

Doberman Standards

Comparisons of the AKC and FCI

GENERAL APPEARANCE	
AKC approved February 6, 1982 Reformatted November 6, 1990	FCI December 17, 2015
• Dog of medium size-body that is square, compactly built, muscular & powerful for great endurance and speed. • Elegant in appearance, proud carriage, reflecting great nobility & temperament. Energetic, watchful, determine, fearless, obedient, alert and loyal.	• The dog is of medium size, muscularly built and strong. • The ideal picture of a dog is through the elegant lines of its body, its expression of determination and proud stature.

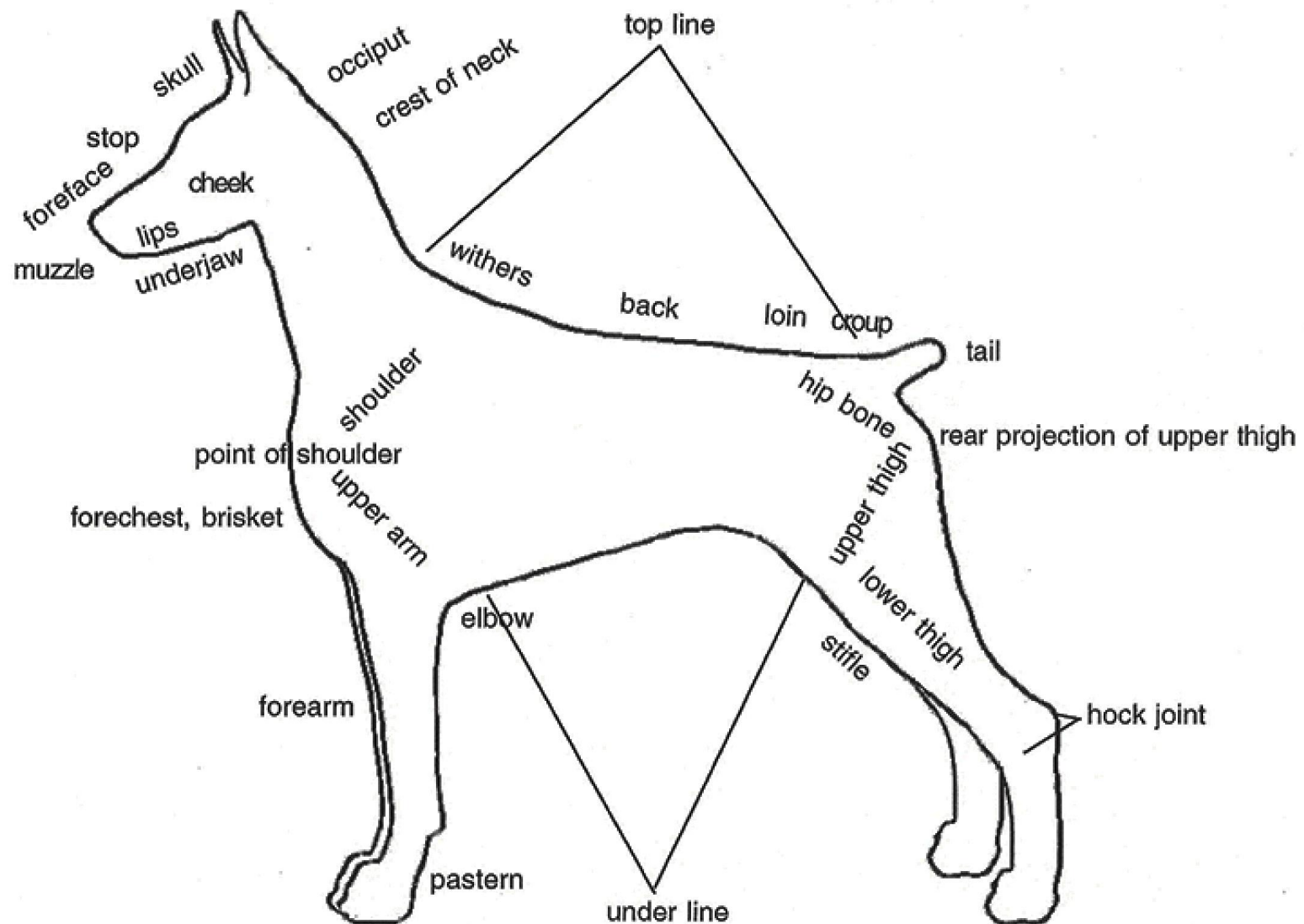
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SIZE, PROPORTION & SUBSTANCE	
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• Height at the withers ○ Dog 26" to 28", ideal 27 1/2". ○ Bitches: 24" to 26", ideal 25 1/2". • The height, measured vertically from the ground to highest point of the withers, equaling the length measured horizontally from the fore chest to the rear projection of the upper thigh. Length of head, neck and legs in proportion to and depth of body.	• Size - height at the highest point of the withers, ○ Males: 68-72 cm. (26.8" to 28.3") ○ Bitches: 63-68cm. (24.8" to 26.8") ○ Medium size is desirable. • Weight ○ Males about 40-45 kg, (88 to 99 pounds) ○ Bitches about 32-35 kg, (70.4 to 77 pounds). • The body appears to be almost square, particularly in males. The length of the body measured from the point of the shoulders to the point of the buttocks shall not be more than 5% longer than the height from the withers to the ground in males and 10% in females.

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HEAD	
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• Long and dry, resembling a blunt wedge in both frontal and profile views. When seen from the front, the head widens gradually toward the base of the ears in a practically unbroken line. • Eyes almond shaped, moderately deep set, with vigorous, energetic expression. Iris, of uniform color, ranging from medium to darkest brown in black dogs; in reds, blues, and fawns the color of the iris blends with that of the markings, the darkest shade being preferable in every case. • Ears normally cropped and carried erect. The upper attachment of the ear, when held erect, is on a level with the top of the skull. • Top of the skull flat, turning with slight stop to bridge of muzzle, with muzzle line extending parallel to top line of skull. Cheeks flat and muscular. • Nose solid black on black dogs, dark brown on red ones, dark gray on blue ones, dark tan on fawns. • Lips lying close to jaws.	• Head - Cranial Region Strong and in proportion to the body. Seen from the top the head is shaped in the form of a blunt wedge. Viewed from the front the crown line shall be almost level and not dropping off the ears, The muzzle line extends almost straight to the top line of the skull which falls, gently rounded, into the neck line. The eyebrow bone is well developed without protruding. The forehead furrow is still visible. The Occiput shall not be conspicuous. Seen from the front and the top the sides of the head must not bulge. The slight bulge between the rear of the upper jawbone and the cheek bone shall be in harmony with the total length of the head. The head muscles shall be well developed. • Stop Shall be slight but visibly developed. • Facial Region Nose Nostrils well developed, more broad than round, with large openings without overall protrusion. Black on black dogs; on brown, corresponding lighter shades.

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• Jaws full and powerful well filled under the eyes. • Teeth strongly developed and white. Lower incisors upright and touching inside of upper incisors a true scissor bite. 42 correctly placed teeth, 22 in the lower, 20 in the upper jaw. Distemper teeth shall not be penalized. • Disqualifying Faults: Overshot more than 3/16 of an inch. Undershot more than 1/8 of an inch. Four or more missing teeth.	• Muzzle The muzzle must be in the right proportion with the upper head and must be strongly developed. The muzzle shall have depth. The mouth opening shall be wide, reaching to the molars. A good muzzle width must also be present on the upper and lower incisor area. • Lips They shall be tight and lie close to the jaw that will ensure a tight closure of the mouth. The pigment of the gum to be dark; in brown dogs a corresponding lighter shade. • Jaw - Dentition-Teeth Powerful broad upper and under jaw, scissor bite, 42 teeth correctly placed and normal size. • Eyes Middle size, oval and dark in color. Lighter shades are permitted for brown dogs. Close lying eyelids. Eyelids shall be covered with hair. • Ears The ears, are left natural and of an appropriate size; They are set on either side at the highest point of the skull and are ideally lying close to the cheeks.

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NECK, TOPLINE AND BODY	
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• Neck proudly carried, well muscled and dry. Well arched, with nape of neck widening gradually toward body. Length of neck proportioned to body and head. • Withers pronounced and forming the highest point of the body. • Back short, firm, of sufficient width, and muscular at the loins, extending in a straight line from withers to the slightly rounded croup. • Chest broad with fore chest well defined. • Ribs well sprung from the spine, but flattened in lower to permit elbow clearance. • Brisket reaching deep to the elbow. • Belly well tucked up, extending in a curved line from brisket. • Loins wide and muscled,	• Neck The neck must have a good length and be in proportion to the body and the head. It is dry and muscular. Its outline rises gradually and is softly and shows much nobility. • Withers Shall be pronounced in height and length, especially in males and thereby determine the slope of the top line rising from the croup to the withers. • Back Short and firm, of good width and well muscled. • Loin Of good width and well muscled. The bitch can be slightly longer in loin because she requires space for suckling. • Croup It shall fall slightly, hardly perceptible from sacrum to root of the tail, and appears well rounded, being neither straight nor noticeably sloping, of good width and well muscled.

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• Hips broad and in proportion to body, breadth of hips being approximately equal to breadth of body at rib cage and shoulders. • Tail docked at approximately second joint, appears to be a continuation of the spine, and is carried only slightly above the horizontal when the dog is alert.	• Chest Length and depth of chest must be in the right proportion to the body length. The depth with slightly arched ribs should be approximately 50% the height of the dog at the withers. The chest has got a good width with especially well developed fore chest. • Underline From the bottom of the breastbone to the pelvis the underline is noticeably tucked up. • Tail The tail is left natural and is ideally carried high in a slight curve.

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COAT	
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• Smooth-haired, short, hard, thick and close lying. Invisible gray undercoat on neck permissible	• Skin The skin fits closely all over and is of good pigment. • Coat Hair The hair is short, hard and thick. It lies tight and smooth and is equally distributed over the whole surface. • Undercoat is not allowed

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COLOR & MARKINGS	
AKC approved February 6, 1982 Reformatted November 6, 1990	FCI December 17, 2015
• Allowed Colors Black, red, blue, and fawn (Isabella). • Markings Rust, sharply defined, appearing above each eye and on muzzle, throat and fore chest, on all legs and feet, and below tail. White patch on chest, not exceeding 1/2 square inch, permissible. • Disqualifying Fault Dogs not of an allowed color.	• The color is black or brown, with rust red clearly defined and clean markings. • Markings on the muzzle, as a spot on the cheeks and the top of the eyebrow, on the throat, two spots on the fore chest, on the metacarpus, metatarsus and feet, on the inside of the back thigh, on the arms and below the tail.

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GAIT	
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• Free, balanced and vigorous, with good reach in the forequarters and good driving power in the hindquarters. • When trotting, there is strong rear-action drive. • Each rear leg moves in line with the foreleg on the same side. • Rear and front legs are thrown neither in nor out. • Back remains strong and firm. • When moving at a fast trot, a properly built dog will single-track.	• The gait is of special importance to both the working ability as well as the exterior appearance. • The gait is elastic, elegant, agile, free and ground covering. • The front legs reach out as far as possible. • The hind quarter gives far reaching and necessary elastic drive. • The front leg of one side and back leg of the other side move forward at the same time. • There should be good stability of the back, the ligaments and the joints.

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FAULTS	
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The foregoing description is that of the ideal Doberman Pinscher. Any deviation from the above described dog must be penalized to the extent of the deviation,	- Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree. - General Appearance: Reversal of sexual impression; little substance; too light; too heavy; too leggy; weak bones. - Head: Too heavy; too narrow; too short; too long; too much or too little stop; Roman nose; bad slope of the top line of the skull; weak under jaw; round or slit eyes; light eye; cheeks too heavy; loose flews; eyes too open or too deep-set; ear set too high or too low; open mouth angle. - Neck: Slightly short; too short; loose skin around the throat; dewlap; too long (not in harmony); ewe neck. - Body: Back not tight; sloping croup; sway back; roach back; insufficient or too much spring of rib; insufficient depth or width of chest; back too long overall; too little fore chest; tail set too high or too low; too little or too much tuck up. - Limbs: Too little or too much angulations front or hindquarters; loose elbow; deviations from the standard

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	position and length of bones and joints; feet too close together or too wide apart; cow-hocks, spread hocks, close hocks; open or soft paws, crooked toes; pale nails. • Coat: Markings too light or not sharply defined; smudged markings; mask too dark; big black spot on the legs; chest markings hardly visible or too large; hair long, soft, curly or dull. Thin coat; bald patches; large tufts of hair particularly on the body; visible undercoat. • Character: Inadequate self confidence; temperament too high; sharpness too high; too high or too low a threshold of irritation. • Size: Deviation of size up to two centimeters from the standard should result in a lowering of the quality grading. • Gait: Wobbly; restricted or stiff gait; pacing.

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DISQUALIFICATIONS	
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• Overshot more than 3/16 of an inch, undershot more than 1/8 of an inch. • Four or more missing teeth. • Dogs not of an allowed color.	• Aggressive or overly shy dogs. • Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioral abnormalities shall be disqualified. • Yellow eyes (bird of prey eye); different colored eyes. • Overshot; level bite; undershot; missing teeth according to the formula. • White spots. Visible undercoat. • Dogs which deviate more than 2 cm over or under the standard. • N.B.: • Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. • Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.

The comparisons of the AKC & FCI Standards are the property/opinion of the original authors