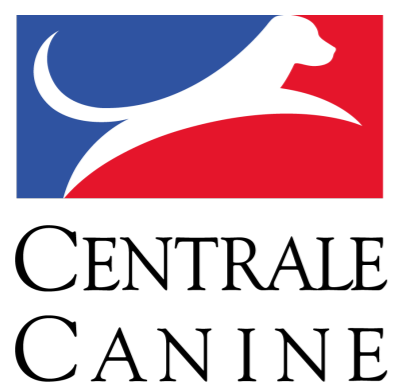


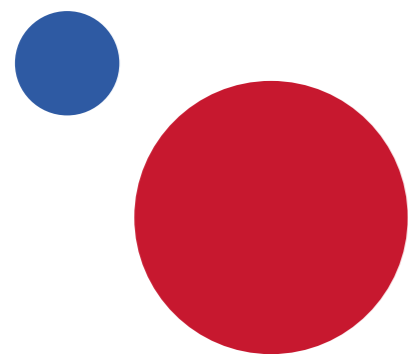
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# CONTINENTAL TOY SPANIEL

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. Standard and comments .





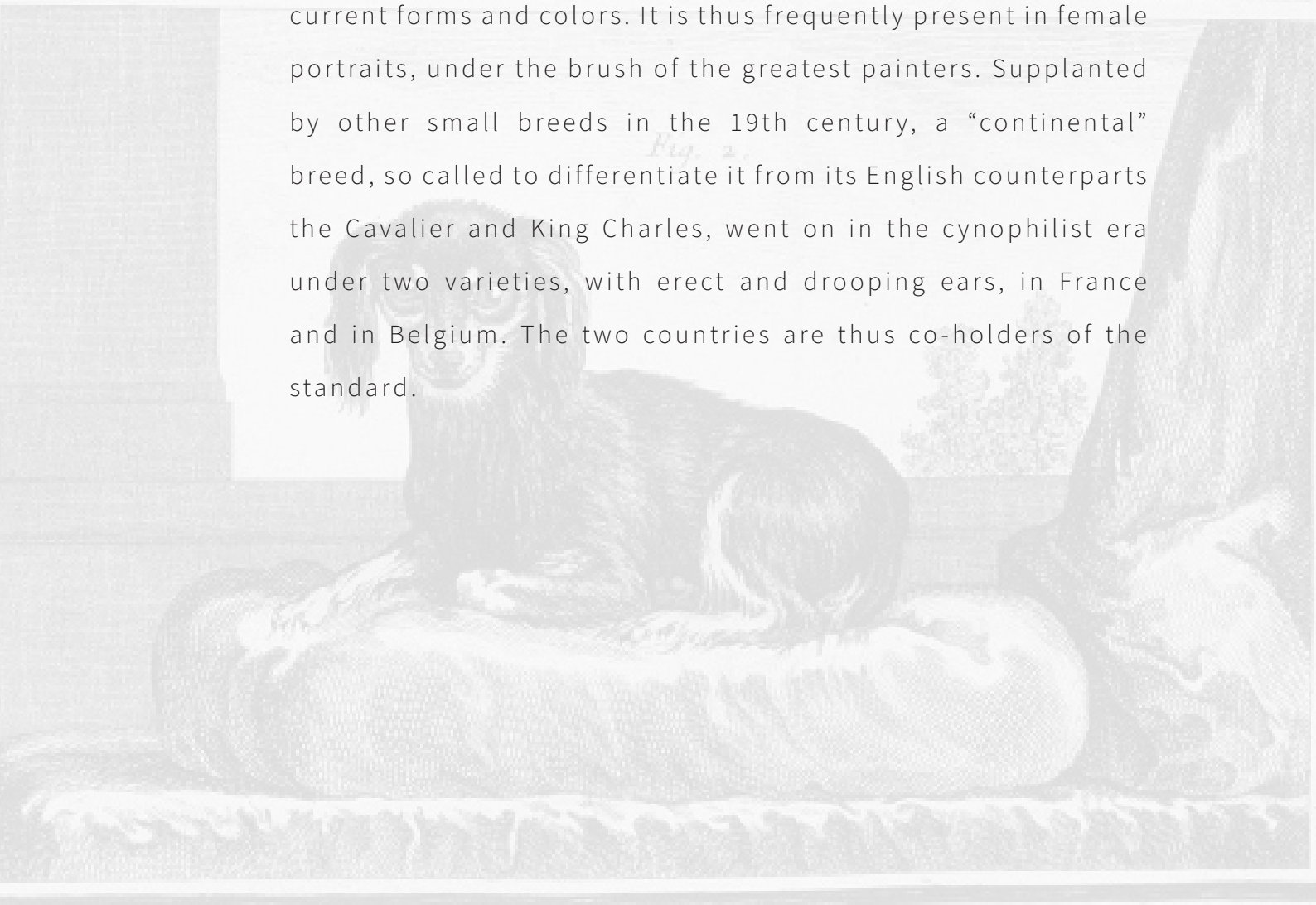
# SUMMARY

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## Brief Historical summary

In its role of companion dog devoted to the women of the aristocratic and middle-class elite, the Toy spaniel appeared in Western iconography around the 14th century, close to its current forms and colors. It is thus frequently present in female portraits, under the brush of the greatest painters. Supplanted by other small breeds in the 19th century, a “continental” breed, so called to differentiate it from its English counterparts the Cavalier and King Charles, went on in the cynophilist era under two varieties, with erect and drooping ears, in France and in Belgium. The two countries are thus co-holders of the standard.



# GENERAL APPEARANCE

Small de luxe Toy spaniel, with long hair, lively personality, graceful yet robust, proud carriage with an easy and elegant gait. His body is somewhat longer than high.



*S. Mignon: the elegance of the silhouette is notably due to the limbs and the neckline; care must taken to ensure that they are not too short.*

# HEAD

Proportionately lighter and shorter than in the Spaniel of large or medium size.





**Cranial region**

- Not too rounded neither in profile nor from the front, sometimes showing a slight trace of medial furrow.
- Depression sufficiently accentuated. In very small dogs, it is clearly marked without ever showing sudden break.

**Facial region**

- Small, black and round nose, but slightly flattened on top
- Muzzle: shorter than the skull, fine, pointed; must not be turned up. Straight nasal bridge.

***S. Mignon: the muzzle currently tends to be a little too long; care must be taken about it. But overall, the head type remains well preserved in the stock.***

- Lips: strongly pigmented, thin and tight.
- Jaws/Teeth: quite strong, closing well and normally

***S. Mignon: the absence of an incisor is tolerated on each mandible.***

- Tongue: must not be visible.
- Eyes: dark in colour, rather large, not prominent, set rather low in the head (inner corner at the intersection of the skull and the muzzle). Strongly pigmented eyelid.
- The ears are set on rather far back on the head, sufficiently apart one from the other, so as to reveal the slightly rounded shape of the skull. The cartilage must not end in a too sharp point.

- Variety with hanging ears (Phalène): the ear is set significantly higher than the eye line, quite mobile, garnished with wavy hair which may reach quite a great length.

***S. Mignon: the ears of the Phalène are sometimes too high, too low, or too sideways. They should in theory descend along the cheeks***

- Variety with erect ears (Papillon): the ear is set high, turned to the side. The inner edge forming an angle of approx. 45°. In no case must the ear point upwards. The inside is covered with fine, wavy hairs, the outer face with long hair forming hanging fringes extending well beyond the edges of the ear.

***S. Mignon: the ear carriage is an important criterion of race. In no case should they be carried as at the Spitz.***

- Cross-breeding of the two varieties often produces semi-erect ears, with drooping tip; this mixed form of ear carriage is a serious fault.



## NECK

- Of moderate length, a little arched at the nape

## BODY

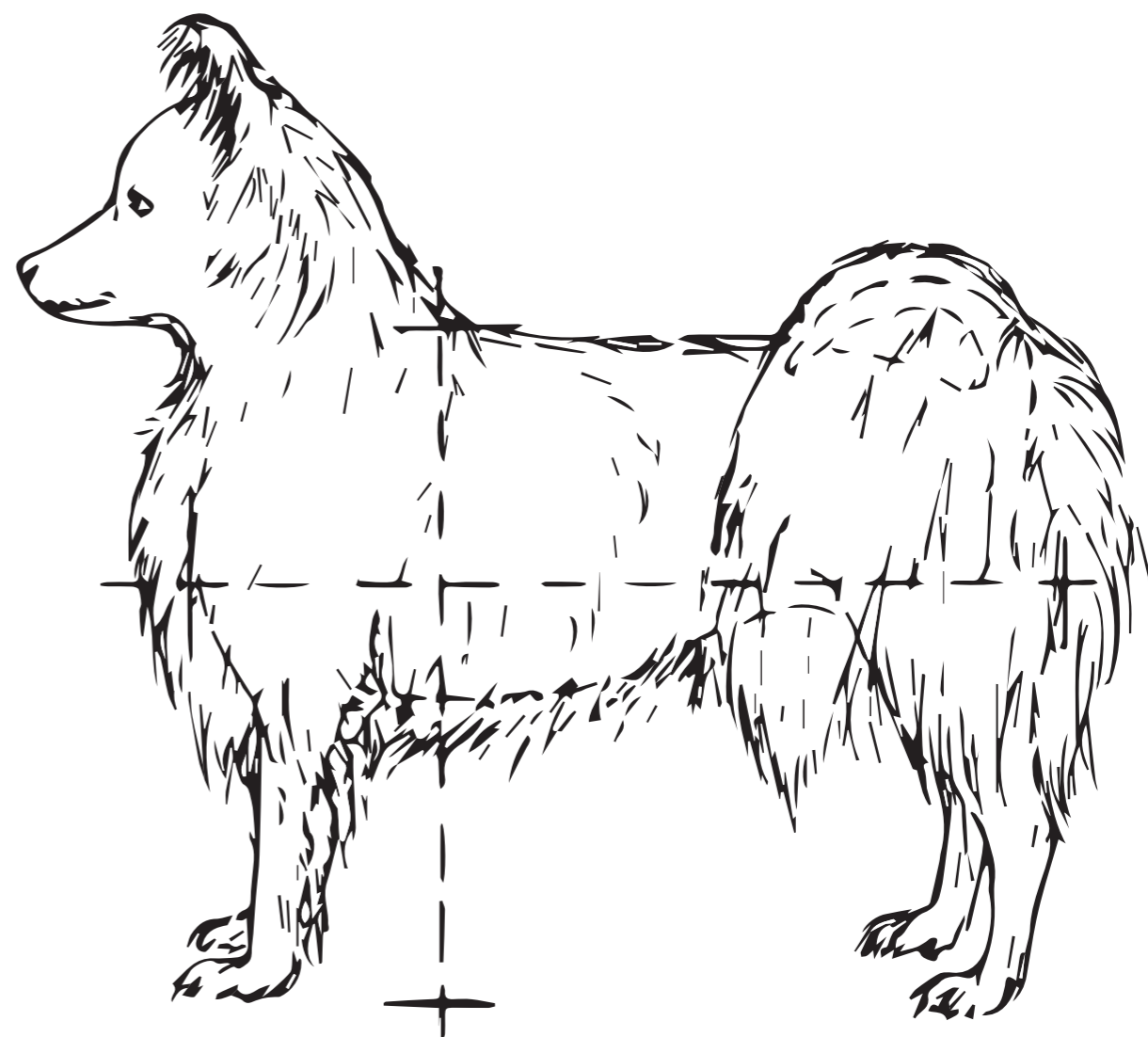
- Topline: neither too short or arched, nor saddled, without however being flat
- Loin: slightly arched
- Chest: wide, fairly well let down. Circumference of the thorax approximately equivalent to the height at the withers.  
Ribbs well arched.
- Belly: slightly drawn up.

*S. Mignon: it is notably necessary to check if the elbows are not detached, or in fiddle front, which is however rarer. Generally, to estimate the morphology of the dog (shoulders, chest, neck, tail...), the judge must put his hands in the fur, even if it is not as abundant as in some other small breeds.*

## TAIL

- Set quite high, rather long, abundant fringe forming a lovely plume. In action, it is carried raised along the line of the back and curved, the extreme tip may touch the back; never should it curl or lie flat on the back.

*S. Mignon: it may happen that the tail setting is too low, or that the is carried like a flag, or not curved enough, but this is not necessarily visible if the plume is very thick.*



# LIMBS

- Legs straight, firm, fine. Seen either from the front or from back, the legs are parallel

## Forequarters

- Shoulders: Well developed, well attached to the body.
- Arm: of equal length as the shoulder-blade.
- Feet: rather long, called « hare feet », well-furnished in between with fine hair extending beyond the tip of the foot and forming a point. Nails: preferably black, lighter in the dogs with brown or white coats (the white nails in white dogs or in dogs with white legs do not constitute a fault if the dog is otherwise well pigmented).

## Hindquarters

- Hockjoint: normally angulated.
- Feet: rather long, called « hare feet ». Same characteristics as the forefeet.

# GAIT / MOVEMENT

- Proud, free, easy and elegant.





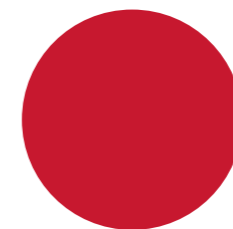


# I COAT

## Hair

- The coat, without undercoat, is abundant, glossy, wavy (not curly).
- The hairs are inserted flat.
- The hair is short on the face, the muzzle, the front of the legs and the underneath part of the hock.
- Of medium length on the body, it gets longer on the neck to form a ruff and jabot, descending in waves on the chest; forming fringes at the ears and at the back of the forelegs; at the back of the thighs, an ample culotte.

*S. Mignon: the hair forms beautiful ornaments on the ears, the jabot, the plume, but it does not drag on the ground; its length does not exceed 7.5 cm. Some dogs have too much hair, and in this case, its quality suffers: the coat is too thin, which is penalized. On the other hand, poor hair condition, outside of moulting periods, is a rarer fault.*



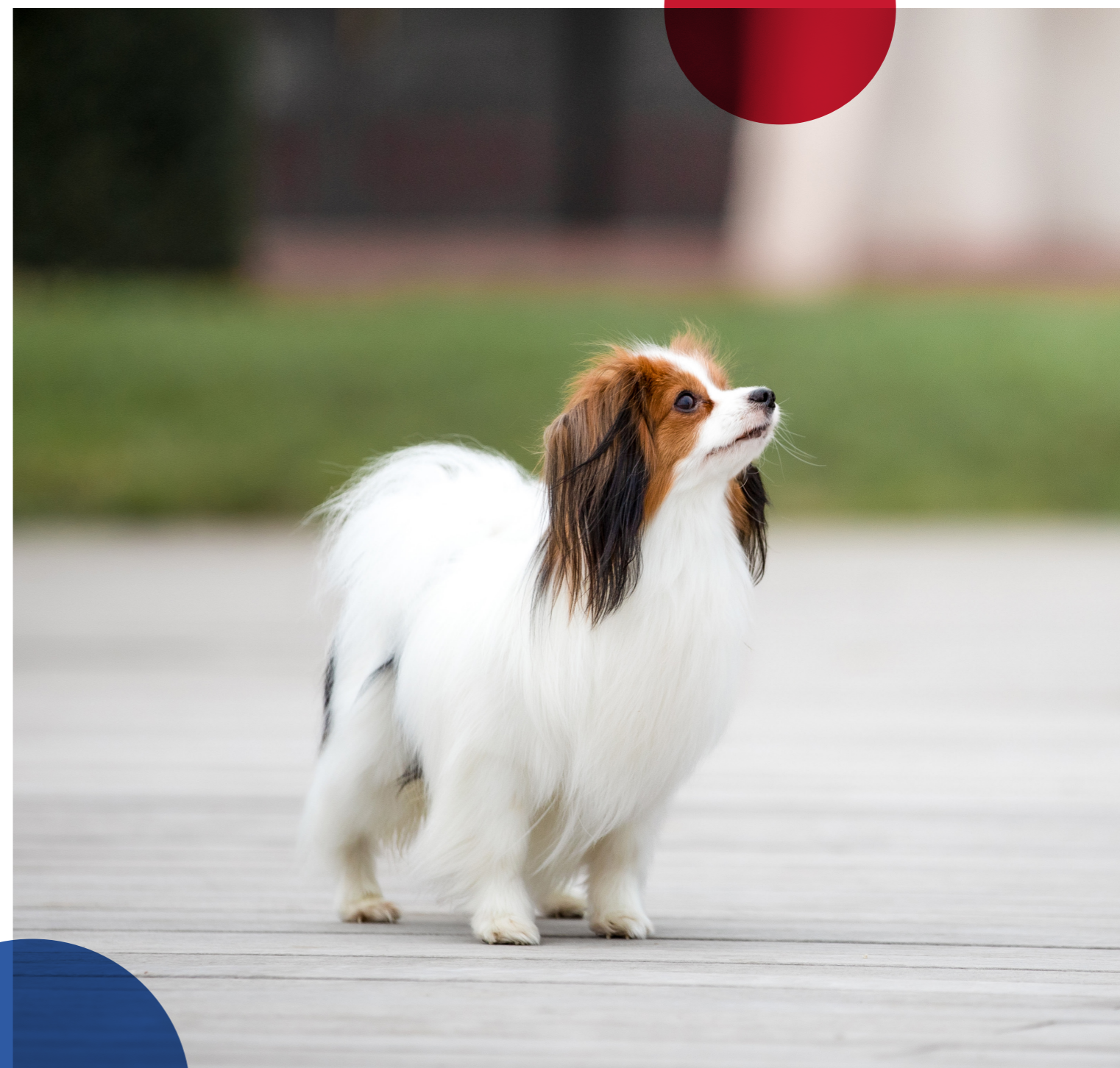


### Colour

- On the body and legs, the white must be dominant in relation to the colour.
- The white on the head preferably extended by a more or less wide blaze, but dominant white on the head constitutes a fault.

*S. Mignon: there is not a lot of color on the body, but the opposite excess, the invasive white, is penalized; yet we see dogs whose bodies are too white; care must be taken about it. This is also the case in head; and when the white overflows on the ears, it could cause a problem of deafness. Body all white, more than 50% of color, head with dominant white, must be excluded from the CACS award.*

*But we must also be careful, in the Papillon, to keep the list in head; at equal quality, in judgment we prefer a well listed subject; in theory, this is also the case with the Phalène, but usually we do not take into account the list in judgement, given the small size of the stock.*





# I SIZE AND WEIGHT

- Height at the withers: about 28 cm
- Weight: two categories:
- Less than 2,5 kg for males and females. Minimum weight: 1,5 kg
- From 2,5 kg to 4,5 kilos for males, from 2,5 kg to 5 kg for females.

*S. Mignon: size is currently a concern; about thirty years ago, it was limited to 28 cm at the withers. We have moved into the standard at around 28 cm, but this norm tends to be more and more exceeded in some countries. The two size categories must be maintained and respected; in France, we would be favourable, for this reason, to the introduction of a size information in the standard: at 12 months, 21 to 24 cm for a small subject, 25 to 28 cm for a larger one.*

*In judgment, it is not necessary at least to privilege exclusively the subjects of more than 2,5 kg, at the risk of seeing disappear the small subjects under 2,5 kg, which constitute the essence of the breed: it is necessary to remember that it is a toy spaniel !*





# FAULTS :

## SOME IMPORTANTS POINTS

- Skull flat, apple-shaded and bulging as in the small English Toy Spaniels.
- Stop too much or insufficiently accentuated.
- Nose not black.
- Muzzle arched or hollow.
- Depigmentation of the lips and the edges of the eyelids.
- Overshot and especially undershot mouth.
- Eye small, too round, prominent, light in colour.
- Roach or saddle back.
- Forelegs bowed.
- Hindquarters, which, seen from the back, are out of the vertical.
- Feet turning inwards or outwards.
- Coat poor, woolly hair, hair planted straight, undercoat.



## ELIMINATING FAULTS

- Aggressive or overly shy.

*S. Mignon: we sometimes notice some dogs a little shy, but overall the character remains excellent in the stock.*

- Pink or pink spotted nose.
- Excessive prognathism, overshot or undershot
- Tongue paralyzed or constantly visible.





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# CONTINENTAL TOY SPANIEL

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. Standard and comments .

