

Official Standard of the Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka



History – After World War II, small dogs with silky hair were brought to Leningrad. These dogs did not have any pedigrees. The Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka was created by a group of enthusiasts whose goal was to create a small companion dog which would be ideal for apartment living. The Leningrad group of decorative dog breeders recognized the colored lapdog as a breed group in the early 1950s. By the end of the 50s, through careful and rigorous selection, mainly by phenotype, and later by the quality of the offspring, a true breed type was obtained, which received the status of a breed group by the Russian Kynological Federation. Additional small breeds were introduced such as Maltese, Shih Tzu and Bolognese, among others, to improve the coat and create a non-shedding breed. The breeders were restricted to solid colors other than white, however allowing silver or tan point markings. Due to the lack of availability of suitable grooming products the breed was developed as a non-shedding dog to maintain the long curly coat. The first entry of a Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka was added to the Russian Kynological Federation in 1958. The official standard was accepted in 1966 by the All-Union Cytological Council and the breed made their first appearance at exhibition in 1967.

General Appearance - Developed to be the ultimate house pet and companion, the Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka is a small, sturdy, balanced dog, slightly longer than tall. The breed appears disheveled due to the wavy or curly coat. He moves gracefully with the tail carried over the back. He is friendly to all and shows no sign of aggression. He is sweet, loving, intelligent and willing to please.

Size, Proportion, Substance - The body is slightly (not more than 15 percent) longer than the height at the withers, just off-square, measured from the point of shoulder to the ischium. The height is up to 10¼ inches. Height at withers over 11 inches is a disqualification. He is moderately boned. The ideal weight for males and females is 7 to 9 pounds.

Head - The *expression* is sweet, alert, and intelligent. *Eyes* are dark brown. Lighter brown color is allowed in brown, fawn and cream dogs. Blue or partially blue eye(s) are a disqualification. The eyes are of medium size, rounded, and set on the frontal plane. Eyelids are tight. Eye rims are black or match the coat color. Cheeks are slightly rounded. *Ears* are moderate size, V shaped with slightly rounded tips, set moderately high, lay close to the skull and carried dropped. When alert, the ears lift at the base. The *head* is in proportion to the body. The *skull* is slightly prominent and slightly rounded, with a well defined stop. The *muzzle* is short, slightly more than one third of the length of the head, slightly tapered to the nose. The nasal bridge is straight and wide at the base. Lower jaw is moderately wide. The nose is small, vertical in profile, with nostrils that are well opened. The nose is solid black or matches the coat color. All shades of solid brown pigmentation are allowed in brown dogs. A spotted or flesh-colored nose is a

disqualification. The lips are tight, with edges that are black or similar to the coat color. A scissors *bite* is preferred; a level bite or a slightly undershot bite is tolerated. A complete set of incisors and canines is desired. An overshot bite or wry mouth is a disqualification.

Neck, Topline, Body - The *neck* is average length, sloping, dry, and well-muscled. The *topline* is level with a strong, broad, well-muscled back. The *body* is compact with a deep chest that is moderately broad and oval shaped with the brisket extending to the elbow. Ribs are well sprung. The underline is moderately tucked up. The loin is short and slightly arched. The croup is rounded, medium length, rather broad, slightly sloping, and muscular. The *tail* is medium length, set at moderate height, and curls over the back so the tip is close to the back. The tail is completely covered by coat. The tail may not be docked. A missing or docked tail is a disqualification.

Forequarters - Legs are straight, parallel, and moderately wide when viewed from the front. The shoulder blades are well muscled, and their angulation with the shoulders is 100 to 110 degrees. The forelegs are straight and parallel, with elbows tight to the body. The length from the withers to the elbows is equal to the length from the elbows to the ground. Pasterns are strong and nearly upright. Dew claws may be removed. The feet are small and round with arched, tight toes. Pads and nails are dark.

Hindquarters - The hind legs are straight and parallel. The hocks are strong, and moderately angulated, medium in length. They are set moderately wide when viewed from the rear. The rear pasterns are medium length and upright. Dew claws may be removed. The feet are a little smaller than the forefeet, oval shaped, with arched, tight toes. Pads and nails are dark.

Coat - The coat is long, dense, thick, soft, and supple, with a well-developed undercoat. The coat forms large curls (preferred) or may be very wavy. The head has a well-developed beard and moustache. Complete lack of a beard and moustache is a disqualification. The coat is never deliberately parted. Hair on top of the head may fall naturally or be held up with a small bow on the top of the head. Feet may be neatened. No other trimming of the coat is allowed.

Color - All colors are permitted except solid white, spotted, parti-color or merle. Small white markings on the toes and forechest are permitted. A solid white, spotted, parti-color or merle coat color is a disqualification.

Gait - The movement is smooth and flowing with good reach in front and strong rear drive.

Temperament - The Russian Tsvetnaya Bolonka is even-tempered, intelligent, friendly to all, and should never be shy or show aggression of any kind.

Disqualifications

Height at withers over 11 inches.

Blue or partially blue eye(s).

A spotted or flesh colored nose.

An overshot bite or wry mouth.

A missing or docked tail.

Complete lack of beard and moustache.

Any spots, markings (except where mentioned), solid white, parti-color or merle coat color.

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