THE TROT IN PROFILE

Faults in profile

Robert Cole

These sketches are from the book of the same name. Mr. Cole's book contains additional drawings as well as explanations. It is the clearest explanation of the Basenji's structure and movement available.

The body can be divided into four vertebral sections: the withers, back, loin, and the crewp. Combined, they produce a "topline." The term "back" used in these pages is used to describe the level portion of the topline between the withers and the loin. The high withers form the attachment for long, well-laid shoulder blades; the withers and back carry the thirteen ribs, eight and five respectively. The loin is supported only by musculature, is flexible, short and strong. The crewp is the term to describe the external appearance of the sacrum, three fused vertebrae that attach to the top of the pelvis.

The body is measured from the front of sternum (breast bone) to the point of buttocks (pelvis), and should not exceed in length the height at the withers. The typical Basenji is truly square in proportion when the four vertebral sections are each of correct length and structure is sound.