

**Color: Either 1) Red: reddish brown with a little black at the whiskers and chin allowable;**

AMPLIFICATION:

The red color can vary from a deep mahogany through the fiery red--all quite acceptable.

UNDESIRABLE:

Washed out, light fawn, blond, or tan colors.

**2) Belge: black and reddish brown mixed, usually with black mask and whiskers;**

AMPLIFICATION:

The name Belge comes from the native standard. This color is rarely seen to perfection. It consists of a two-colored hair shaft (banded, or mixed with rich red and black). The result is a smoky or smutty overall appearance. The Belge is often enhanced by a black mask and ears. Since the Belge can carry recessive genes for black and tans, they may have tan points.

UNDESIRABLE:

Pronounced shading or saddling in overall coat color.

**3) Black and tan: black with uniform reddish brown markings, appearing under the chin, on the legs, above each eye, around the edges of the ears, and around the vent;**

AMPLIFICATION:

The tan markings should not bleed into the black base color and should be cleanly positioned in the areas of all conventional "black and tan" dogs. A black dog with a red head or one with only tan legs is NOT a Black and Tan. Sometimes they are born with the correct tan points, but later the tan spreads into an Airedale-like pattern becoming a tan dog with a black saddle. These incorrectly marked dogs should not be shown or bred if the breed is to maintain the correct genes for black and tan. Color should be jet black with rich deep tan points.

UNDESIRABLE:

Anything other than conventionally placed tan points. Spreading tan or tan bleeding out of defined areas.