



**FCI standard No. 259**  
**Japanese Terrier**  
*Nihon Teria*  
Standard Provided by ABIDS

**CLASSIFICATION:**

Group 3.....Terriers  
Section 2.....Small sized Terriers  
Without working trial.

**Info:** FCI-Standard No 259 / 20.01.1998 /GB

**DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE ORIGINAL VALID STANDARD:** 05.06.1995.

**UTILIZATION:** Toy dog.

**ORIGIN:** Japan.

**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:** This breed was created by mating smooth-haired Fox Terriers, exported to Nagasaki from the Netherlands in the 17th century, to small-sized pointers or small-sized native dogs. Japanese Terriers were kept mainly as lap-dogs in ports such as Kobe and Yokohama.

The Japanese Terrier has a lively and cheerful character. Its planned breeding started around 1920, and it was not until about 1930 that its type became fixed.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** Small-sized dog of smart appearance with a clear-cut and compact outline. The coat is very short, being about 2 mm in length.

**IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:** The ratio of height at withers to length of body is 1:1. The nasal bridge and the skull are equal in length.

**BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT:** The Japanese Terrier is swift and lively in temperament.

**HEAD**

**CRANIAL REGION:**

**Skull:** Flat and moderately narrow.

**Stop:** Not too defined.

**FACIAL REGION:**

**Nose:** Black with a straight nasal bridge.

**Lips:** Thin and tight.

**Teeth:** Strong and white, with a scissor bite.

**Cheeks:** Lean and free from fullness.

**Eyes :** Moderately sized, oval in shape and dark in color.

**Ears:** Set on high, moderately small, thin, V-shaped and dropping forward. But carried folded and standing out from sides of the skull permitted.

**NECK:** Moderately long, strong, gradually thicker towards the shoulders and free from throatiness.

**BODY:**

**Withers:** High.

**Back:** Short and firm.

**Loins and croup:** Slightly arched and powerful.

**Chest:** Deep, but forechest not too broad. Ribs well sprung.

**Belly:** Well tucked up.

**Tail:** Moderately thin; docked at the third or fourth joint.

**FOREQUARTERS:**

**Shoulders:** Sloping gently.

**Forearms:** Straight, bones not too heavy.

**HINDQUARTERS:**

**Thighs:** Long.

**Stifle joint:** Moderately angulated.

**Hock joint:** Moderately angulated.

**Hock:** Vertical.

**FEET:** Tightly closed, pads elastic; nails hard and preferably dark in color.

**GAIT:** Light and agile.

**COAT: Hair:** Short, smooth, dense and glossy. **Color:** Tricolor with black, tan and white head; white with black spots, black markings or tan markings on body.

**SIZE:** Height for both dogs and bitches: approximately 30 - 33 cm.

**FAULTS:** *Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered as a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree.*

*-Slightly overshot or undershot bite.*

*-Bicolor.*

**DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:**

*-Long hair.*

*-Extremely overshot or undershot bite.*

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