

The Evolution of the Cesky Terrier to the Present Day as it relates to the breed in the UK

1949 - The first breeding of a Scottish Terrier bitch Donka, Lovu Zdar and a Sealyham Terrier dog Bugarier Urquelle by Czech geneticist Frantisek Horak; this produced 3 puppies of which only 1 survived.

Adam Lovu Zdar was the first Cesky, who was a brindle, was used in the development of the breed. He sired one puppy before being accidentally shot in a hunting accident. Unfortunately the puppy was not considered good enough to continue breeding from.

1950 Horak repeated his breeding, however, this time he used the Scottish Terrier, Scotch Rose with Bugarier Urquelle, producing six puppies, which was the beginning of the Cesky Terrier. Balda Lovu Zdar was considered the first Cesky Terrier.



The Scottish Terrier
bitch Scotch Rose

The aim was to breed for a narrower chest and moderately sized head with slightly longer legs that were more suited to digging and endurance than the Scottie or Sealyham. Another requirement was the need for softer coats and an aggressive temperament to hunting, but, a dog that could be easily handled. The Cesky was bred to hunt fox, rabbit, duck, pheasants and also wild boar.

The breeding records of Mr Horak are well documented and have been published in a number of publications. If you wish to delve more deeply into the history of the breed then I would suggest obtaining the book by Hana Petrusova "Toto je...Cesky Terrier" which was published in 1999 or Katherine Eckstrom's The Cesky Terrier which is available through the club website via Amazon.

1963 – FCI recognises the Cesky Terrier as a separate pedigree breed

1980's – It was decided that the breed needed an infusion of new blood. With the FCI's permission a Sealyham Terrier was bred back into the breed in 1984 & 1985.

**May
1989**



Erb Lovu Zdar was the first Cesky imported into the UK. He was bred by Mr Horak and owned by Harold & Liz Gay and Jane Withers.

Shortly he was joined by a Polish bitch Doris z Antszy at Malsville and by the bitch that many consider the foundation bitch of the UK stock Mala Del Monte Malsville for Ridley.



Mala Del Monte
Malsville for Ridley

Between 1989 and the present day over 30 Cesky Terriers have been imported into the UK.

1994/5/6/7 Ridley Bystra of Pendevour ruled the import register classes. She was an Amandi Daughter out of the Czech import Mala Del Monte Malsville for Radley. Her daughter Pendevour Dion followed in her pawprints.

2000 – The Cesky Terrier comes off the import register and is recognised by the KC as a separate breed in its own right.

2000 In January Pendevour Dion is the first Cesky to be awarded BIS at any show with her brother Pendevour Dylan at Talyot gaining the first RBIS at any show

2004 At the August SKC show Pajanticks Charza at Polede became the first Cesky to win a group placement at a championship show with a Group 2, awarded by Zena Thorn Andrews at SKC (August show)

2009 First UK bred Cesky to win BOB at the World Show Ir Ch Talyot Damocles ShCM

2013 First UK bred Cesky to gain Grand Champion title in the USA, Am Grand Ch. & Can Ch Talyot Hermione



2017 CCs are offered for the first time at Crufts. Bitch CC winner and BOB was Janski Celtic Ceska ShCM and Dog CC was Norkinstein Charlie Chaplin.

2017 May First Cesky UK Champion made up - Ch.Janski Celtic Ceska ShCM



We hope that you will enjoy the tutorial and by reading the explanations and looking at the photos you will have a clearer image of the Cesky Terrier.

There hasn't been a perfect dog bred yet. Your job as a breeder and as a judge, is to try to get as close to perfection as possible.

What should be your goals, aims and responsibilities as an owner, breeder or judge.

The Kennel Club Breed Standard is a guide and description of the ideal for the breed. It is a guide not a blueprint

Remember that breed standards are not exact and are subjective this leaves room for differing interpretations. Judges try to translate mentally the standard into a picture of an actual dog, then correlate that to the dog standing in front of them. That is why sometimes there will be different interpretations.

Your aim as an **owner**, it is to care for your Cesky Terrier and ensure that their quality of life is of the highest standard.

As a **breeder**, it should be to breed Cesky Terriers that meet the description in the standard and to interpret of the standard to the best of their ability, The standard is not a blueprint it is a guide for breeders as to what is deemed correct.

If you are to **judge**, your goal must be to understand the standard so that you can ascertain how close the breeder's dogs are to the standard.

The **exhibitor** should aim to present their dogs in the best way possible, ensuring that structure, conditioning, appearance, level of grooming and behaviour are of the highest standard. If the exhibitor doesn't, then they are not exhibiting the dog to its best advantage and will not show how close the dog fits the standard.

Illustrating points of the standard



What we are looking for in the Cesky Terrier's general appearance:

A **rectangular** terrier that is short legged, although not as short in the leg as the Scottish Terrier or Sealyham Terrier, longhaired well-made and well-muscled. The ears should be small/medium drop ears.

Height 25-32 cms (9¾-12½ ins). Ideal height: dogs 29 cms (11½ ins); bitches 27 cms (10½ ins). Weight 6-10 kgs (13¼-22 lbs).

They are a very agile working terrier, hardy and tough, plenty of stamina. The training video that you will see at the seminar shows 2 Cesky Terriers doing what they were designed for



Head

Let's go through the different parts that make up the Cesky's head. We will use a photograph to help expand the characteristics of the head as per the breed standard:

Here's what the KC standard says about the head:

Skull

Relatively long. Skull slightly arched slight but distinct stop. Head forms a blunt, long but not too broad triangle when viewed from above.

Nostrils large. Nose black in grey-blue dogs; liver in light brown dogs.

Eyes

Medium-sized, friendly expression. In blue-grey dogs – black or brown; in light brown dogs – light to dark brown.

Ears

Medium size, triangular, high set, pendulous, carried close to cheeks.

Mouth

Perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e. upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

Skull:

approximately 8 inches (21cms) in males and Approximately 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ (19.5cms) in females from occiput to nose.

A thick backskull is undesirable. If you look down and see a dog resembling a grey Sealyham then the backskull will in all probability be too broad.

The Skull tapers slightly to the supraorbital ridges (The ridge above the eyes that forms the eyebrows). You should be able to feel quite easily the occiput and the cheek bones shouldn't be prominent.

You are looking for a blunt wedge

Slight stop . Because of the fall of coat, like all hairies, you will need to use your hands to check out these points

Eyes:

Medium sized and slightly deep set giving a friendly expression. In profile they are visible but from the front are covered by the fall of hair.

The colour of the eye varies with coat colour. In every shade/colour except brown the eye colour is brown or dark brown, with black pigmentation around the eye. The eye colour in brown dogs is light brown with a liver coloured pigmentation around the eye.

Nose:

Nostrils are large for the size of dog, this helps the Cesky to track its' quarry.

The colour of the nose depends on the colour of the dog. The nose is black in grey-blue dogs; liver in light brown dog

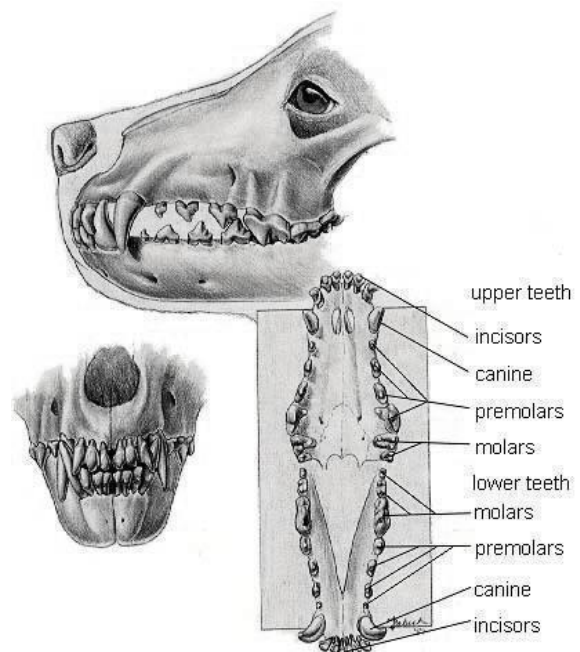
Ears: Triangularly shaped with the shortest side joining the skull. They are medium sized, rather high set and are flat against the cheek.

Mouth: Scissor bite i.e upper teeth overlapping lower teeth. Complete dentition preferred however, there are still instances of 4 or 5 incisors occurring in an otherwise good scissor bite. Teeth are large for the size of the dog. Dentition is on the KC breed watch.

Something that is not mentioned in the standard but is worth noting is that the Cesky Terrier has quite thick lips and are close to the gums.



Correct positioning of canines.



Neck and Forehand

Let's go through the different parts that make up the neck and forehand. The following photograph we will use as an illustration to show you the characteristics of the neck and shoulders as per the breed standard:

Here's what the KC standard says about the head:

Neck

Medium long, elegant but strong. Slightly loose skin at throat.

Forequarters

Muscular, well laid shoulders. Elbows free moving. Forelegs straight, strong-boned.

Not a lot really, so we will try to elaborate for you with the help of the photos

Neck:

I think the photo on the left illustrates the requirement of the breed standard, namely medium long, elegant and strong. Note that there is some loose skin around the throat but does not cause any dewlap. This illustrates elegance and muscular shoulders.

Forequarters:

The photo on the right shows the good lay back of shoulder and correct neck.

Elegance with strength.

In both these photos is illustrated the requirement in the standard for straight, strong boned forelegs. Use your hands as your eyes and feel under the coat to make sure, as well as observing 'on the move'. Elbow placement is not mentioned in the standard however they should be alongside rather than under the body. They should not be slack nor turn in or out. Also the front legs should be parallel giving a straightforward gait on the move.



Body, Chest and Topline

Let's turn our attention to the different parts that make up the body, chest and topline. The following photograph we will use as an illustration to show you the characteristics of the body, chest and topline as per the breed standard:

Here's what the KC standard says about this:

Body

Medium length, rising slightly to well-arched loin. Brisket more cylindrical than deep. Ribs well sprung, loin relatively long, broad and muscular. Slight tuck up.

As you can see a lot is left to the imagination so we will try to elaborate for you with the help of the photos

So, what are the constituent parts that make up the section that we need to cover, to give you a better understanding? First the body, then the back and the topline, which seems to perplex some judges. Then we will deal with the chest, loin, ribs & withers.

Forget what other terriers look like, we are **not** looking for a short-bodied dog like so many of the terriers

The body is narrow rather than broad although we don't want a shelly dog. The chest and ribs are more cylindrical than deep and they should have well sprung ribs. This is demonstrated in the lower picture

The chest should not extend below the elbows.

The withers not very pronounced and at the other end of the body the hip bones may be slightly higher than withers

You can see from the top photo that the loin is relatively long but is muscular and broad.

There should be a slight tuck up, It should be remembered these dogs were intended to keep going on a scent for as long as possible and need the tuck up to assist in their propulsion.

If you span the body it should be about 45cms (17 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in dogs and 43 cms (17 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches) bitches
Span the dog just behind the elbows.

Remember we are looking for a level back with a slight rise over the loin. We are not looking for topline like ski jumps, where the topline goes from the withers at a diagonal line over the rump.



OK, let's now look at the different parts that make up the hindquarters including the feet, tail and gait/movement. We will use the photographs as an illustration to show you the characteristics of the above as per the breed standard:

Hindquarters

Strong, muscular upper thighs, short lower thighs. High set, strongly developed hock. Hind legs stand parallel.

Feet

Round, arched and well padded. Forefeet larger than hindfeet.

Tail

Long, medium set. At rest hangs with tip slightly raised. Carried slightly upwards when dog is moving.

Gait/Movement

Propulsive movement. Brisk and vigorous with plenty of drive. Parallel movement fore and aft.

The upper thigh is longer than the short lower thigh and unlike most terriers Cesky Terriers have high set hocks which means their hocks are longer than most breeds in proportion to their size. Hind legs should be parallel.

The front feet are noticeably larger than the rear. Both the front and rear feet should be round, arched and well padded. Without well-padded feet and strong nails that are not cut too short, their digging ability will be reduced.

Tails should be long and not too highly set and when at rest should hang with the end raised slightly. We do not want tails tucked under the body and neither do we want tails as illustrated in the bottom right hand photo. Some dogs will carry their tails higher than others especially in the ring and on the move, like the one in the photo on the bottom left.



Gait should be free and even with good reach and drive. The Cesky moves differently to most other terriers with a brisk, athletic drive. The movement is required to be able to propel these little dogs over long distances and against large prey.



OK, you're nearly there. We will now cover coat, colour and size. We'll use photos to illustrate the standard.

Here's what the KC standard says about this:

Coat

Slightly wavy with silky sheen. Clipped except on foreface and skull (forming brows and beard), legs and belly. Eyebrows prominent. Transition between clipped and unclipped must be gradual. Hair on back and neck should be no more than 1.5 cm (½ in) long.

Colour

Grey-blue or light brown. Yellow and grey markings allowed on cheeks, underside of muzzle, neck, breast, lower parts of legs and under tail. White collar or tail tip permissible. Skin on grey-blue dog – grey; on light brown dog – flesh coloured.

Size

Height 25-32 cms (9¾-12½ ins). Ideal height: dogs 29 cms (11½ ins); bitches 27 cms (10½ ins). Weight 6-10 kgs (13¼-22 lbs).

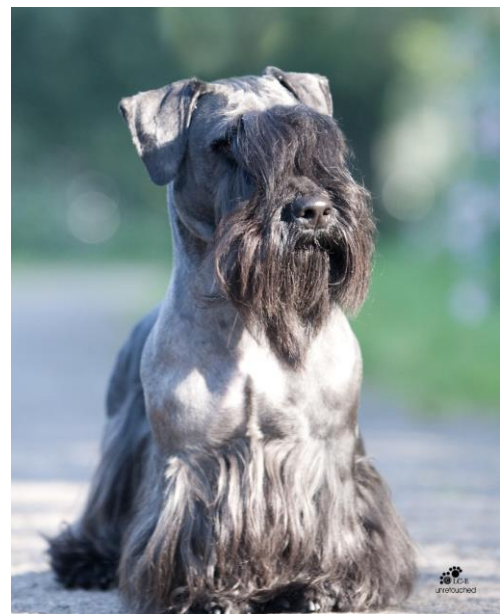
So what are we looking for?

When we examine the coat we should be looking for a fine but slightly textured coat, never harsh. The coat is clipped and the areas of transition between clipped and unclipped coat should be smooth and blended.

We clip to enhance the presentation of the dog. The intent should be to show-off their strong points and emphasize their strong musculature, clean neck outline, elbow placement and shoulders.

The hair at the front of the skull is left long and creates a 'fall' over the eyes.

As you can see from the photos the coat on the top of the neck, the shoulders and back are left longer whilst the head, ears, neck, shoulders and hindquarters are clipped closer. The coat skirting is left long along the lower parts of the body and leg furnishings



Coat colours

Must be solid colours, therefore brindling after 2 years of age should have cleared. The light brown colour is rarely seen, Skin colour on grey dogs is grey and on light brown dogs it is flesh coloured.



Any shade of blue-grey ranging across the full spectrum,



The base colour (grey) is predominant and the secondary colour which is white must not cover more than 20% of the dogs coat. There are sometimes dogs with white collars or white on the tip of tail.

This dog has a dark charcoal coat with a thin white blaze on its' chest



Here is another bi-colour dog which is a light grey with lighter furnishings which must not be confused with white markings as these can be off-white, cream or light silver. Occasionally dogs are born that are light brown and have a marking patterns similar to a Dobemann. These are quite rare and, from personal experience, I have only seen 1 in nearly 20 years connected with the breed.

Weight is straight forward. The Cesky is not to be over 10 kgs or under 6 kgs. We have dealt with height earlier however to recap height is between 25 and 32 cms. Dogs are preferable about 28cms and bitches around 27cms. Remember this is an active and agile dog, cloddiness shouldn't be encouraged.

The Kennel Club Breed Standard is a guide and description of the ideal for the breed

As the KC standard does not list faults the rider in the standard of the breed follows the usual format. "Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered and the seriousness with which the fault should be in exact proportion to its degree."

Males should have 2 fully descended normal testicles in the scrotum

Form follows function

Originally all dogs were bred over a number of years for a purpose that was required by their owners. Some were herding dogs, some were used to pick up or flush out prey. There were hunting dogs, the sighthounds and those like the basset that followed a ground based scent. There were guard dogs and war dogs e.g. the Mastiffs that were bred in Roman times by the British tribes were highly prized for their bravery and ability to strike fear into foot soldiers. Thankfully the breed has become more civilised for the modern world.

Terriers' functions in the main were to do with the dispatching small and medium sized vermin. We Cesky owners should be proud that out of all the terriers it is the only breed used to hunt one of the most dangerous animals in the animal world, the wild boar.

So when you hear someone say "oh they're not proper terriers" just smile to yourself, walk away and think "Yeah right".

The **Cesky temperament** is different from other terriers; they are amenable which allows them to hunt in packs, have great stamina and be non-confrontational with other dogs. They were developed to hunt with people in the field so are more trainable. As Cesky owners know they are extremely food oriented and training is relatively easy, although sometimes their stubborn streak will come to the fore. They normally are trainable and quite obedient yet they still retain their terrier instincts.

I do not think it controversial to admit that several breeds in the show ring rarely perform the original function for which they were bred for. I am pleased to say that the Cesky still performs the original purpose as will be shown in a short video.

A few words about **grooming** and how it was developed along with their function. The Cesky is groomed with clippers and not hand stripped. The coat is left long on the face and creates a beard. The fall of hair covers the eyes.

As a working dog that was used in the field it would get dirtier than a dog just around buildings. Mr Horak wanted the Cesky to be an easily groomed dog and obviously clipping takes far less time than hand stripping a coat.

The leaving of the fall of hair over the eyes helps to protect the eyes from earth, sharp objects and bites or scratches from its prey.

Ears are medium sized, triangular and cover the ear opening. As with the fall of hair on the face then aural cavities are protected against the ingress of dirt etc.

The **chest** is cylindrical and not too deep, this simply is because it allows the dog more access to burrows that the Scottish or Sealyham Terrier could access. This was an important consideration in the original concept of the breed and should be a prime concern when judging the breed.

As with most breeds the **forelegs** should be straight, well boned and parallel. With powerful **shoulders** and big well padded front feet, Ceskys are very good diggers.

The position of the **elbows** is also crucial in that they are not under the chest but alongside. This provides a powerful and free digging action. There is a simple demonstration that I used in the early seminars. Hold your elbows loosely against your sides, you will be able to move your arms freely back and forward alongside your body. Next put your elbows tight against your ribs

and slightly in front of your torso. It becomes immediately apparent that movement is restricted as you cannot move your forearms as much.

The **rise over the loin and tuck up** are there to provide more power and endurance when covering ground. The loin almost acts like a spring which allows the rear legs to come forward further and develop more propulsive power for the dog going forward. If the dog is following scent from boar or similar it is essential that the dog is able to cover the ground effortlessly.

Remember this little dog is almost like an endurance runner, capable of moving at a steady pace over a long period of time. Therefore when moved at the trot, it is smoother than some other terriers. It has to be brisk, produce plenty of drive and be vigorous.

I would like to touch on certain other aspects that are not covered by the KC standard but are worth being cognisant of, as there are no disqualifications in the standard.

When viewing the teeth an absence of 2 or more incisors (4 teeth altogether) is important.

Inverted canines

Entropion

Chest size too big 50 cms (>19 3/4 inches)

Brindling still present after 2 years

Coat must not be coarse or linty.

No more than 20% of the secondary colour and /or a white blaze on the head.

There have been instances of Scottie cramp in the breed, usually signified by jerky, irregular or spasmodic movement. You Tube has a couple of excellent examples of what to look for if you are unsure.

Too shy or displaying aggressiveness.

It's hope that the booklet has been informative for you and helped you to have some more understanding of the Cesky Terrier.

The book is being sent out to you before the seminar so that you can read and digest the contents. We hope that this will lead to an active participation in the seminar.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to the American Cesky Terrier Fanciers Association, especially Dann Wilson, Lynne Kuczynski and Barbara Hopler of the Judges Education/Public Education Committee for allowing us to reproduce some of their extremely informative presentation to judges of the Cesky.

I would like to thank several Cesky owners for the use of photos of their dogs for the purpose of this seminar.