



Portuguese Podengo Club of America
PORTUGUESE PODENGO - Picture Standard
*Portuguese Warren Hound, Podengo Português Chien
de Garenne Portugais; Portugiesischer Podenco*
Standard Provided by ABIDS

HISTORY OF THE BREED: The Portuguese Podengo is the National Dog of Portugal. Its history is deeply interwoven with the history of the country and its people. The Podengo appears in literature as early as the 12th century and churches from even earlier times depict the breed in their stonework. An ancient hunting breed, the origins of the Podengo Portugues trace back thousands of years. It is thought that the Podengo came to the Iberian Peninsula with the Phoenicians from the area of Asia Minor. Its first pictorial representations are found in the Roman ruins in Conimbriga (Portugal) on mosaics and medallions. To this day, the Podengo retains the characteristics of its early ancestors. The first purebred Portuguese Podengos came to the United States in the 1990s. They now reside in more than thirty states and are recorded in the American Kennel Club's Foundation Stock Service. The Portuguese Podengo is fully recognized by the American Rare Breed Association, the United Kennel Club, and Rarities, Inc. The Podengo is accepted for participation in events sponsored by the American Sighthound Field Association, the United States Dog Agility Association and other canine organizations. The Portuguese Podengo Club of America (PPCA) represents all types and varieties within the breed and is recognized by AKC, UKC and other major canine organizations as the representative of the breed in the United States. Most Portuguese Podengos in the U.S. are registered with the Kennel Club of Portugal (CPC), including those from litters born in the United States, in accord with a process established between the CPC and the PPCA.

TYPES AND VARIETIES: There are three types of Podengos - Podengo Grande, Podengo Medio and Podengo Pequeno. Within each type are two varieties: Smooth Coat and Wire Coat.

PHOTO GALLERY

PORTUGUESE PODENGO GRANDE: The largest of the Podengos, the Grande is very rare & is used in wild boar hunting.



Podengo Grande Wire Coat



Podengo Grande Smooth Coat

PORTUGUESE PODENGO MEDIO: Medium-sized, the Medio is a popular dog used for rabbit hunting in Portugal.



Podengo Medio Wire Coat



Podengo Medio Smooth Coat

PORTUGUESE PODENGO PEQUENO: This smallest type of Podengo is an avid and agile rabbit hunter, hunting singly and in packs.



Podengo Pequeno Smooth Coat



Podengo Pequeno Wire Coat

FACTS ABOUT THE PORTUGUESE PODENGO:

- Portugal registers the most Podengos, followed by Finland, England and the United States.
- The small Podengo traveled aboard the ships of the Portuguese explorers and evidence points to many breeds throughout the world that may trace their roots to the Podengo.
- The Podengo is a hardy, intelligent and lively breed, excelling at agility and making fine companions. Loyal and fearless, the Podengo is also a good house guard and easy to train.

More information on this ancient hound may be found in the book *O Podengo Portugues*, written by Vitor Veiga and available in Portuguese through: Clube do Podengo Portugues. Rua Rei Pedro II da Jugoslavia #4. 2765 Estoril, Portugal. The book will be available in English in March 2006 through the PPCA.

COURSING, AGILITY AND HUNTING: The Portuguese Podengo is a hunting dog and has met with success in lure coursing, agility, flyball and in pursuits such as obedience, therapy and companion dog events.



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PORTUGUESE PODENGO - With pictures from the Portuguese Podengo Club of America

CLASSIFICATION F.C.I.:

Group 5.....Spitz and primitive type.

Section 7 Primitive type - Hunting Dogs.

Without working trial.

TRANSLATION: R. Binder-Gresly and C. Seidler.

ORIGIN: Portugal.

DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE ORIGINAL VALID STANDARD: 25.09.1967.

UTILIZATION: This breed is mainly encountered in the north of the country. According to their natural disposition, these dogs are used for hunting rabbits, singly or in a pack. This is the reason why it goes too by the name of Warren Hound. They are also appreciated as good watchdogs.

MEDIUM SIZED PODENGO

GENERAL APPEARANCE: Of medium size and substance, well balanced in proportions, well muscled and with strong bone.



BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT: Very lively and clever, unassuming and robust.

HEAD: Lean, shaped like a four-sided pyramid with a large base, diminishing considerably towards its pointed end. Longitudinal axes of the skull and foreface divergent.

CRANIAL REGION: Skull: Flat, almost straight in profile. Superciliary ridges prominent. Frontal groove hardly perceptible; the region between the ears horizontal; occipital bone prominent.

Stop: Barely defined.



FACIAL REGION: Nose: Tapering towards the slightly protruding tip; frontal plane of the nose slightly slanting; its color always darker than that of the coat.

Muzzle: Nasal bridge rounded (in cross section); straight when seen in profile. Muzzle shorter than skull and broader at its base than at the front end.

Lips: Close fitting, thin, firm and horizontal.

Jaws/Teeth: Regular, with strong white teeth. Normal bite.

Eyes: Very lively expression; barely protruding from the eye-sockets; color varies according to coat color, from honey to chestnut brown; small and set obliquely; color of eyelids darker than coat color.

Ears: Set on medium high and oblique; carried erect, very mobile; vertical forward when the dog is attentive; triangular shape, broad at the base, tapering to a point; ear leather thin; length of ear remarkably greater than width at set-on.



NECK: Harmonious transition from head to body; straight, suitably long; strong and well muscled. No dewlap.



BODY

Topline: Straight or slightly arched.



Back: Long, straight or slightly sloping.

Loins: Straight or slightly arched; broad and muscular.

Croup: Of medium length, broad and well muscled; straight or slightly slanting.

Chest: Forechest slightly accentuated, muscular, not too wide; chest deep and long, of medium width; long sternum rising towards rear; ribs hardly rounded, oblique.

Belly/flanks: Lean, with a slight tuck-up.

Underline: Slightly rising.

TAIL: Set on high rather than low, strong, thick, of medium length, tapering towards a fine point; in repose hanging between hindlegs with the tip slightly curved upwards; in movement carried horizontally with a slight upward curve or carried upright in sickle shape; never curled up into ring shape.

LIMBS

FOREQUARTERS: General: Seen from the front and from the side, vertical and straight, well muscled and clean.



Shoulders and upper arm: Long and oblique; strong and well muscled; forming a blunt angle at shoulder joint.

Forearm: Vertical, long and muscular.

Pastern joint: Clean, not prominent.

Pastern: Strong, short, slightly slanting.

Front feet: Round; long, strong, tightly bunched and strongly arched toes; nails strong, short, preferably dark; pads hard and resistant.

HINDQUARTERS: General: Seen from behind and from the side, straight and parallel; well muscled, clean.

Upper thigh: Long, of medium width, muscular.

Second thigh: Long, slanting, strong, muscular, clean.

Hock joints: Set on medium high, clean and strong, forming a blunt angle.

Hocks: Well boned, short, slanting; without dewclaws.

Hind feet: Round; long, strong, tightly bunched and strongly arched toes; short, strong, preferably dark nails; hard and resistant pads.



GAIT / MOVEMENT: Swift and light-footed.

SKIN: Mucous membranes preferably with black pigment or, in any case, darker than coat colour. Skin thin and close fitting.

COAT

HAIR: Short or long coat, of medium thickness; smooth in the short-haired variety; wiry (similar to the bristles of a wild boar) in the long-haired variety. The short coat is denser than the long coat. With the long coat there is a distinct “beard” underneath the lower jaw. No undercoat or fluff.



COLOR: Predominant colors are yellow, fawn (in all shades from light to very dark) and black (diluted or faded); self-colored with or without white markings; or white as basic color with markings in the listed colors.

SIZE AND WEIGHT: Height at withers: 40 - 55 cm.

Weight: 16 - 20 kg.

FAULTS: 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.

ELIMINATING FAULTS:

- **Aggressive or overly shy.**
- **General appearance:** Any sign of crossing with a Galgo (Spanish sighthound) or a Perdiguero (Portuguese Pointer).
- **Jaws:** Incorrect bite, badly placed teeth.

- **Eyes:** *Of different colours.*
- **Ears:** *Tipped over or folded.*
- **Neck:** *Arched.*
- **Body:** *Topline distinctly arched.*
- **Croup:** *Exaggerated slope.*
- **Belly:** *Too much tucked up.*
- **Tail:** *Curled up.*
- **Dewclaws:** *Undesirable (affect the grading of the dog).*

Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioral abnormalities shall be disqualified.

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

LARGE PORTUGUESE PODENGO

The breed characteristics of the Large Podengo, a nearly extinct variety in the country of origin, are almost identical with those of the medium size Podengo, with the following exceptions:

General appearance: Strong dog with plenty of substance, mainly used for hunting deer.

Height at withers: 55 - 70 cm.

SMALL PORTUGUESE PODENGO

The breed characteristics of the Small Podengo are also nearly identical to those of the medium size Podengo, with the following exceptions:

General appearance: A small dog somewhat elongated in proportions which is used for hunting rabbits as well as driving them from their burrows or rock clefts.

Skull: Flat or slightly arched.

Body: Length of body exceeds height at withers.

Limbs: Short. Forearm straight or slightly turned from outwards to inwards in its whole length.

Height at withers: 20 - 30 cm.

Weight: 4 - 5 kg.