

**Coat: The rough coat is wiry and dense, the harder and more wiry the better. On no account should the dog look or feel woolly, and there should be no silky hair anywhere. The coat should not be so long as to give a shaggy appearance, but should be distinctly different all over from the smooth coat. The head should be covered with wiry hair, slightly longer around the eyes, nose, cheeks, and chin, thus forming a fringe. The rough coat is hand-stripped and should never appear unkempt. Body coat of sufficient length to determine texture. The coat may be tidied for neatness of appearance, but coats prepared with scissors and/or clippers should be severely penalized. The smooth coat is straight, short, tight and glossy, with no trace of wiry hair.**

**AMPLIFICATION:**

Rough coats differ greatly in harshness, color, and fullness of furnishings. The double coat consists of the harsh outer hairs, or top coat, and the often softer and lighter undercoat. The topcoat should be very harsh, wiry, and dense. The hair of the top coat is most harsh and wiry at the tip and, depending on the length of the coat, becomes finer and lighter in color near the root. The "classic" coat has an undercoat nearly as hard as the topcoat. This ideal coat needs only to be tidied to keep the dog looking neat. This marvelous, hard-as-nails coat usually has scant leg furnishings and a short beard. Such coat texture, while rarely seen, should be highly prized.

Although the rough-coated variety does not shed, the dead or blown coat must be hand stripped or plucked to bring in the new hard jacket. Coats that are rolled or rotated will not be as even in texture or color as a coat that has been completely stripped out at one time.

Do not be misled by excessive hair. The wiry fringe formed by the slightly longer facial hair should not flow into a long beard. Excessive hair on the forehead and skull should not be left to camouflage many head faults, i.e., narrow head, long nose, flat forehead, etc. While thought to be impressive by some, a long, plush beard will distort proportional head balance. Soft, cottony furnishings generally indicate a coat that is too soft and fine. A correct hard wire coat will seldom, if ever, produce long profuse furnishings.

The Smooth coat is similar to that of the Boston Terrier, with no long hair anywhere. The ideal Smooth will feel sleek but not silky. It should have no undercoat, no ruff around the neck, and no pants on the rear. Removal of whiskers on the Smooth is optional.