

# THE GUIDE TO A HEALTHY DOG

**General behaviour** the dog greets the handler joyfully, active, alert and keen to work and play and does not tire easily

## **Nose**

Cool can normally be moist or dry  
Know what is normal for your dog  
No abnormal discharge  
Watery  
Yellowish discharge  
Sneezing  
Snorting  
Pawing at nose

## **Mouth**

Clean, breath and no foul smells  
Gums not inflamed and lips healthy salmon pink  
Free from bleeding and sores  
No persistent salivation

## **Teeth**

Not chipped or broken  
No excessive tartar

## **Ears**

Clean  
May have a small amount of wax  
No bad smelling  
No swelling of the ear flaps

## **Skin**

Loose and elastic  
No lumps, cuts, inflammation, sores and external parasites

## **Appetite**

Drinks plenty of water  
Eats all food know your dogs eating habits

## **Feet**

Check between toes for foreign objects  
Pads should be firm, no cracks cuts or thin patches  
Nails, short, no cracks or swelling around nail bed



## **Coat**

Smooth with glossy appearance  
During casting will appear dull and lifeless  
Free from parasites

## **Limbs**

Stand square on all fours  
No lameness

## **Eyes**

Bright and clear  
No abnormal discharge

## **Mucous membranes**

Moist and salmon pink  
Any other colouring report to the vet

## **Tail**

Carried normally  
No injury to the tip

## **Anus**

No swelling  
Inflammation  
Ulceration

## **Sheath**

Small amounts passed frequently

## **Vulva**

No abnormal swelling or discharge

## **Temperature**

101 -102 (38.3 - 38.9C)  
May normally be higher in some dogs at rest

## **Respiration**

18 - 30 per minute, at rest

## **Pulse**

60 - 100 per minute at rest

## **Faeces**

Coloured according to feed  
Firm  
Well formed  
Passed easily  
Free from foreign bodies