



A letter from the Poodle Club of America – This Poodle is in an acceptable version of the Continental Trim for Show Purposes

The Poodle depicted is in a regulation trim! It is a readily recognizable continental trim, though without hip rosettes (which are optional in the breed standard) and the top knot has been scissored so that rubber bands are not needed (there have been several Poodles finished with scissored topknots over the years), and the ear feathering has been shortened not clipped. There are bracelets on all four legs and a pom pon on the tail. The primary departure from what everyone is used to seeing, is that mane coat is scissored, and shortened to a length that suits the particular Poodle being presented. This same treatment of the mane coat could be used with the English Saddle trim and still be a regulation trim. The standard, after it has guided you through what various trims should look like, then says that the balance of the coat shall be left full but may be shaped to insure overall balance. There is no desired length mentioned in the standard-actually were the mane coat to be in cords (also allowed under the breed standard) no one would be concerned about a "proper length" of the cords!

You, as a judge of this very old breed, are encouraged to judge the Poodle, no matter what the size, toy, miniature, or standard against the breed standard, bearing in mind the explanation of the adaptation of the traditional trim as explained above.

You will find three varieties of Poodle wearing this trim, as it is the perfect answer to showing a young dog while waiting for body or maturity, as well as the performance dogs in obedience, the field and/or agility that have found a way to compete in all facets offered today in our grand sport of purebred dogs. This trim was probably the original one used in the fifteen and sixteen hundreds when the Poodle worked as a dependable water retriever!



The above poodles are in a regulation trim.