

PBGV

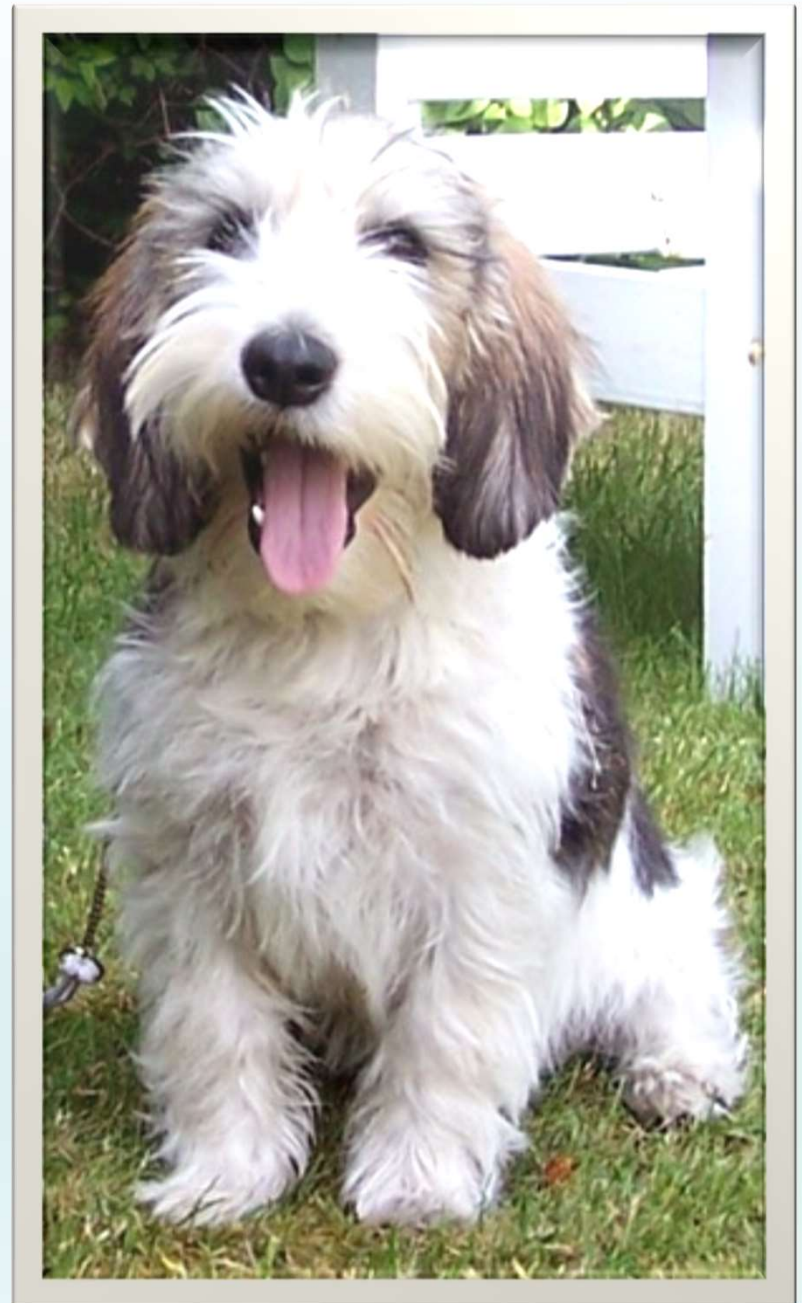
BREED

APPRECIATION

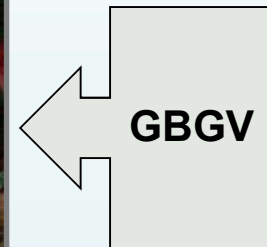
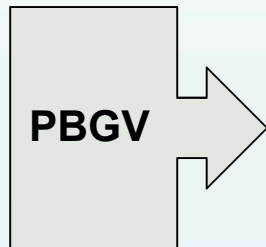
Kennel Club
- updated January 2011 -

By
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for the

Basset Griffon
Vendéen Club



THE BASSET GRIFFON VENDÉEN



To understand either of the BGV breeds in greater depth, it is important to know the differences between the smaller (Petit) size BGV and larger (Grand) BGV.

These differences are made clear in the Kennel Club breed standards under which both breeds are bred and judged in the UK.

~ What's in a Name ? ~

The Kennel Club name

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

is familiarly known as

Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen

~ PBGV ~

- Petit** - The *smaller* of the two *basset* breeds
- Basset** - Low to ground
- Griffon** - Rough/harsh coat
- Vendéen** - From the Vendée region in France

Pronounced –

“**P**uh-TEE....**B**ah-SAY...**G**ree-FOHN...**V**ON-day-uhn”

Is the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen a type of 'Basset'?



Basset Hound



PBGV

They share the word '**bas**set' in their name but, as you can see, the Basset Hound and PBGV are very different.

Remember - 'bas-set' is French for '**low to ground**' -
- the PBGV is the smaller of the two **Basset** Griffon Vendéen breeds -
and that is the extent of the similarity.

~ A Brief History ~

- The breed can be traced back to a combination of rough-coated Roman hounds and a rough-coated Gallic breed, which produced a big, powerful scent-hound.
- This hound migrated to the Vendée, where the 16th century

Griffon Vendéen

evolved, with a coat resistant to brambles and thorns, also great physical and mental stamina to cope with rugged local terrain.



Four types of Griffon Vendéen emerged –

Grand Griffon Vendéen ⇒

- 60-68cm / 23½-27in
- Stag, roe deer, boar, fox, wolf



- ⇐ Briquet Griffon Vendéen
- 50-55cm / 19½-21½in
 - Roe deer, boar, fox, hare

Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen

- 39-44cm / 15½-17½in
- Boar, hare, rabbit and fox



Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen

- 34-38cm / 13½-15in)
- Hare and rabbit



The four Griffon Vendéen breeds

Petit Basset

Grand Basset

Briquet

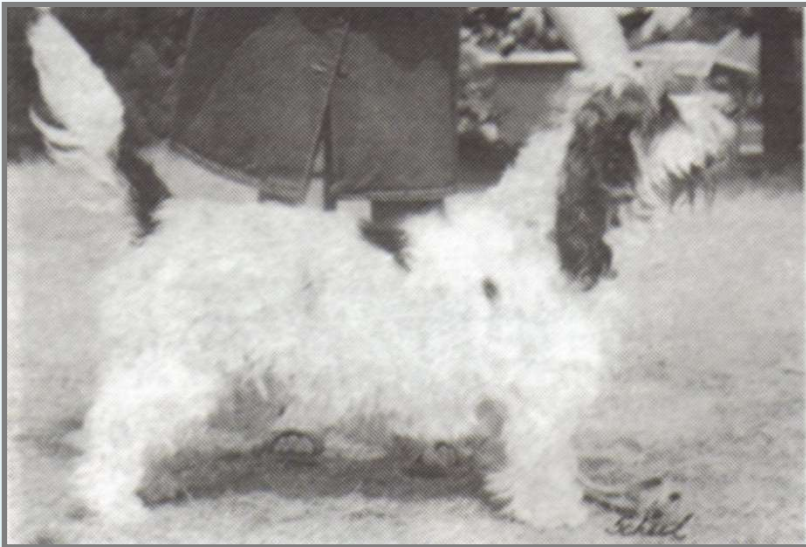
Grand



The Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen and Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen are currently the only two breeds recognised by the Kennel Club

~ KNOWING THE DIFFERENCE ~

To recap, to appreciate the Petit, it helps to understand the difference between the PBGV and GBGV because, at one stage of their development, they were both bred from the same litter.



With several distinguishing features, the main difference of height divided them.

One of the first Danish Champion Petits turned out to be quite a nice Grand Basset!

In 1977 the two breeds became separate when interbreeding in France ceased.

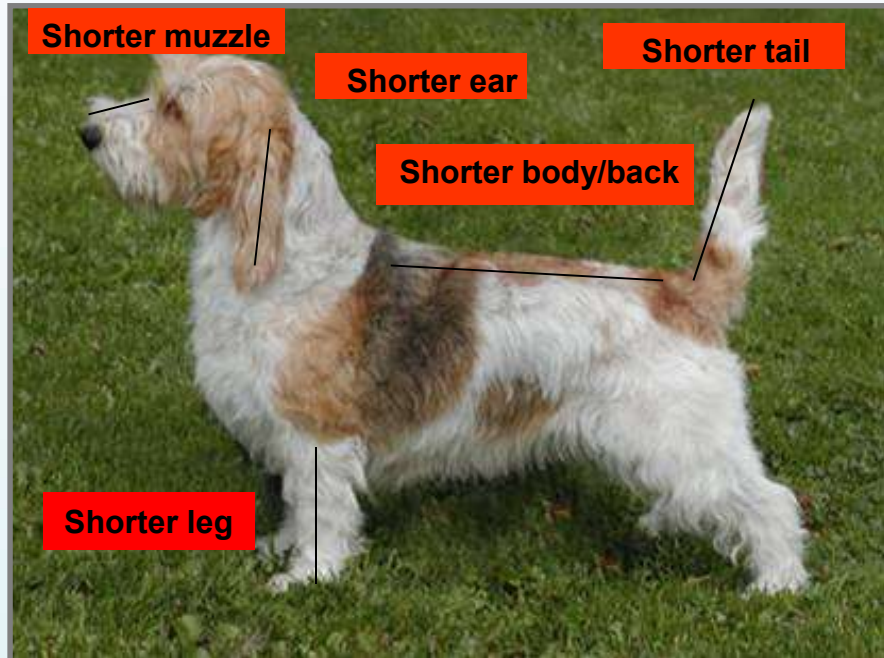
The PBGV and the GBGV are now individual breeds with specific and marked differences. Being aware of these differences will help you when judging your chosen breed.

~ COMPARISON ~

The marked difference between the two breeds

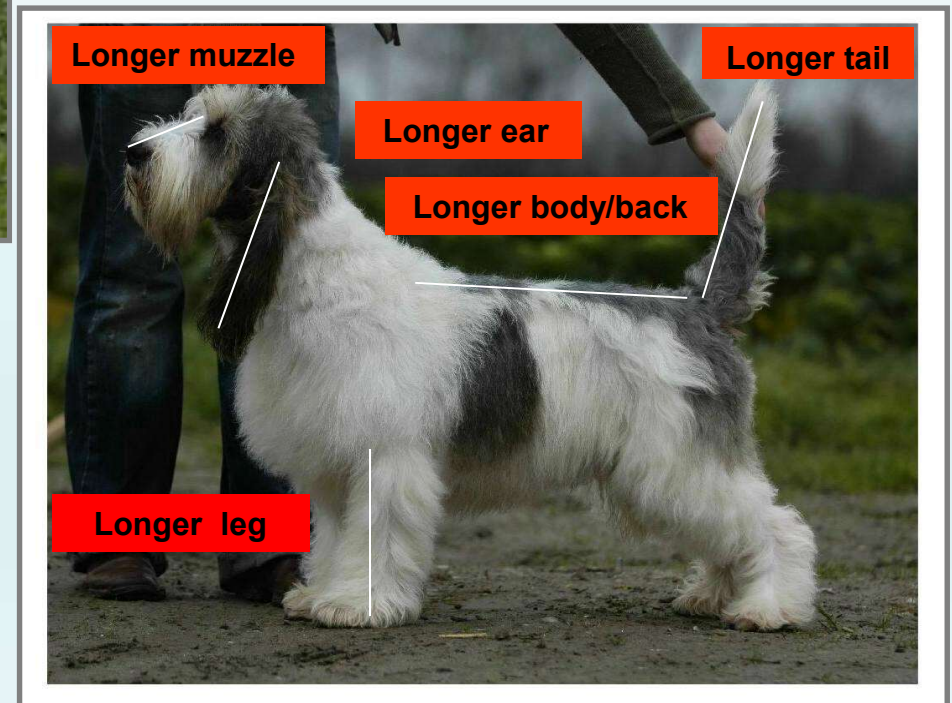


Main differences between the Petit and the Grand



← Petit

Compact, slightly longer than tall. Shorter muzzle, shorter ears, shorter tail, shorter leg.



Grand ⇒

Taller, longer body. Longer muzzle, longer ears, longer tail, longer leg.

The Overall Difference

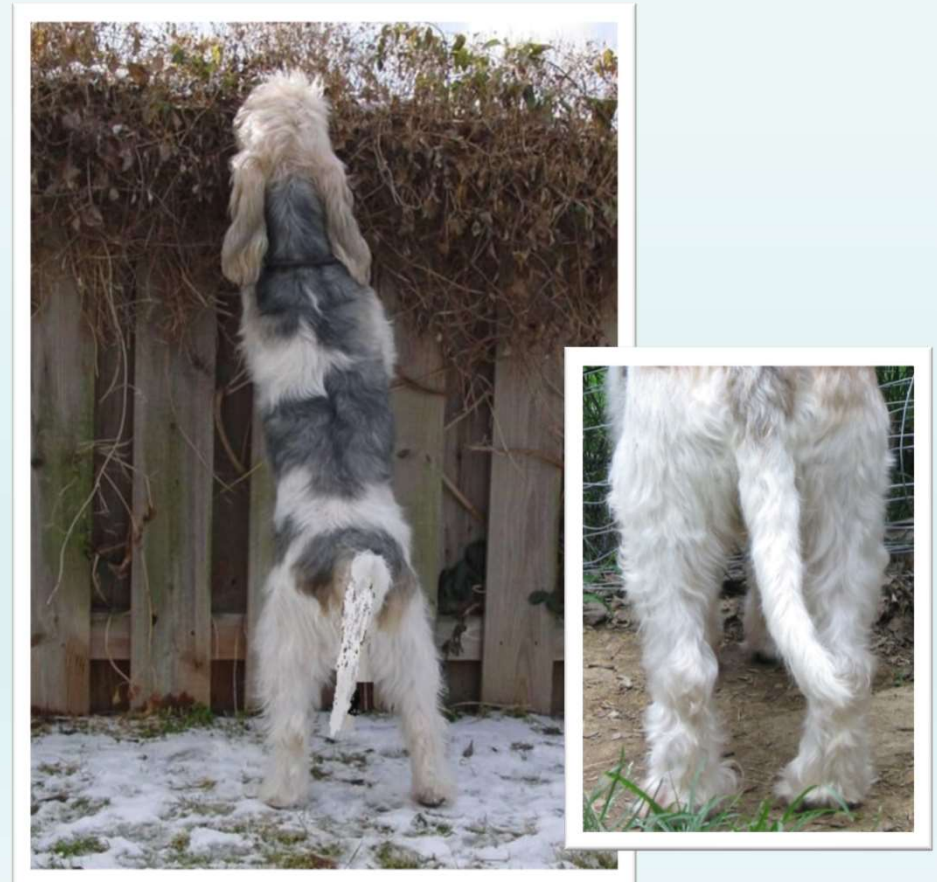
The Petit –

look at the shape of the skull, shorter ears, shorter back, shorter hocks and shorter tail.



The Grand –

look at the shape of the skull, longer ears, longer back, longer limbs and longer tail.



The Difference in Heads

Grand ⇨

Whole head longer. Muzzle longer - Ears longer - Head more domed



⇨ Petit

Muzzle shorter - Ears shorter - Head not as domed

The Difference in Heads – from the front



The Petit



The Grand

The *domed head* of the *Grand Basset* and *the longer ears* extending to just beyond the end of the *longer muzzle*, compared with the *PBGV's less domed* head and *shorter ears* that **MUST NOT** extend beyond the end of the *shorter muzzle*.

And now to concentrate on

The PBGV

General description

- **Well balanced**, short legged, rough-coated
- **Compact**
- **Alert and lively**
- **Strong**, active, capable of a day's hunting
- **With a good voice purposefully** used
- **Happy, extrovert**, independent, willing to please



~THE PBGV HEAD ~



- Carried proudly
- Skull of moderate length; slightly domed; oval when viewed from above
- Well cut away under eyes
- Occiput moderately well developed
- Stop clearly defined
- Muzzle square, nose to stop slightly less (*shorter*) than from stop to occiput
- Underjaw strong and well developed.

~ The Head ~

EARS – Supple, **narrow and fine**, covered with long hair. Folding inwards. **Not reaching beyond the tip of the nose** and set on low just below the line of the eye.

NOSE – **Black**, large and prominent.



EYES – **Large**, dark, **oval**, friendly; **haw not visible**; **eyebrow hair not obscuring eyes**.

BITE – **Scissor**.

Look at these heads

You be the judge

1



2



3



4



5



6



Pleasing heads



~ THE PBGV BODY ~



NECK – Long, strong, thicker at the base, well set into shoulders, without dewlap.

FOREQUARTERS – Shoulders clean and well laid back. Upper arm approx equal in length to the shoulder. Elbows close to body. Forearms straight when viewed from front. Well boned in proportion to size.

BODY – Medium length back. Chest deep, prominent sternum. Moderately rounded ribs, well let down to elbow, extending well back. Level topline. Well muscled loin.

HINDQUARTERS – Strong and muscular, good bend of stifle. Well defined second thigh, hocks well let down, turning neither in nor out.



~ CORRECT PROPORTIONS AND BALANCE ~

Moderate length = a compact PBGV that is
****slightly longer than tall***



Notice the body shape of these correctly balanced PBGVs.

****Slightly longer from point of shoulders to point of buttocks than height from withers to ground - at a ratio of approx 7 : 5 (1.4 : 1).***



Look at these examples of shape and balance

You be the judge

1



2



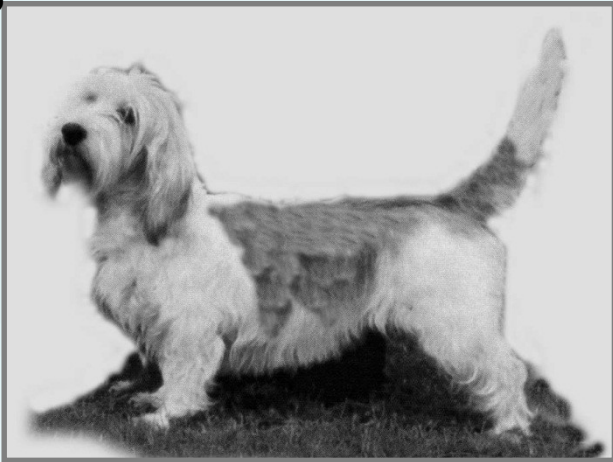
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GOOD EXAMPLES OF AN ADULT PBGV'S BALANCE



~ FEET - TAIL - COAT ~

FEET -
Hard, tight
padded,
not too
long.

Nails
strong and
short.



TAIL – Medium
length, set on high.
Thick at base,
tapering gradually.
Well furnished with
hair. Carried
proudly **sabre-like**.



COAT – Rough, not too long - without
exaggeration. Harsh, thick undercoat.

May be tidied up for the show-ring but
must retain the “*au naturel*” look.

The rough, unrefined appearance
is vitally important.

Over-trimming or stylising should be penalised



THE “AU NATUREL” LOOK FOR PBGVs

This is a rustic hound. When hunting, the thorns and brambles of the undergrowth strip the coat out naturally, leaving a fairly short, good, harsh coat.

If exhibited, a PBGV needs help to look its best.

The art of grooming the PBGV is to make it look as though it hasn't been groomed!



Tidying up for the showing

An ungroomed PBGV that *may* be sound underneath all its coat will be at a disadvantage to ..



.....one that has been tidied up to display its good points – shape of skull, front, topline, rear angulation etc.

As a judge, you will need to weigh up structural faults against artificial failings, such as scissor-marks!

The judge's role

This PBGV, who started his career looking reasonably rough and unrefined

..... has been sculpted and lost that casual, tousled appearance, which is part of the characteristic charm of the breed.



As a judge - be aware of what kind of grooming and presentation is expected and acceptable – and how to treat those PBGVs that, in your view, are over-presented.

~ SIZE ~

Height : 34-38cm (13½- 15in)

A tolerance of 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ in) more or less is permissible

**PBGV at
top end
of height
range**

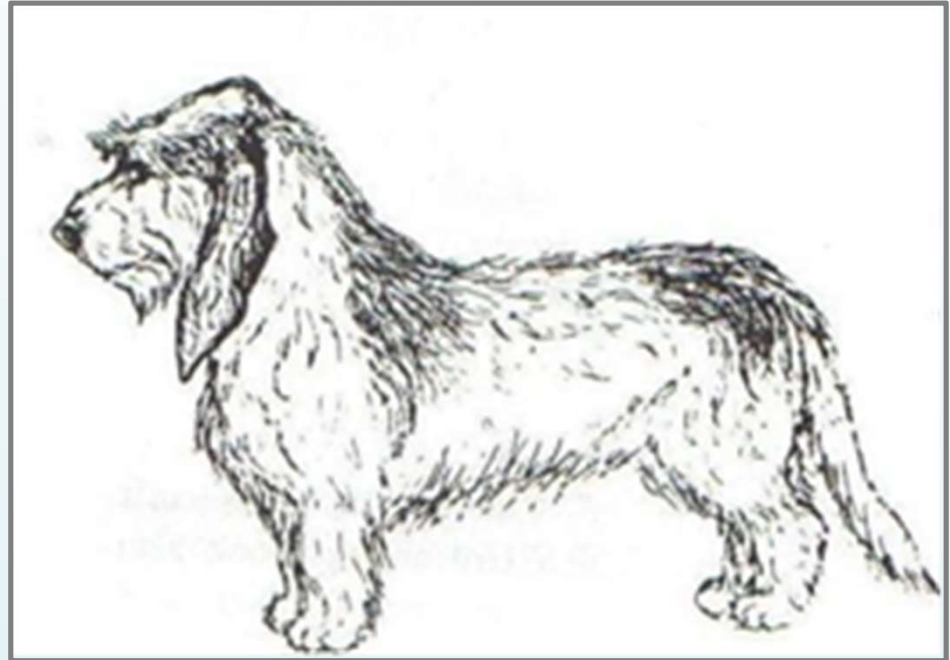
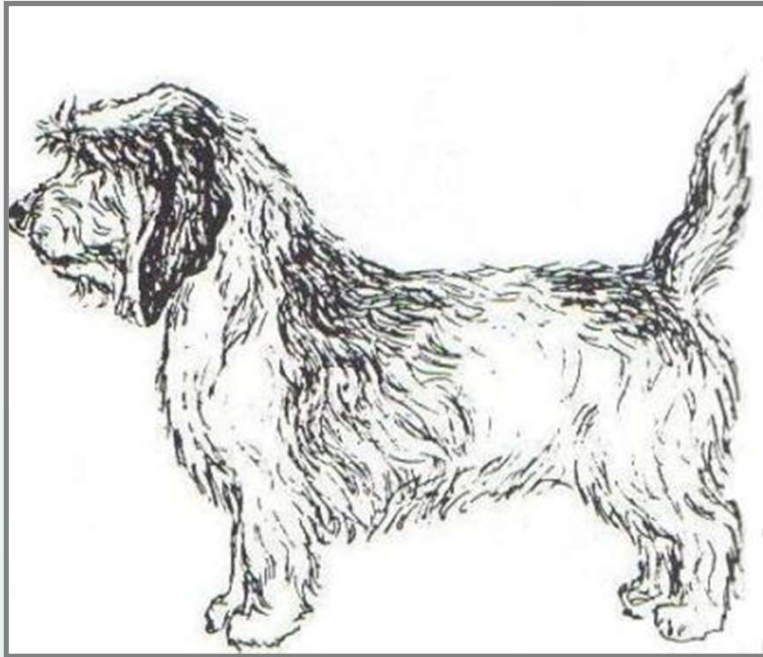


**GBGV at
lower end
of height
range**

**With the 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") tolerance,
a PBGV at the top end of the height range
may be the same height as
a GBGV at the lower end of the height range.**

**Therefore it is important to know
the distinct differences between the two breeds
and bear in mind those features which distinguish the PBGV.**

~ SIZE ~



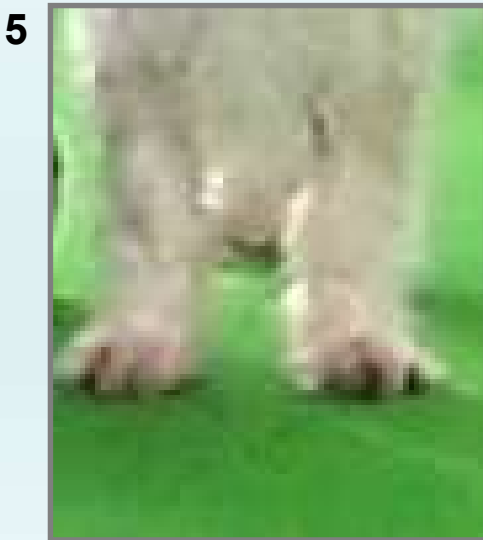
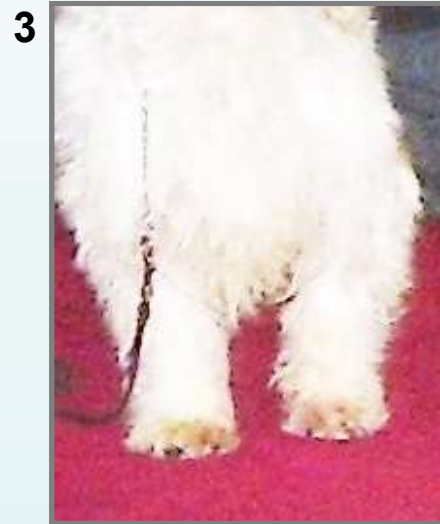
The importance of knowing the distinct differences between the two breeds can therefore be seen.

A good specimen PBGV should not be discounted merely because it is on the top or lower end of the height range.

What matters most is an overall harmonious, pleasing and balanced outline.

Now - look at these fronts

You be the judge



Look at these hindquarters

You be the judge

1



2



3



4



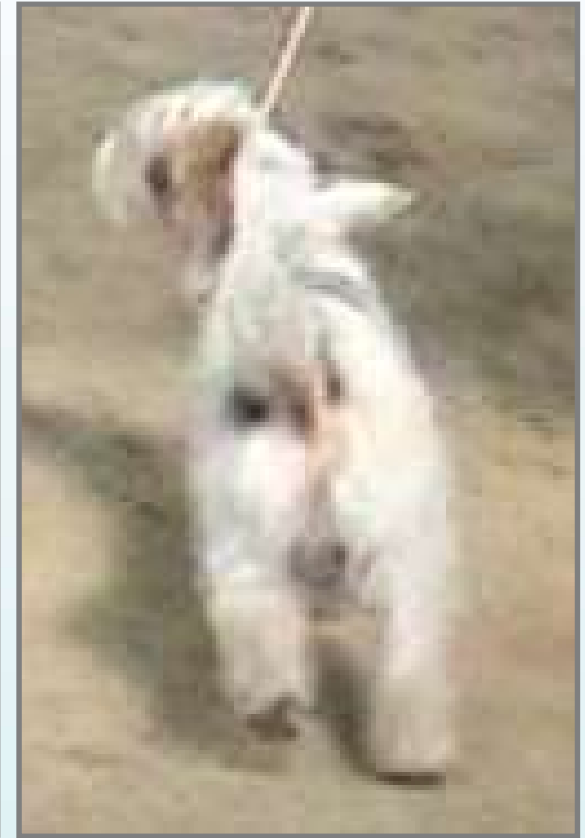
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6



~ MOVEMENT ~



Free at all paces, **with good drive.**

Front action **straight** and **reaching well forward.**

Hocks turning neither in nor out.

Look at these examples of hind movement

You be the judge

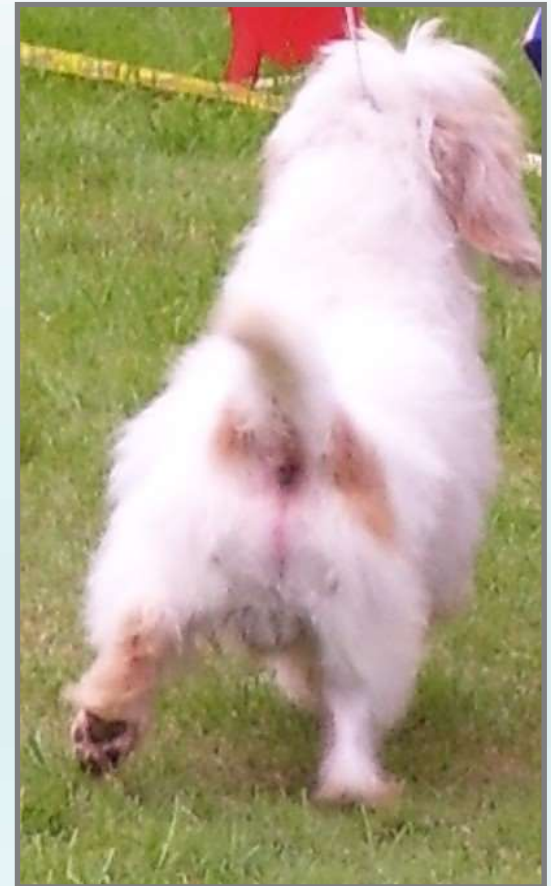
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2



3



And here are some in profile

You be the judge again

1



2



3



4



5



~ COLOUR ~



White and lemon



White and orange



White and black



White and sable



White and grizzle



Tri-Colour

COLOUR – *White with any combination of lemon, orange, sable, grizzle or black markings. Tri-colour.*

~ THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PBGV FROM PUPPY TO ADULT ~

When judging the PBGV, bear in mind that body shape will change as it develops from young puppy to adult.



6 months



2 years old

Adult bitch



Notice too how the colour and coat markings change, also the amount of coat.

~ From puppy to adult ~

Again - note the change of shape and colour in this male PBGV



8 weeks



16 weeks



7 months



10 months



2 years old



Adult – 3 years old

FULLY GROWN ADULT



3 years old

Finally

This is a scent-hound, a born hunter that has adapted well to the British showring.



Enjoy this happy, outgoing breed and, when judging, bear in mind its origins and ability to fulfil its original purpose.

