

PAST PERCEPTIONS: DO THEY STILL FIT TODAY'S SCOTTISH TERRIER By Merle Taylor

Author's Note: *The diagrams and pictures used in this article have been copied from their original sources as they appeared. The skeleton picture (with double shoulders) and the final picture in the article were modified for their purpose. I must extend my unending gratitude to Darle Heck who, when asked, provided the lines and rulers on the pictures making my simple line drawings much more attractive and informative. This article originated from my investigations and viewpoint; it does not necessarily represent the views of the members of the STCA Standard Review Committee.*

When Carolyn and I brought home our first Scottie puppy, it began our quest for more information. Neither of us came from show dog families; yes, we had dogs, mixed breeds, but not Scottish Terriers. Being teachers, we began pursuing “books”—books filled with information about Scottish Terriers, from the simple “owners’ manuals” to the in-depth studies of the breed by noted American and English breeders. There was always a “war” as to who got to read “The Bagpiper” first. That was then, 1969. When I became involved with the Standards Review Committee, I felt a need to go back to that time, bringing to the forefront some factual information that could be valuable to me in my charge of guiding a committee in developing a good standard for our breed. Information I wanted to share with our membership.

If the reader has not read about my beginnings in the breed previously printed in The Bagpiper, I may, later, share that part of my involvement again as it is not unlike anyone getting started today. I certainly did not enter the world of Scottish Terriers with any degree of knowledge about the breed. All I have done is pass through the school of “hard knocks” and consumed all I could from my wonderful all-breed and Scottie mentors and friends I have made through the years.

The portion of this writing shares information about type and size from the origins of the breed. At this point, I chose only to use books written prior to the standard revision in 1993. While I am using drawings from some of my sources; I am also using a few drawings from two of the “illustrated” standards prepared by the Scottish Terrier Club of America—Clarification and Amplification of the Scottish Terrier Standard (1980) later referred to as the “Red Book” and A Study of the Scottish Terrier (1999) referred to as the “Plaid Book”. There are excellent current breed books that will be mentioned in a later part of my article plus the third illustrated standard booklet recently published by the Scottish Terrier Club of America.

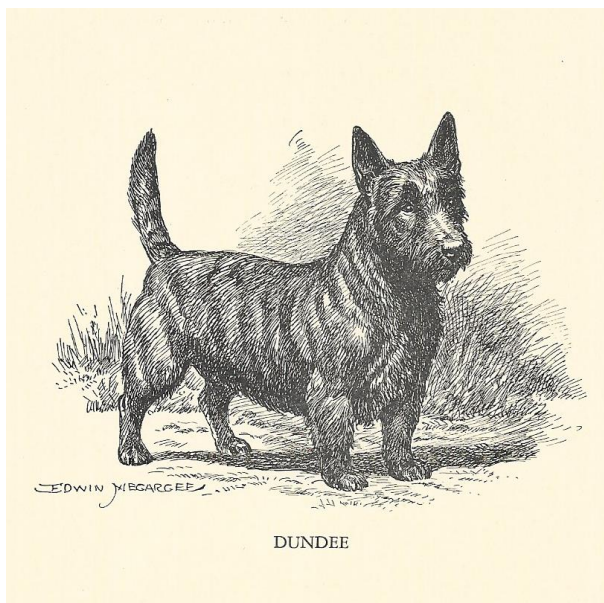


Illustration 1. Dundee: A noted Scottish Terrier of his day (1880's).

Bits and pieces from the past

Foraging back in time, I found that Scotties in the early years were smaller, leggier dogs than the Scotties of today. I would ask the reader to take note of the year referenced in the following.

Dr. William Bruette in his book, The Scottish Terrier, published in 1934, states that the Scottie was originally a long bodied dog. "There is a tendency at this time to breed them shorter than is desirable despite the fact that the American standard says only moderately short and well ribbed up with strong loin, deep flanks and muscular hindquarters" (Bruette, 1934, p. 88).

Bruette continues by referring to the "Morrison Standard, published in 1880, drawn by men who were familiar with the Scottie in working form, set the dog's weight at from sixteen to seventeen pounds, bitches at from fourteen to fifteen pounds. The latest English standard declares the ideal weight in hard show condition to be from seventeen to twenty-one pounds" (Bruette, 1934, p. 91).

John Marvin charts the measurement of Dundee illustrated above (Bruette,1934, p. 33), a well-known Scottie of the 1880's, in his book, The New Complete Scottish Terrier (Marvin, 1982, p. 32).

Occipital bone to eye	5 inches
Inner corner of eye to nose	3 inches
Shoulder to root of tail	15 inches
Length of tail	7 inches
Round muzzle	7 ¼ inches

Round skull	11 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Round chest	17 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches
Round loin	15 inches
Round arm	5
Height	10 inches

Author's Note: Please note, if the drawing of Dundee makes the assumption that he is 10 inches tall at the withers, the length is measured from the point of the shoulder (not the withers) to the root of tail, 15 inches.

Bruette continues his reference to a written standard, (Bruette, 1934, p. 93), for the amateur, he will learn more quickly by being shown a picture than he would by a lengthy description, no matter how carefully it may be written.

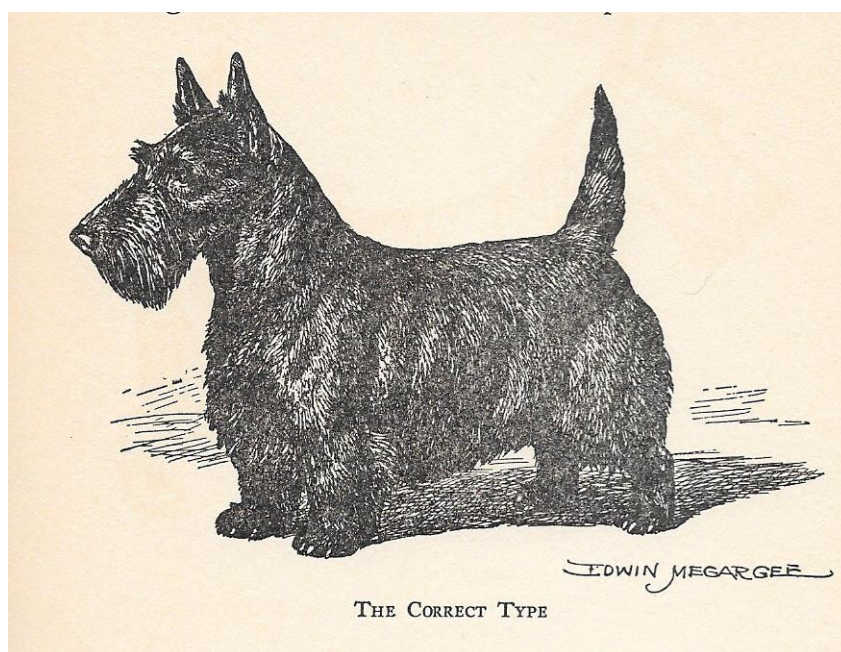


Illustration 2: Edwin Megargee's vision of correct Scottish Terrier type.

In Edwin Megargee's pictorial conception (Bruette, 1934, p. 95) of what in his mind is the ideal Scottie , he comments, "The body, 'Moderately short and well ribbed' bodies are more often too long than too short, but they can be too short. Megargee continues, "A nice balance between body and head is what is desired. While no hard and fast rules as to the proportion can be laid down, one and three quarters to two head lengths from the point of the shoulder to the rear end, is a desirable body length (Bruette, 1934, p. 101).

Megargee concludes, "I feel that the thing that should be dwelt on and emphasized in studying a Scottish terrier, is balance, or if you prefer, symmetry. A dog may be almost perfect in every section,

taken part by part, but because of a lack of harmony in balance between these parts may be only a fair specimen (Bruette, 1934, p. 108).

The Scottish Terrier Club of England standard, adopted in 1933, describes the Scottish terrier as a “thick-set dog”. In referring to the body of the Scottish Terrier, the back is proportionately short and very muscular.” The ideal weight ranges from 17 pounds to 21 pounds. There is no mention of height. This standard does make references to the Scottish Terrier having “short legs” (Bruette, 1934, p. 81).

Interestingly, the Morrison standard refers to a thick-set, compact, short-coated, active terrier, standing about nine and a half inches high, with body of moderate length and averaging about sixteen to seventeen pounds weight for dogs and two pounds less for bitches. (Bruette, 1934, p. 79).

Dorothy Caspersz remarks that the more important clauses of the Morrison standard were “muscular form”, ‘teeth level’, ‘eyes well sunk in the head’, ‘great strength’, ‘forelegs short and straight’ and ‘thighs well developed and thick’—all these are qualities as much sought after today as they were seventy years ago. The general outline, as also the weight of the dog, has changed with the years, heads being longer, backs shorter, tails higher placed, bone heavier, to say nothing of the trend of fashion necessitating skillful trimming for show. But fundamentally the unique characteristics of our stout-hearted, harsh-coated popular little dog remain much unaltered.” (Caspersz, 1962, p. 24).

Caspersz continues, “Attaining extra shortness of back has sometimes meant sacrificing good ribs. It is much more important that the dog should possess good deep ribs carried well back, with a strong muscular loin, than that he should measure an inch or so less from his withers to his tail. The two virtues are not entirely incompatible in any case, for examples can be found of dogs with good ribs both for depth and length, plus a strong muscular loin and yet withal (sic) short-backed and still agile. Such is the ideal, but excessively short bodies on a dog of such low build, on short legs, are apt to interfere with the fine, free, long-striding gait so typical of the breed.” (Caspersz, 1962, p. 68).

John Marvin, in *The New Complete Scottish Terrier*, references the changes in the existing standard by stating that “in 1947 when it was believed that revisions were required to keep abreast of breeding and judging trends.” The revised standard read: “19 to 22 pounds for dogs and 18 to 21 pounds for bitches, and the height for both sexes, which was set at about 10 inches and was a far cry from the original 9 to 12 inches of the 1895 standard” (Marvin, 1982, p. 166).

Marvin also comments about the Scottish Terrier Club of England standard (1965) in regards to size—larger dogs having a shoulder height of 11 inches as a top limit together with heavier animals to go with the height (Marvin, 1982, p. 168)

Marvin continues to comment about the change of today’s Scottish Terrier from the early breed representatives. “He has increased in weight from a range of 13 to 18 pounds to the present day figures of 19 to 22 pounds; his ears must be pricked or upright, whereas he could have half-dropped ear in the beginning; his neck has been lengthened from “thick and muscular” to “moderately short, but not so short as to appear clumsy; his body has been remade from one “of moderate length, not so long as a Skye’s to “moderately short”; and his height has been modified from the 9 to 12 inches at the withers to a flat 10 inches. He also writes that these changes have made a more attractive dog, but not necessarily added to his working abilities (Marvin, 1982, p. 178)

In his early version of his book, *The Complete Scottish Terrier*, Marvin writes that “In general, the Scottish Terrier should offer the keen, sharp appearance of an alert dog. He should appear compact and strong, never weedy or light. The standard says he should present an appearance of immense power in a small size and this is an adequate description of the dog” (Marvin, 1967, p. 109)

Marvin analyzed the four standards, namely the one in force before 1888 through the present and finds deviations that have practically made over the breed. First, the body has been shortened with a longer more graceful neck. In fact, the dog is now termed a “short-bodied dog” while his ancestor was definitely a “long-bodied dog.” Second the weights for the breed have been increased while the height has been reduced. This means that the dog is definitely cobbier, more blocky in appearance than his racier forebear” (Marvin, 1971, p. 166).

In his book, *This Is The Scottish Terrier*, Dr.T. Allen Kirk states, “The body of a Scottish Terrier is as distinctive as the head. *It is moderately short, measuring approximately the same from the withers to the root of the erect tail as does the head from the occiput to the nose*” (Kirk, 1966, p. 80).

My rather brief walk through the history of the Scottish Terrier and its standard brings to light to the reader that the Scottish Terrier has changed through the years; however, he remains a cobby, compact dog in a balanced package. The total picture is one of symmetry. Nowhere in any of the standards are measured references made to his length of back, only his height and weight are statistically defined. Please remember, there is nothing written in the preceding pages pertaining to the current standard of the Scottish Terrier Club of America.

There are many printed sources about the Scottish Terrier. I chose, obviously, to use these. I found duplicate information in each source I used, often times, something different was revealed. In the remaining pages, my intent is to relay what I have encountered and learned through the years, taking these same principles and applying them to today’s Scottish Terrier.

Past proportions and how they apply to the Scottish Terrier

Having gone back in time to gather accurate facts, I am now going to utilize that information, apply it to a number of different Scottish Terriers and illustrate how much we are on or off track with our current standard, revised in 1993.

There are two proportion references (mentioned earlier) that I am going to use to illustrate how those proportions relate to the dogs and bitches we have seen in the ring and continue to see in the ring.

1. **Proportion 1.** One and three quarters to two head lengths from the point of the shoulder to the rear end, is a desirable body length.
2. **Proportion 2.** The body is . . . moderately short, measuring approximately the same from the withers to the root of the erect tail as does the head from occiput to the nose.

I am using drawings from the books I’ve quoted. I am also using illustrations from the STCA’s illustrated standards and outlines taken from a current all-breed magazine (all with permission). And, I will be using three photographs of dogs/bitches randomly selected from those I have bred and/or shown when I was still exhibiting. As they were in my charge, I will not hurt anyone’s feelings if “things don’t work.”

Please note that in all of the following drawings/pictures, one cannot compare in exact measurements—particularly withers and point of shoulder. To do so would involve a hands-on examination, obviously not available in one dimensional diagrams. Taking each drawing/picture individually, comparing the length of head to the length of back and the length of body, one is merely

using that particular dog's or bitch's proportions. We begin to see the relevance of symmetry and balance with little use of definitive numbers.

As Bruette/Megargee commented, emphasis should be placed on symmetry and balance; I'll let the reader's eye be the critic. Remember, with these relationships, we are not considering height. We are merely using the relationship between the length of head, the length of back, and the length of body.

I'll merely talk about the origin of the outline illustrating the variety of sources used to develop this sense of correct symmetry and balance.

The first drawing to illustrate the two relationships is Megargee's own pictorial concept of correct Scottish Terrier type.

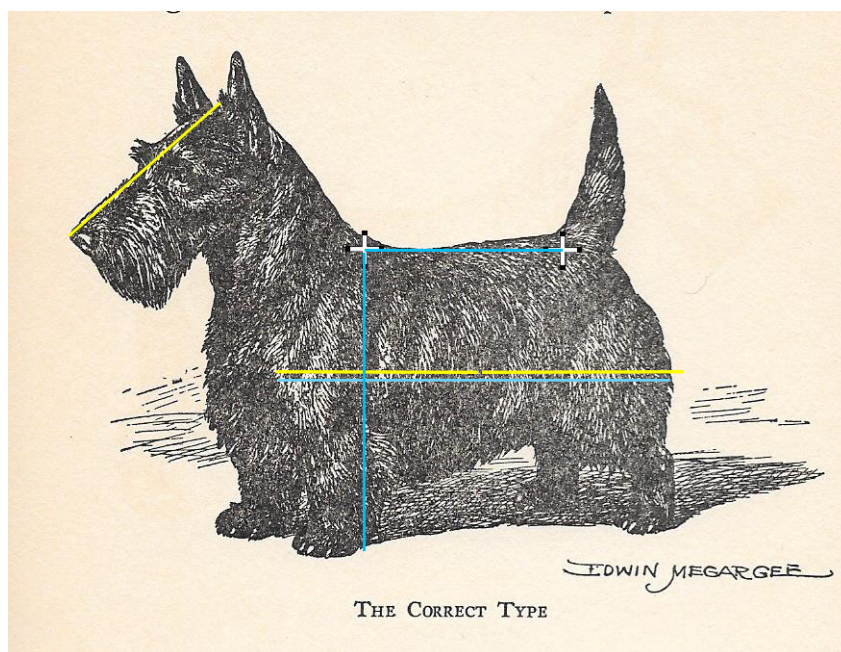


Illustration 3: Proportions demonstrating correct symmetry/balance on Megargee's vision of correct Scottish Terrier type.

The following outline was taken from the STCA's Clarification and Amplification of the Scottish Terrier Standard published in 1980 and written by a committee of Robert C. Graham, Miriam Stamm, and Dr. and Mrs. T. Allen Kirk, Jr. The illustrations were drawn by Lori Bush.

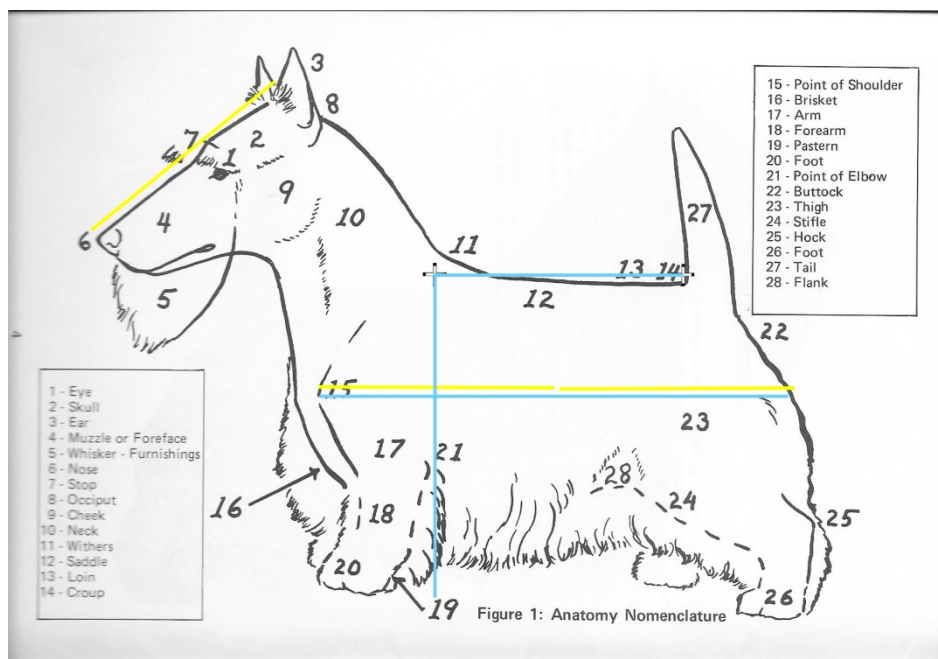


Illustration 4: Correct proportions applied to the Scottish Terrier outline found in the first illustrated standard of the Scottish Terrier.

On the inside cover of this same publication, a copy of a Tausky photograph appears. I personally have always admired this Tausky photograph as, to me, this outline epitomizes the “perfect” specimen. I would have been a “happy camper” had we been able to breed such a Scottie and, equally as important, been able to groom as well as Mr. Tausky’s talented use of photographic tools enhanced his work. Nevertheless, this Scottish Terrier fills the bill when our two relationships are applied.

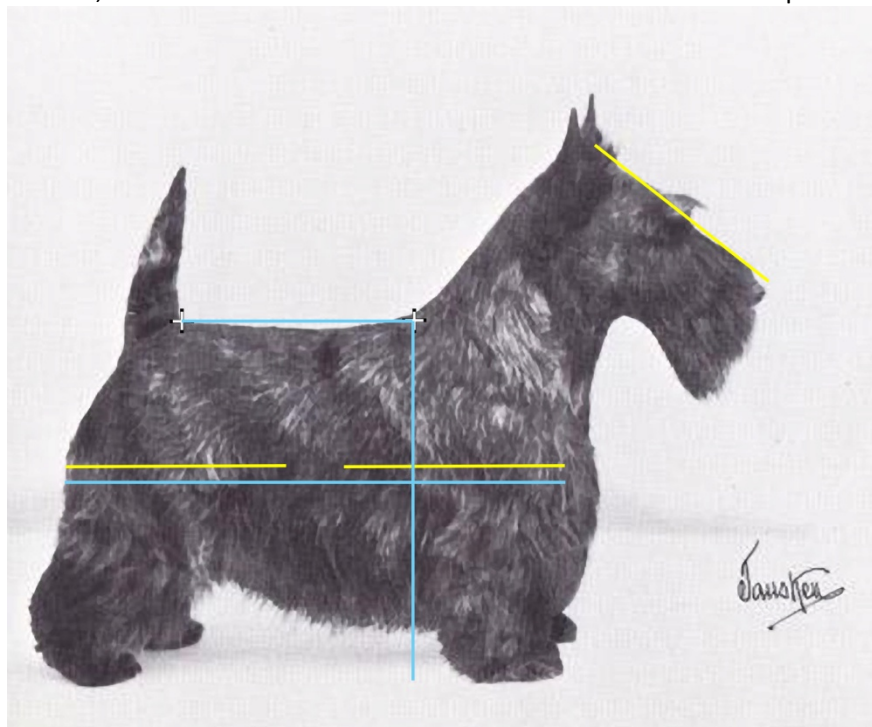


Illustration 5: A Tauskey photograph, appearing in the first illustrated STCA standard, reflecting proportions of a well-balanced Scottish Terrier

Moving on, I am picturing two different diagrams which appear in the second STCA illustrated standard, A Study of the Scottish Terrier. This publication was prepared by STCA members: C. Michael Cook, Chair; Sandra Goose Allen; Barbara DeSaye; Evelyn Kirk, and Miriam Stamm. The illustrators were Jody Sylvester and Heidi B. Martin. The first diagram is taken from an illustration of the three basic colors of the Scottish Terrier. I have chosen the Wheaten version as lines appear easier to read. The second outline is a silhouette demonstrating neck, topline, and body. Again, both outlines demonstrate correct proportions.

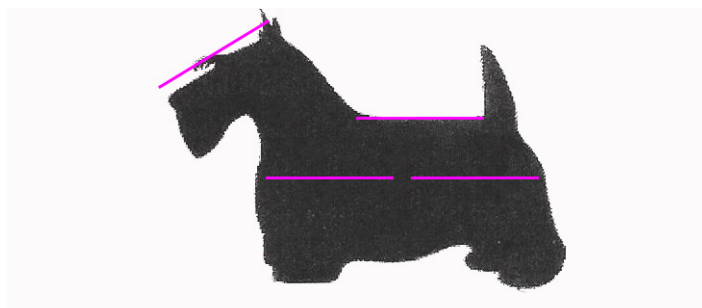
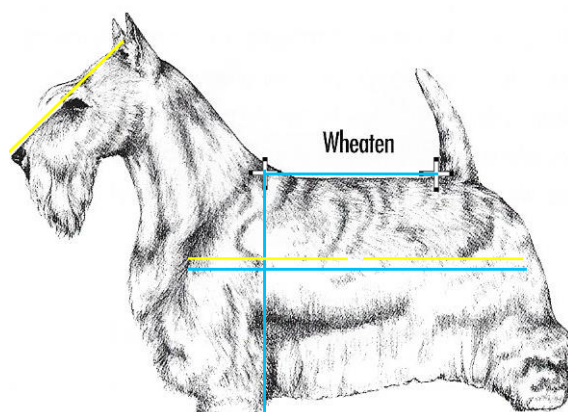


Illustration 6: Two Scottish Terrier silhouettes taken from the “plaid” illustrated standard booklet. Both outlines display proportions.

Nikki Riggsbee, writer and AKC approved judge, has written an article that appeared in Dogs In Review, September 2012. She, along with the editor, Allan Renzik, have given me permission to use the article. If readers have not seen the article in its entirety, it makes for a good and interesting read. The essence of the article is how current breeder/judges and members of the illustrated standard committee prioritize characteristics of the Scottish Terrier when they are looking at six outlines of dogs and six outlines of bitches—all of the outlines are from photographs of real dogs so “none is ideal”. I am using the outlines as part of my article pertaining to balance and symmetry.

Applying the same principles to the twelve outlines presented in Ms. Riggsbee’s article in Dogs In Review, the outlines fall into the same pattern of symmetry and balance previously described. Please remember that we’re talking “about” measurements, not exact measurements. Note, in particular, the

forechest and buttocks of the outlines as the edges of the beginning and end of the dog obviously includes some furnishings.

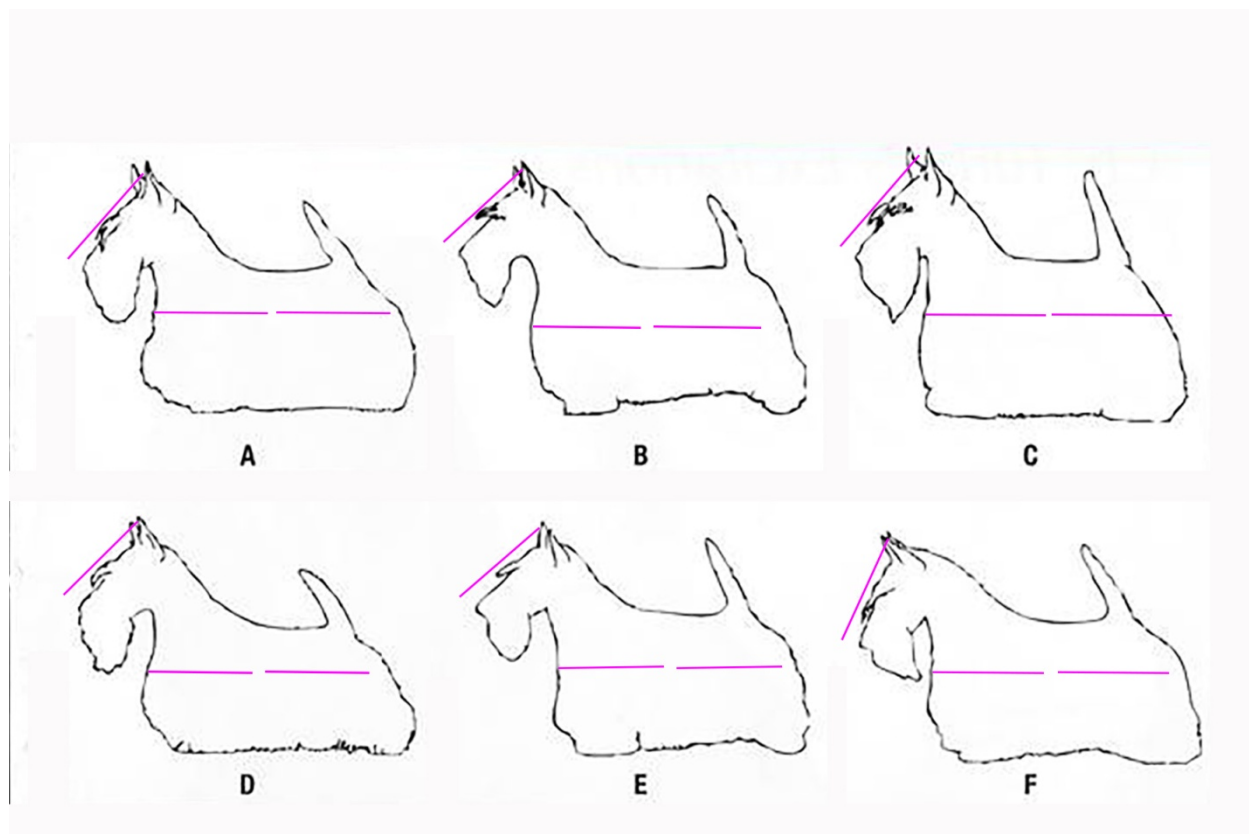


Illustration 7: Six Scottish Terrier dog outlines depicting head to body length proportions.

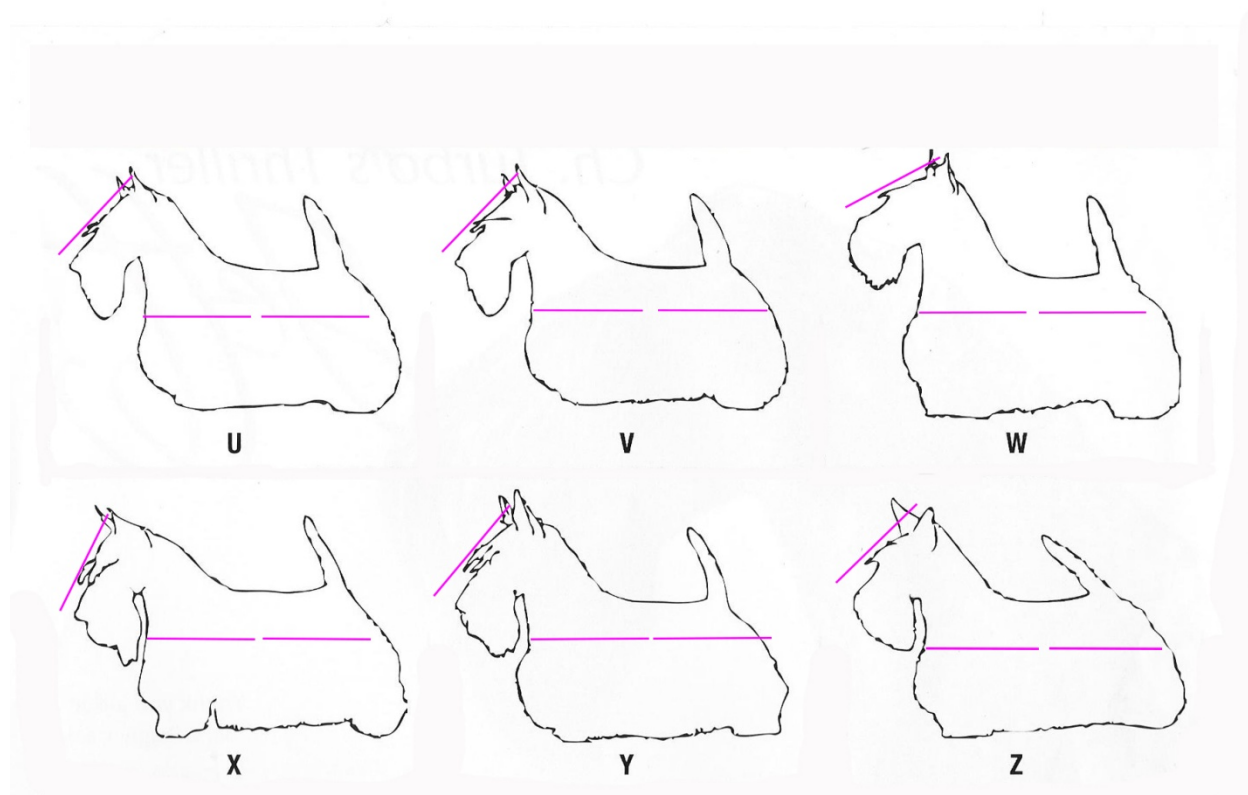


Illustration 8: Six Scottish Terrier bitch outlines depicting head to body length proportions.

The final three Scotties illustrated are three actual show photographs of dogs/bitches that I randomly picked from my own dogs. The first photo is a Champion dog shown in the early-to-mid seventies and then two photos of class animals (prior to their Championships). Using the same “rules” of proportion, one can quickly note the relationship of the three proportions.

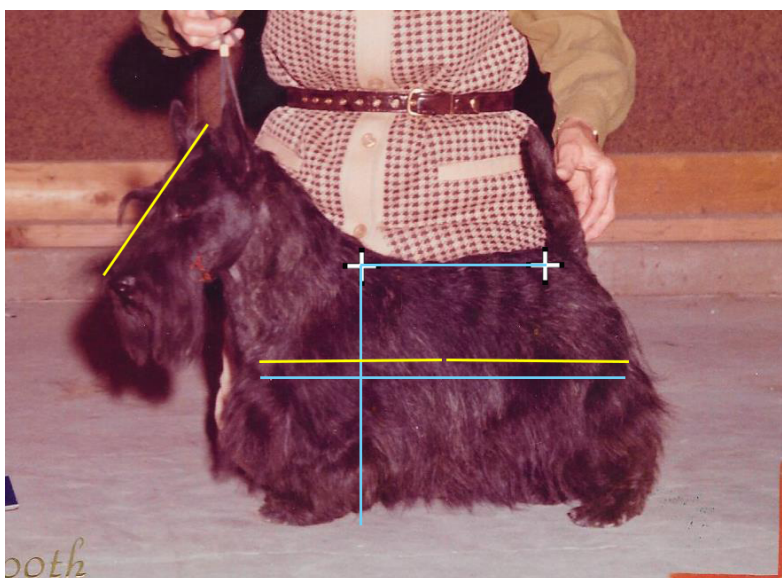


Illustration 9: A mature Scottish Terrier male champion (from the 70's) illustrating symmetry/balance through correct proportions of head, back, and body length.

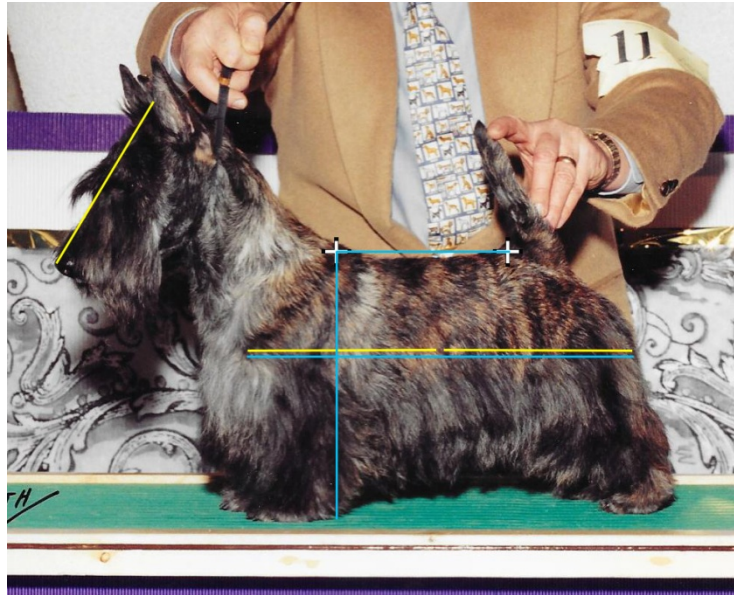


Illustration 10: A young Scottish Terrier class dog with proportions illustrating symmetry/balance.



Illustration 11: A young Scottish Terrier bitch reflecting symmetry/balance.

In the previous drawings, photos, etc, one can see how this “rule of thumb” easily relates to the reader (or, perhaps, judge), the correct proportions of the breed without the utilization of definitive numbers.

Author's Note: *I must comment about two dimensions that have not been included—the length of neck and the height with its relationship to depth of body and length of leg. The neck can be visually evaluated; however, it is rather difficult to evaluate the depth of body and length of leg unless one actually puts his hands on the dog.*

The Scottish Terrier standard compared to other AKC standards

It is interesting to compare the Scottish Terrier standard (current and 1947) to standards of other similar terriers and to other dogs, in general. Some AKC standards have measurable references to length of head compared to length of neck, and to length of body. Some, not only include the height measured in inches, but the proportions of the body depth compared to the leg length as well as the head and neck lengths measured in inches or percentages. The current AKC standard of the Sealyham Terrier reads, "Length of head roughly, three-quarters height at withers, or about an inch longer than neck." The relationship of the body depth to length of leg is stated in the Border Collie standard: ". . . the distance from the wither to the elbow is slightly less than from the elbow to the ground . . ." Both examples of standards that reflect the breeds proportions in different ways.

With eye and hand, what we do to measure the Scottish Terrier

The Scottish Terrier standard of 1947 merely states that the Scottish Terrier's neck should be "Moderately short"; his body is also described as "Moderately short". "Both forelegs and hind legs should be short and very heavy in bone in proportion to the size of the dog" describes the relationship of leg length to depth of body. Only in the text of the 1980 Clarification and Amplification of the Scottish Terrier Standard is the use of an average size human hand/an average man's fist used to determine the correct breadth and depth of chest—a "technique" that should always be utilized in judging the Scottish Terrier. The 1993 Scottish Terrier standard uses the phrase "moderately short" as well; again, utilization of an average size man's hand/fist is visually demonstrated in A Study of the Scottish Terrier published by the Scottish Terrier Club of America.

Along with Megargee's thinking, precise measurements should not be "laid down". His version of correct type has been a benchmark since its conception. His guidelines of proportion should not only "stand the test of time" but relate correct proportions for dogs/bitches that are above and below the standard's ideal size of 10 inches. While these taller/shorter dogs are not ideal, the "baby should never be thrown out with the bathwater" as their attributes could override their less-than-ideal size providing a positive influence in some breeding programs. Remember, balance and symmetry are of utmost importance.

The author challenges the readers to hand-measure their Scottish Terriers

I was pleasantly surprised to see that these two reference points from "days gone by" applied to every diagram/photo I selected. I hope this portion of the article encourages the Scottie breeder/enthusiast, the next time charges are groomed, use their hands and see if these "old" rules of proportion apply. If the reader is a member of STCA, view the covers and flip through the pages of STCA's news bulletin, The Bagpiper. One could also peruse the two fairly recent well-written Scottish Terrier books, Cindy Cooke's The New Scottish Terrier and Muriel P. Lee's The Official Book of the Scottish Terrier. Both of these books contain numerous quality photographs of winners from past to the nearly present.

The correct proportion can easily be evaluated by eye or, if desired, by hand. By hand, simply place one's thumb at the end of the dog's nose and spread fingers toward the occiput to get a beginning proportion. Keep the fingers spread at that distance and place them on the withers and then the point of shoulder. Remember 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ to two times the length of head. Again, it's about relationships, not about numbers. Once the point of shoulder is touched, one, with hand spread, can see how much length remains, $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 times the current thumb to little finger span.

The art of measuring, as simple as it can be

I will now provide some basic measuring information before moving on to address proportions of our current standard's measurements.

For the AKC approved judge, measuring and weighing knowledge is a must. AKC has a very clear policy for such activities, and all judges, who judge breeds that are weighed or measured, must follow that policy to a "T". In the show ring, judges can only measure or weigh breeds where height or weight contains disqualifications. The Scottish Terrier standard contains no disqualifications. Therefore, the breed cannot be measured in the show ring. That doesn't mean that, as breeders or owners, we can't weigh or measure.

For the beginning and, perhaps, for the experienced Scottie enthusiast, the next portion of my article pertains to the "art" of measuring our dogs.

First of all, the height of dogs is measured from the highest point of the withers to the ground. (See Illustration 12) Typically, a wicket is used. Tapes and rulers can be used, but care must be taken to assure correct measurements. And, I might add, some standards do not differentiate between puppies and adults, some do. In some breeds, puppies must meet the same height limits as the adult.

I'm including a diagram below to illustrate (Illustration 12) where these measureable parts are located. It is interesting to note that when the shoulders become "straighter" than the preferred layback, the actual measurement becomes longer, and the dog becomes taller. Clever grooming can change the outline we see in the ring, but the good judge would be able to find that point and, certainly, notice the result of such poor shoulder placement when the animal moves.

Earlier, I mentioned Point of Shoulder (see illustration below). Hopefully, in the Scottish Terrier, the Point of Shoulder is not the most forward part of the dog's front assembly. In some breeds, this Point is used in measuring the length of the dog, not so in the Scottish Terrier standard. The Scottie standard refers to the length of back, measured from withers to set on of tail, not length of dog.

The length of back is measured from the highest point of the withers to the base of the tail. I have seen mentioned in some discussions that the base of the tail "might" be behind the tail; I, personally, do not feel this is correct for the Scottish Terrier standard. As mentioned earlier, because one uses the highest point of the withers to measure the length of back; a dog with a straighter shoulder would measure longer and taller than the dog with correct shoulders even though the two, with clever grooming, could appear very similar in stature. One must also realize when measuring the length of back, and the tail set is low, the measurement will also show a longer back as the measurement goes from the withers to the set on of tail.

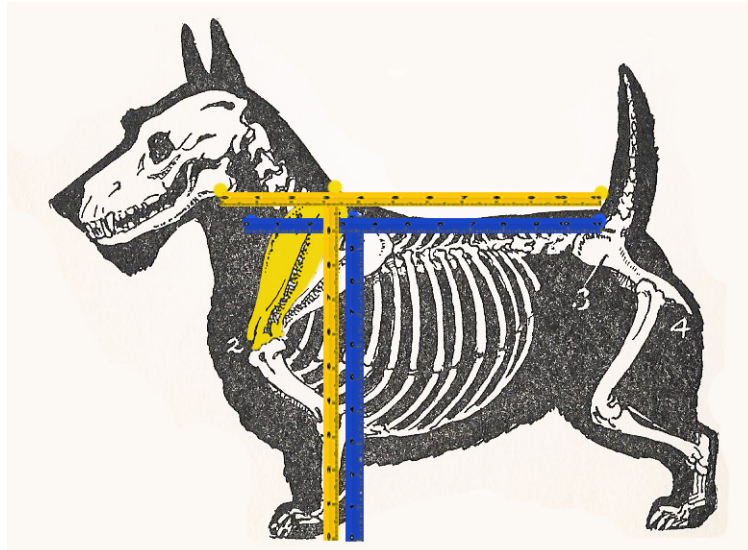


Illustration 12: A modified Scottish Terrier skeleton (displaying two shoulder angles) comparing the measurements of a well laid back shoulder (blue) and a straighter shoulder (yellow).

Another readers' challenge, measuring their Scottish Terriers

Again, I challenge everyone to put their Scotties on the table and measure and note the results. If you have no measuring devices and/or no knowledge how to go about it, find a breeder of a breed who has a height DQ in their standard, and they would be able to help you through the process. On the figure below, please note the placement of the Point of Shoulder (No. 2), one of the points used earlier to measure the length of the dog. (This is not the length of back.) Even the previous proportion references worked as shown below.

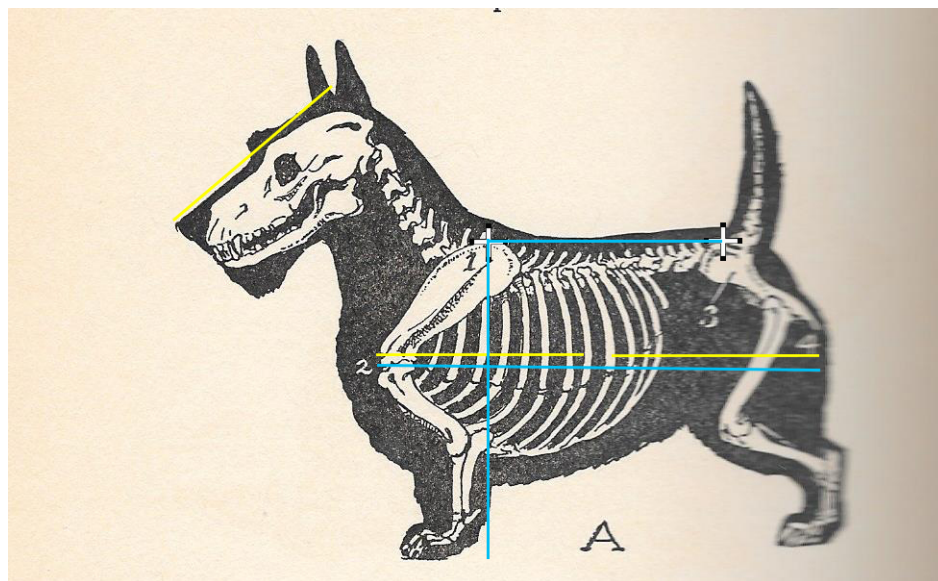


Illustration 13: The Scottish Terrier skeleton depicting correct proportions. Point 1 illustrating the withers; Point 2 illustrating the point of the shoulder.

Applying the current standard's measurement to the actual dog

The current standard calls for a back that is “approximately 11 inches” from withers to set on of tail. I have used the same drawings/ pictures shown before to illustrate this proportion. In the current standard, relationships in inches are only mentioned in height and length (withers to set on of tail). No measurement is made of head length, neck length, or overall body length.

Typically, when measuring the length of back, one starts at the highest point of the withers and measures back to the set on of tail. In this discussion, I have chosen to do the reverse because in drawings and photographs, the closest precise point is the appearance of the set on of tail. I shall measure backwards. The end result will show, if following the current standard's measurement, where the “withers” should be. For a diagram of proper shoulder placement, please refer to the diagram previously shown (Illustration 12).

Again, another assumption must be made. One must assume that all of the dogs in these diagrams are about 10” at the withers. Therefore, according to the current standard, the ideal Scottie *should* measure about an inch longer than tall from withers to set on of tail. The Scottie standard makes no adjustment for dogs who are shorter than or taller than the ideal height. It merely refers to “symmetry and balance without exaggeration”.

For illustrative purposes, I will place a “white dot” on the dog where the withers should be when utilizing the “about 11 inches length of back”. I have also used the same pictures previously illustrated in this article.

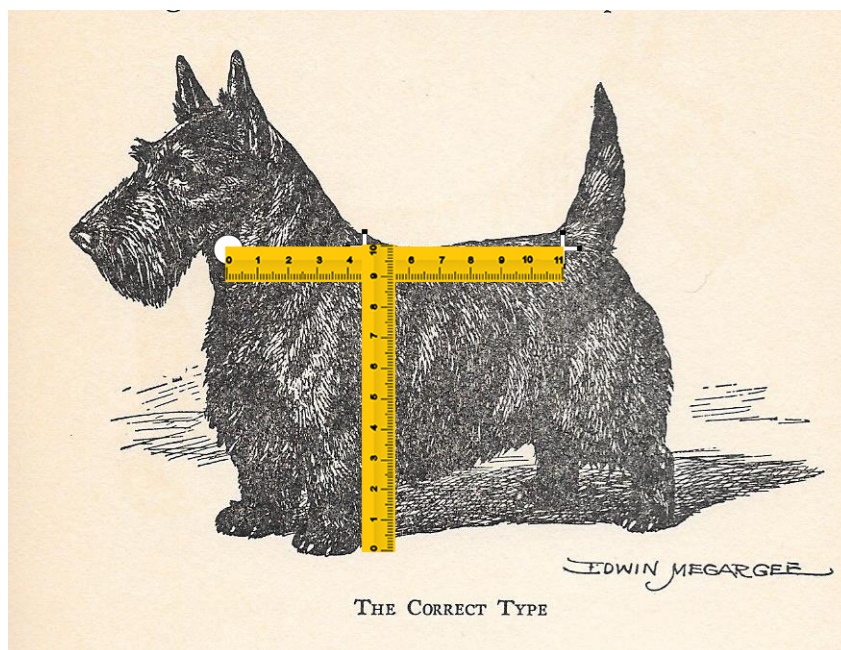


Illustration 14. Megargee's vision of correct Scottish Terrier type measured with today's standard. The white dot represents where the withers would be if "about 11 inches" were used.

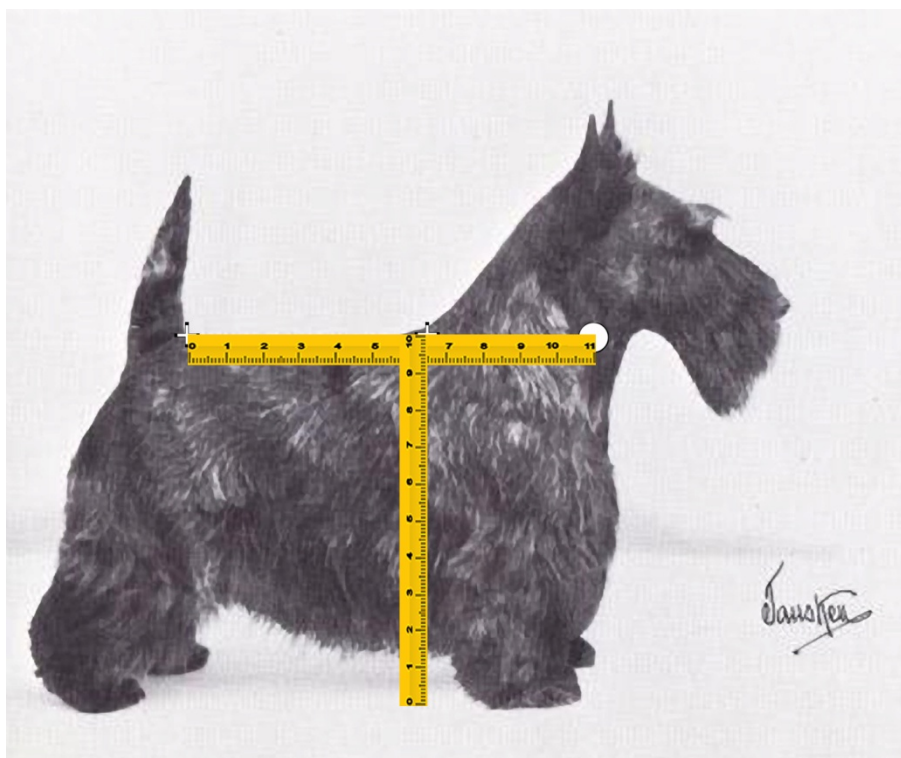


Illustration 15: The Tauskey photograph measured with today's standard measurements.

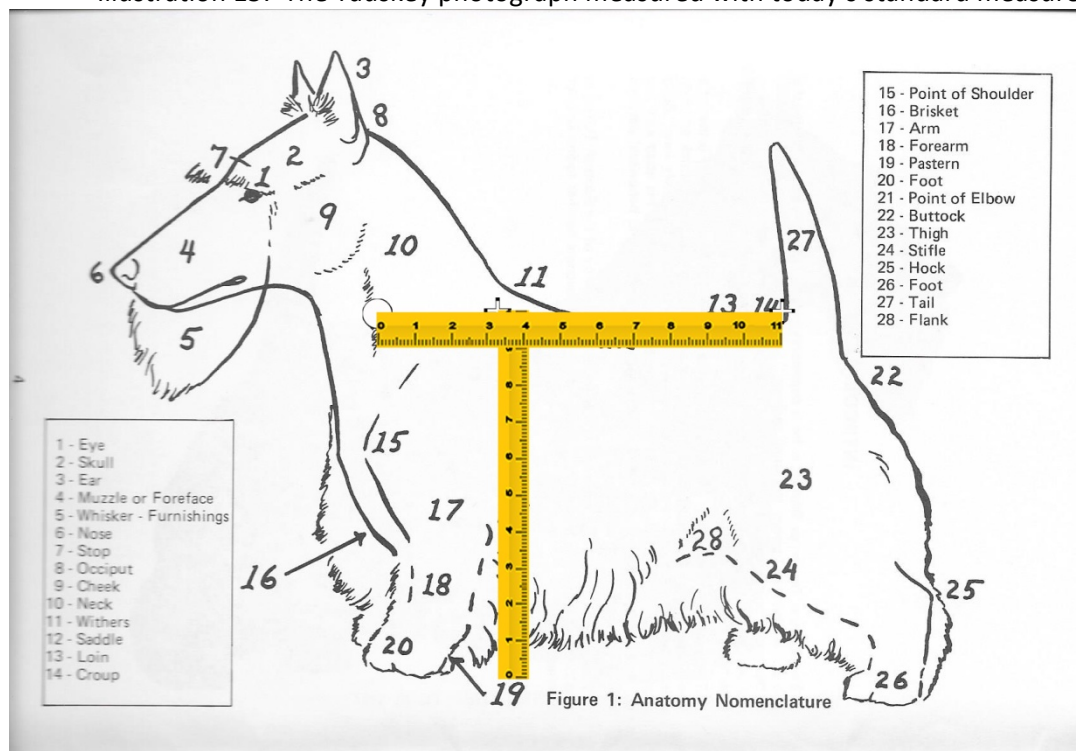
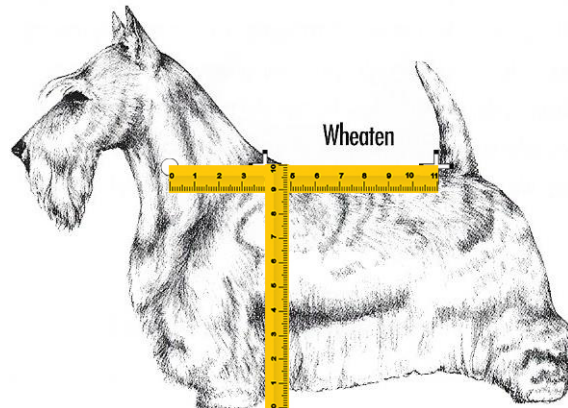


Illustration 16: The “Red Book” Scottish Terrier diagram measured with today’s standard measurements.



Illustraiton 17: The first “Plaid Book” Scottish Terrier diagram showing today’s measurements and possible wither placement.

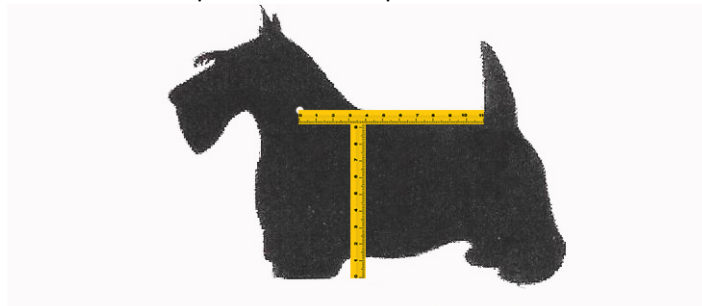


Illustration 18: The second “Plaid Book” Scottish Terrier diagram showing today’s measurements and possible withers placement.

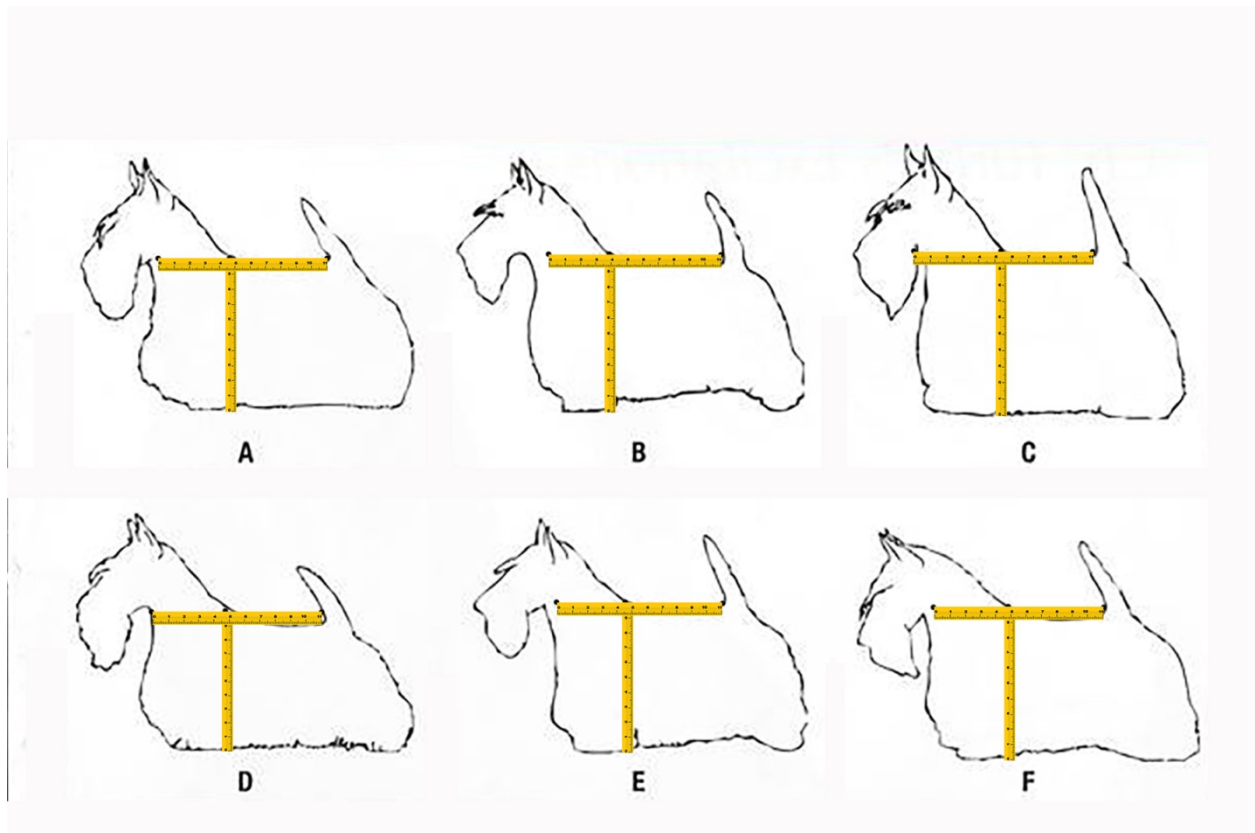


Illustration 19: Six Scottish Terrier dog outlines measured per today's standard. The withers placement is depicted with a black dot.

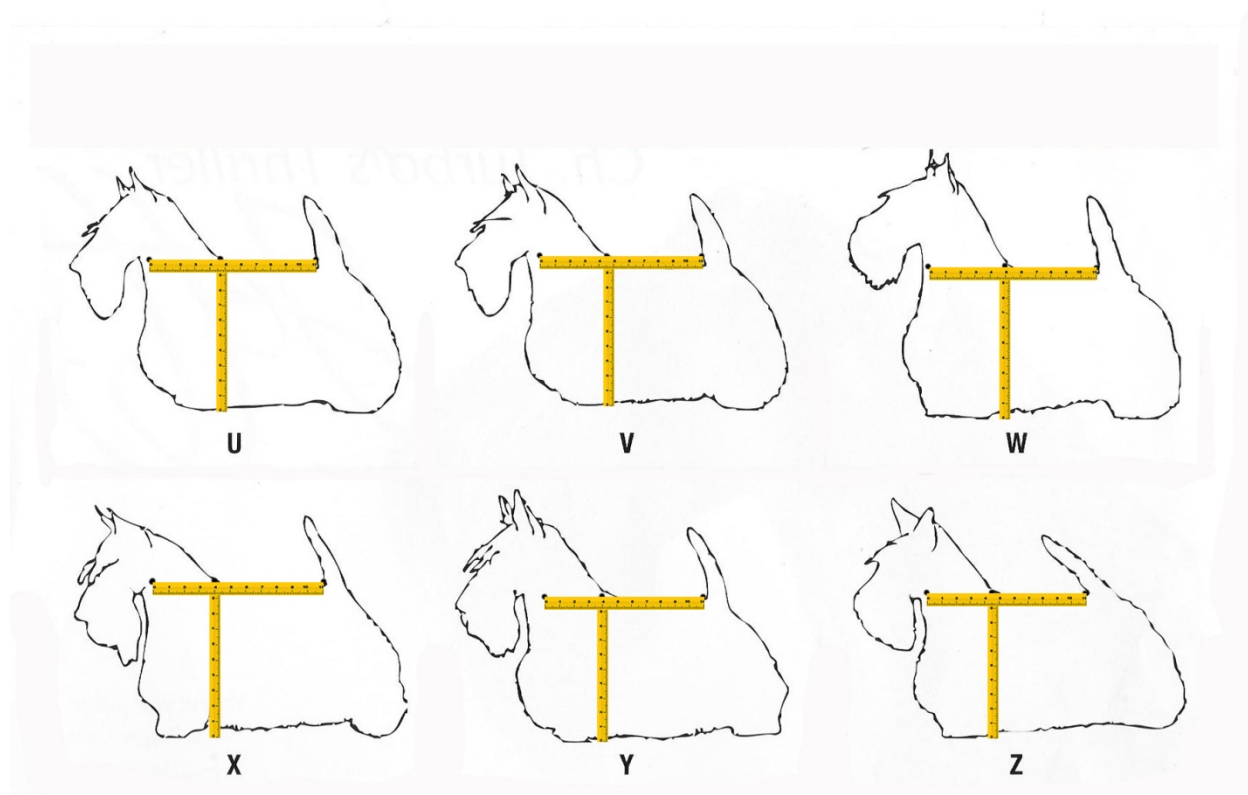


Illustration 20: Six Scottish Terrier bitch outlines measured per today's standard. The withers placement is depicted with a black dot.

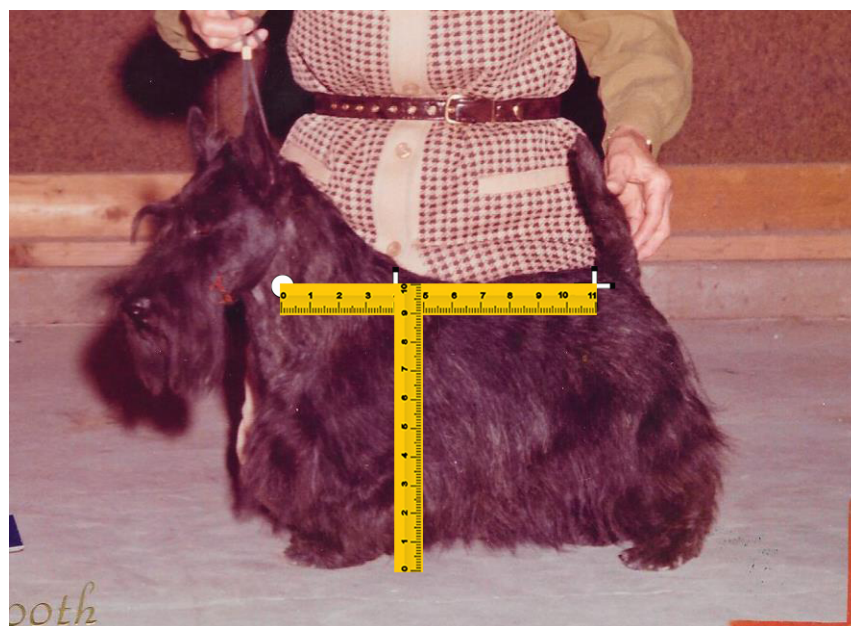


Illustration 21: A mature Scottish Terrier champions measured under today's standard. The white dot represents where, according to those measurements, the withers would be placed.



Illustration 22: A young Scottish Terrier dog measured with today's standard.



Illustration 23: A young Scottish Terrier bitch measured with today's standard.

Readers challenged to measure length of back with measuring devices

In my observations of these drawings/photographs, I have never seen Scottish Terriers whose withers would ever be set so far forward nor could they ever be set so forward. I, again, challenge the Scottie enthusiast to measure his dog. This measurement is easy to make with a tape measure. Place the end of the tape measure at the highest point of the withers and go back to the set on of tail. That measurement is the length of back. Now, repeat the process but go back from the set on of tail—this procedure is not normally used, but I'm suggesting it merely to prove a point. With a tape measure at the set on of tail, go back to about 11 inches, that point is where the "withers" should be according to our current standard. Is there a difference in measurements?

How my personal experience related to the current Scottish Terrier standard

In 2000, I was asked to become the chair for the STCA Judges Education Committee. Being a teacher and a tactile/visual learner, I felt it necessary to prepare a poster board cutout of the perfectly sized ideally proportioned Scottish Terrier. At that time, I used the diagram shown below (Illustration 24) as the basis for my outline. Gathering my poster board and rulers, utilizing my artistic talents, onward I moved.

Shortly, I became confused—I had never seen a dog of this proportion—I was seeing standard proportions but not the Scottie that I had grown up with since my involvement in the breed. I thought I had miscalculated or misdrawn, I checked. No, I was right. I showed the outline to a number of my terrier friends, and they concurred with my sentiments. One of my dear mentors was a Sealyham

Terrier and Scottie breeder who had been involved in Sealyham Terriers nearly 50 years. We noticed that the Scottish Terrier standard now had the Scottie being longer than the Sealyham. Below is the reduced copy of that outline. One is now able to compare that outline to the outlines/photos that were used in previous pages (The basis for my drawing is also shown below—taken from the “Red Book”, the illustrated standard booklet I had used when I gave the grooming workshops for the STCA.) It became obvious, to me, that the proportions created by the current standard did not reflect the symmetry and balance desired in the breed.

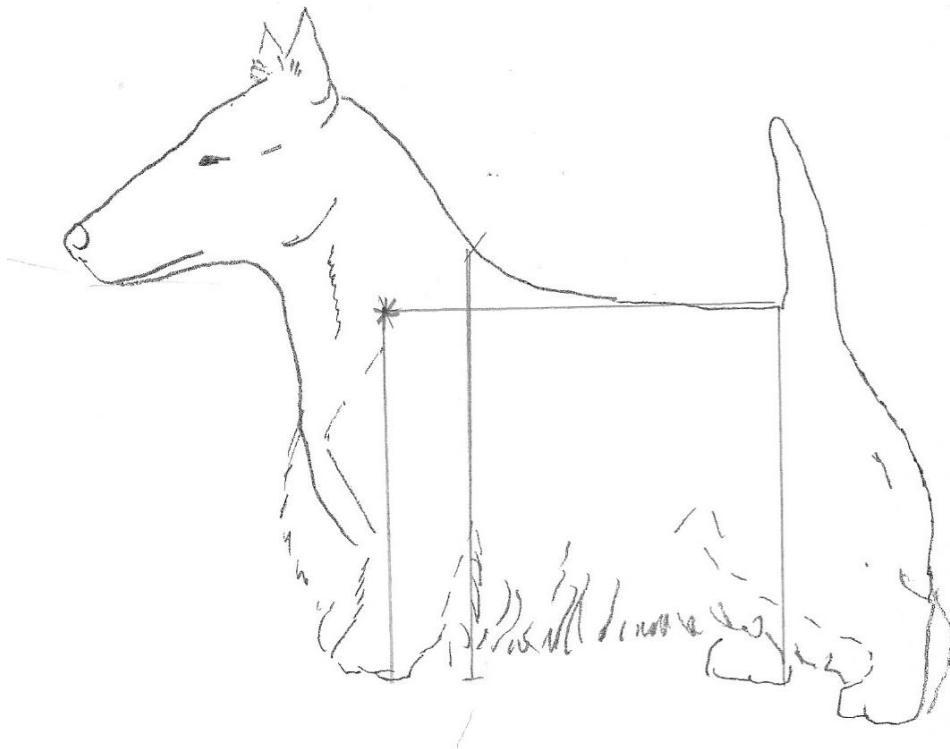


Illustration 24: The original Scottish Terrier outline the author originally used in his educational materials. This outline appeared in the “Red Book”.

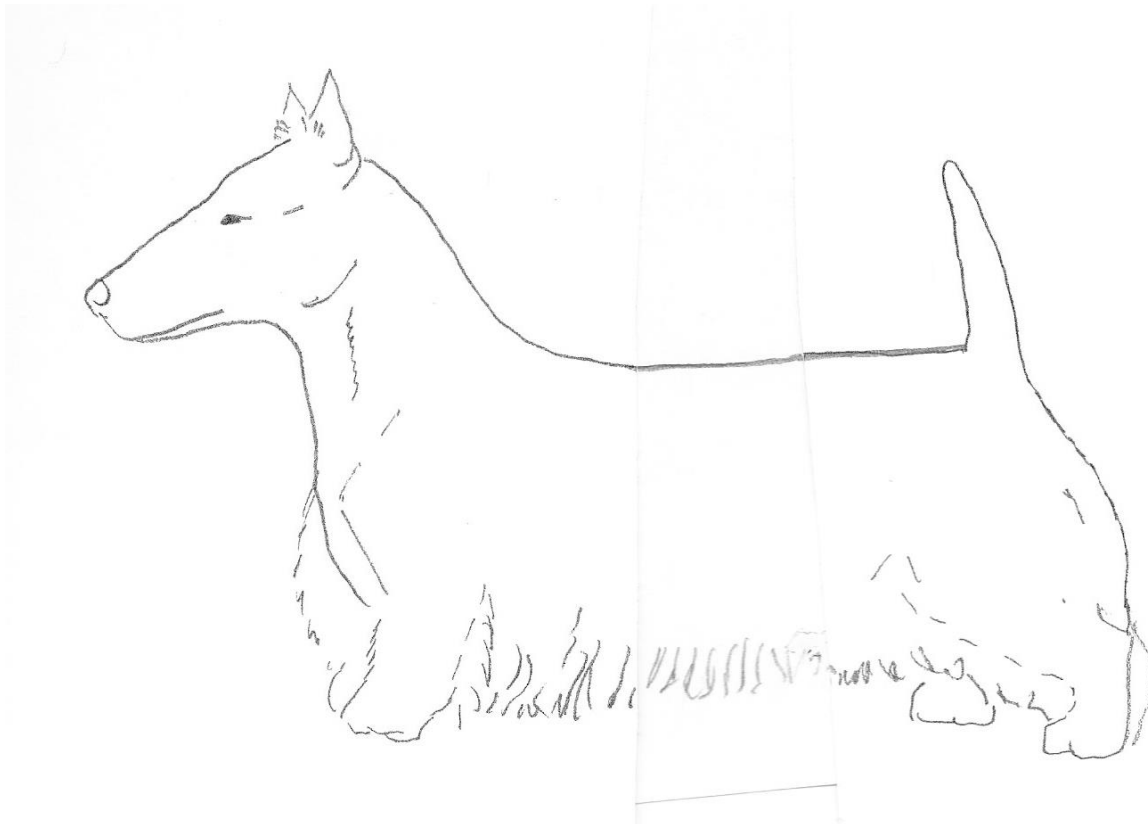


Illustration 25: This Scottish Terrier outline was Illustration 24 drawn to today's current standard proportions.

Conclusion

It has been my purpose to share with the reader my findings when I traveled back into the history of the breed. I hope each person who reads this article finds something useful. My original intent was to provide myself with strong support for my view of the correct Scottish Terrier. I feel, for me, I have done that. For the reader, I hope I have made my point clear. I hope this information can be utilized in a positive manner to make the Scottish Terrier standard a standard that clearly and correctly defines the breed we all cherish.

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About the author

Merle Taylor is currently the chair of the Standards Review Committee. He and his wife, Carolyn, became involved with Scottish Terriers in 1969. From that point, they began showing and breeding on a limited scale. They have bred and shown numerous Scottish Terrier champions, specialty winners, and a national and all-breed Best In Show winner under the Jabberwok prefix. Merle became an AKC licensed handler and has finished champions in all seven groups. He and Carolyn have owned Champion Norwich Terriers, Affenpinschers, Brussels Griffons, Bouvier des Flandres, Pointers, and a Beauceron. Their household currently includes a rescue Scottish Terrier.

Merle has served on the Board of Directors for the STCA. He wrote the first grooming manual published by the STCA, and was judges education chair for the STCA. He has judged numerous specialties, the STCA specialty at Montgomery, and the Canadian national specialty. Merle began judging in 2000 and is currently approved to judge the Terrier and Herding groups and half of the Toy group. After 38 years, Merle retired from teaching high school business in the public school system.

Merle is also a member of four all-breed kennel clubs, President of the Champaign Illinois Kennel Club, and the Cluster Chair for the Progress City Cluster.