

# Rhodesian Ridgeback

**Height** Dogs - 25-27" Bitches - 24-26"

**General Appearance** - Strong, muscular, symmetrical and balanced in outline, and slightly longer than tall. The Ridgeback is devoted and affectionate, though reserved with strangers. Characteristic feature of the breed is the "ridge" on the back.

**Head** - Fair length with flat skull, rather broad between ears, well defined stop. **Eyes** - Harmonize with color of dog and are round and moderately well apart. **Ears** - Medium, set rather brown, liver high, rather wide at base, tapering to a rounded point, carried close to head. **Muzzle** - Long, deep powerful. **Nose** - Black, (harmonize with color of dog). **Bite** - Scissors.

**Body - Neck** - Strong and chest very deep, with moderate rib spring. **Back** - Powerful and firm with strong, slightly arched loins. **Tail** - Tapering and carried with slight curve upward. **Shoulders** - Sloping, elbows close, forelegs straight and heavy in bone. **Feet** - Compact, well arched, round. **Hocks** - well let down.

**Coat** - Sleek and glossy, short and dense. **Color** - Light wheaten to red wheaten. A little white on the chest and toes permissible. Excessive white on belly or above toes is undesirable.

**Ridge** is hallmark of the breed - clearly defined, tapering and symmetrical, starting behind the shoulders and continuing to hips and containing two identical crowns directly opposite each other. Lower edge of crowns extending not further down than one third of the ridge.

**Gait** - Back is held level and stride is efficient, long, free and unrestricted.

## **DISQUALIFICATIONS:**

- Ridgelessness.
- Solid black.
- Black and tan, or brown and tan in brown/liver nosed dogs.

Effective July 1, 2025