



• BREED FEATURE • JACK RUSSELL TERRIER



They answered

A.1. I started showing and breeding in the 1970's with Saluki's and got my first Jack Russell Terrier in the 1990's and my first litter was 2006. As they are a great family dog and just love to be where you are and doing whatever it is that you are doing – running through the bush, walking on the beach or even sitting next to you on the couch having a cuddle.

A.2. I think that the standard we have is a good standard and the breed has come a long way from 10 years ago, or even back in the 90's, but there have been some great dogs along the way who have contributed a lot to get the breed to where we are today.

A.3. This breed was bred to go to ground to flush out quarry, i.e. rabbits & foxes, so form and function must be conceded with size/build as well as

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temperament.

A.4. I have found that on the whole they are a healthy breed.

They are a loving, funny, energetic, loyal, breed and I think most of all they are addictive and it is hard to stop at having just one. There is grooming involved with a Jack Russell Terrier just how much depends on coat type – little with a smooth and quite a lot with a rough, for most people a broken is ideal as they have the beard and bushy eyebrows but a shorter body coat.

A.5.

1) Overall conformation and balance – form and function, after all he is a strong, active, lithe working Terrier of great character with flexible body.

2) Length of back –“they are to be marginally longer than tall” length is measured from wither to root of tail, height is from wither to ground.

3) the measurement of the shoulder to length of leg is to be 50/50 – this is length of leg from ground to elbow is to be the same as from elbow to wither.

4) movement – They must have good reach and drive with a springy,

buoyant, cocky movement. His smart movement matches his keen expression, True, free and springy.

5) Head of the Jack Russell Terrier is a very important part of the dog remembering what is was bred for (flushing out or taking on a fox) - The length from the stop to the nose should be slightly shorter than from the stop to the occiput with the cheek muscles well developed. – so not a fine, narrow, snippy head and/or muzzle.

A.6. My “pet hate” is a long leg, narrow gutted dog or a short backed, unsalable Jack Russel Terrier, as the height is 10” to 12” and 40 to 43cm span.

The hardest fault to breed out is a hard one as most conformation faults are the hardest, faults like ear, eye and even tail set can be fixed in one or two litters but straight fronts & rears or a top line that is roached are a lot harder to bred out.

**Angela Hobbs
Jacattack**

A.1. Jason commenced around 10 years ago with JRTs and Nadia in 2009. Originally Nadia had Border Collies under our current prefix, Classicys. We love JRTs because they are a healthy and hardy little dogs with a great spirit and always keep you entertained.

A.2. JRTs are improving all the time. The breed was only first recognised in Australia by the ANKC in 1991 so type is really now starting to be more consistent. The very best JRTs in Australia can and do win BISs and can compete internationally. They are also winning major awards at Royal Shows; just in the last two years we have had a BIS at Toowoomba Royal 2013, Baby In Group at Toowoomba Royal 2012, and Puppy In Group at Melbourne Royal 2012 all with home bred dogs.

A.3. It would not so much be adding a sentence, but perhaps reworking or emphasising some...The standard states that the white must predominate with Black, Tan or brown marking, this does not mean that the Jack Russell needs to be completely White, it just needs to be the main colour. Too much emphasis is placed by some judges on pure white dogs. The colour is very important in regards to its original function, and white must predominate, but all white coated dogs are not necessarily better than those with some tan.

A.4. The JRT is a very hardy dog, and they have few health problems. Some breeders are testing for PLL (Primary Lens Luxation). JRTs are wonderful to live with. They are real characters and they really keep you on

We asked Breeders

Q.1. How long have you been breeding Jack Russell Terriers? Why are they your chosen breed?

Q.2. How do you feel the standard of Jack Russell Terriers today compares with say 10 years ago?

Q.3. If you were allowed to add a sentence to the Jack Russell breed standard – what would it be?

Q.4. Does the Jack Russell Terrier have any health problems, and what are they like to live with?

Q.5. Could you list in order of priority the 5 most important points you think a judge should look for in the Jack Russell Terrier?

Q.6. What is your ‘pet hate’ when looking at a Jack Russell Terrier, and what do you think is the hardest fault to breed out?

your toes. JRTs are also very smart, sometimes too smart, but that adds to their personality. They are independent yet loving little dogs.

A.5. Correct movement – the JRT dog is not supposed to be the fastest dog in the ring. The standard mentions movement in the General Appearance stating: “His smart movement matches his keen expression.” Then in the Gait/Movement section it states: “True, free and springy”. There is a tendency to put up dogs because they are “going like the clappers” rather than looking at the correctness of their action. JRTs

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should not have rotary rear movement, or fronts like Fox Terriers.

1. Girth behind the elbows can be spanned by two hands — about 40 cms to 43cms. Correct spanning involves lifting the dog’s front feet off the table. Most female hands are not 40- 43 cm in size, so when spanning it is fine if fingers don’t meet.

2. Tail - May droop at rest. When moving should be erect. Judges often expect the tail to be erect all of the time, especially when the dog is stacked, this is clearly not what the standard says and some dogs just don’t keep their tail up tirelessly on the stack. It doesn’t mean they aren’t “happy Jacks”, it is often because they would rather be moving and playing than standing still in a show line up.

3. Coat - Preferably unaltered’ particularly relates to rough coats. This



means the rough coat should not be stripped out to try to make it look like a broken coat, or worst still, shaven to look like a smooth. Tidying of the coat is fine, but changing the coat is not.

4. Lack of balance, i.e., over exaggeration of any points.

A.6. Excessive grooming of JRTs Rough coats leading to them being shown as brokens or smooths. We have won a BIS with a rough coated bitch shown as a rough, and have won BISs with brokens shown as brokens. Part of the uniqueness of a JRT is that it comes in 3 coat varieties and all should be appreciated.

**Jason, Nadia & Mel Attridge
Classicys**

A.1. Forty Years this year! I chose a Jack Russell because it was a big dog in a small package.... The second one followed and we were hooked on a breed which was unspoilt and uncomplicated...and fun!

A.2 Better, but perhaps there are different things that could be improved on...a few years ago the breed had faults such as pricked ears and cabriole fronts, today you don’t see this, but there are upright shoulders, wide fronts and some barrel chests

A.3. Not so much add a sentence,
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but bring back a word that was sadly dropped from the standard when the breed was recognised- "slimly"

The current standard calls for

A.4. I believe there have been a few recorded cases of Perthes and also Liver Shunt, as well as PLL. But basically I think the Jack Russell is a pretty healthy breed

A.5. The following 5 points are very close to each other...

1) Spannability- a hallmark of the breed...Chest girth 40-43 centimetres, able to be spanned by 2 hands

2) Brisket located at the height midway between the ground and the withers. In other words 50% body 50% leg

3) Another hallmark of this breed-

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Another hallmark of this breed-Coat. Must be weatherproof, preferably unaltered - not “should” be weatherproof- MUST be weatherproof. A rough coat should not be stripped out to look broken..... and coat preferably unaltered
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Coat. Must be weatherproof, preferably unaltered - not “should” be weatherproof- MUST be weatherproof. A rough coat should not be stripped out to look broken..... and coat preferably unaltered...sadly some dogs are being groomed so they resemble Fox Terrier



Wires-. By all means strip a dog to be tidy, but they should not be a sculptured breed.

4) Movement- True Free and Springy

5) Colour- standard states “White MUST predominate” Not 51%, but predominate. White should be the overwhelming colour....

A.6. Pet hate? In a show dog over-grooming, otherwise a poor front and barrel chests I think a hard fault to breed out is a cabriole front.

**Sarah Gaffikin
Birghthelm**

A.1. I have been in Jack Russell Terriers since I was 9 years old, I bred my first litter when I was 17 years old. I chose them as a breed to own, as I had always wanted my own dog to show and my parent’s Gundogs were too big for me to handle comfortably when I started out, and after looking at different breeds, there was just something about Jack Russells that stood out for me. Talked to a few breeders and ended up with my first Jack Russell.

A.2. Jack Russell Terriers have only been recognised from 1991 (a total of 23 years). In my opinion I think that they are becoming more uniform in type. Though we are seeing more straight shoulders and straight hind-quarters which don’t allow the dog to move correctly.

A.3. I find the Jack Russell Standard adequate and feel that there isn’t any need to change or add anything to it.

A.4. There are some health problems in Jack Russells, such as slipping patellas, inherited eye diseases such as Primary Lens Luxation, deafness and Legg Calve Perthes Disease (disease of the hip joints of small dog breeds) and Hereditary Cataracts. Due to breeders of registered Jack Russell Terriers being aware of these diseases, these are now few and far between.

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Living with the Jacks is a lot of fun as they are constantly trying to get your attention. Though, I also find that they like to be with you on the couch spending some time with their human family and are quite happy to cuddle up in your bed. If not socialised or trained properly they can be an over the top

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dog with their barking and destructive behaviour because of boredom. These dogs need to have people who are willing to put the time into them. They can be an excellent family dog, especially for older children.

A.5.

1: Temperament: They should be happy, outgoing and not in any way timid, shy nor aggressive.



2: Balance: This breed is not a square dog, in the Standard it is stated - *The body should be proportioned marginally longer than tall, measuring slightly longer from the withers to the root of the tail than from the withers to the ground.* We are starting to see Jacks that are becoming square in outline which isn’t correct.

3: Movement: A Jack Russell Terrier should move around the ring with a “springy gait” typical of the breed.

4: Spanning: One of the hallmarks of the breed is being able to be spanned – not many judges actually do this when going over the breed.

5: Coat: *Must be weatherproof* - there shouldn’t be any softness in the coats.

A.6. I can honestly say that there is nothing I really “hate” about Jack Russells apart from straight rear ends that are starting to creep into the breed.

I would think that the hardest things to breed out of Jack Russell Terriers would be straight shoulders and light eyes.

**Kimberley Azzopardi
Runninjacs**

A.1. I have been breeding & showing my Jack Russell’s about 17 years. I had my first Jack Bow 28 years ago. I took him when I was catching wild pigs with other large dogs. I found him

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to be very smart & fearless - he became my mate and I just fell in love with the breed.

A.2. Jack Russells are a very hard breed in which to breed consistent quality show dogs, as within the breed they vary so much. From 10 years ago to now I think the Jack Russells have improved in leaps & bounds & the very old & first breeders that are not with us now would be very pleased with the way the breed is heading.

A.3. I would not change anything as this is the Standard I have been breeding to for the last 17 years .

A.4. They are a breed that does not have any major health problems. To live with most of the time they are full on – as I said before fearless & smart - that’s what I like about the breed.

A.5. A) Span ability, Straight front & movement, Tail Set , Topline, Temperament , Dark almond eyes ,

A.6. Not ‘span able’ & straight front. Light eyes are the hardest fault to breed out.

Garry Butler Whatajack