

AMERICAN STAFFORDSHIRE TERRIER

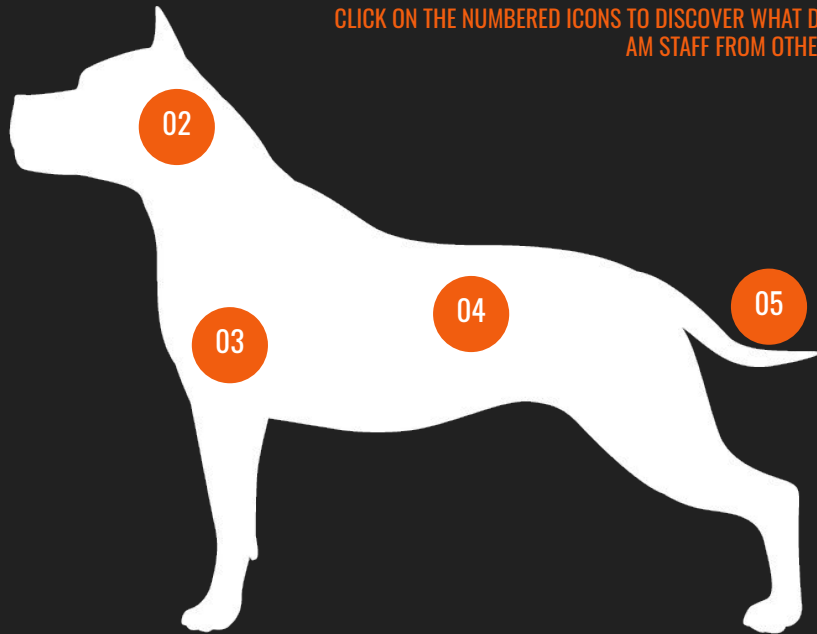
BREED STANDARD

Courageous and strong, the American Staffordshire Terrier (Am Staff)'s athletic build and intelligence make him ideally suited to many dog sports such as obedience, agility, tracking and conformation. He is often identified by his stocky body and strong, powerful head. The breed's short coat can be any color, and either solid colored, parti-colored or patched.



CLICK ON THE NUMBERED ICONS TO DISCOVER WHAT DISTINGUISHES THE AM STAFF FROM OTHER SIMILAR BREEDS

01



02

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04

05



**CONFIDENT,
GOOD NATURED,
& SMART**

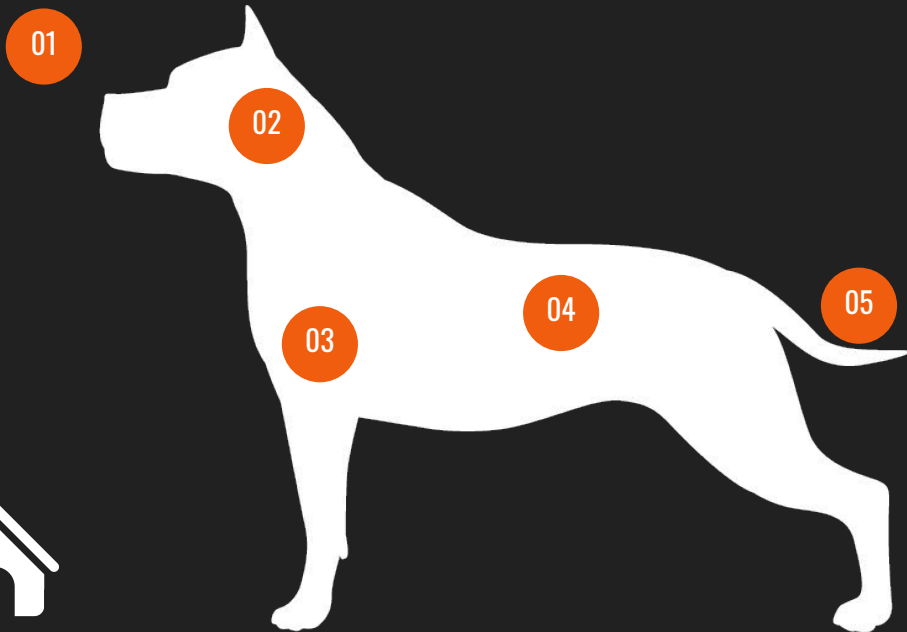
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The Am Staff is a people-oriented dog that thrives when he is made part of the family and given a job to do. Regular exercise and training are necessary. They are natural clowns, so they tend to make training comical at times; they like to put a little twist on your training program. It's vital to keep it fun and interesting. A stubborn-streak can make them difficult to train at times and will require patience and a firm, but kind, hand.

01 GENERAL IMPRESSION

The American Staffordshire Terrier should give the impression of great strength for his size, a well put-together dog, muscular, but agile and graceful, keenly alive to his surroundings. He should be stocky, not long-legged or racy in outline. His courage is proverbial.



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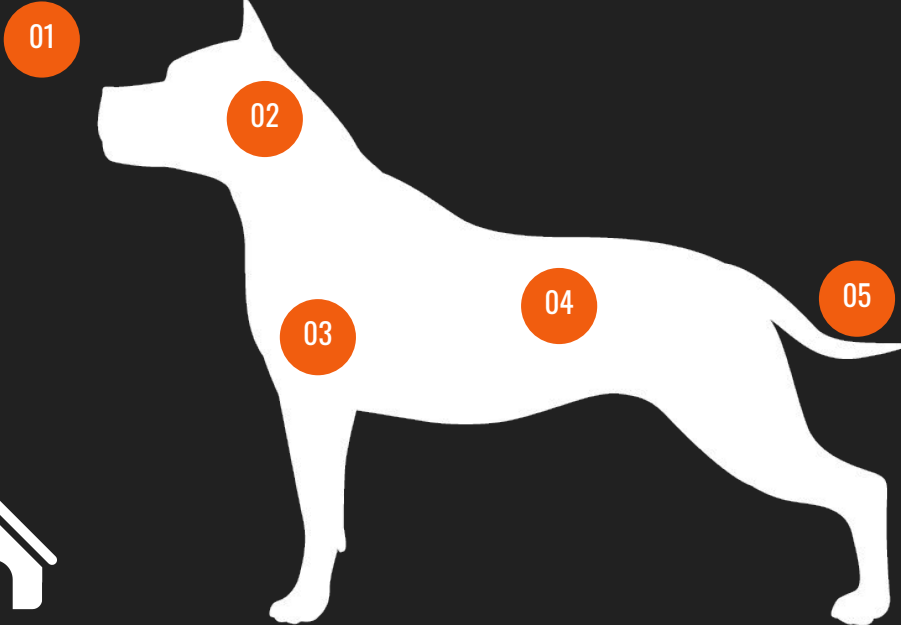
BREED STANDARD

The roots of the American Staffordshire Terrier can be traced through early Mastiff warriors, to the original Bulldogs in England, which were used in the bloody sport of bull baiting.

02 HEAD

Head: Medium length, deep through, broad skull, very pronounced cheek muscles, distinct stop; and ears are set high. **Eyes** - Dark and round, low down in skull and set far apart. No pink eyelids.

Muzzle- Medium length, rounded on upper side to fall away abruptly below eyes. Jaws well defined. Underjaw to be strong and have biting power. Lips close and even, no looseness. Upper teeth to meet tightly outside lower teeth in front. Nose definitely black. **Neck:** Heavy, slightly arched, tapering from shoulders to back of skull. No looseness of skin.



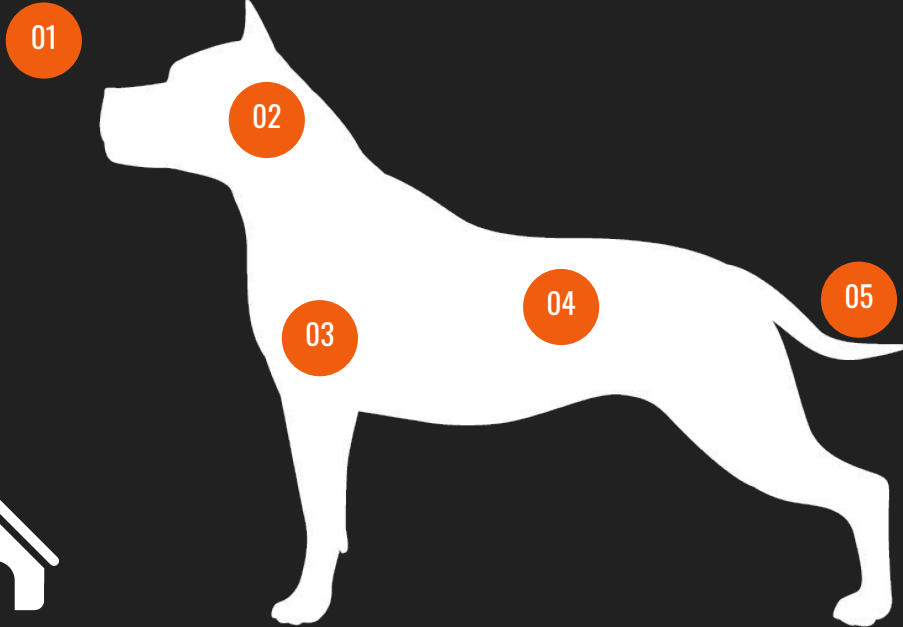
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Until the early part of the 19th century, the Bulldog was bred with great care in England for the purpose of baiting bulls. The Bulldog of that day was vastly different from our present-day bulldog. Pictures from as late as 1870 represent the Bulldog as agile and as standing straight on his legs-his front legs in particular.

03 LEGS

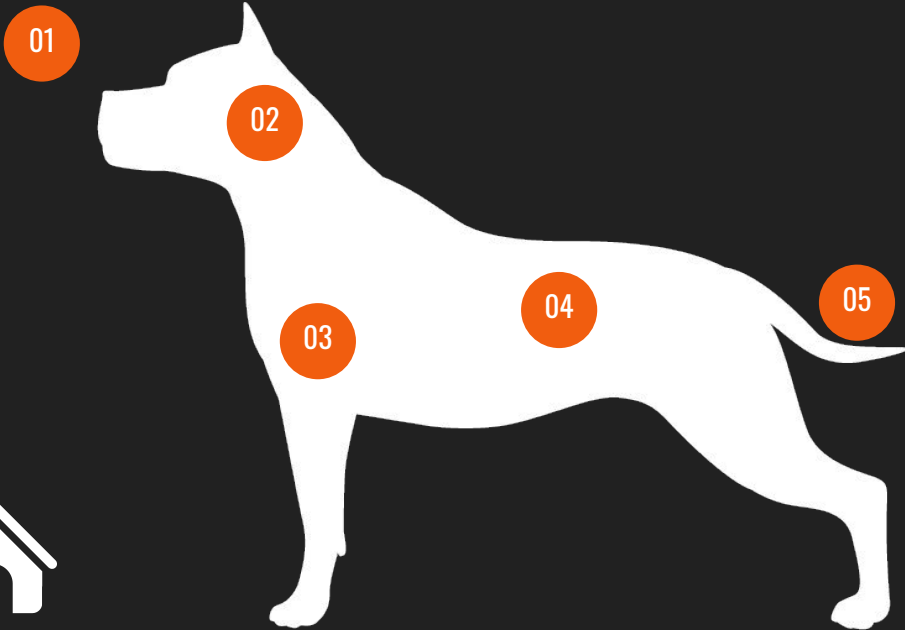
The front legs should be straight, large or round bones, pastern upright. No semblance of bend in front. Hindquarters well-muscled, let down at hocks, turning neither in nor out. Feet of moderate size, well-arched and compact. Gait must be springy but without roll or pace.



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It was the cross between the Bulldog and the terrier that resulted in the Staffordshire Terrier, which was originally called the Bull-and-Terrier Dog, Half and Half, and at times Pit Dog or Pit Bull Terrier. Later, it assumed the name in England of Staffordshire Bull Terrier.



04 BACK & BODY

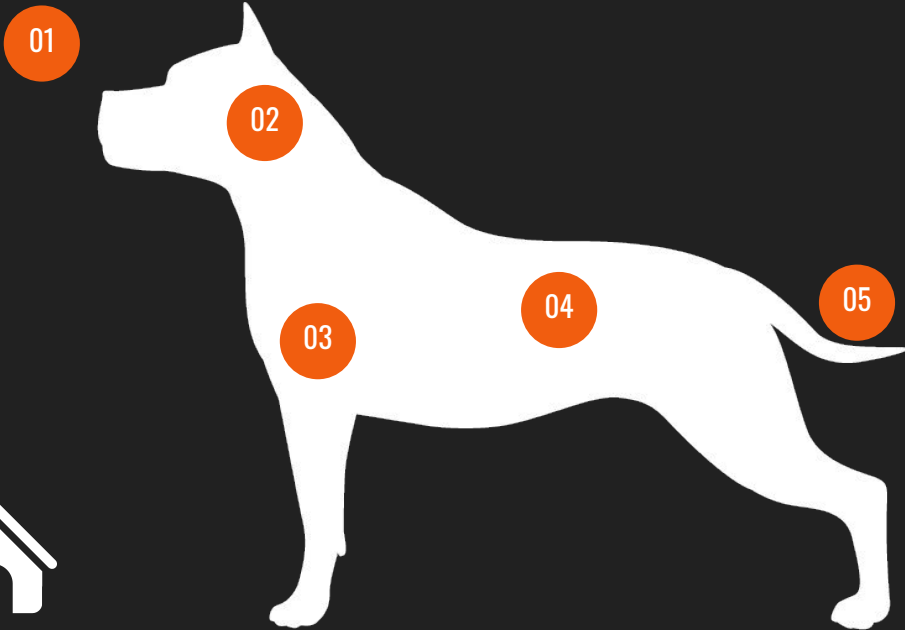
Back: Fairly short. Slight sloping from withers to rump with gentle short slope at rump to base of tail. Loins slightly tucked.

Body: Well-sprung ribs, deep in rear. All ribs close together. Forelegs set rather wide apart to permit chest development. Chest deep and broad

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The American Staffordshire Terrier's standard allows a variance in weight, but it should be in proportion to size. The dog's chief requisites should be strength unusual for his size, soundness, balance, a strong powerful head, a well-muscled body, and courage that is proverbial.



05 TAIL & COAT

Tail Short in comparison to size, low set, tapering to a fine point; not curled or held over back. Not docked.

Coat Short, close, stiff to the touch, and glossy.