to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

SEVERE FAULTS

- Sharp deviation from the sexual type.
- Too light or too coarse build, muscle weakness.
- Root or a stretched format.
- Height of more than 2 cm below the specified standard.
- Uncertain behaviour.
- Atypical expression.
- Round, bulging eyes, very bright eyes.
- The absence of two premolars (2P1).
- Weak (soft) ears; hung ears.
- Tail curved into a ring, a sickle, a corkscrew tail.
- Weak ligaments, bending limbs, unbalanced movement, pacing.
- Pronounced deviation from parallelism hocked limbs straightened unnecessarily or excessively pronounced angulation.
- Partial depigmentation of the nose.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:

- Aggressive or timid specimens.
- Inconsistency to breed type.
- Any deviation from a complete dental formula, not specified in the defects.
- All deviations from scissor bite, wry mouth.
- Entropy, ectropion.
- Hanging ears.
- Custom colour.
- Total depigmentation of the nose.
- Different eyes (heterochromatism), walleye, blue eyes - one or both.
- Albinism.
- Too short tail, docked tail.
- Unilateral cryptorchidism or full.
- Pickled intersecting or roll movements are highly undesirable.
- Curly hair, long-haired or short-haired, lack of undercoat.

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.

N.B.:

- Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.
- Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with their inherent characteristic features of the breed can be used for breeding.