



**Official Breed Standard
of the
Kennel Union of South Africa**



KANGAL DOG

BRIEF HISTORY

The Kangal Dog is one of the famous Turkish sheepdog breeds. Typical examples come from the Sivas-Kangal Region of central Turkey and their breeding is traditionally associated with the Kangal family of the Kangal District. They were probably bred by the Sultans of Turkey since at least the seventeenth century and were also known as 'samsun dogs'.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

It is renowned for its size, courage and mastiff-like appearance. It invariably has a black mask on a massive head (karabash) and short, dense hair ranging in colour from dun to steel grey.

CHARACTERISTICS

An active working breed used to guard sheep and livestock. Steady and bold without undue aggression, independent, hardy, very trainable.

TEMPERAMENT

The Kangal Dog possesses the classic livestock guardian dog temperament; a temperament characterised by a calm, alert and independent demeanour. Possessing a natural protective instinct, he is loyal, bold and courageous without showing undue aggression. Moreover, the Kangal Dog is sensitive and his responses to individual situations clearly demonstrate his intelligence and sensitivity.

HEAD AND SKULL

Large and broad between the ears with moderate stop. Foreface slightly more than 1/3 of total head length. Slightly pendulous black lips. Square profile. Nose black.

EYES

Rather small in proportion to the skull, set well apart and deep, somewhat round in shape, showing no haw. Colour from golden to brown. Eye rims black.

EARS

Medium sized, triangular in shape, rounded at the tip, flat to the skull and carried pendant.

MOUTH

Lips, black. Level or scissor bite.

NECK

Slightly arched, powerful and muscular, moderate in length and rather thick. Some dewlap.

FOREQUARTERS

Forelegs set well apart, straight and well boned, of good length, with strong pasterns. Elbow close to sides. Shoulders well muscled.

BODY

Chest deep to point of elbow, ribs well sprung. Body powerful and well muscled, never fat. Back rather short in proportion to leg length, slight arch over the loins with moderate tuck-up.

HINDQUARTERS

Powerful, not as heavy as forequarters. Rear pasterns moderately straight.

FEET

Good strong feet with well arched toes. Nails blunt, grey or black, depending on coat colour.

TAIL

Long bone reaching at least to hock joint. Set on rather high. When relaxed, carried low with slight curl; when alert carried high with end curled over back.

GAIT / MOVEMENT

Relaxed even gait. Noticeable straight line of body, head and neck; alert when walking. Pacing acceptable.

COAT

Short and dense with thick undercoat. Slightly longer at neck and shoulders.

COLOUR

The head invariably has a black mask. Body colour ranges from dun to steel grey. A white chest blaze may be present. The Kangal Dog is never white or spotted.

SIZE

Males:	Weight :	50 - 63.5kg (110 – 140 lbs.)
	Height :	76 – 81.5cm (30 – 32 ins.)
Bitches:	Weight :	41 – 59kg (90 – 130 lbs.)
	Height :	71 – 78.5cm (28 – 31 ins.)

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.

NOTE

Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

Developed from the Turkish description of the breed.

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