



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL



Extended Breed Standard of the GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG

Produced by the
GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA
in conjunction with the
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL

Breed Standard Extension Presentation updated by ANKC
8/10/2015

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Country of Origin ~ Germany

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Approved by the

GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

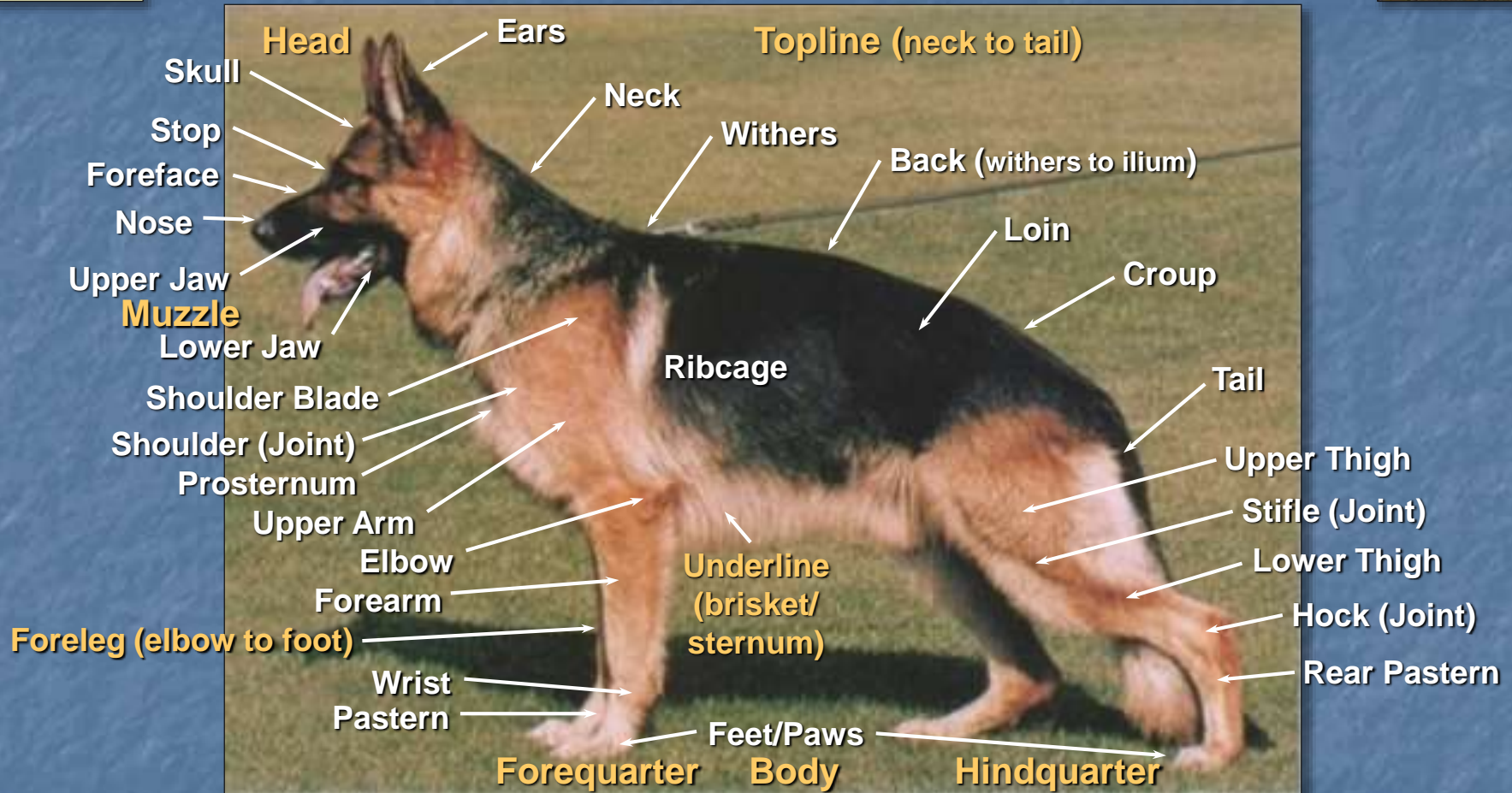
Annual General Meeting, 03/02/2007

Updated 2009, 2011 and 2015, effective from 01/11/2015

Additional graphic material augmenting this Presentation approved by the
GSDCA National Breed Commission, 10/04/2012. Graphic "additional" to the primary EBS are
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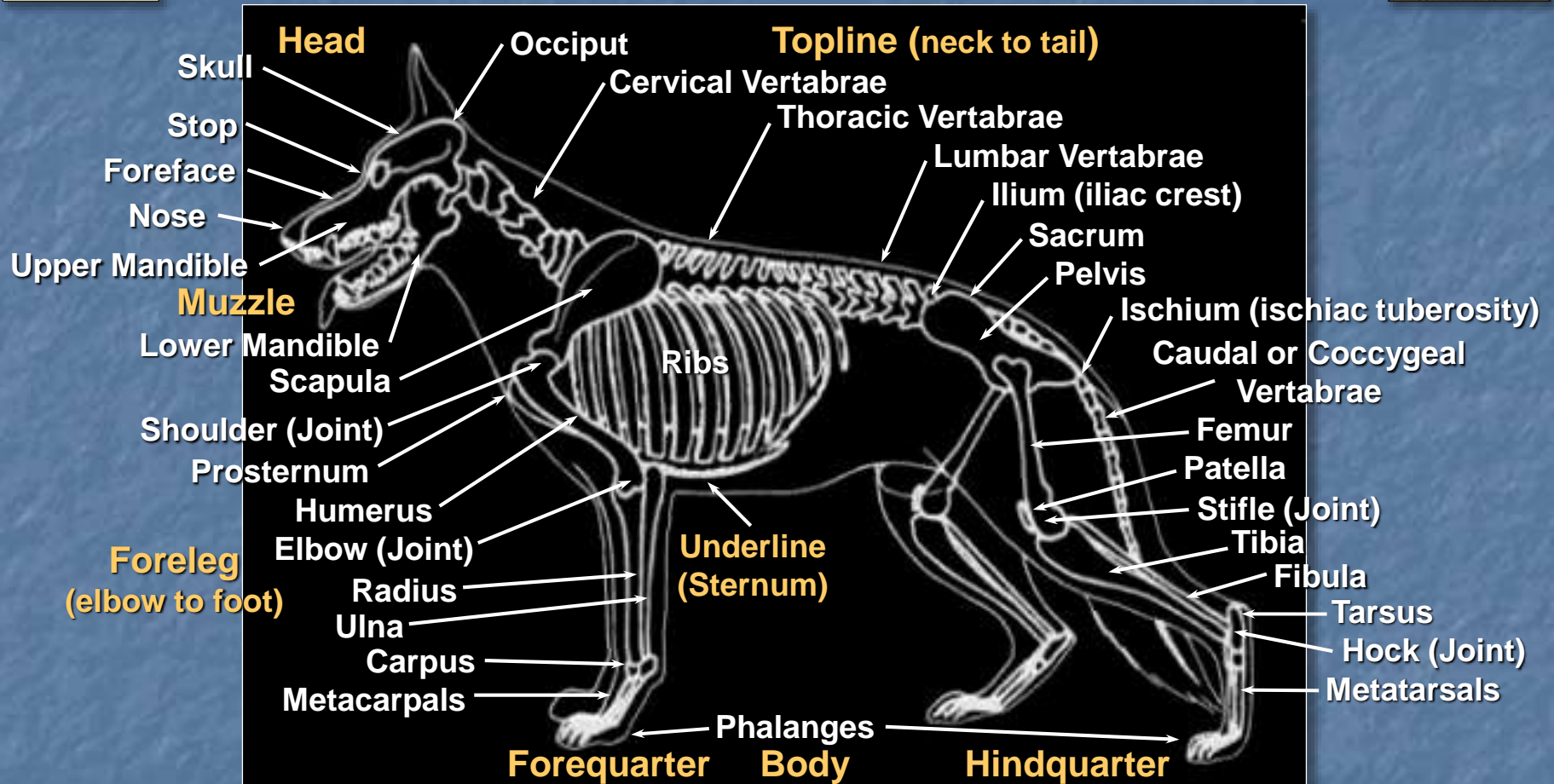


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- Fig. a1. **Topographical Anatomy :**
Shows component terminology. The topline extends from the neck to the tail and includes the withers, back and croup. The back extends from the withers to the front of the croup (i.e. withers to ilium).

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- Fig. a2. **Skeletal Anatomy :**
Shows component technical terminology. The topline comprises the neck, withers, back and croup. The back extends from the topmost section of the scapula (withers) to the front of the pelvis (ilium).



Extended Breed Standard of the **GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG**



A Short Historical Overview to the Breed

- **Original Breed Standard (Germany):**

First established on 20th September 1899, by the members of the Verein für Deutsche Schäferhunde (SV), on the proposals of A. Meyer and M. von Stephanitz. Last revised on 23rd March 1991, with further amendments in May 1997, June 2001 and June 2009.

- **Planned Breeding :**

Commenced in the year 1899, from the central German and south German strains of the existing herding dogs to create a working dog, predisposed to high working aptitude.

- **World Wide Spread :**

Quickly spread to European countries, USA in 1906, Great Britain prior to 1914 and to Australia as early as 1904 and officially in 1923.

- **GSDCA :**

Formed in 1960, has introduced many significant breed improvement schemes (e.g. Hip Dysplasia [HD] & Elbow Dysplasia [ED]), specialist shows, the National Show and Trial, and the Main Breed Exhibition.



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General Background (Historical Overview cont.)

- **Name of the Breed :**

Direct translation of its original German name,
"der Deutsche Schäferhund" - "the German Shepherd Dog".

- **Translation of Breed Standard :**

In 1982, translation of the SV/FCI Standard was approved by the FCI, SV and WUSV, forming a basis for most countries to adopt.

- **ANKC and GSDCA Breed Standard Adoption :**

In 1993, with ANKC approval, the GSDCA opted to use the Country of Origin Standard, being the FCI or SV Breed Standard. This was used in Australia from the 1st January 1994. The updated FCI/SV Standard 2001, as translated by the GSDCA, was adopted by the ANKC in 2007 and was updated in 2011 to include two varieties.

- **WUSV Standard (an extended version) :**

The WUSV Standard referred to above was essentially the SV Standard with much more detail, obviously aimed at explaining the Standard to others around the world .



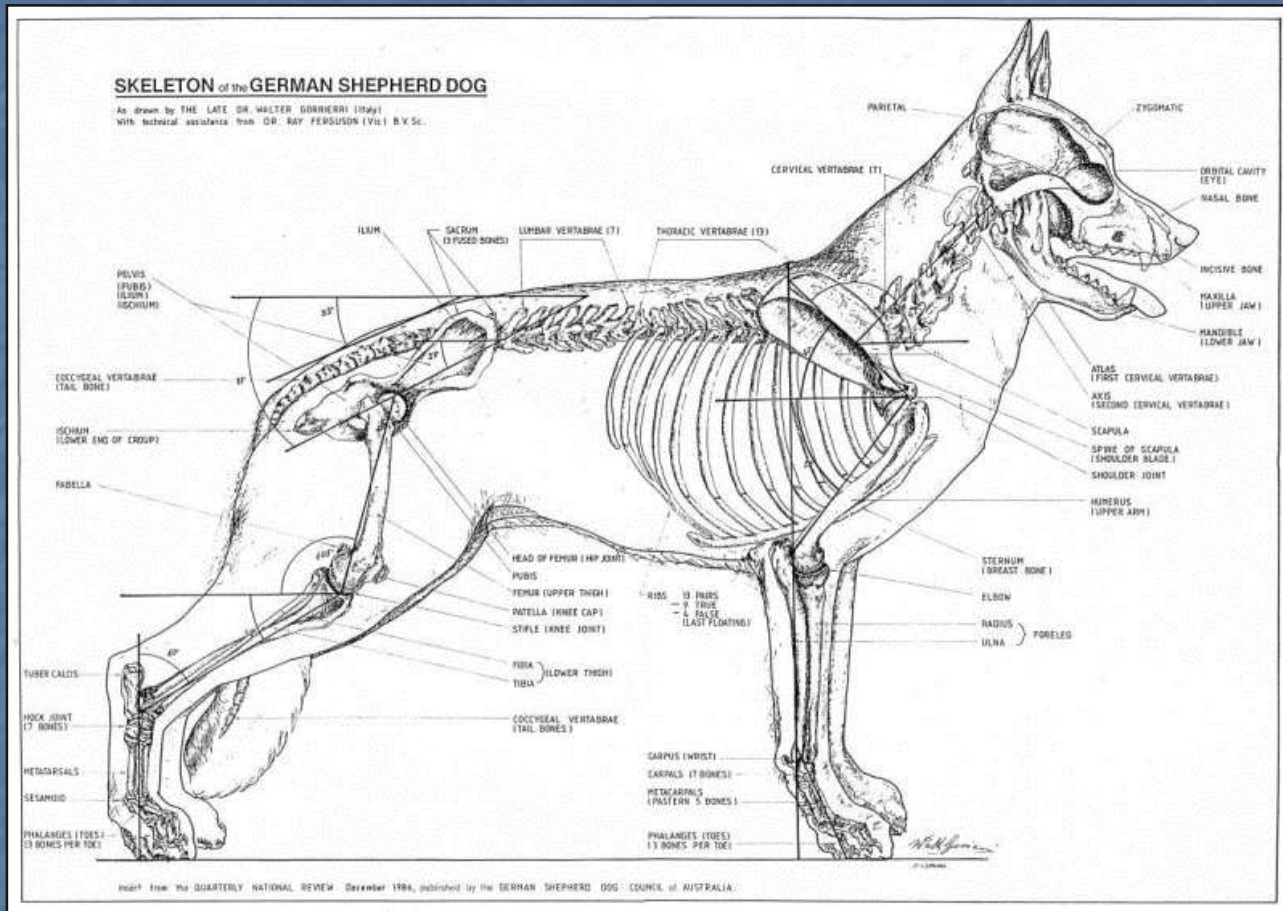
Extended Breed Standard of the **GERMAN SHEPHERD DOG**



General Background (Historical Overview cont.)

- **ANKC and GSDCA Breed Standard Implementation :**
On 1st January 2012, two separate breed varieties of the German Shepherd Dog based on coat type were recognised. As well as the established Stock Coat, the Long Stock Coat also became eligible for registration as a variety. Inter-breeding of varieties is not permitted.
- **Stock Coat :**
The normal coated GSD is the Stock Coat variety with a thick undercoat, and a dense, straight, hard and close lying outercoat.
- **Long Stock Coat :**
The long-haired GSD is the Long Stock Coat variety with a thick undercoat, and a longer, not always as straight, soft and not as close lying outercoat.
- **Terminology (why the term "Stock" ?) :**
The reason why the term "stock" is used to identify the coat-types, is to indicate that only such a coat-type with undercoat was considered suitable for use as "breeding stock", in Germany.

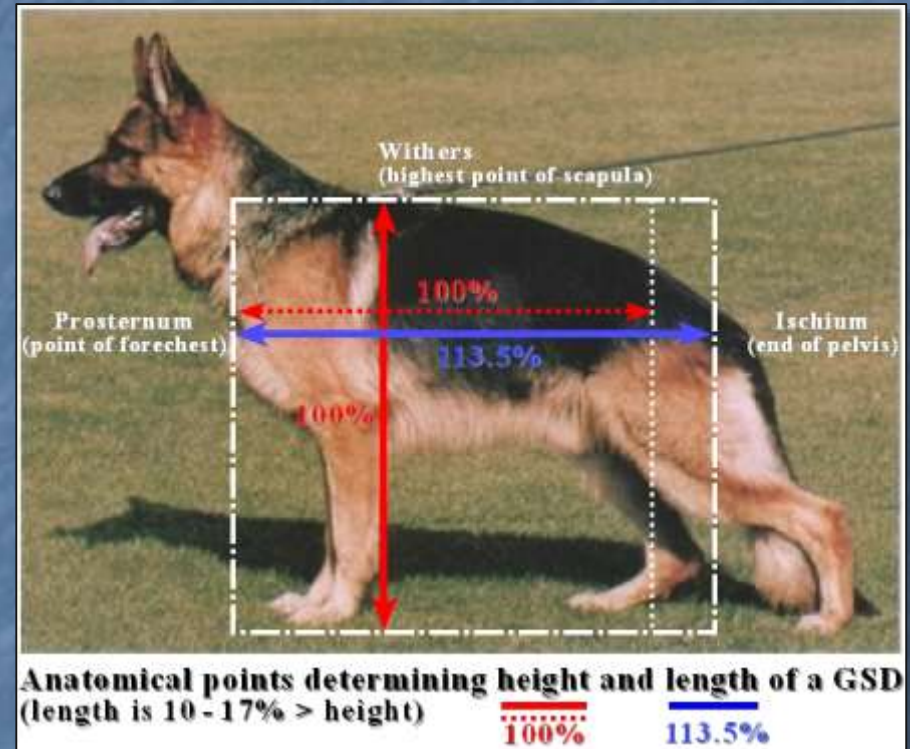
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- Fig. 1. **General Appearance (Skeletal Construction)** : Shows component terminology. Observe the ideal proportions, relative length of bones and correct angulations that underpin the ideal structural anatomy of the desired working German Shepherd Dog.



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- Fig. 2. **General Appearance :**
Embodies desired type, proportions and suitability as a working dog.
- Fig. 3. **General Appearance :**
Shows determination of important height and length proportions.



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- Fig. a4 - a12. **Characteristics :**
Self-assurance, alertness and tractability of a versatile working dog.
- Fig. a4 - a12. **Temperament :**
Well balanced, steady nerve, good natured, courage and resilience.



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- Fig. 4, 5, 6. **Male Heads** - Fig. 7, 8, 9. **Female Heads** :
Strong, very good ears, dark eyes, very good mask and expression.
- Fig. 10, 11, 12. **Male Head** - Fig. 13, 14, 15. **Female Head** :
Masculine/feminine, strong jaws & very good planes of skull/foreface. 12

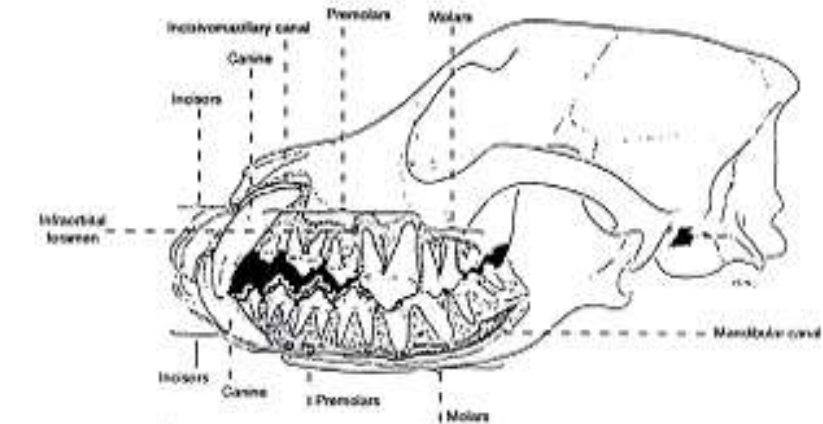
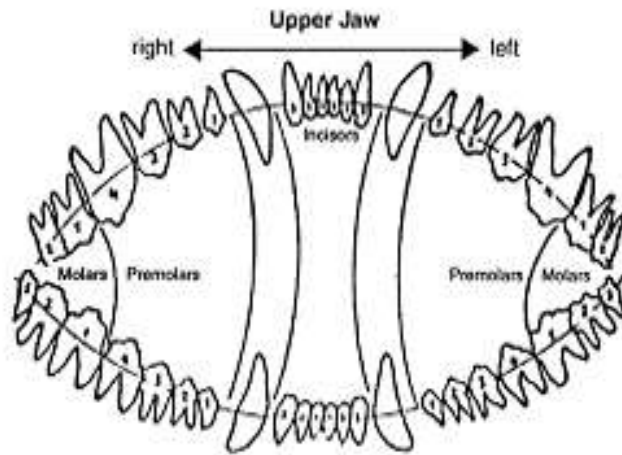


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- Fig. 16, 17, 18. **Eyes :**
Very good size, shape, slightly oblique, dark, complementary expression.
- Fig. 19, 20, 21, 22. **Ears :**
Set correct, set wide, set low and set inward tilting.

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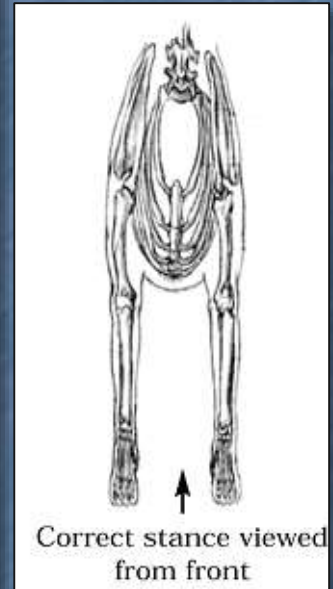
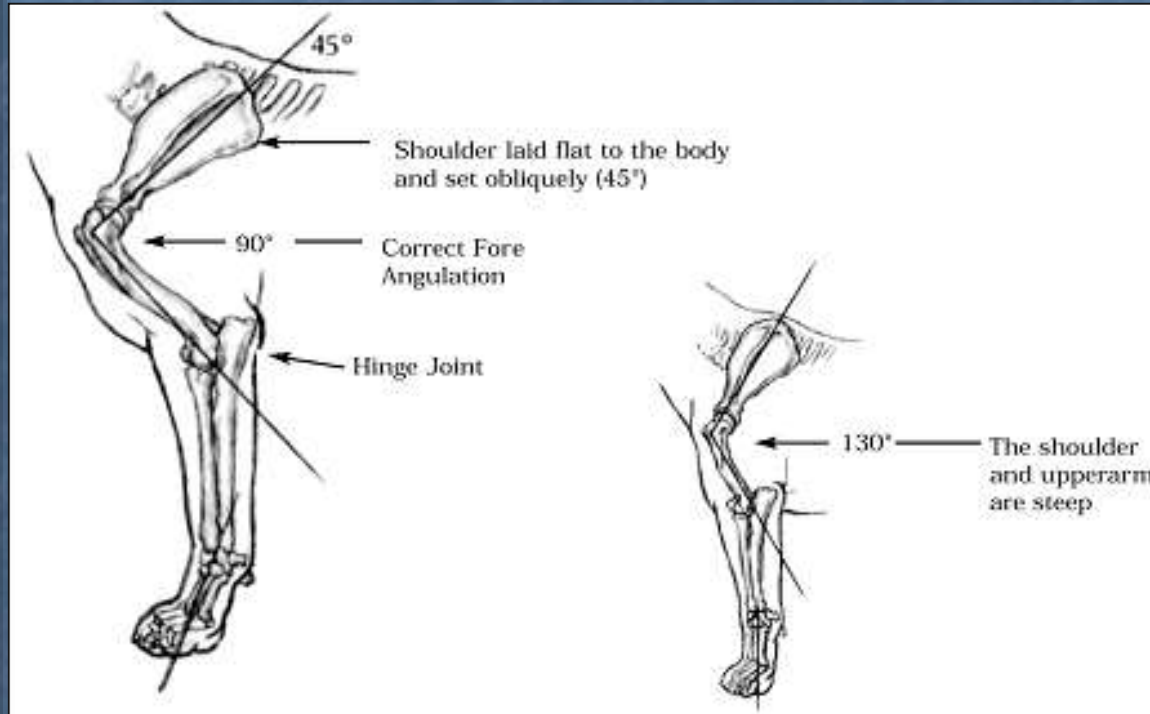
Jaws and teeth of an adult dog. Lateral view of jaws, sculptured to show tooth roots. (Miller 'Anatomy of the Dog').



- Fig. 23, 24. **Mouth :**
Teeth strong, healthy and complete (42). Scissor bite. No large gaps.
- Fig. 25, 26, 27, 28. **Neck :**
Strong, well muscled, no throatiness. Normally carried at about 45°.

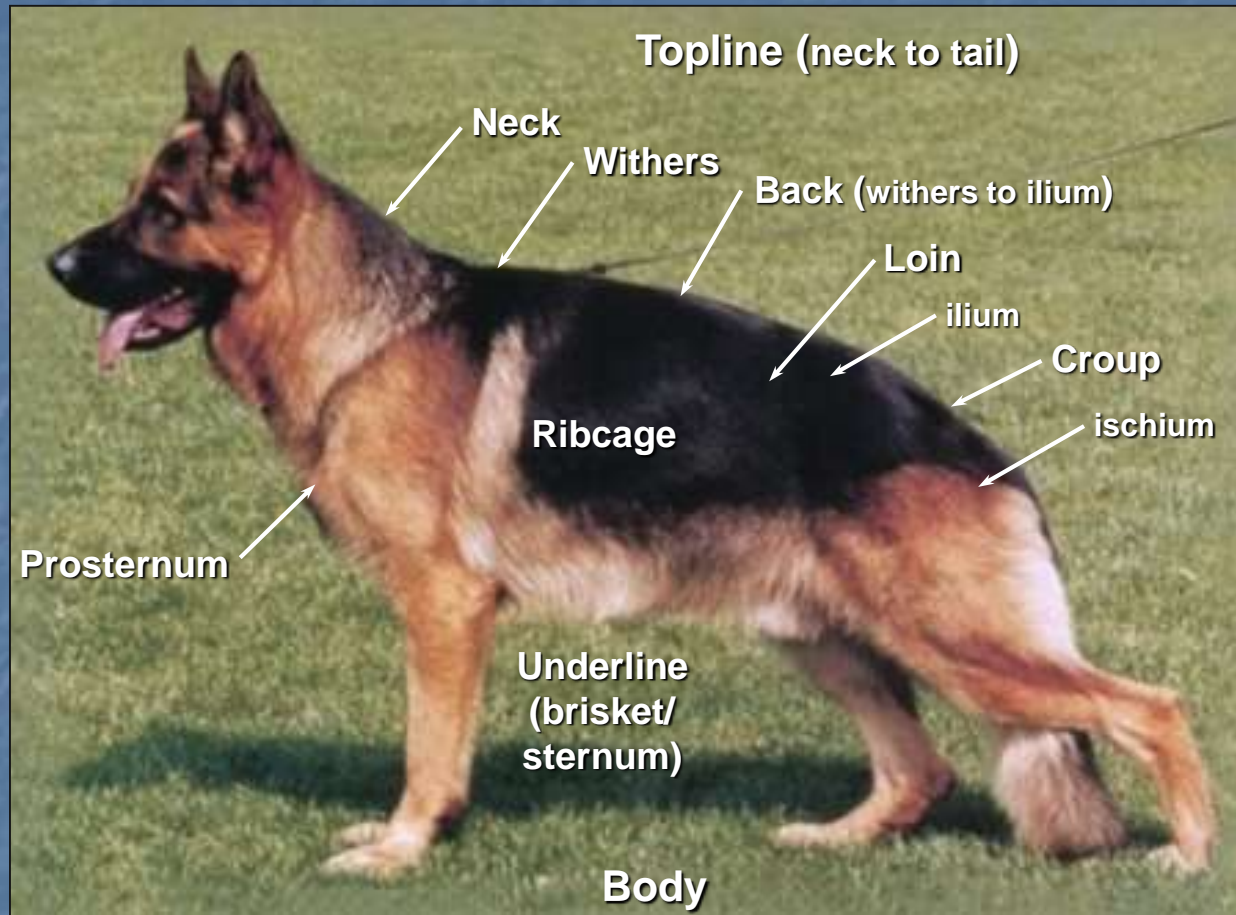


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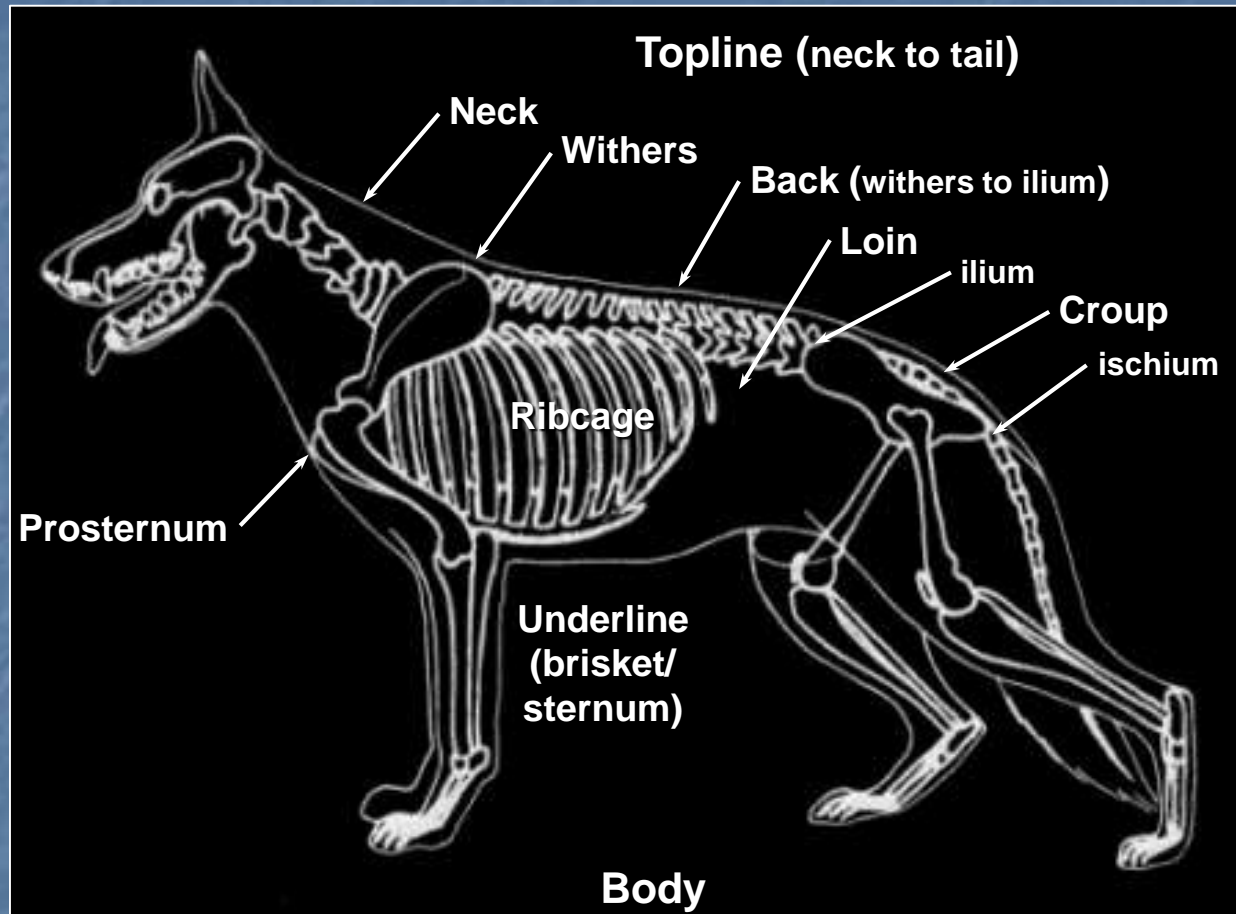
- Fig. a13, 29, 30. **Forequarters :**
Correct construction enables desired reach & body support in movement.
- Fig. 31. **Front :**
Forelegs are straight and absolutely parallel viewed from the front.

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- Fig. 32. Body (Topographic View) :**
 Body length (prosternum to ischium) exceeds withers height by 10-17%.
 Topline extends from neck to tail (ie. withers, back and croup).
 Underline is the forechest, underchest (sternum) and stomach.

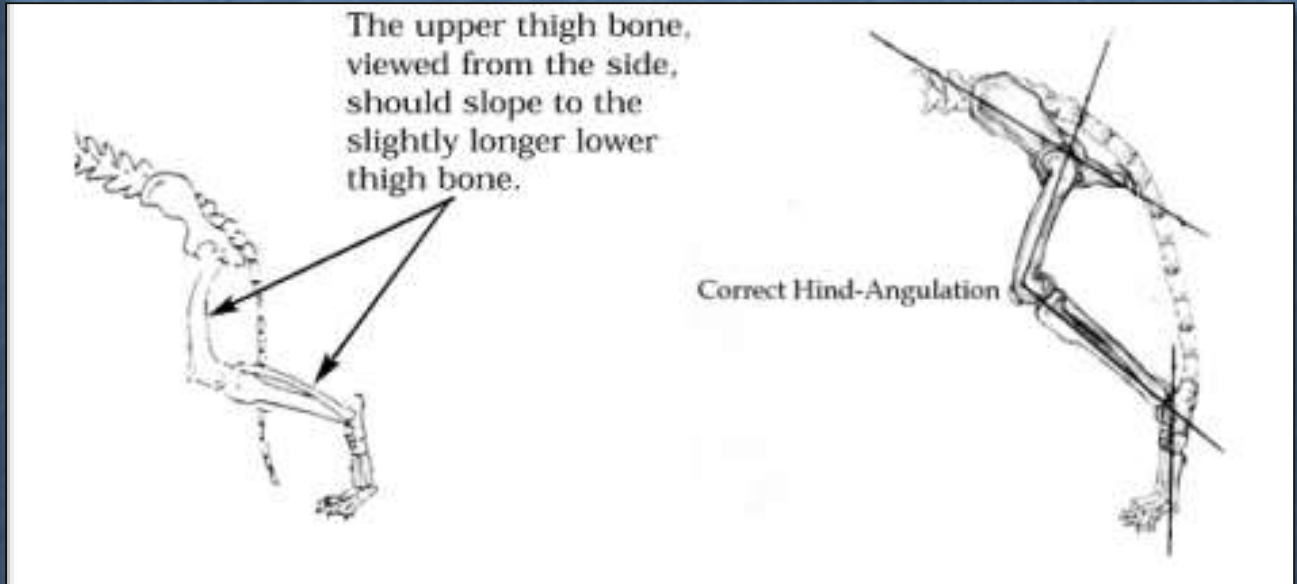
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- Fig. 33. **Body [cont] (Skeletal View) :**
Body length (prosternum to ischium) exceeds withers height by 10-17%.
Topline extends from neck to tail (ie withers, back and croup).
Underline is the forechest, underchest (sternum) and stomach.

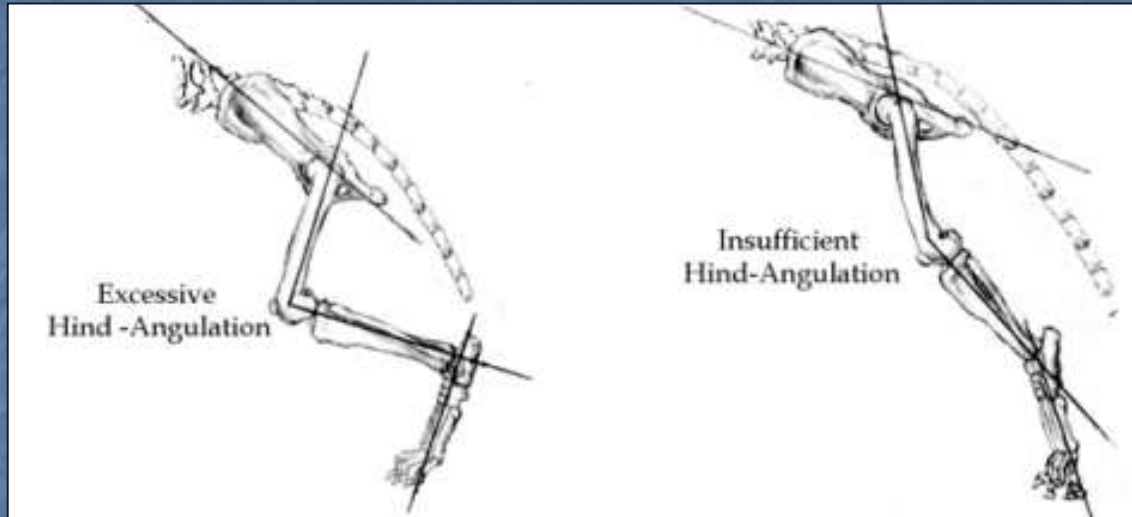


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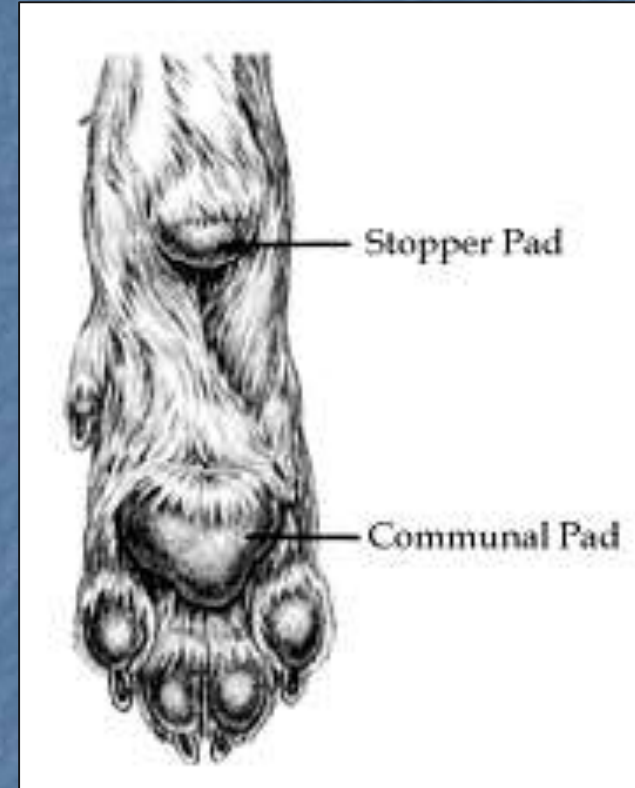
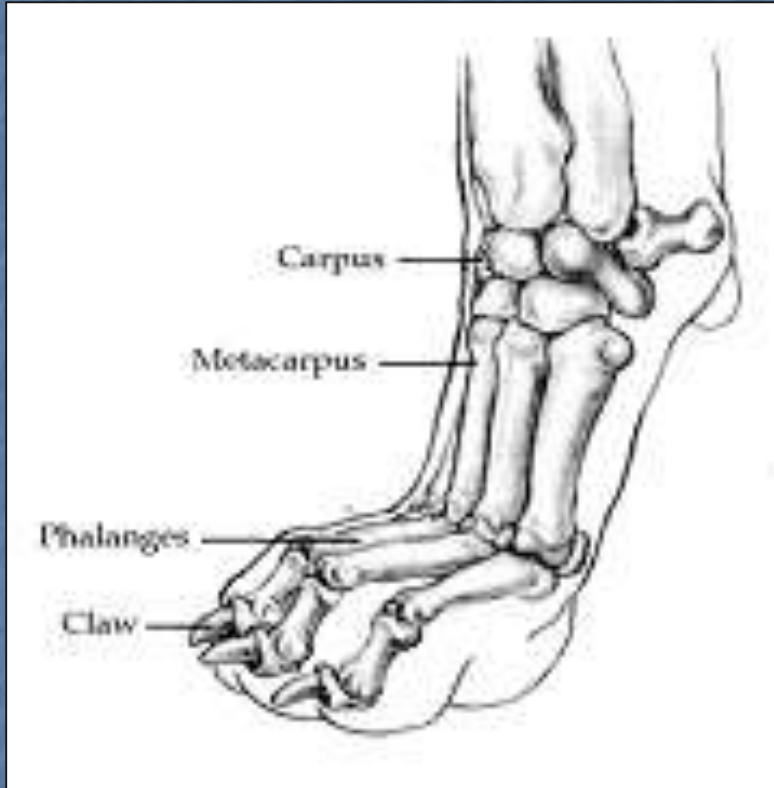
- Fig. a14, 34a, 34b. **Hindquarters :**
Correct construction enables drive and body support in movement.
Correct musculature, bone length and angulation enables powerful drive.
Hocks should be short, well developed and firm for sound movement.

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- Fig. 34c, 34d, a15, a16, a17, a18. **Hindquarters [cont]** : Incorrect construction negates drive and body support in movement. Over-angulation or under-angulation are both detrimental to gait. Infirmness of hindquarters is often observed in young GSD's (especially puppies) where the musculature is still to develop.

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- **Fig. 35, 36. Feet :**
The pads should be well cushioned and durable. Nails should be short. The front feet, whilst being rounded, well closed and arched, are not cat feet. The hind feet, being only slightly arched are slightly longer than the front feet.

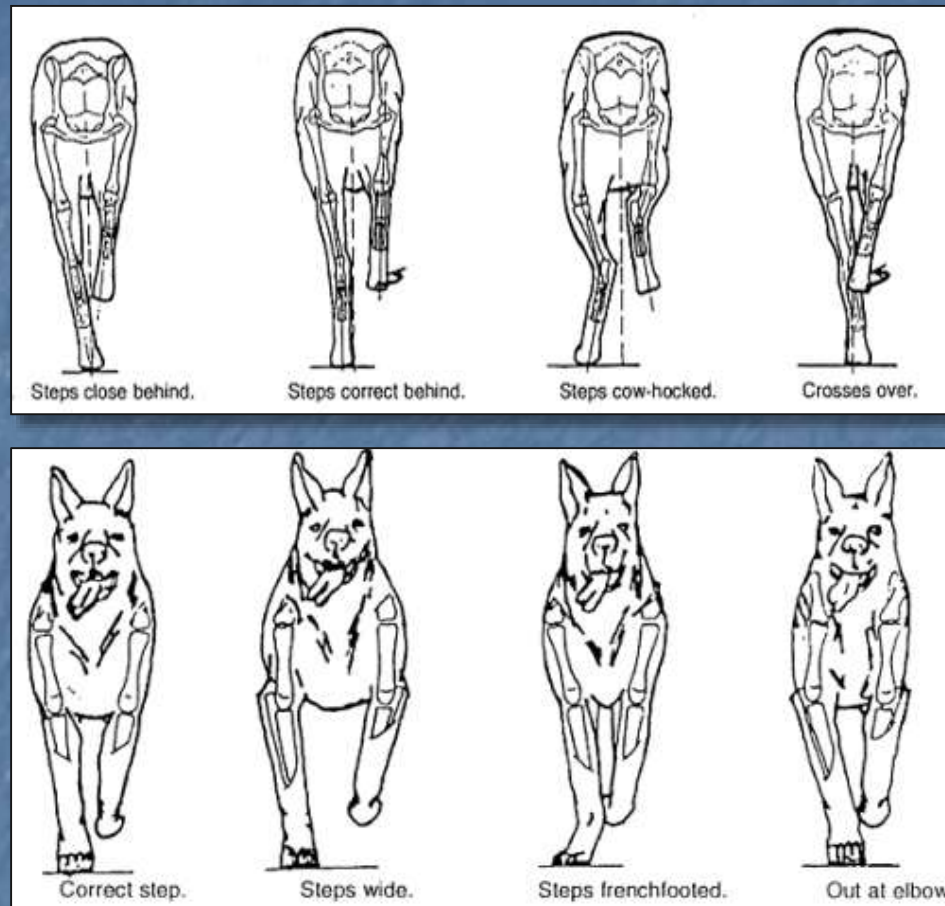


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- Fig. a19, 37, 38, 39. **Gait / Movement :**
Far-reaching, smooth, effortless and powerful – providing the maximum efficiency (ie. covering the maximum amount of ground with the minimum amount of steps). [*Link to Movement Video on Slide 32*]

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- Fig. 40, 41. **Gait / Movement [cont]** :
Going away - check for correct sequence of steps and firmness of hocks.
Coming back - check for correct sequence of steps and firmness of elbows. [*Link to Movement Video on Slide 32*]

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- Fig. 42, 43. **Coat (Males) :**
Stock Coat (Stockhaar) – thick undercoat – dense as possible, straight, hard, close lying outercoat.
Long Stock Coat (Long Stockhaar) – thick undercoat – outercoat long, soft, distinctly longer behind the ears and on the back of all the legs.
Long open coat – no undercoat – very long, silky outercoat, tends to part on the back, and may have little if any undercoat only on the loins.



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- Fig. a20, a21. **Coat (Females) :**
Stock Coat (Stockhaar) – thick undercoat – dense as possible, straight, hard, close lying outercoat.
Long Stock Coat (Long Stockhaar) – thick undercoat – outercoat long, soft, distinctly longer behind the ears and on the back of all the legs.
Long open coat – no undercoat – very long, silky outercoat, tends to part on the back, and may have little if any undercoat only on the loins.



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Black and Tan,
Saddle Markings



Black and Gold,
Saddle Markings



Gold Sable
Markings
also termed a
"Dark Grey"



Gold Sable
Markings
in a saddle
configuration



- Fig. a22, a23, a24, a25. **Colour :**
Black with reddish tan, Black/tan, Black/gold to light grey markings. All black, Grey (sables) with dark shadings; black saddle and mask. Blues, livers, albinos and whites are to be rejected. Pigment refers to blackness of black hair in coat, nose, mask and nails. Colour refers to tan or gold – dark tan, through reddish tan, to gold. 25

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Black and Reddish Tan,
Saddle Markings



Black and Gold,
extended Saddle Markings



Black and Gold,
Bi-colour Markings



Tan Sable Markings
(in a saddle configuration)



Tan Sable Markings
(usual extent)

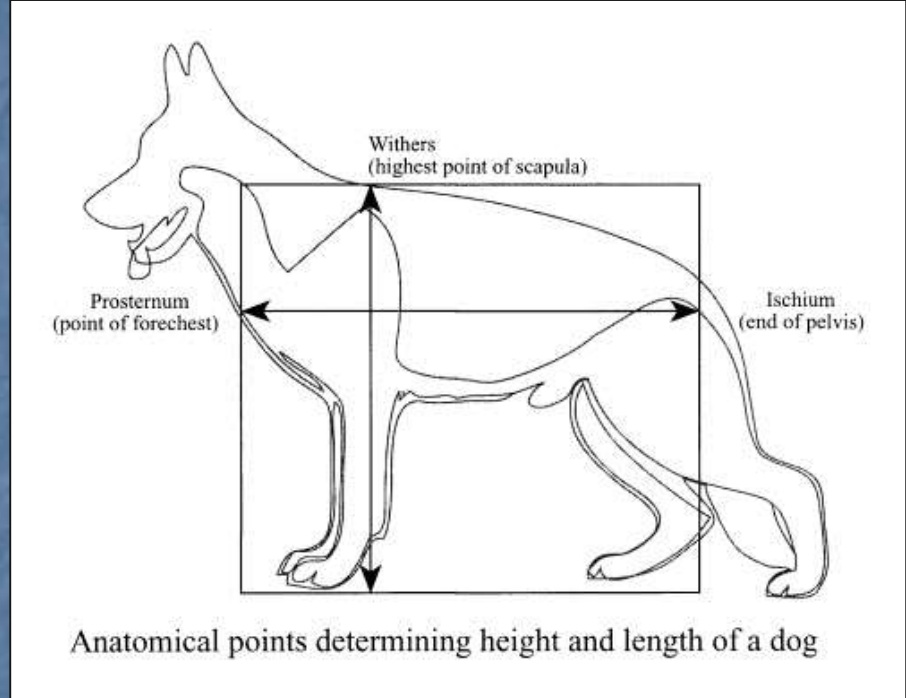


Black (solid – may have
tan hairs between toes)

- Fig. a26, a27, a28, a29, a30, a31. **Colour [cont] :**
The term “markings” refers to the patterning or configuration of pigment and colour on the coat.
Some of the common markings are : Black Saddle and Tan or Gold, Sable “greys” (black tipped guard hairs – ranging from all over the coat to a saddle configuration), Bi-colour and Black.



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- Fig. a32, a33. **Size :**
The ideal height (measured to the highest point of the withers) is 57.5cm for females and 62.5cm for males. Deviation of 2.5cm either above or below the ideal detracts from the workability and breeding value of the animal. Deviation greater than 3.5cm should render disqualification. In General Appearance, size is considered essential to Important Proportions and consequently vital to the embodiment of "breed type".

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- Fig. a34, a35. **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. These examples display incorrect type, with : over-long body proportions, incorrect height to depth proportions, short forearms, soft pasterns, weak heads, very short and erect necks, steep upper arms, over-angulated hindquarters, and



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Incorrect Type,
not of the desired
General Appearance



Incorrect Structure,
not good in strength,
proportions & angulations



- Fig. a36, a37, a38, a39. **Faults [cont] :**
When considering faults, be mindful of Type (General Appearance and Important Proportions), Working Dog Suitability (Characteristics and Temperament), Anatomy (Balanced Structure from combination of bone formation, angulations and musculature), and Movement (Verification of perceived anatomy : far-reaching, strong drive, soundness going and coming, efficient and enduring). Penalize the faults as listed.



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- Fig. 44, 45. **Summary** (Male Stock Coat in stance and movement) :
Topline is clean flowing, descending from ears to set on of tail.
Underline is clean with moderate forechest and good length of underchest. Forequarter is well angulated and constructed. Hindquarter is well angulated and powerful. Sexual characteristics are well defined, with much self assurance and abundant temperament.
Reach and drive are equally effective, providing effortless, flowing movement with minimal endeavour and maximum ground cover.



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- Fig. 46, 47. **Summary** (Female Long Stock Coat in stance and movement) : Long outercoat is evident. Topline is clean flowing, descending from ears to set on of tail. Underline is clean with moderate forechest and good length of underchest. Forequarter is well angulated and constructed. Hindquarter is well angulated and powerful. Sexual characteristics are well defined, with much self assurance and abundant temperament. Reach and drive are equally effective, providing effortless, flowing movement, with minimal endeavour and maximum ground cover.

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■ Fig. a40, a41, 37, 38, 39. **Gait / Movement :**

< *Link to Gait / Movement Video 1* > < *Link to GSD EBS Gait - Movement.wmv* >
< *Link to Gait / Movement Video 2* > < *Link to another Movement Video 2.wmv* >





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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Extended Breed Standard of the German Shepherd Dog was originally prepared by Ann Mitchell in 1995 and updated by the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia (GSDCA) in 2007.

This current version was updated and compiled by the GSDCA, effective from 01/11/2015.

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Contributions in 2007 by GSD Specialist Judges and Breed Surveyors Dr Karen Hedberg, Robyn Knuckey, John Fenner and the GSDCA National Breed Commission (NBC) Executive.

Updated in 2010, 2012 and 2015 by GSDCA NBC Executive.

Country of origin for the Breed Standard is Germany. GSDCA comments and descriptions are in accord with the beliefs held in the country of origin. In particular, those expressed in the descriptive comments on the Stock Coat and Long Stock Coat varieties, plus the long, open-coated GSD (without undercoat) have been based on information sourced directly from the SV.

Approved by the German Shepherd Dog Council of Australia's Annual General Meeting on 03/02/2007, and last updated to reflect the current ANKC Breed Standard as updated on 20/08/2013.

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The end : Are there any questions ?



Thankyou for your time and interest !