

# OFFICIAL ENGLISH STANDARD FOR THE SAINT BERNARD

## GENERAL APPEARANCE:

Well proportioned and of great substance.

## CHARACTERISTICS:

Distinctly marked, large sized mountain rescue dog.

## TEMPERAMENT:

Steady, kindly, intelligent, courageous, trustworthy and benevolent.

## HEAD AND SKULL:

Large and massive, circumference of the skull being rather more than double the head from nose to occiput. Muzzle short, full in front of the eye and square at nose end. Cheeks flat; great depth from eye to lower jaw. Lips deep but not too pendulous. From nose to stop, perfectly straight and broad. Stop somewhat abrupt and well defined. Skull broad, slightly rounded at the top, with somewhat prominent brow. Nose large and black with well developed nostrils.

## EYES:

Of medium size, neither deep set nor prominent, eyelids should be reasonably tight, without any excessive haw. Dark in colour and not staring. There should be no excessive loose wrinkle on brow which would detract from a healthy eye.

## EARS:

Medium size lying close to cheeks. Not heavily feathered.

## MOUTH:

Jaws strong with a perfect, regular and complete scissor bite

## NECK:

Lengthy, thick, muscular and slightly arched with dewlap well developed.

## FOREQUARTERS:

Shoulders broad and sloping well up at the withers. Legs perfectly straight, strong in bone and of good length.

## **BODY:**

Back broad and straight, ribs well rounded. Loin wide and muscular. Chest wide and deep. The lower part of the chest should not project below the elbows.

## **HINDQUARTERS:**

Legs heavy in bone, hocks well bent and thighs very muscular.

## **FEET:**

Large and compact with well arched toes. Dewclaws should be removed.

## **TAIL:**

Set on rather high, long, and in long coated variety, well feathered. Carried low when in repose and when excited or in motion should not be curled over the back.

## **GAIT/MOVEMENT:**

Easy extension, unhurried, smooth, capable of covering difficult terrain

## **COAT:**

In rough specimens, should be dense and flat, rather fuller around the neck, thighs well feathered. In smooth specimens it should be close and hound like, slightly feathered on the thighs and tail.

## **COLOUR:**

Orange, mahogany brindle, red brindle. White with patches on the body of any of the above named colours. The markings should be as follows: White muzzle, white blaze up the face, white collar round the neck, white chest, white forelegs, feet and end of tail: Black shading on the face and ears.

## **SIZE:**

The taller the better provided symmetry is maintained; thoroughly well proportioned and of great substance. The general outline should suggest great power and capability of endurance.

## **FAULTS:**

Dudley, liver, flesh-colored or split nose; over-or under-shot mouth; light or staring eyes; cheek bumps; wedge head; flat skull; badly set or carried, or heavily feathered ears; too much peak; short neck; curly coat; flat sides; hollow back; roach back; flat thighs; ring tail; open or hare feet; cow hocks; fawn or self-colored; straight hocks.

Any departure from the forgoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.

NOTE: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.