

# The Yorkshire Terrier



Judges' Education Presentation

# The History of The Yorkshire Terrier



Yorkshire Terriers lay no claim to antiquity. They do not appear on ancient burial urns in Egypt, nor are they found in paintings on cave walls. They are a modern breed, produced in Yorkshire, a stronghold of breeders of all forms of livestock. Those Breeders in Northern England who decided to produce a toy terrier knew exactly what they wanted and set out to accomplish it.



# The History of The Yorkshire Terrier

One of the difficulties in getting the Yorkies origins correct is that each of the three breeds necessary to arrive at the final breed of Yorkshire terrier are now extinct.

Along the path to their disappearance the breeds simply merged into other breeds or their type gave way to another version. The primary breed that is responsible for the Yorkshire was the Clydesdale terrier (the blue and tan silky coated version of the Skye); the second breed was the Waterside terrier (or Otter terrier) and the third was the Old English terrier (toy rough and broken haired).



The Clydesdale.



# The History of The Yorkshire Terrier

- The facts concerning these breeds are well recorded in books starting in 1846. However, later day authors did no research or the records were unavailable to them, or they simply preferred to go along with what someone else had written.
- Yorkshire terriers were given their breed name by 1874, although it had been around since 1870. Originally they were known and shown as Broken Haired Scotch terriers or toy terrier (rough and broken haired).

Imported from England.







**The Yorkshire terrier today.**

# The History of The Yorkshire Terrier

The three photos we have chosen above give you a pictorial progression of the Yorkshire terrier, starting with the very beginnings of the breed the Clydesdale terrier, an English Yorkshire terrier, through to the present day Yorkshire terrier you should expect to see in the US show ring today.

For those of you who would like to see more photographs of the earlier terrier breeds, the Clydesdale, the Waterside (or Otter), the Old English (rough and broken haired) terrier, and read Mrs. Gordon's complete in depth history of the Yorkshire terrier, we invite you to visit our website. [www.theyorkshireterrierclubofamerica.org](http://www.theyorkshireterrierclubofamerica.org)

There you will find under the About Yorkies heading, a history section that has the complete article written by Mrs. Joan Gordon, a lifetime member of the YTCA Inc., and Co-author of the book The Complete Yorkshire Terrier, printed in 1976.



# General Appearance

...That of a long-haired toy terrier whose blue and tan coat is parted on the face and from the base of the skull to the end of the tail and hangs evenly and quite straight down each side of body. The body is neat, compact and well proportioned. The dog's high head carriage and confident manner should give the appearance of vigor and self importance.

Approved April 12, 1966



# Discussion: General Appearance

- A long coated toy terrier, well balanced, neat, small, appearing square, and very compact.
- High head carriage, self confident manner and sound.
- Readily identified by his straight, flowing, glossy, fine silky texture body coat of bright, shiny, metallic, lustrous steel blue.
- Clear shaded golden tans, deeper in color at sides of the head, ear roots and muzzle.





# Head

- The skull is small and rather flat on top.
- The skull is not too prominent or round.
- The muzzle is not too long.
- Always pleasing to the eye, never coarse.

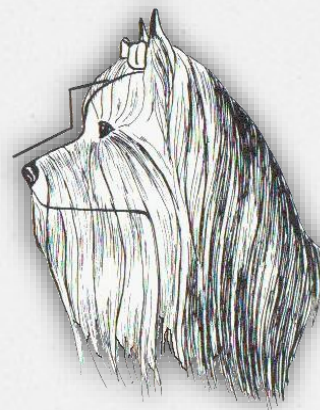


# Discussion: Head

Correct  
Head



Down  
Faced



Correct  
Planes



Pussycat  
Face





# Discussion: Head

**Correct** head  
& planes

Down Faced  
**Incorrect** head &  
planes



# Mouth

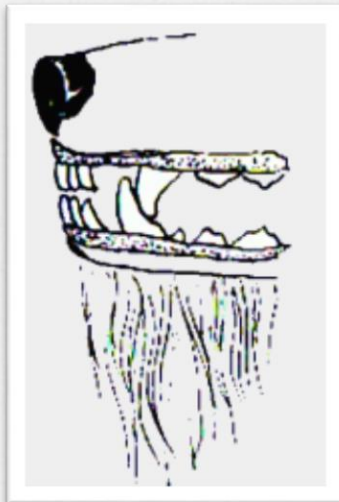
The bite is neither undershot nor overshot and the teeth are sound.

**Correct**

Scissors



Level



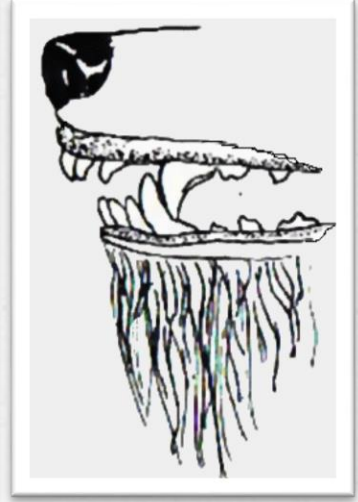
Either scissors bite or level bite is acceptable.

**Incorrect**

Undershot



Overshot





# Nose & Eyes

- The nose is black.
- Eyes are medium in size and not too prominent; dark in color and sparkling with a sharp, intelligent expression.
- Eye rims are dark.



# Discussion: Eyes

Eyes are intelligent and expressive with eyes and eye rims very dark appearing black.

A Yorkshire terrier's eye looks straight ahead which plays a major part in his expression. The eye fits well into the socket, never protruding or sunken.





# Discussion: Eyes

- A large round eye is generally found with a too-rounded skull.
- Yorkies with red-orange coloring on head and muzzle have a tendency toward lighter eyes and eye rims which are undesirable as it spoils the necessary keen expression.
- A "small beady eye" is highly undesirable and detracts from expression.

Correct



Incorrect



# Ears



This six month puppy demonstrates correct Ears that are small, V-shaped, carried erect and set not too far apart.



# Discussion: Ears

## Correct

Breeders cherish small, expressive ears, carried erect, that are set high on the head, close together, and V shaped.



## Incorrect

Low set ears detract from expression and are as highly undesirable as ears that are too large, rounded on tips, bat shaped or set too wide.



## Discussion: Ears

The ear fringe hair is trimmed off the edge of the ear leather about one-third down from the tip. Long hair on the front and back is smoothly trimmed one-third down from the tip.

It should be noted that ear fringes should not be caught up in the Yorkie's topknot as this practice does not permit free movement of the ears. Movement of ears is very important to expression.





# Body



# Discussion: Body

Well proportioned and very compact. The back is rather short, the *backline* level, with height at shoulder the same as at the rump.

- Body length: The forward point of the brisket to the after tip of the pelvis.
- Body Height: Top of the Withers to the ground.
- Back: The five, vertebrae between the withers and the loin, (ninth and thirteenth vertebrae inclusive).
- Backline: Also called topline, from the neck to the base of tail, including withers, back, loin and croup.





## Discussion: Body

- The Yorkshire terrier is a sound, well balanced, compact, neat, square appearing dog. For the Yorkie to carry his head proudly, his neck is of moderate length. Neither an overly long or extremely short neck is desirable.
- The Yorkshire terrier has a straight, level back, from the withers to the set-on tail. A sloping croup is undesirable.
- Weight: Must not exceed 7 lbs.



## Discussion: Legs & Feet



Hind legs straight when viewed from behind, but stifles are moderately bent when viewed from the sides.



Forelegs should be straight, elbows neither in nor out.



# Discussion: Feet



- Feet are round with black toenails.
- Dew claws are generally removed .

# Discussion: Tail

Docked to a medium length and carried slightly higher than the level of the back.





# Correct Tail ~ Deviation from US Standard

Correct



Deviation from the US  
Standard



# Coat and Color





## Discussion: COAT TEXTURE & COLOR-BLUE

Our breed is a difficult one in that it demands two very different and distinct METALLIC colors on a coat that is of a LUSTROUS silky texture. The coat texture, quality and quantity as well as its colors are of prime importance. The proper coat texture and colors always reflect a certain amount of brilliance and light naturally, and feel cool to the touch.

These two very distinctive colors of the Yorkshire terrier, the dark bright steel blue and the clear rich shaded golds, are unique, and breeders are aware that without the proper fine silken hairs which are found only in the ideal textured coat, neither of these highly prized unusual colors demanded by the standard can be obtained.

THE DESIRED STEEL BLUE ALWAYS LACKS ANY APPROACH TO BLACKNESS.

# Discussion: Coat

Quality, texture and quantity of coat are of prime importance. Hair is glossy, fine and silky in texture. Coat on the body is moderately long and perfectly straight (not wavy). It may be trimmed to floor length to give ease of movement and a neater appearance, if desired. The fall on the head is long, tied with one bow in center of head or parted in the middle and tied with two bows. Hair on muzzle is very long. Hair should be trimmed short on tips of ears and may be trimmed on feet to give them a neat appearance.





## Color on the Body

Color of hair on body and richness of tan on head and legs are of prime importance in ADULT DOGS, to which the following color requirements apply:

**BLUE:** Is a dark steel blue, not a silver blue and not mingled with fawn, bronzy or black hairs.



## Color on the Head

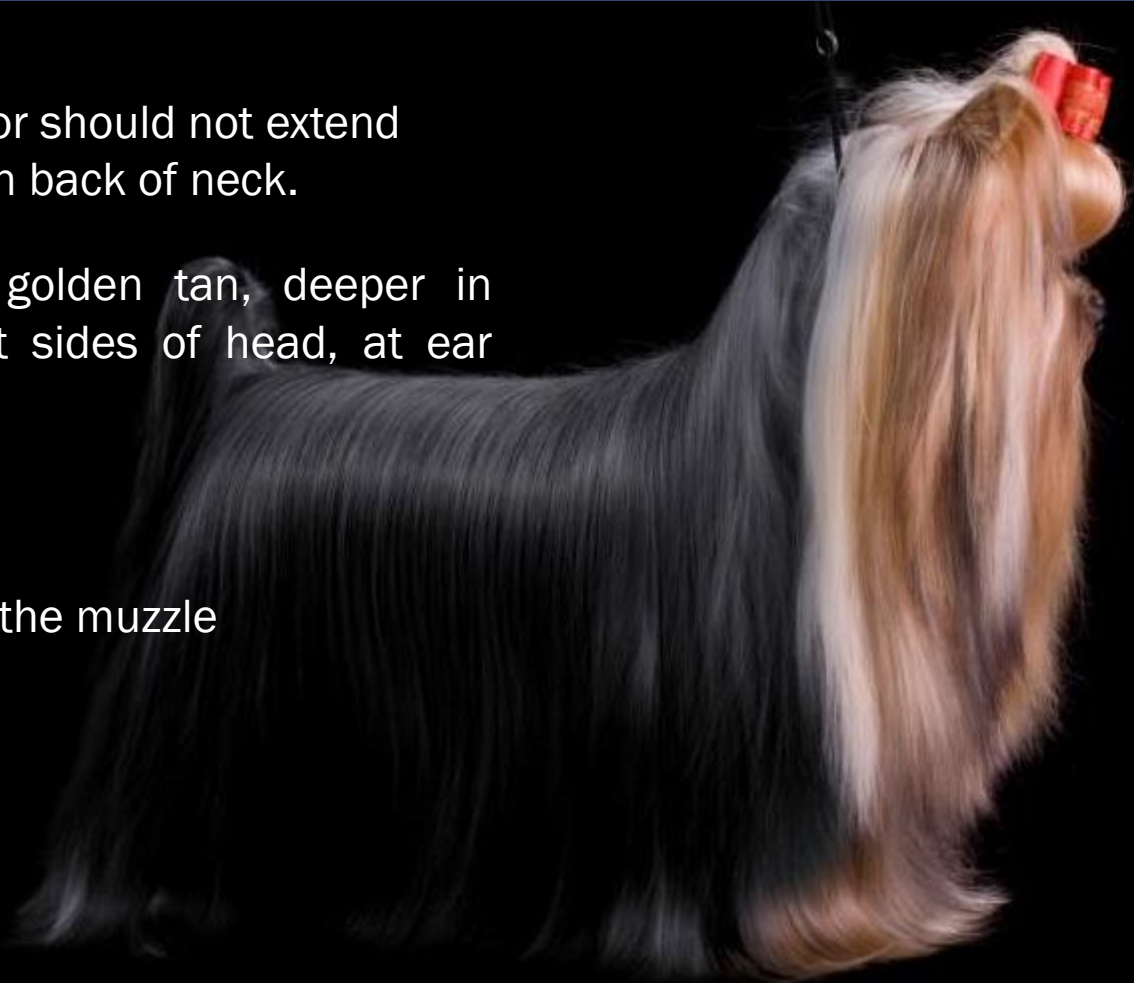
**TAN:** All tan hair is darker at the roots than in the middle, shading to still lighter tan at the tips. There should be no sooty or black hair intermingled with any of the tan.





# Color on the Head & Fall

- Tan color should not extend down on back of neck.
- A rich golden tan, deeper in color at sides of head, at ear roots.
- And on the muzzle



# Discussion: Gold Color



The QUALITY of gold on the ideal Yorkie can be likened to a NEW GOLD COIN. It bears no resemblance to a rust, ginger or brownish mahogany hue. It does not appear to be a solid, un-shaded orangey red, nor the red of an Irish setter (setter red).





## Discussion: Gold Color

A Yorkshire terrier has shaded golden tan (GOLD). This means the golden tan hairs are darker at the roots shading to a lighter color in the middle and still lighter at the tips.



This much sought after shaded golden tan is a fine silky texture. It is a **BRIGHT, RICH, GLEAMING, BRILLIANT GOLDEN HUE**, and will reflect light.



# Color Progression



Puppies are born black and tan and are normally darker in body color, showing an intermingling of black hair in the tan until they are matured.





## Discussion: Color Progression

6 Months



10 Months



2 ½ Years



# Color Progression



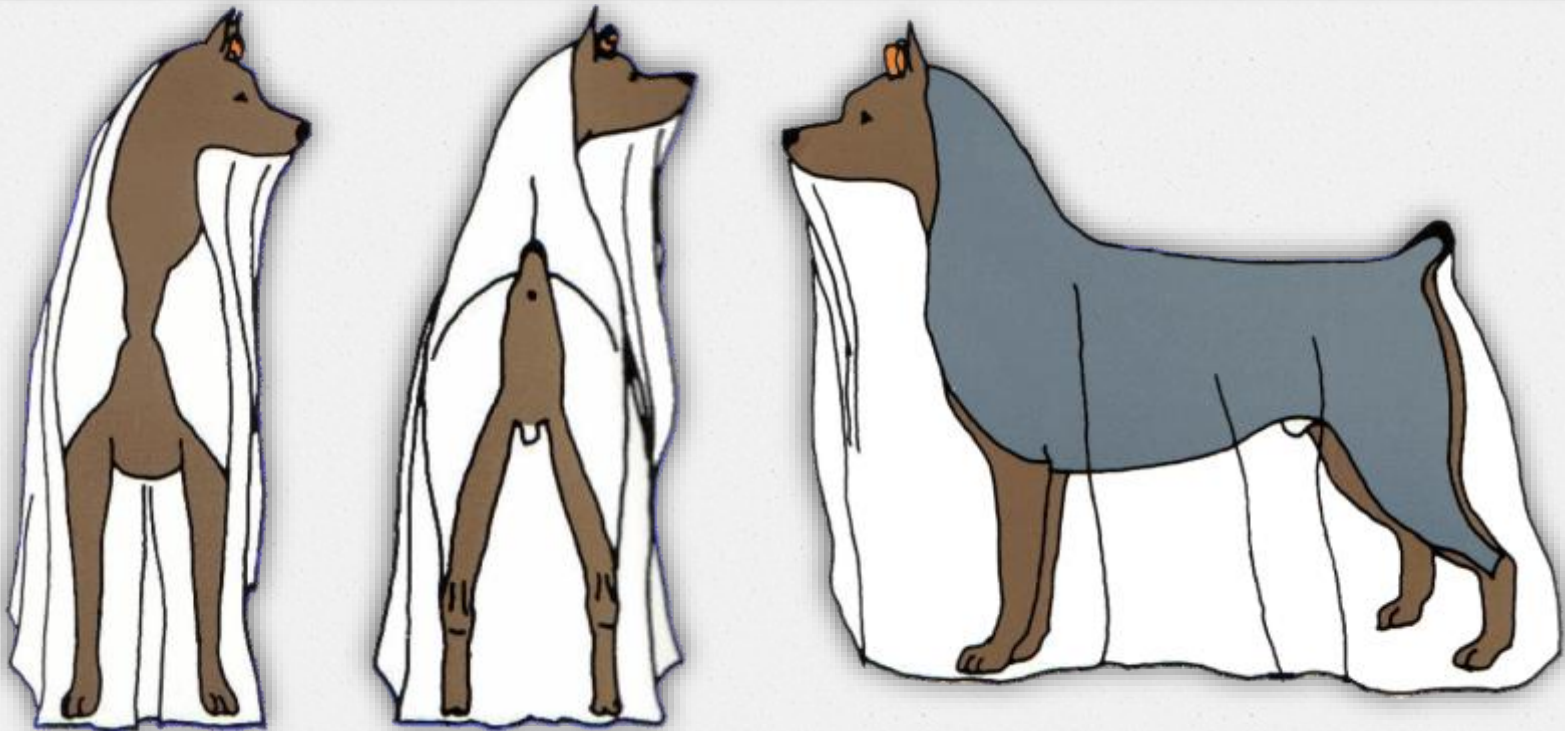


# Color Progression





## Color: Placement ~ Chest & Legs



A bright, rich tan, not extending above the elbow on the forelegs nor above the stifle on the hind legs.



## Color: Placement ~ Body



The blue extends over the body from back of neck to root of tail. Hair on tail is a darker blue, especially at end of tail.

# Color ~ Running Gold

Incorrect

A “running color” will spoil an otherwise highly prized adult specimen of the breed. Running color means that the tan color markings as prescribed in the standard have exceeded their borders. The tan extension has given a fawn or bronzy appearance into the blue areas of the coat. These “running tan”, fawn or bronzy areas can be observed below the occiput, around the tail set and the shoulder areas. The front or the chest of a Yorkshire Terrier is all shaded gold. There are no sooty or visible dark hairs or any small “half circle” break from under chin to the chest.





# Running Gold in a Show Coat

Incorrect



# Close up of Running Gold





# Correct & Incorrect Color Pattern

Correct



Incorrect



# Discussion: Color ~ Black Woolly

Yorkies carrying a dense woolly or cottony black soft coat, will feel warm, stand away from the body, and usually carry a pale, weak unshaded tan. They are referred to as a “black and tan” (Yorkie).

Incorrect





# Movement

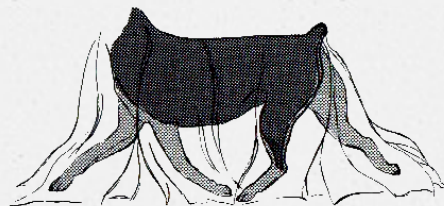


Fig. 30  
GOOD MOVEMENT - SIDE



Fig. 31  
CORRECT  
MOVEMENT -  
FRONT



Fig. 32  
CORRECT  
MOVEMENT  
REAR



Fig. 33  
CORRECT MOVEMENT

# Discussion: Movement



The Yorkshire terrier is a trotter. The motion is harmonious, smooth, sure and jaunty with the typical air of self-importance and vigor. He has a straight level back and moves in a straight line with free and easy strides.



# Side Movement



# Front Movement





# Rear Movement



## ...Remember

An adult Yorkshire terrier completing the picture as prescribed by the standard has a totally clear golden head and a head fall that is “a rich golden tan, deeper in color at sides of head, at ear roots and on the muzzle, with ears deep rich tan.”

It is completely free of any remaining black or sooty gray hair left from puppyhood.





# Disqualifications

- Any solid color or combination of colors other than the blue and tan as described above.
- Any white markings other than a small white spot on the fore chest that does not exceed 1 inch at its longest dimension.
- Solid color dogs such as a solid color gold or solid color chocolate.
- A chocolate and tan dog or other unusual combination of colors.
- A white dog with black and tan markings (parti-color).

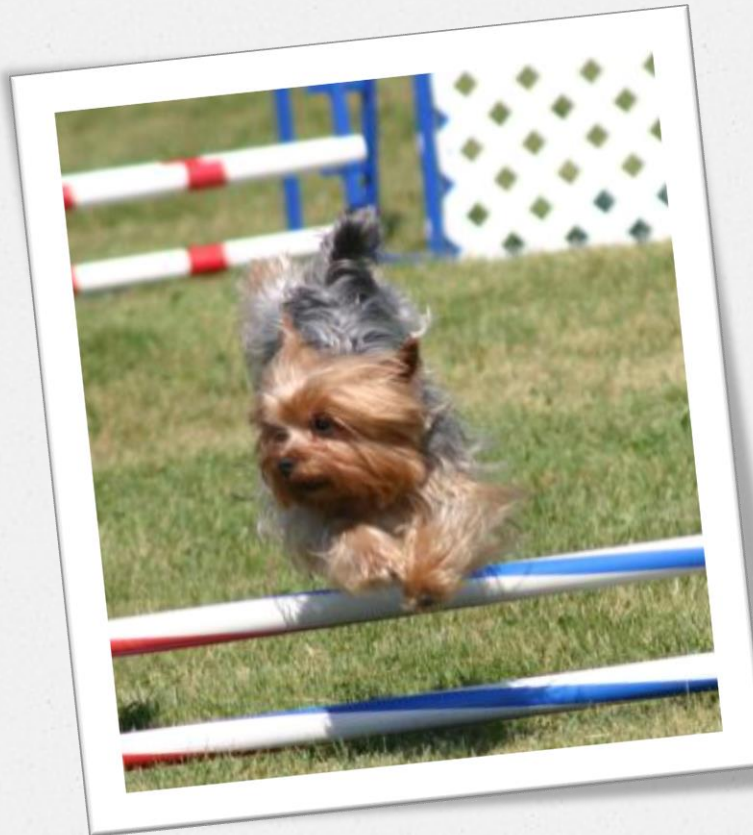
# Disqualifications





# Versatility

The YTCA is approved for Agility, Rally, Obedience & Earth dog.



# Thank You!



Sourcing photos, layout and design work provided by YTCA member Lisa Thornberg. Editing & production by YTCA member Georgina Miller. 12/01/2016.