

# **AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL LTD**

**Extended Breed Standard of**

## **RUSSIAN TOY**

(Russkiy Toy

**(Long Haired and Smooth Haired)**

**Produced by**

**Australian National Kennel Council Ltd**

**Standard Adopted by FCI 2006**

**FCI Standard No 352**

**Standard Adopted by ANKC Ltd 2012**

**Breed Standard Extension Adopted by ANKC Ltd 2012**

**Copyright Australian National Kennel Council Ltd 2012**

**Country of Origin Russia**



Extended Standards are compiled purely for the purpose of training Australian judges and students of the breed. In order to comply with copyright requirements of authors, artists and photographers of material used the contents must not be copied for commercial use or any other purpose. Under no circumstances may the Standard or Extended Standard be placed on the Internet without written permission of the Australian National Kennel Council Ltd

## **HISTORY OF THE BREED.**



The history of the Russian Toy, as well as the history of other breeds developed from their English ancestors, can be divided into two periods. The first period of which breeds were bred and developed in Russia from the original English / British type dogs that were imported and traded beginning in the eighteenth century until the early 1920's. The second period began when the new breed was being created in what is now the former USSR.

The earliest history of the Russian Toys goes back to the Manchester Terrier. During the early development of this breed there were different types of puppies being born; some were larger, and some smaller. The larger sized dogs were used for badger hunting, while the smaller ones (usually the ones under 5 pounds) became the ancestors of the English Toy Terrier.



The first evidence of the English Terriers in Russia can be seen in the Museum of Zoology in St.Petersburg. There is a stuffed short hair English Terrier approximately one foot in height among the artefacts of the Old Russian Cabinet of curiosities dated 1716-1725. The sign next to it reads: "This dog is a short hair terrier named Lizetta. It personally belonged to the Russian Emperor Peter the Great."





Early Russian aristocracy yielded easily to the temptation of the English way of life. For them it was a symbol of everything progressive and prestigious. The popularity of English Clubs had grown from the last decade of the eighteenth century. These clubs were for entertainment, political discussions, galas and celebrations. The Aristocratic Society soon fashioned and conducted "English Tea Parties." English Thoroughbred horses started appearing in the stables of horse breeding farms. The rich people did not need to count money in order to buy English shotguns and muskets. During this period English Setters became one of the most popular breeds along with The English Toy Terrier.



The latter were the house dogs. They were appealing because of their fine constitution, small size and joyful, fearless temperaments. It became very fashionable to appear at an Assembly or in a Russian Theatre with a ladies' small dog on one's arm, and it guaranteed the well training of the dog. The small toy terriers were worth more than the family fortunes.

The population of the English Setters became the largest among all the breeds in the breeding kennels by the eve of the twentieth century. The number of English Toy Terriers increased considerably by the beginning of the twentieth century. British experts were invited very often to the Russian dog shows. These dogs were not rare or novel during this period. Yet, they were the embodiment of prestige for the elite. In Russia they were called simply "Toy Terrier." Dogs of bigger size were called "Black and Tan Terriers." In May 1907, at the show in St.Petersburg there were 46 "in house" dogs of different breeds. Among them were 11 Toy Terriers. There is evidence that those were Toy Terriers not Italian Greyhounds or Dwarf (Miniature) Pincher's. Every breed in the catalogue was registered by its name. For example: No. 801---Dwarf Pincher,



No. 808---Chihuahua (called "Mexican Pug Dog"), No. 824 and No. 822---White English Terrier, a very rare breed even in their homeland and now considered extinct.

The Bloody Bolshevik's revolution of 1917 diminished the population of Toy Terriers in Russia considerably as the aristocracy were murdered along with their "useless" tiny dogs, but fortunately they did not totally eliminate them. During the cataclysms of the new Bolshevik's regime it was easier to save and to keep a little dog. This is why the Toy Terriers could be seen before World War II at dog shows in different cities. Two Toy Terriers and one Manchester were at a show in Moscow in December of 1923. Three Toy Terriers were awarded medals at the dog show in Odessa In 1924. After the Second World War, this breed practically disappeared.



There was only one at the dog show in Leningrad in 1947. Unfortunately; the further miniaturization of the state which called for the government to oversee the homelands cynological (dog breeding and selection) to breed dogs for military purposes only, did not help to preserve these small breeds.

The breeding of the Toy Terriers in official Kennel Clubs almost came to a halt. Nevertheless, the breed survived and the population continued to increase because of the enthusiasm and love of the private breeders in the outlying areas. They started the restoration of the breed, looking for any surviving individual dogs. Unfortunately, most of the Toy Terriers were of unknown origin, very often not considered to be thoroughbred, in the best case...mixed. The information of genealogy had to be accumulated all over again. It was impossible to import Toy Terriers from England even in small numbers because of the closed borders. This is why the second period in the history of Russian Toy Terriers can be considered as the developing of a new breed and its selection of works.

Once the borders were opened up and the breeders had access to the different breeds, breed literatures and their standards, the breeders quickly realized the dogs were different than the original dogs and what they had bred from memory.

The new Toy Terriers possessed different characteristics, colours, and exterior structure. The collected re-population was of different types. Breeders began to sort the dogs by size and similar characters and selected the dogs more or less by their similar breeding traits to achieve some sort of unification. There were approximately one hundred Toy Terriers of Russian type at the second All State Dog Show in 1967. The restoration of the Toy Terrier population simultaneously took place in different centres: Moscow, Leningrad (St. Petersburg), Sverdlovsk (Ekaterinburg) and Irkutsk. By the time the new Soviet standards were adopted for a number of breeds including Toy Terriers, those standards did not coincide with the standards of the breeds' homelands. The height that was required was not more than 25 cm for males and not more than 23 cm for females. The skull now must be roundish with noticeable transition. The colours now included not only black and tan but brown and tan along with reds of any shade. The tail must be cut very short. The political isolation of the whole country caused the creation of a whole new breed. The new contemporary Russian Toy Terrier possesses all the features of the classic terrier with the addition of some characteristic differences. Now the head is high but not wide in the cranium region and the cheeks are flat and the eyes are round in shape. These new features make the Russian Terrier unique and original.





In 1958, a long haired puppy named Chicky was born during the restoration period with the breed. When this unusual puppy was grown, he weighed approximately 6 pounds, and had developed a fringe on his ears with longer hair on his body along with britches and feathering on the backs of his legs. His colour was called black with tint (some thought to be a red sable). The breeders were very interested in this original, decorative and effective appearance. They decided to create a new type of Toy Terrier. This work was done under the strict supervision of a Muscovite breeder Eugeniya Forminishna Zgarova. They selected a female to mate with this male of similar coat to the mother of Chicky. The experiment worked and three long hair puppies were born. The breeding went ahead and the population of the new type of Toy Terriers increased. The new type is a true creation of Russian dog breeding. It is suggested that the breeders subsequently were adding a small amount of old type Pekingese or dogs who were close by the type of a long haired Chihuahua at the time of creation of the modern Russian Toy Terriers. This brought positive results in producing permanent long hair in the breed, as well as to enhance specific structure of the hair on the ears and the britches on the rear back legs.

The first standard for the Moscow Long Hair Toy Terrier was created in 1966 and the breeders in the other Russian cities started breeding this new type of dog.

The Russian Long Haired Toy Terriers experienced a dramatic period of history in the 1980's. A lot of exotic dog breeds were imported after the "Iron Curtain" fell. Importation of the new breeds caused the population to decline due to the decrease of interest in the homeland breeds. The population of the long hair Toy Terriers decreased to critical numbers by the beginning of the 1990's. Nevertheless, the breed survived because the young generation of dog breeders who were very interested and enthusiastic in their motherland breeds. In addition, the new contemporary structure of the Russian Canine breeding was formed. The opportunity to establish private breeding kennels started and they became the main force in breeding. The new standard includes both the smooth coat and the long coat variety that was adopted in 1988 by the Russian Canine Breeding Federation. Including the Russian Short Hair Terrier and the Moscow long hair ones, the image of the Russian Long Hair Toy Terrier is on the emblem of the Terrier of the Commonwealth.

The population of the Russian Toy and the numbers of new puppies being born is constantly growing. Considerable breeding populations exist in Finland, Estonia, Belorussian and Ukraine. The Russian Toy has now proved their own right to be international in existence.



**BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:** At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the English Toy Terrier was one of the most popular toy dogs in Russia. However, in the period 1920 – 1950 the breeding of pure toy terriers was almost stopped and the number of dogs fell to a critical level. Only in the mid-fifties did Russian dog-breeders begin the revival of the breed. Practically all dogs which were used for breeding had no pedigrees; many of them were not pure blood. The Standard drafted for Toy Terriers significantly differed from that of the English Toy Terrier in many aspects. From this moment, the evolution of the breed in Russia went its own way.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of October, 1958 two smooth-haired dogs, one of which had slightly longer hair, gave birth to a male dog with a spectacular fringes on ears and limbs. It was decided to keep this feature.

The male was mated with a female which also had slightly long hair. Thus the longhaired variety of the Russian Toy appeared. It was called Moscow Longhaired Toy Terrier.

A dog breeder from Moscow, Yevgueniya Fominichna Zharova, played an important role in the creation of this breed variant.

It was during a long period of development, in an isolated context, along with a specifically conducted selection that a new breed was created: the Russian Toy with two varieties: longhaired and smooth-haired.

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL LTD sincerely thanks Anastasiya Pogrebinskaya, Vice President of National Club of Breed "Russian Toy", Moscow, Russia, for permission to use the script and illustrations shown throughout this Breed Standard Extension.

A breed standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament, and appearance of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function with soundness essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be mindful of features which could be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed.

- **GENERAL APPEARANCE:**

A small elegant dog, lively, long-legged, with fine bone and lean muscles. Sexual dimorphism only slightly defined

- **IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS:**



**Square build. The height at elbows is only slightly more than half of the height at withers; the chest is sufficiently deep.**

**Russian Toy – Smooth Haired**



**Russian Toy – Long Haired**







**Behavior/ temperament.** Active, very cheerful. Not cowardly, not malicious. I believe, "small, elegant and lively" is self-explanatory. The "high on" feature is discussed below. What does “with fine bone structure ” mean? Characteristics of the core are determined by the type of constitution. In dogs, the main five are: delicate, dry, tough, rough and raw (or loose). The constitution is formed on the genetic basis of the process of individual development and is expressed in the peculiarities of constitution, structure and consistency, etc. Constitution is related to health, vitality, resilience, maturity, fertility, longevity and performance. The Constitution has a close connection with the higher nervous activity.

Externally, the type of constitution is very easy to define. So, the gentle type is common to all thin-legged dogs, for example, Italian greyhound. It has thin legs, thin skin, soft body shape, thin tail; the ear cartilage is thin, and so on. That’s why it looks so light and airy, despite the fact that it is much higher at the withers than the Russian toy. In contrast to the gentle type, there is the rough type an example of which is Shepherd with a big head, thick legs, chest volume; it is a very powerful dog. Dry type is common to many species – such as Greyhound, Poodle, and our Toy. In contrast to dry type - raw (soft) type: Mastiff and related dogs with raw eyelids and lips, dogs with folds on the throat and neck, with a thick skin, etc. Sometimes more or less raw representatives occur within the same breed. Thus, the larger German Shepherd, the more 'raw' his eyelids and lips would be; the smaller the German Shepherd, the more it is "dry". Something “in- between” will be deemed a “strong” type. This applies to almost all species. It is difficult to describe in simple terms what "strong" means, but, in general, the word easily comes to mind when you see a dog that you cannot describe in any other words. Imagine a Rottweiler with thin limbs – he cannot be called strong by any means, even though its height might be appropriate. Or the Great Dane - with its height and rather thick legs, he should not give the impression of a greyhound.

There are breeds that do not fit into a particular type; in that case it’s common to talk about them in combined terms, e.g.: the dog is gentle-strong, hard-coarse, crude, strong type, etc. This is an intermediate type of constitution. Some small breeds, despite their size, have strong bones. For example, Pug or Griffin are much stronger than the Russian Toy, even though they are fairly small dogs. Russian Toy should have a fine bone structure. That is, it has slender legs (compared to other breeds; within the breed, its legs can be of varied thickness); thin tail, thin ears, and so on. Here's a rough description of the dry-type dog constitution; "The dogs with a dry type of constitution inherently possess the mobile type of higher nervous activity;



they are easily excitable, temperamental, with quick movements. Musculature is thin; the skin is flat, thin. Subcutaneous tissue is weak. Metabolism intense. Growth, development and organism formation are rapid and soon come to an end. The initial training can be complicated by excessive excitability. During systematic training they work well, are energetic, almost tireless." The emerging picture is that of the Russian Toy. All that is written on the dry type of constitution is inherent to this breed, and meets the standard in different sections. However, I would add that, rather than "dry", the Russian Toy is of "dry-delicate" constitution. Perhaps the standard is silent on "dry-delicate" type of constitution, so that breeders will not be tempted to breed too gentle dogs.

As a puppy, Russian Toy has rather thick legs. But that does not mean that the puppy will have the strength or roughness. I never met a rough Toy, but a strong one can sometimes be found. They have pretty thick legs, chest volume, with quite a thick base of the tail, the head is rather big. At the same time on the growth they can be in the standard, and often it is a very flat dog. But the robustness is not very good for the toy. True, it is difficult to distinguish the robustness in the puppy, but the excessive, exaggerated "thinness" is encountered much more frequently. These dogs have very thin limb, small volume of the chest, they are also more prone to fractures and dislocations. This dog is very light of weight. In these dogs, even in their puppy stage, limbs are very thin. However, their ears get up very quickly and almost never fall. Yet excessive thinness is a poor core indicator; that is why professionals are trying to cultivate a middle ground - dogs with a delicate bone structure, but not strong or harsh, yet not exaggeratedly thin.

Dry muscle means that Russian Toy should not have "loose" muscle appearance. Imagine two people jogging: one has his whole body shaking and wobbling with the movement, like jelly. In the other runner such features are not observed, though he is not lean. Why? Because the first has "loose" muscles, and the second - more robust, or as canine breeders say, "dry." However, I never met a Russian toy with muscles that are not "dry".

**Sexual type** is only weakly pronounced in morphology, but clearly evident in their behavior. This means that the difference between a male and a female Russian Toy in outward appearance is practically undistinguishable. While in many other breeds the male should be bigger, more spectacular, more elegant than the female, with the Russian Toy these characteristics for males are not necessary. The male and female Russian Toy dogs are different in their behaviour: males are active, impulsive; females are quieter, more docile. But there can be a very docile male, and impetuous a bitch. The exhibition judges penalise only very rough dogs - both males and females. However, effeminate males are often considered graceful and elegant; this is wrong. Even in a small breed a dog can be small and elegant, but it must be male - and the words "person" and by character. If the sex of the dog does not match its appearance (the effeminate male, or masculinised female), this indicates a malfunction in the endocrine system.

## Important proportions

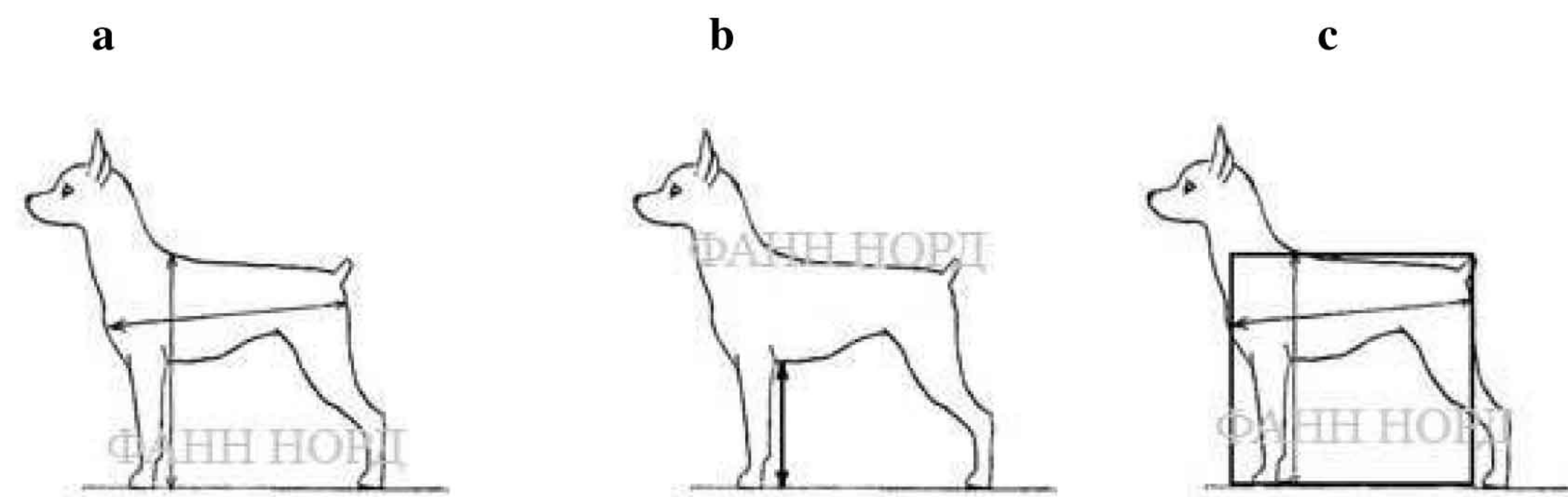
**Format** is a shape which the dog fits into. There are only two possible shapes for the Toy: a square and a rectangle. In the rectangle, fit all short-legged dogs and many other breeds such as Chihuahuas; the latter fits into a rectangle not because his legs are very short, like a dachshund, but because he is stocky. The square shape - this is our Russian Toy. Square format is to be found in poodles, griffins, schnauzers, terriers and many other breeds. The format depends on the following factors: 1) the length of the body, 2) height at the withers, 3) length of the limb, and 4) the ratio of the lengths of the back-loin-rump. All these indicators are measured by special stadiometer, with a ruler or measuring tape tailoring. The measurements are made in the rack. Body length is measured from the outermost point of the



chest to the buttocks of the pelvic bones (this line is not parallel to the ground, so it is called "oblique"), height at the withers - from the withers to the floor, and the length of limb - from the elbow to the floor. On the relation between the lengths of the back-loin-rump see discussion below. **Fig. 1** shows how to measure size **(a)** and length of limb **(b)**. If the oblique body length and height at the withers are equal, then the dog is of square format, that is, fits within a square (**Fig. 1c**).

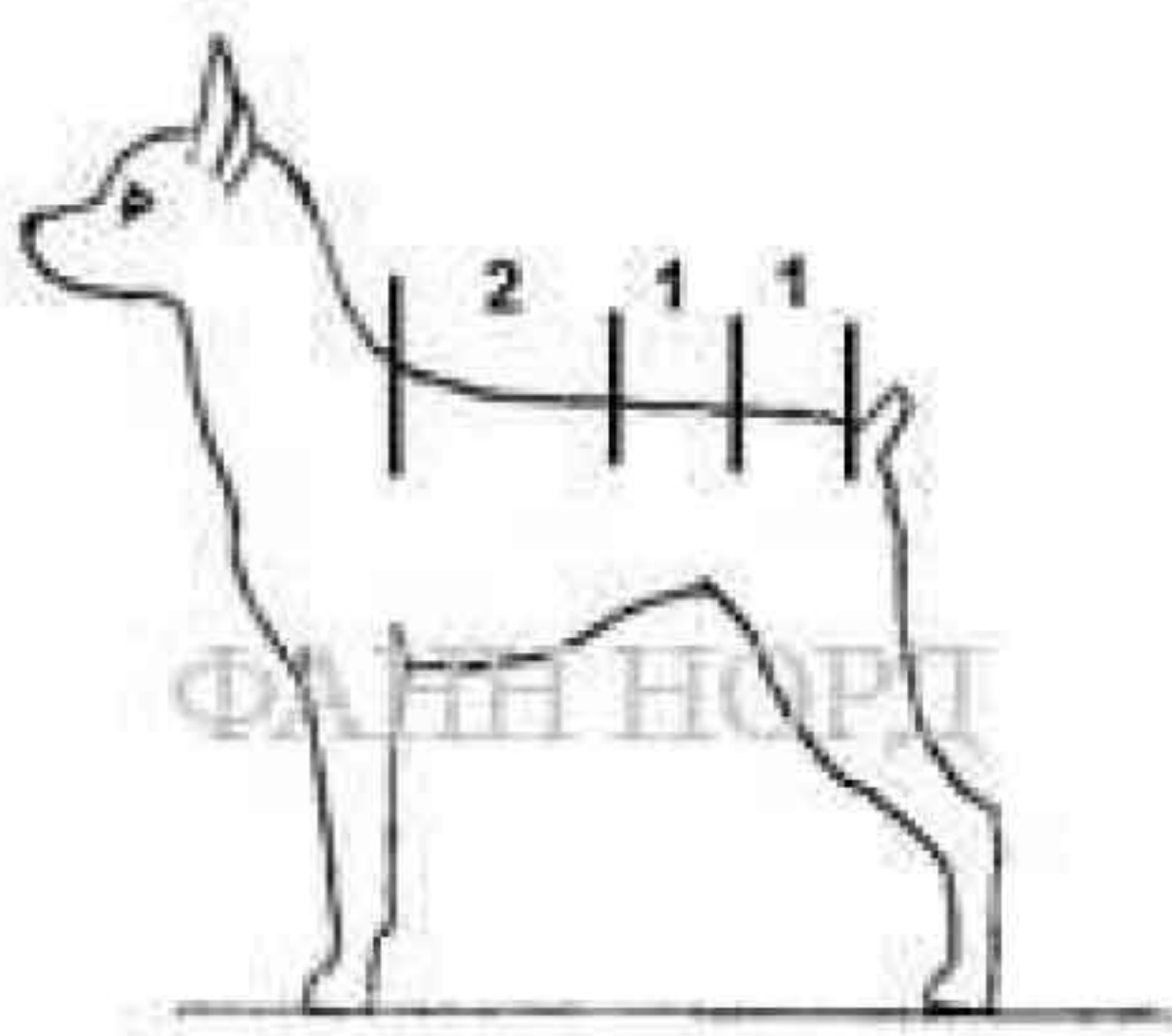
The height of the elbow is only slightly more than half the height at the withers. This line in the standard gives us additional information about the format of the dog. Measuring the height at the withers, divide that number by two and measure the height of the forelimb. The height of the elbow should be a little more than half the height at the withers. For example, the dog is 24 cm at the withers. Divide  $24:2 = 12$ . If the length of limb is more than 12, then it is a good length of leg; if it is equal to 12 - it's not bad, either. However, if it's less than 12 - this is stockiness. Unfortunately, the standard does not specify how much exactly "a little more," is. This is important because, if at 24 cm at the withers, the height of the elbow is much more than 12, then it is a snub ("zakvadrachennost"), which is not very good. The "snub" will be discussed below.

**Fig.1. This dog is a good size: a - length of the body equal to height at the withers, b - a good height at the elbow, c – fits within a square.**



Now consider **the ratio of the lengths of the back-loin-croup**. In dogs of square format, this ratio should be 2:1:1; that is, if the length of the top line from the withers to the tail is divided in two, the length of the back will be equal to the first part of this ratio. The second half of the top line we divide in two again, to obtain the lengths of the loin and croup (**Fig. 2**).

**Fig. 2. The dog with the right balance of back-loin-croup 2:1:1.**



The dogs in **Fig. 1** and **2** stand well in alert posture. But if the same dog with a good format will not or cannot stand in alert posture, then we get a picture in **Fig. 3**.

**Fig. 3. The dog bends out and, in spite of good structure, its proportions are**



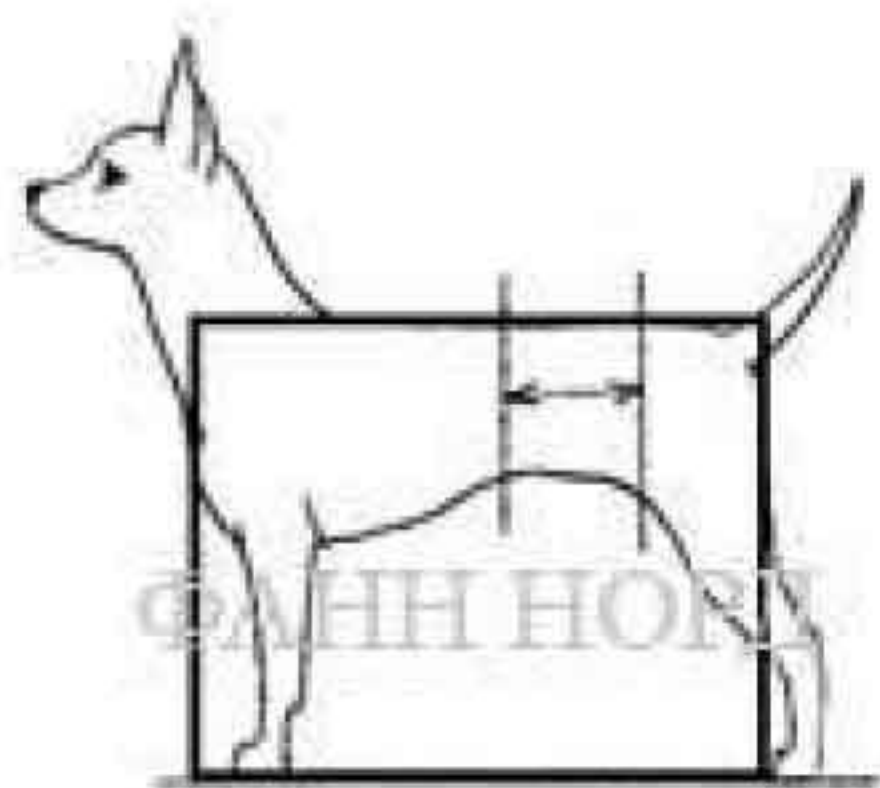
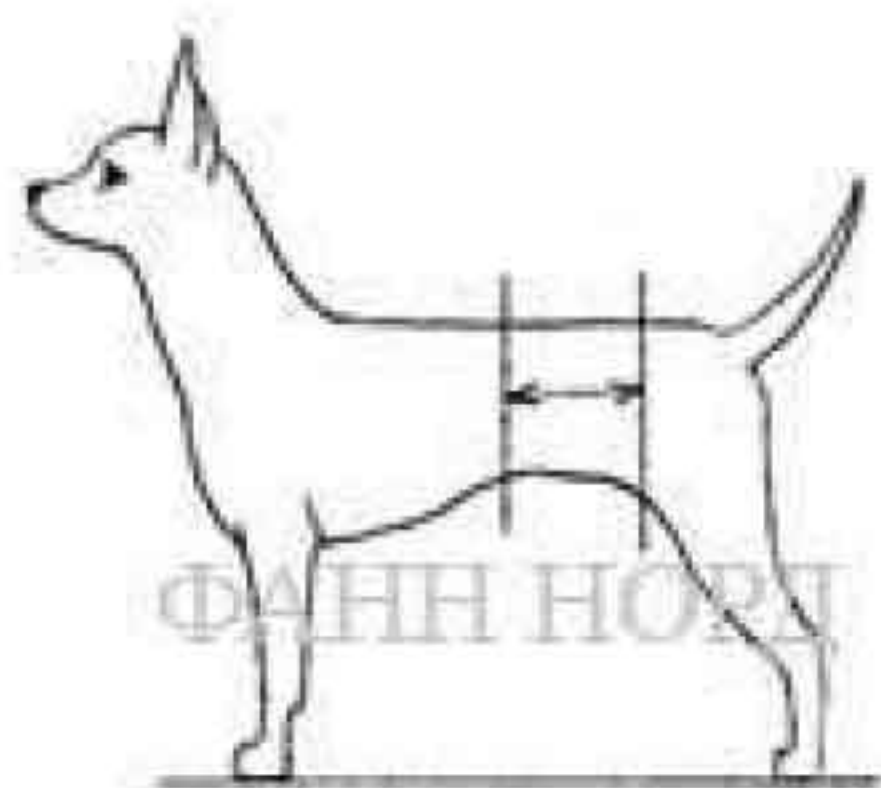
distorted.



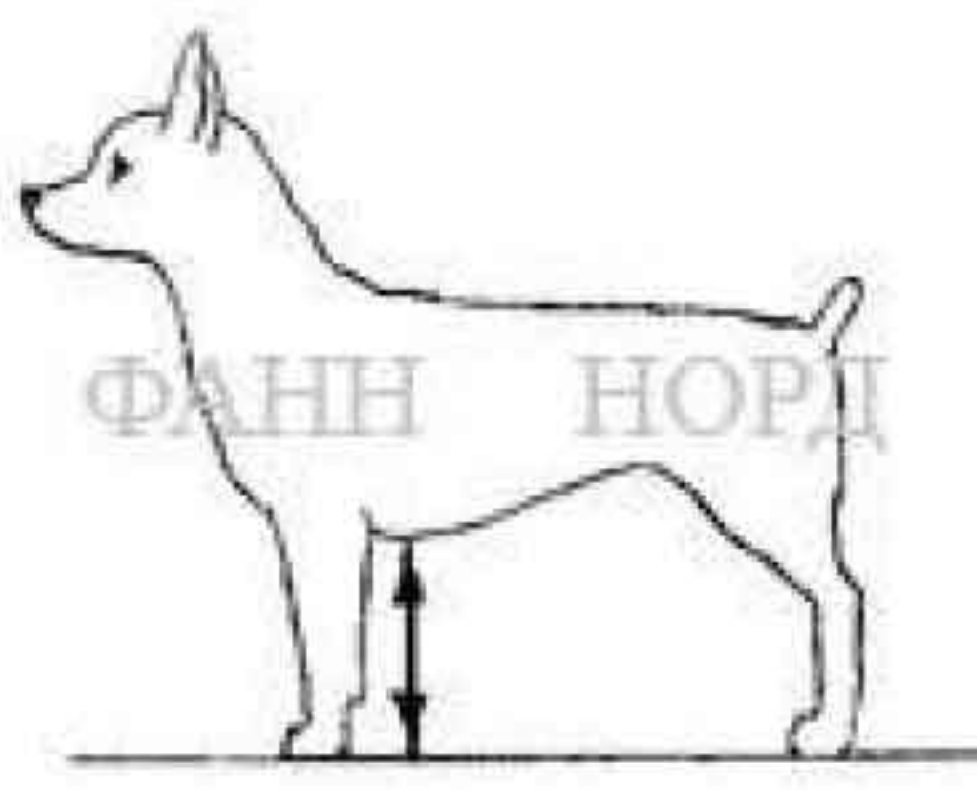
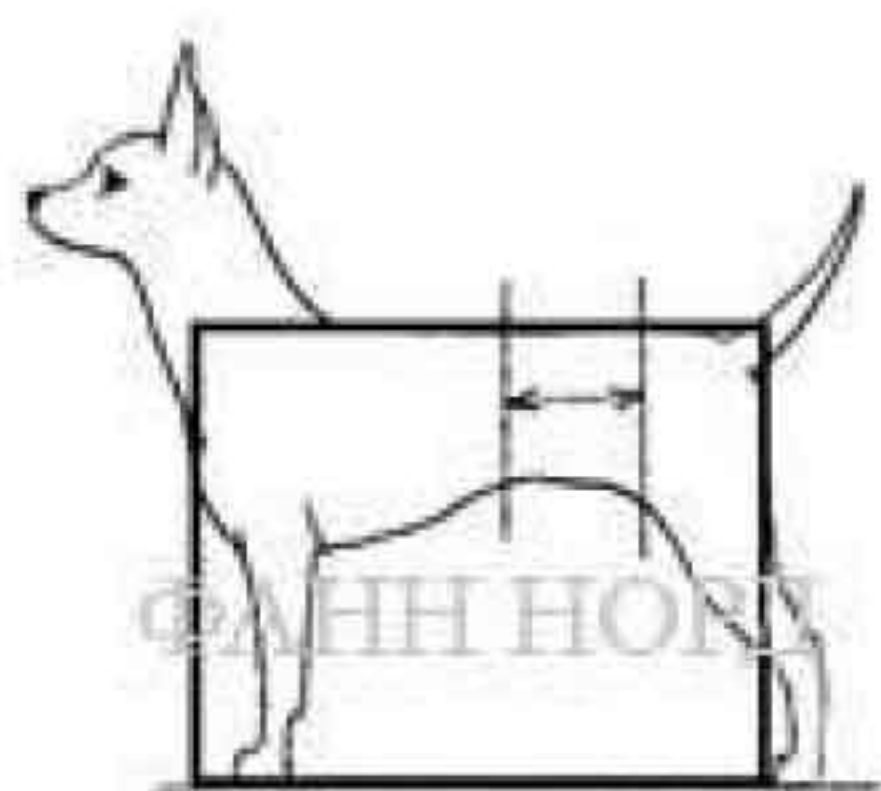
It goes to show how you can ruin even the smooth, beautiful dog. Russian Toy should be of square format, or very close to the ideal square format (i.e., according to the standard). Yet, in fact, sometimes the format is changed to rectangular. Let's see why this is happening and what it looks like.

**Fig. 4** shows a dog that fits into a rectangle. If you apply a ruler, you will see that this dog's oblique body length is greater than the height at the withers. In this case, it comes from the fact that the dog has a long loin which breaks the ratio of 2:1:1. In this case, they say the dog is "**stretched.**"

**Fig. 4. Stretched dog fits into a rectangle because of the long loin length with normal limbs.**



**Fig. 5. Squat dog fits into a rectangle due to too short limbs with normal body length.**



In **Fig. 5**, the dog, too, fits into a rectangle; yet, it has another problem - its body is of normal length (2:1:1 ratio is preserved), but the limbs are too short. Because of this, the dog looks smaller. It is lower in the withers when compared with the dog in the previous figure, but it does not mean that it is smaller than the dog in **Fig. 3**. Lower, yes, but not smaller. Both these dogs can be of the same weight. Beginners often confuse short-leggedness with small size; this is a big mistake. Even if the dog is of small size it still should have the legs of the normal length (i.e., the elbow slightly more than half of its height at the withers).

If the dog in **Fig. 5** were a representative of the Chihuahua, it would be a Chihuahua of the right format for his breed.

In young puppies, **prolixity** or **short-leggedness** are not always easy to spot, because plump full tummy, rather thick legs and the still standing upright baby fur in long-

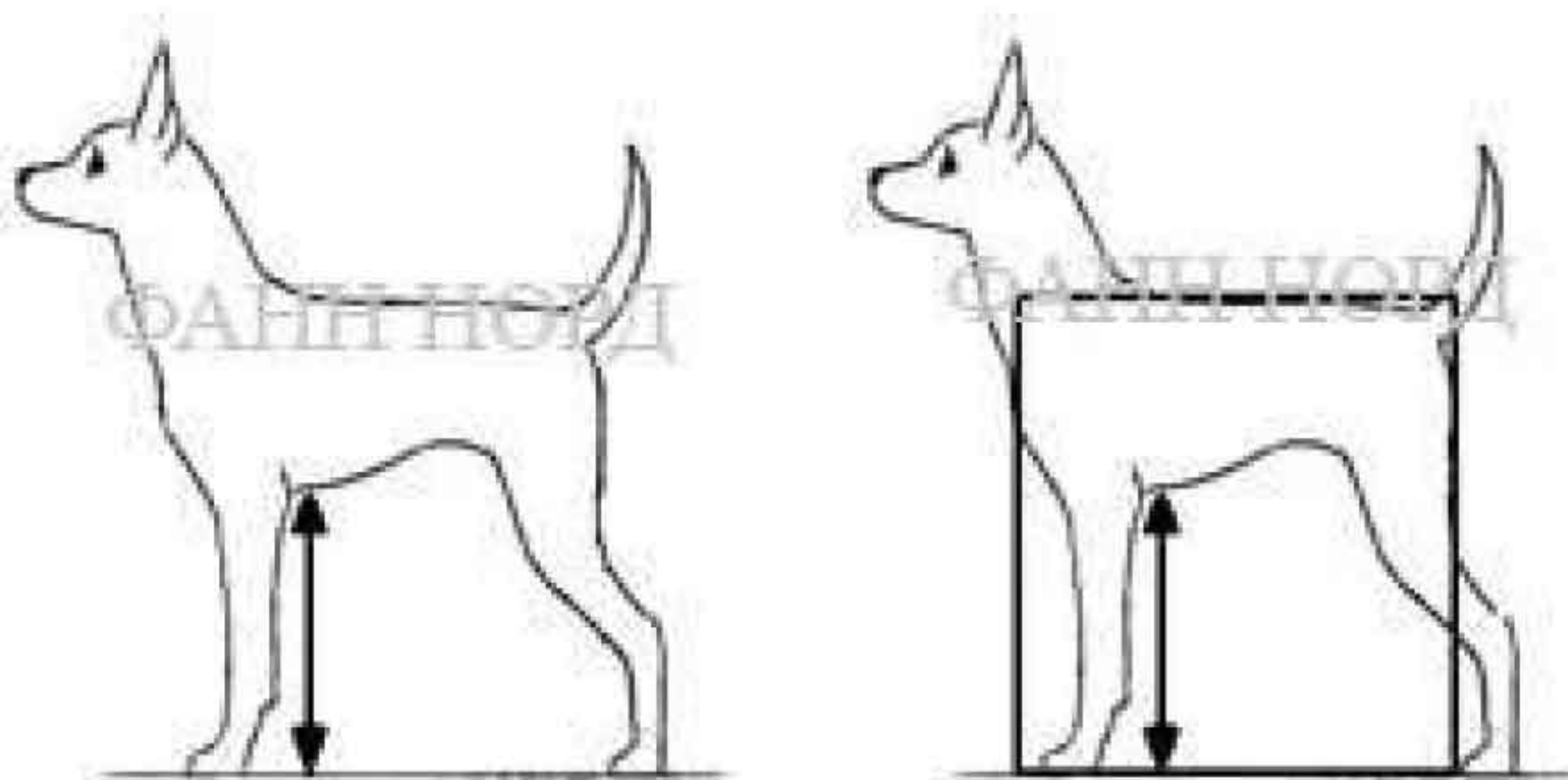


haired breeds hide the truth. If you measure the puppy, the results will still tell you nothing - often the puppies grow unevenly; either too long body, or too long legs. In some cases, the “stretched” format in a puppy can pass. Only when the loin is really "off scale" or the length of the limbs is clearly lacking, we can conclude that this puppy is unlikely to change for the better. Such pronounced moments can be determined as early as at two months of the dog's age.

Also remember that the prolixity can be expressed very little. Thus, the slightly stretched in the back dog is not something offensive, on the contrary, such dogs sometimes move better. The slight prolixity which is not immediately evident is determined only after the measurement (i.e. the difference between the length of the trunk and the height at the withers 1-2 cm); it is called a "compact format" or "close to a square format", and this is normal.

**Squatness** is a more complex issue. It also can be pronounced very little. This notwithstanding, the dog can be quite handsome, smooth, and if it is well presented as well it often wins. However, while a slightly stretched dog can be called a “compact” or “close to the square format”, in relation to stockiness this approach is wrong. This is called a "short-leggedness". Short-leggedness is a disqualifying fault. It is difficult to avoid the short-leggedness in dog-breeding. The length of the limbs can be not only insufficient, but also exaggerated. An example of such a dog is shown in **Fig. 6**. A dog called a "snub" or "squared in."

**Fig. 6. The dog fits into a rectangle at the expense of very long legs *and the “snub”*.**



**Snub or "squared-in-ness" ("zakvadrachennost")** often is a feature in too light dogs. An inexperienced person thinks that such a dog weighs little. If the dog is really thin at the same time, it will only highlight its "lightness." However, a normal size dog can be light as well. A snub dog can be quite well-fed. Newcomers mistake the snub for elegance, sophistication, perceiving such dogs' appearance as similar to that of a fawn. However, the Russian Toy must be elegant, graceful and refined within its regular square format, not in the “squared in” one.

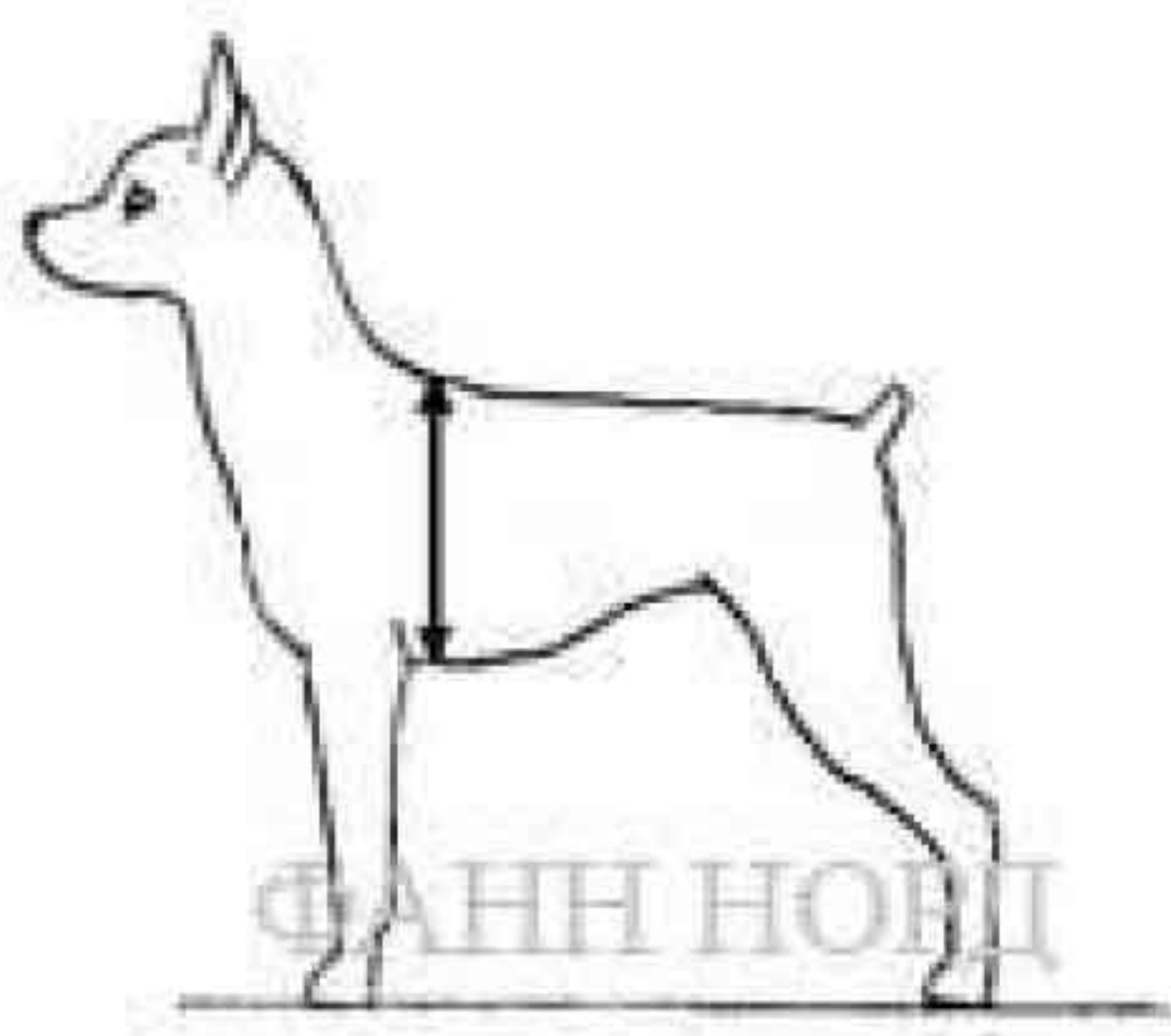
Whatever the proportions of the dog, we must remember that the standard describes the ideal. A dog can be perfect only in a picture. Therefore, evaluating the dogs in their alert posture and on the move, we must remember that the main thing is the overall balance of the animal and forgive any shortcomings (that is, assuming they are not very pronounced and do not spoil the general perception of the dog. Thus, you can often hear: "Yes, this bitch is “stretched out”, but that does not spoil her."

Let's proceed to the depth of chest. At first glance, the concept of "depth" in regards to the chest seems inappropriate. However, it is not. When we measure the depth of water in the reservoir, then measure the depth of the water column from surface to



bottom. The same is true in dogs. Depth of chest is determined visually from the withers to lowest point of the breast. This is shown in **Fig. 7**.

**Fig. 7. Determination of the depth of the chest. In good depth of chest, the lowest point of the chest reaches to the elbow.**



The chest can be shallow, normal and deep. Each breed has its own depth of chest. In Russian Toy, the length of the good chest should reach to the elbow, as in **Fig. 7**. However, there are exceptions.

**Fig. 8a and b show two variants of a poor depth of the chest. Fig. 8. a) - too shallow chest, does not reach the elbow, b) - chest too deep, below the elbow.**

**a**



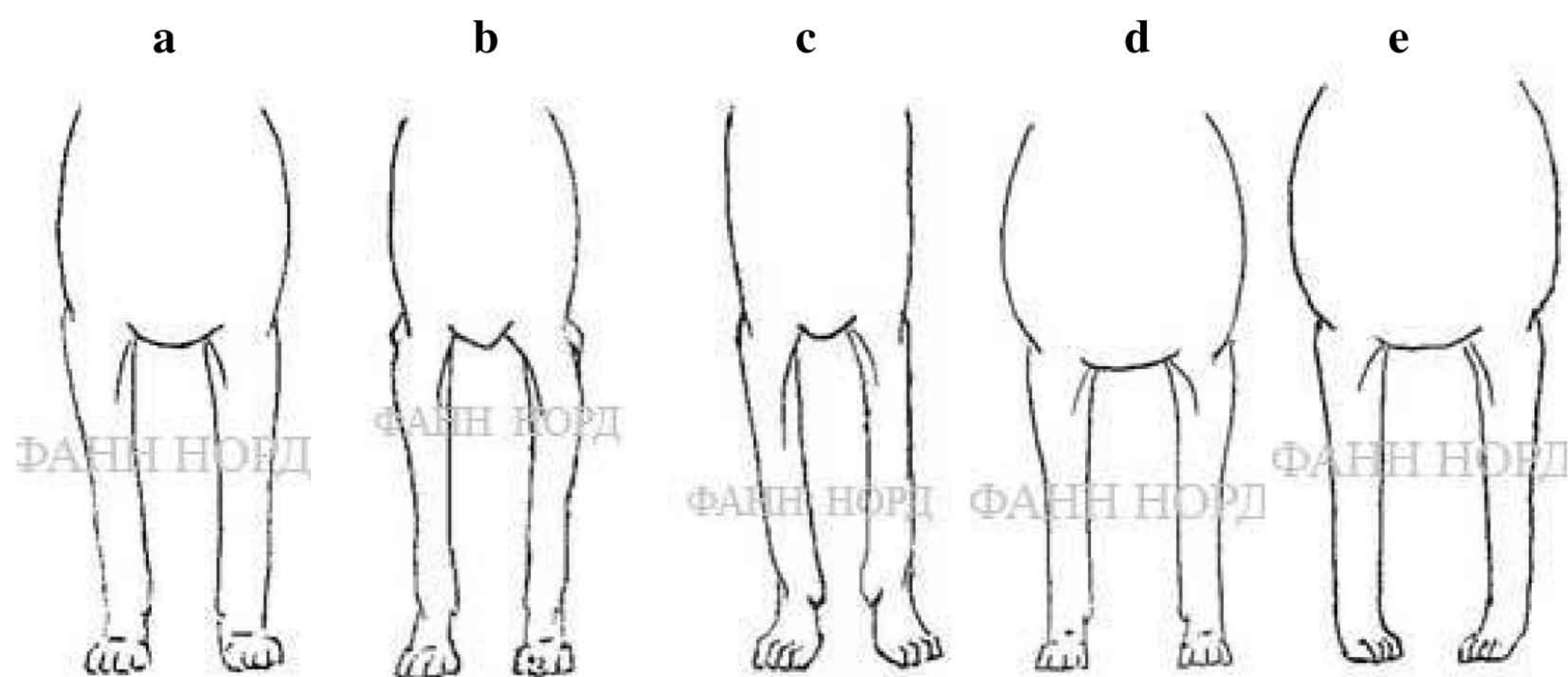
**b**



Shallow chest is typical for very fine-boned, too gentle dogs. It is not very good, as the volume of the lungs in a shallow chest is less. Too deep chest, too, is not good for the reason that it makes the Russian Toy crude, “loaded”. The word "sufficient" in determining the depth of the chest makes it possible to allow almost any depth. This is because for very fine-boned dogs, as in **Fig. 8a**, this very depth of chest is sufficient, and for the dog in Fig. 8b sufficient is the one it has. If dogs like the one in Fig. 8b are rare, the dogs with a small rib cage occur very often, because the desire to breed very small or very fine-boned dogs leads to the decrease in the chest volume. Sometimes the insufficiently low chest is observed in dogs of good size, very handsome and beautiful, so judges forgive them this shortcoming. The rib cage can also be narrow, normal and wide.

**Fig. 9. a - normal width of the chest, b - a narrow chest, twisted elbows c - a narrow thorax, marked up, d - is too broad chest, e - too broad chest, club feet.**





Each species has its own typical width of the chest. Given that the Russian Toy is elegant and fine-boned dog, it must have a chest that does not create the visual impression of any unnecessary roughness (**Fig. 9d, e**), nor excessive subtlety (**Fig. 9b, c**). That is, everything in moderation.

The width of the chest, of course, can be very individual. In more subtle, gentle dogs chest is narrower. In the more robust - more rounded edges, a broad chest. Most importantly, the dog was harmonious - in a gentle dog or bitch should not be excessively rounded edges and a sturdy little dog should not be flat as a board. With a narrow chest, there is one trouble - the elbows are not pressed to the chest, causing them to become too loose - **Fig. 9b**. This is visible both in the alert posture and on the move. True, with the normal width the same problem with the elbows still can be present, but it is more common in a narrow chest. The result - too loose movement of the front legs. Another trouble with the narrow chest – the turn-out. In this case the pasterns are turned out (**fig. 9c**). This is due to the fact that the elbows have found support by pressing into the chest, but the pasterns get turned inside as a result.

With too broad chest, respectively, the elbows can also be turned out, but then the pasterns will be turned in (**Fig. 9e**). This is called a clubfoot. Such a dog would have a poor gait and will capture the space insufficiently. In young pups, it is hard to judge on the width of the chest, because it is likely to change during development process; then the elbows would get into place and the width will be normal. This is not always the case, and there is still hope, especially if the puppy's parents were all right in that regard. However, the turn-in or clubfoot is for life. If the breeder skillfully put the puppy in alert posture then this may not be noticed, but these defects cannot be concealed during the movement. True, with time, walking can improve the situation, but all such deficiencies are not corrected completely, but are masked by a skillful and persistent walking.

Finally, the chest can be long or short.

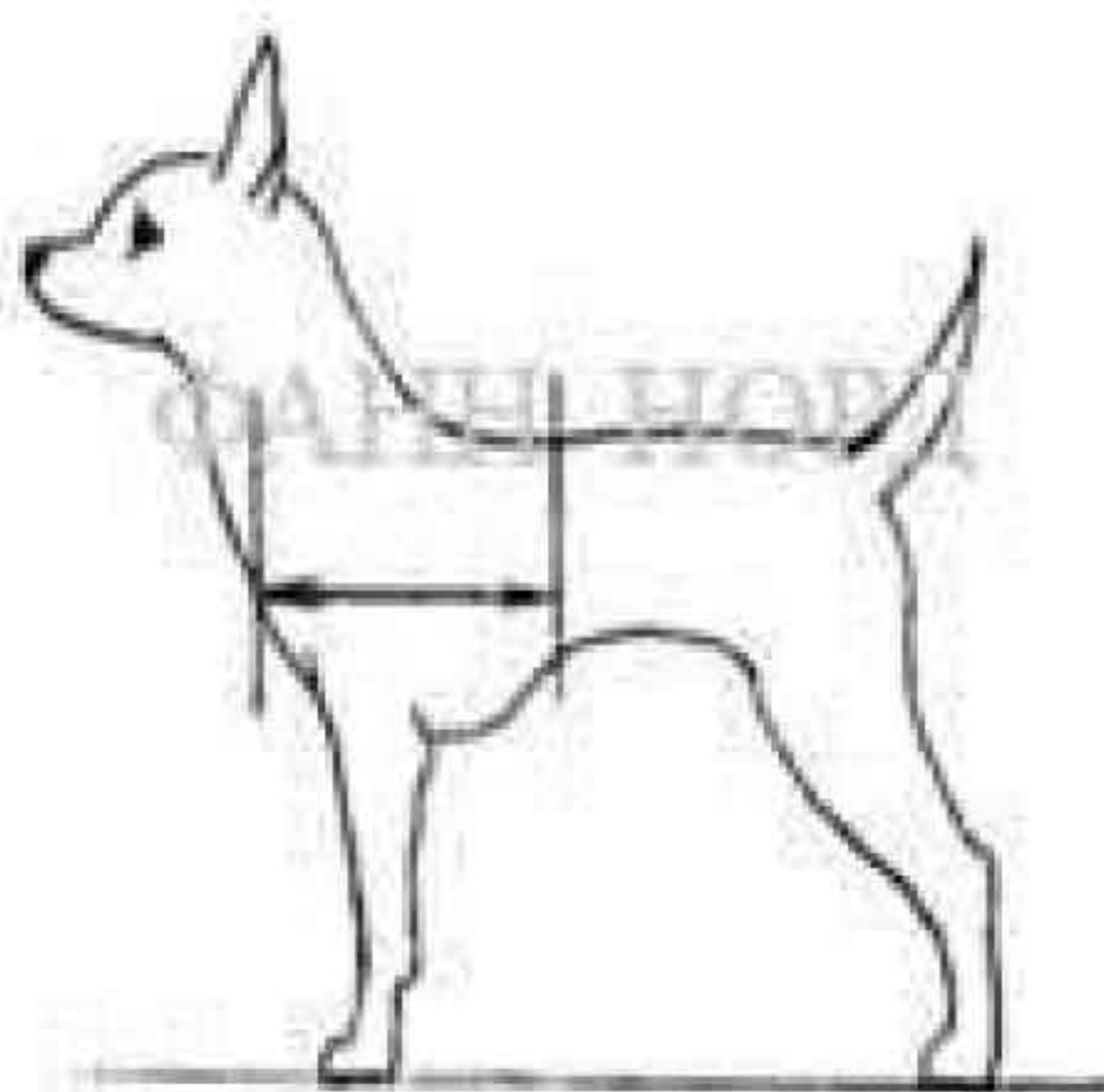
**Fig. 10. a - a good long rib cage, b - too short rib cage.**



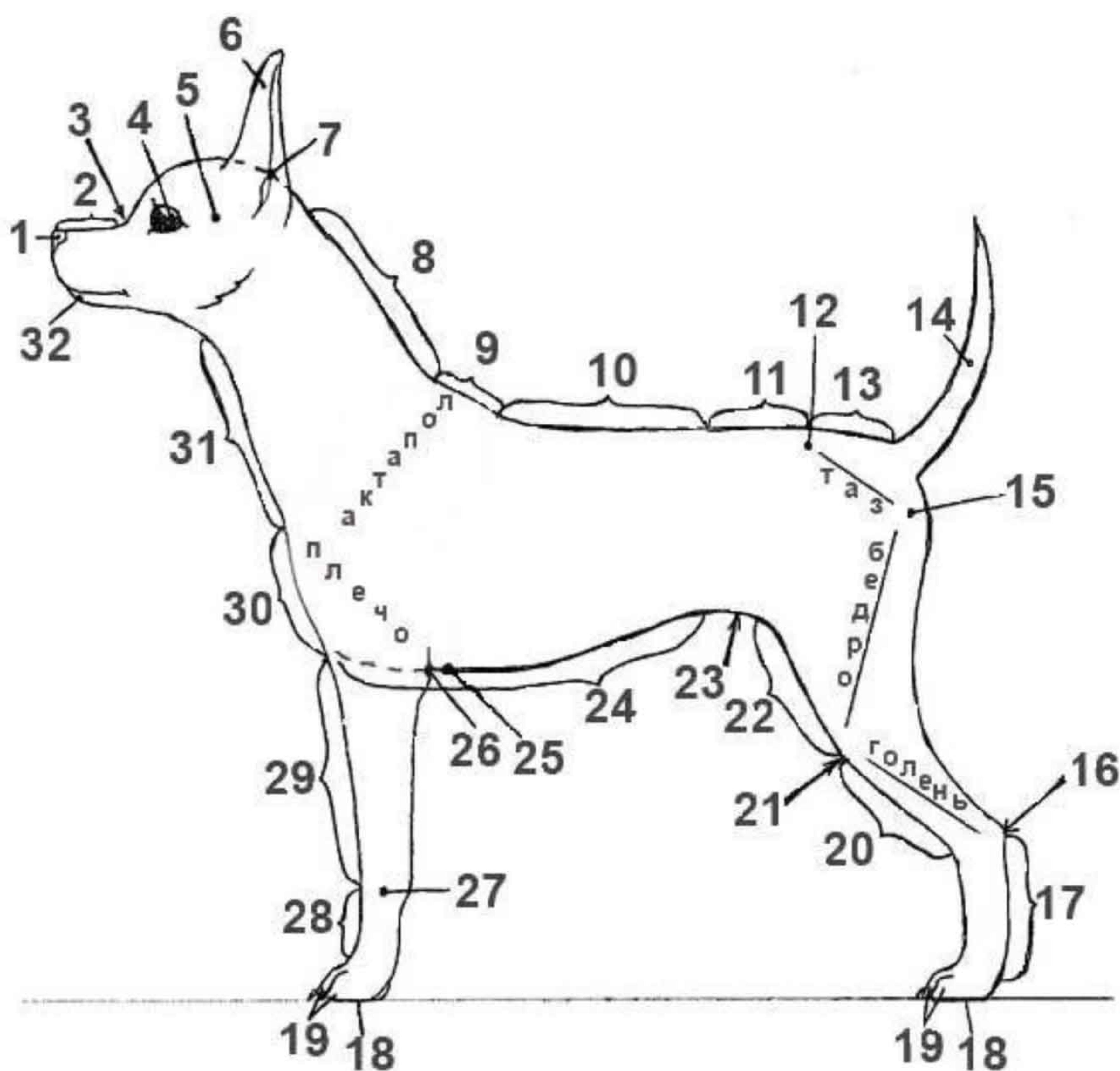
a



b



The problems of a too short rib cage are the same that of the too small one – the small lung volume and the disruption of the overall balance of the appearance of the animal



**Inscriptions for Diagram “Points”. in English:**

**From Point 9 to Point 30: Shoulder - Blade**

**From point 30 to point 26: Shoulder - Upper arm**

**From point 12 to point 15: Pelvis**

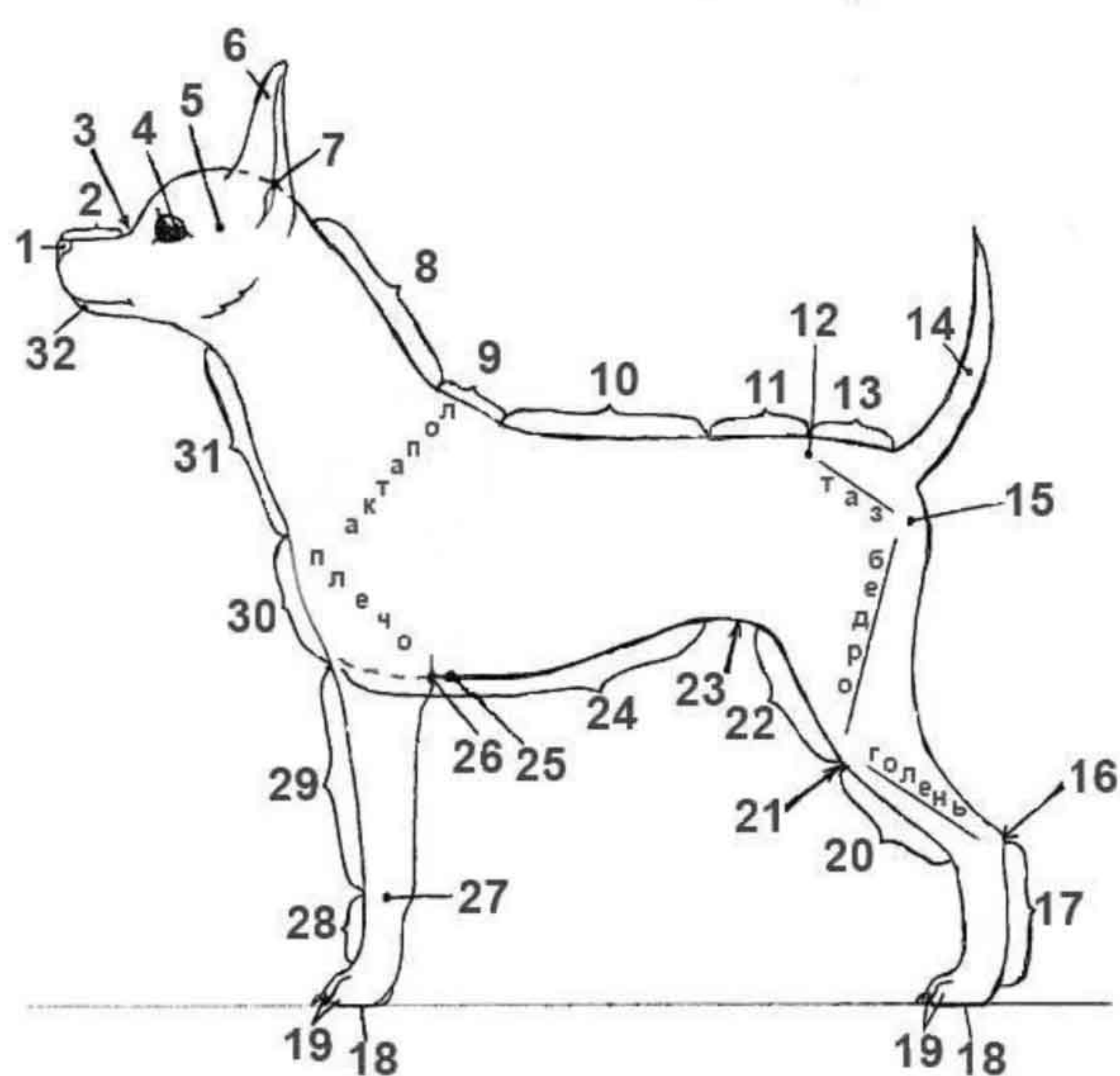
**From Point 15 to Point 21: Upper thigh**

**From point 21 to point 16: Lower thigh**



Russian Toy, like all breeds, has a standard (Breed standard of the Russian Toy, 2006). However, the terms in the standard don't tell much to the newcomers to the breed. In the literature on Russian Toy you can often read the following advice: "When purchasing a puppy, evaluate its points." This is usually followed by excerpts from the Standard: angulations should be well pronounced, scissor bite, croup not sloped ... What if the buyer does not know what a scissors bite looks like? How to determine where angled, and where not? Croup - where is it? Angulation - what is it like?

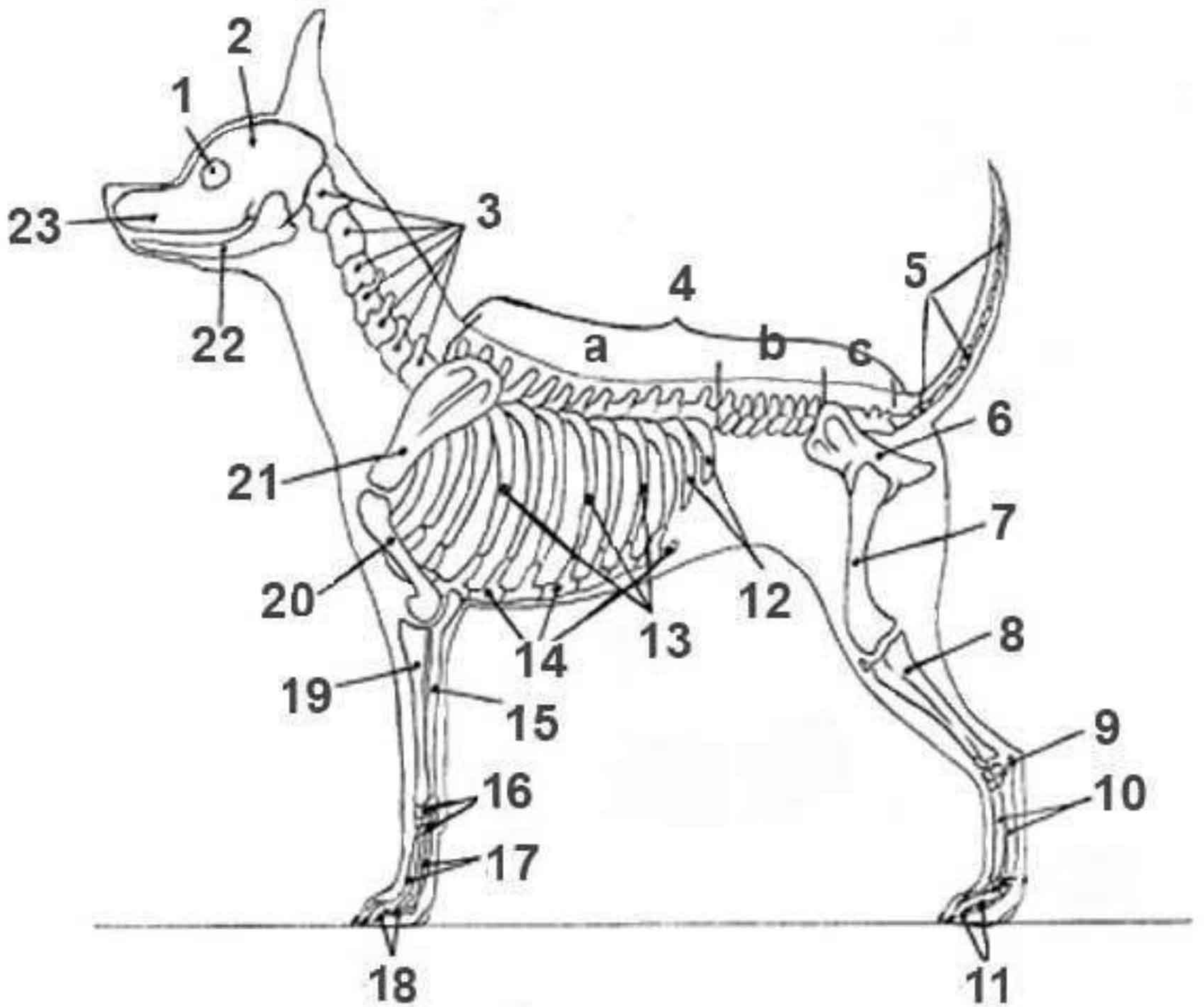
The names of the points and the skeleton.



### Diagram "Points":

1 - Nose. 2 - Bridge of the nose. 3 - Stop (transition to front of the skull). The region between 1 and 3 - muzzle the dog. 4 - Eye. 5 - Skull, skull region of the head. 6 - Ear, of course. 7 - Inion. 8 - Neck. 9 - Withers. 10 - Back. 11 - Waist. 12 - Hips (the bones of the pelvis palpable through the skin). 13 - Croup. The place where it ends and the tail begins - the base of the tail. 14 - Here it is - the tail. 15 - Sciatic mound (formed by the bones of the pelvis). 16 - Hock (formed by the bones of the tibia and metatarsi). 17 - Pastern. 18 - Pads. 19 - toes and claws. 20 - Lower thigh. 21 - Knee joint or knee (comprises the bones of the tibia and femur). 22 - Upper thigh. 23 - Groin. 24 - Chest. 25 - The lowest point of the chest. 26 - Elbow. 27 - Wrist. 28 - Pastern. 29 - Forearm. 30 - Shoulder. 31 - Throat. 32 - Chin.





### Diagram "Skeleton":

1 - orbit. 2 - skull. 3 - 7 cervical vertebrae. 4 - spine: a - dorsal section, b - the lumbar, c - the sacrum. 5 - the vertebrae of the tail (the number of vertebrae may be different). 6 - pelvic bones 7 - femur. 8 - shin bone. 9 - heel. 10 – metatarsal bones. 11 - phalanges. 12 – false ribs. 13 - ribs. 14 - sternum. 15 - ulna of the forearm. 16 - carpal bones. 17 – pastern bones. 18 - phalanges. 19 - radial forearm bone. 20 - humerus. 21 – shoulder blade. 22 – the lower jaw (mobile). 23 - upper jaw (fixed).

- **HEAD:**

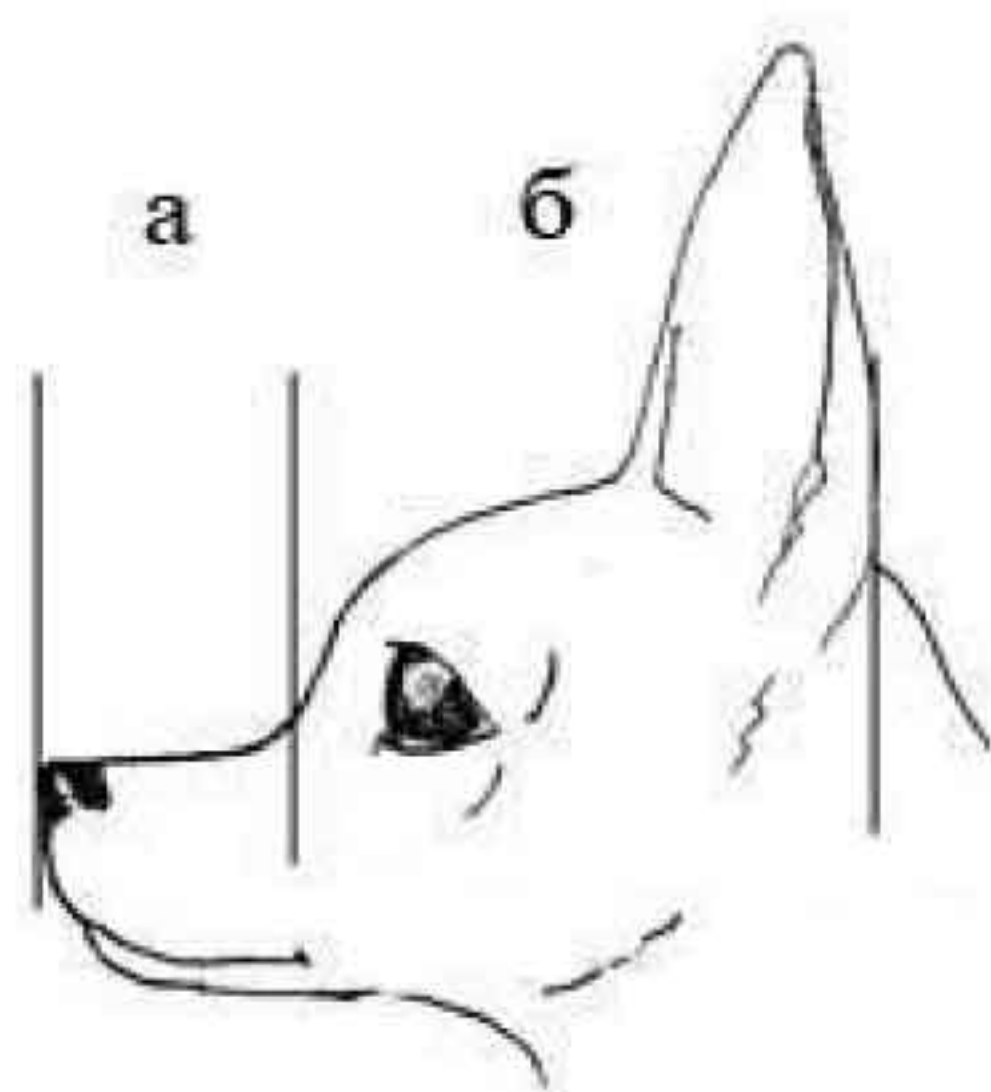
Small compared to the body. Skull: High but not too wide (width at the level of zygomatic arches does not exceed the depth of the skull). Stop: Clearly pronounced. Nose: Small, black or matching the coat colour. Muzzle: Lean and pointed, slightly shorter than the



**skull.Lips:** Thin, lean, tight- fitting and dark or matching the coat colour. **Cheekbones:** Only slightly pronounced.

*“Small, compared with the body.”* What does it mean? The idea is that the size of the head should be in harmony with the trunk and the general look of the dog. If the toy has a very big head, thin neck, flat chest and thin legs, the question arises - does the doggy not suffer from hydrocephalus (the swelling of the skull due to excessive amounts of intracranial fluid) or whether it is an unfortunate result of a cross which has led to such distortions in the proportions. In any case, the dog cannot be used for breeding. In the first case – for health reasons, in the second - as an unsightly animal, and because of the risk of passing these disproportions to the offspring.

If on the contrary, the head is too small, and the whole body strong, broad then it makes the dog’s appearance unbalanced. To go further, let's divide the head into 2 parts: skull part and facial part -**Fig. 11.**



**Fig. 11 a - the facial part – the muzzle - from nose to stop, b – the skull part- the skull - from stop to occiput.**

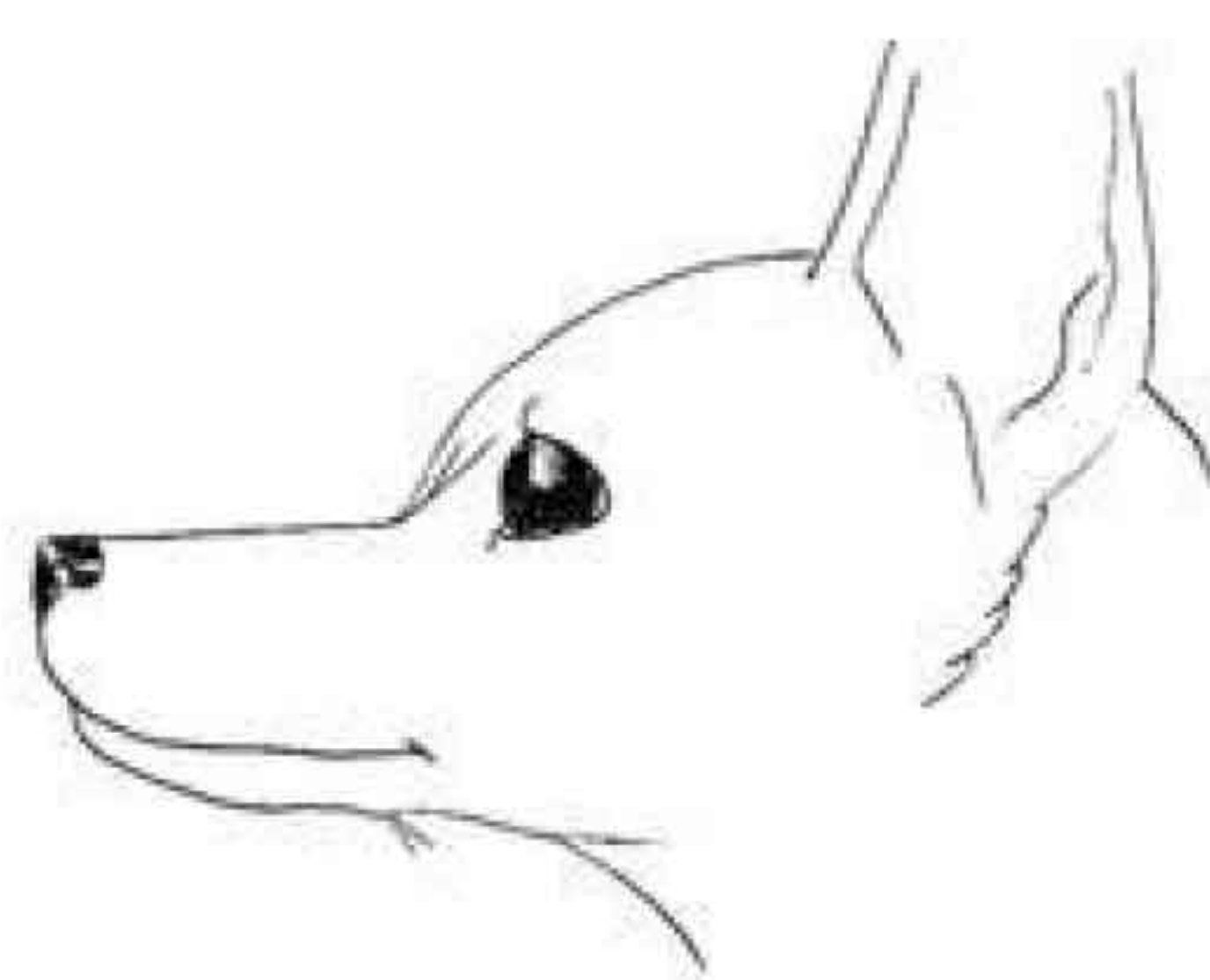
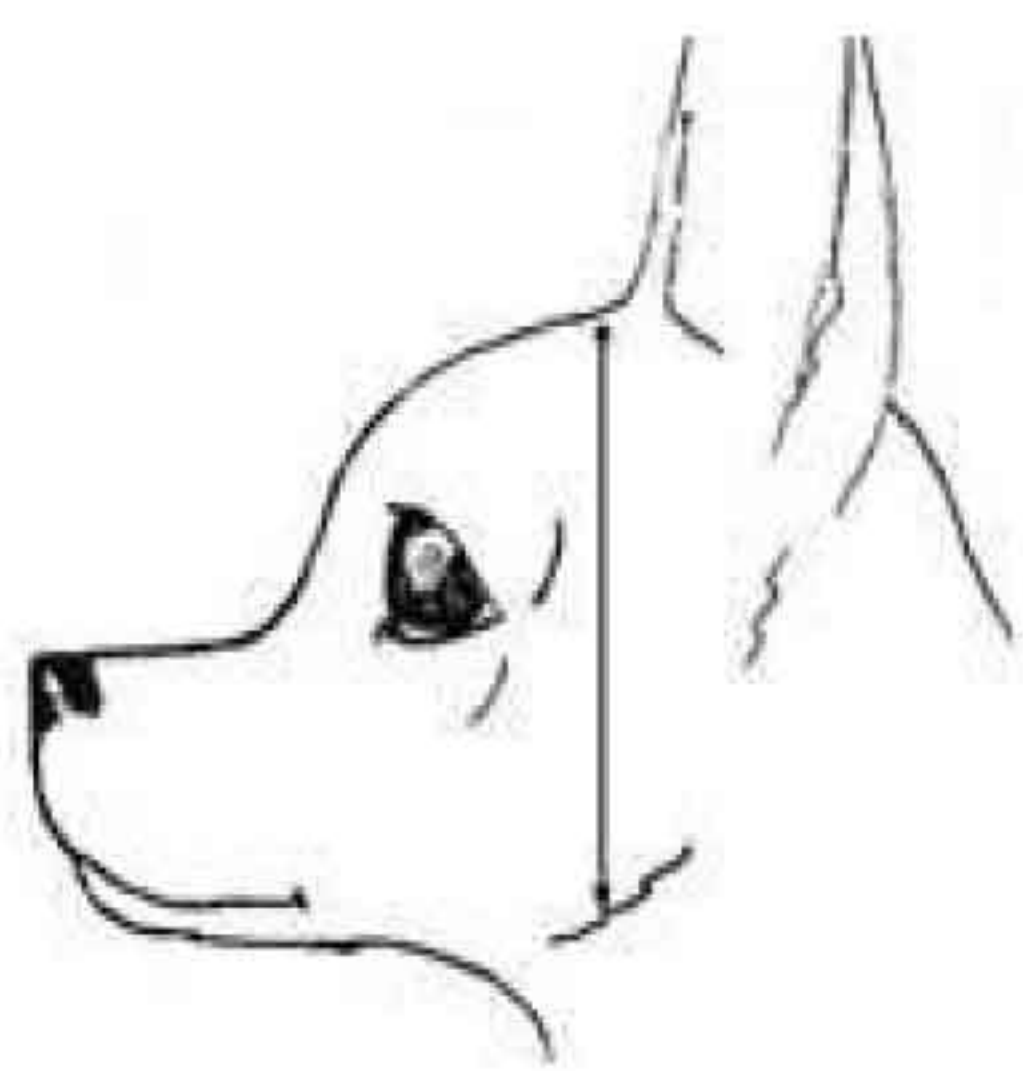
High, but not too wide (width at the level of zygomatic arches does not exceed the depth of the skull). Love this place in the standard; that’s because there are many opportunities for reflections.

So, what is "high skull?" Height (or depth) of the skull, measured visually in the skull. This is shown in **Fig. 11-1a**. Consequently, the skull should not be too deep (**Fig. 11-1b**) or too small.

**a**

**b**

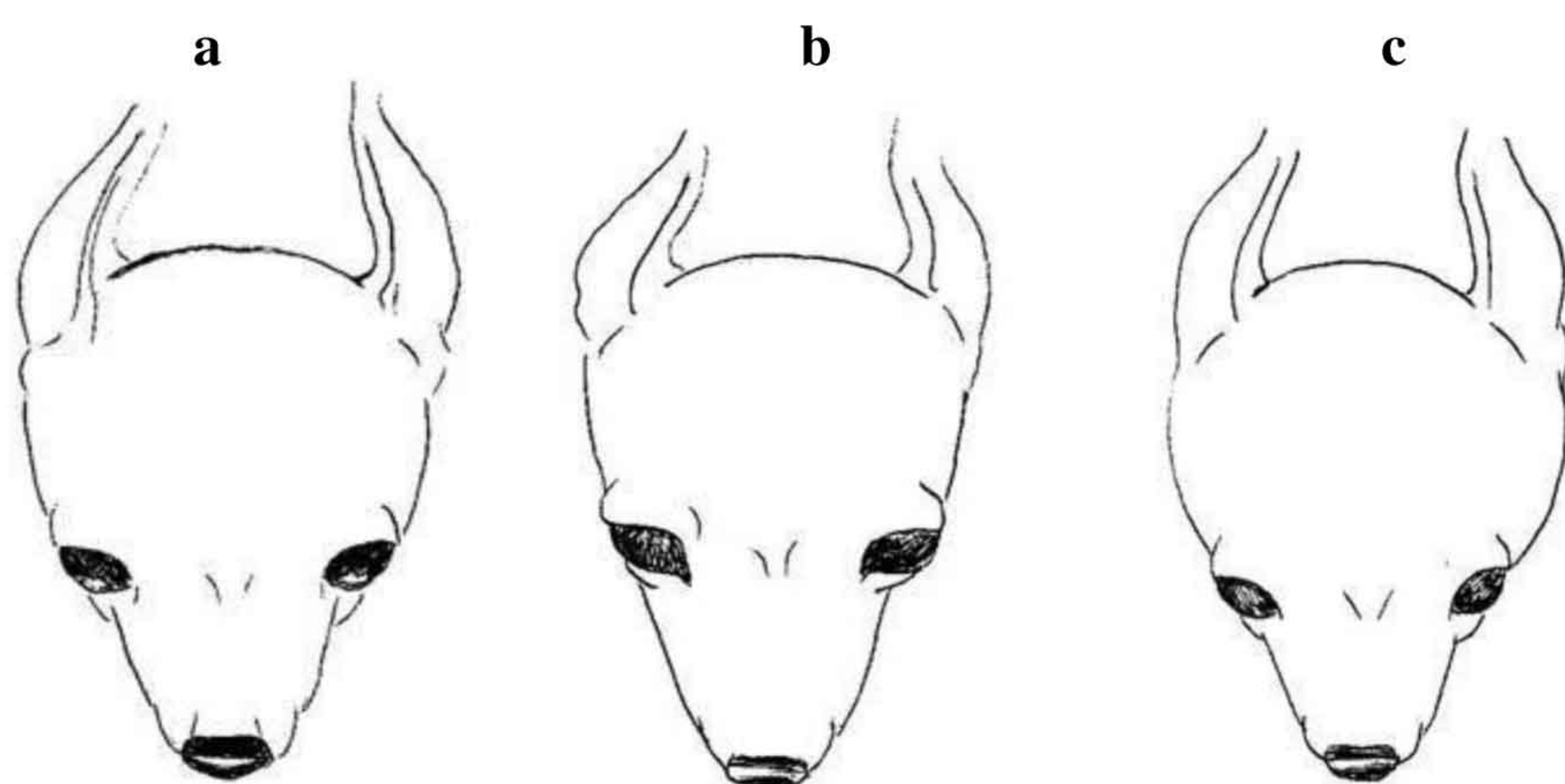
**c**



**Fig. 11-1: a - normal skull depth,  
b - Chihuahua head (too deep skull for Toy),  
c - Insufficient skull depth.**

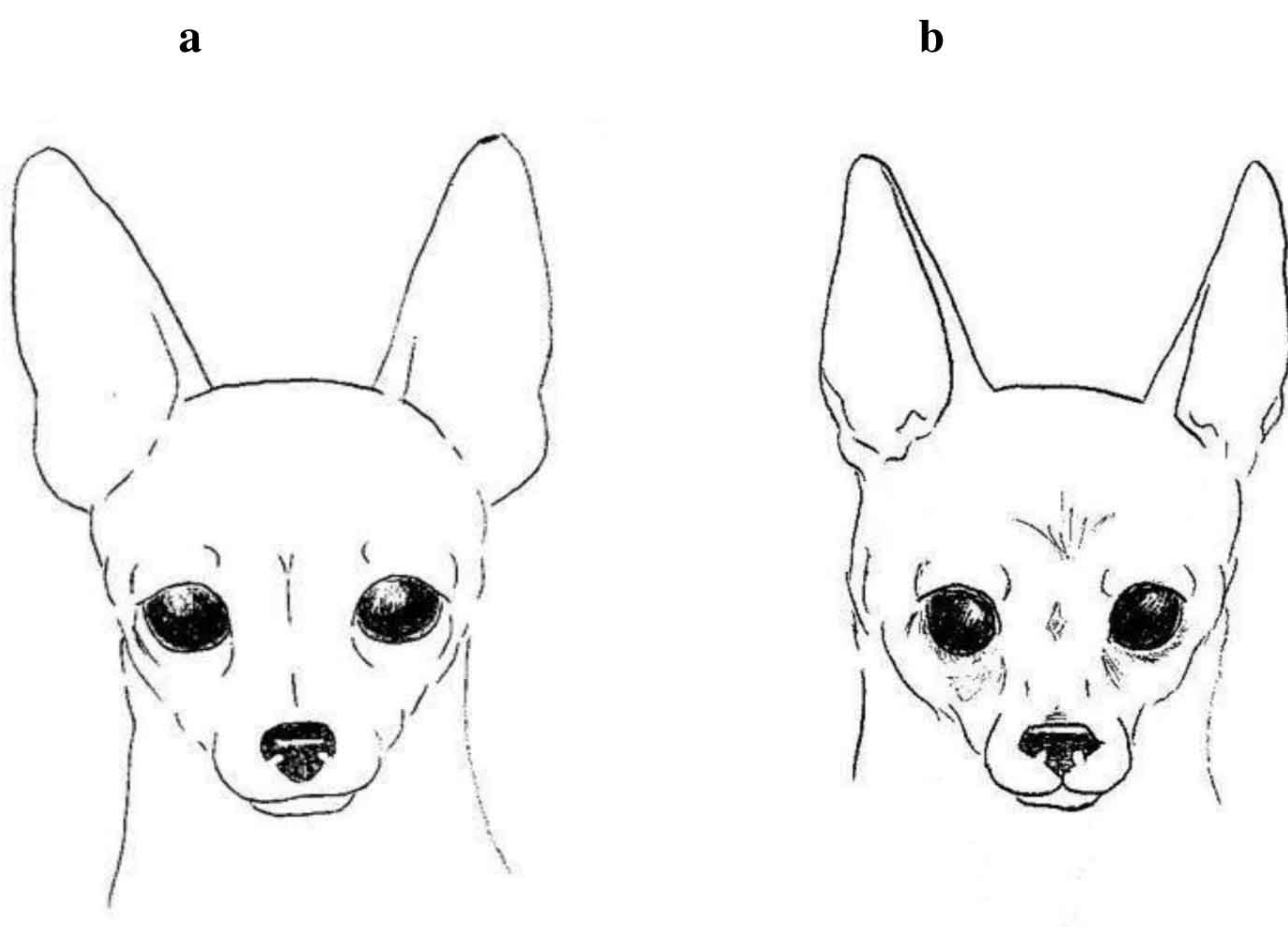


Further, "not too wide (width at the cheeks does not exceed the height of the skull)." The width of the cheeks determines the width of the skull. **Fig. 12** shows examples of normal, narrow and broad skull.



**Fig. 12. a - normal width of the skull, b - narrow skull, c - broad skull.**

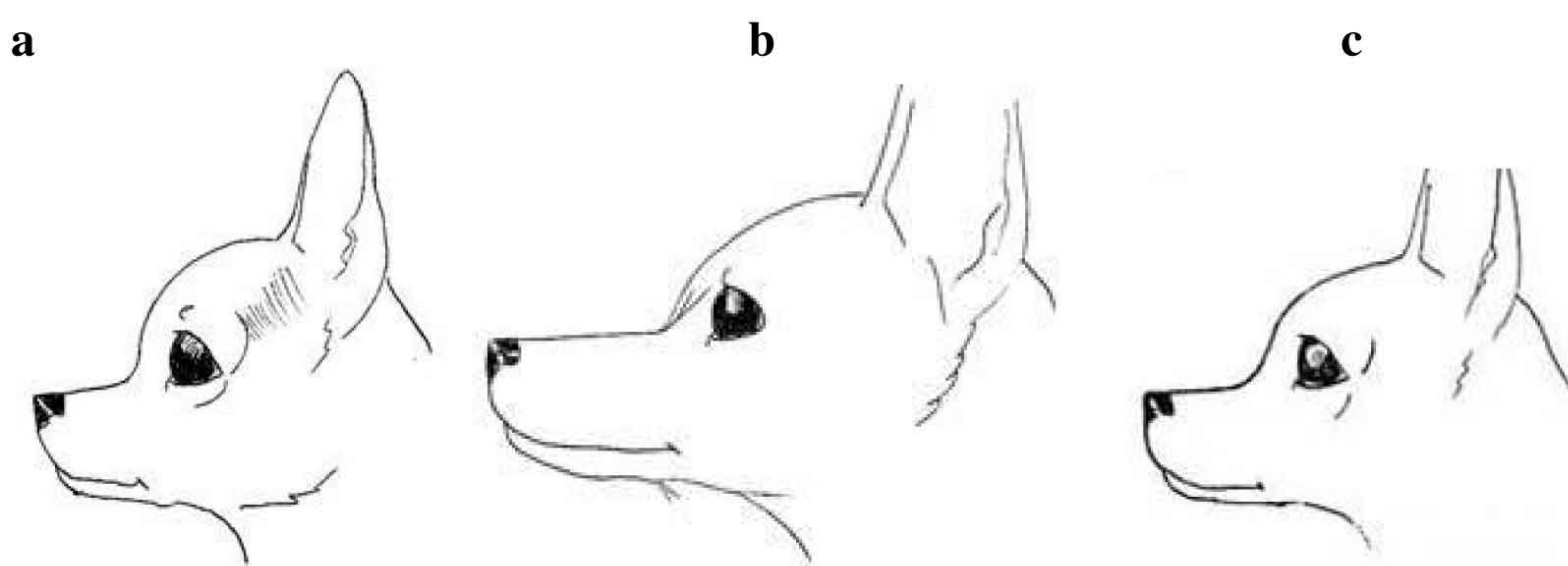
To understand whether the dog has the good skull width, just look at the dog above. In **Fig. 12**, option **a** is the most acceptable. Such a head as in **Fig. 12b** is too much like an elongated head of German Pinscher, and this, in turn, alters the "facial" expression and the head proportions of our breed. They call this head "simple". Option **c** is not acceptable in a Toy as such a round-shaped head - "an apple" –is typical for Chihuahua. For Toy, this head is too "fanciful". The width of the skull in Russian Toy must not exceed the depth of the skull. This is observed with naked eye -**Fig. 13**.



**Fig. 13. a - a good width and depth of the skull, b - too broad skull**



What's wrong with a broad skull? It seems like there should be more than brains: Maybe so, but the fact is that, with broad skull the dogs have more prominent cheekbones, widely set eyes. In this they resemble Chihuahuas. And because Toy and Chihuahua are related breeds, the less they resemble each other, the better. Another skull should be "rounded when viewed in profile." Here there can be different interpretations. The fact that the Standard does not specify how much the skull should be rounded. All small dog breeds (except perhaps Pinscher and Dachshund) have rounded skull, more or less. Rounded skull leads to a change in the structure of the orbit, hence more rounded eyes. Note that all breeds with round eyes have a rounded skull. Flat skull is seen in pinscher where the skull and muzzle planes are parallel. I never met a head like this in a Toy, although I've seen a head in which the plane of the skull was approaching a horizontal line. So, let's see what degree of roundness of the skull can be found in a Russian Toy (**Fig. 14**).



**Fig. 14. All these heads are rounded in the cranial region in different ways.**

The most roundness is observed in the dog in **Fig. 14a**. Seeing the head in profile, one immediately feels a desire to look at it from above. If the width of the cheeks of the head does not exceed the height of the skull, its roundness, though significant, is not defective. In this dog, the angle between the muzzle and the stop is about 90 degrees. This is the feature of Chihuahua. Toys sometimes can have heads like that, but then again, if the head is not wide at the cheeks it is certainly not a problem. In order not to resemble the structural features of the Chihuahua head, the angle between the muzzle and the stop of the Toy's head must be greater than 90 degrees, but less than that of the dog in **Fig. 14b**. The head of the dog in **Fig. 14b** is of the least roundness; yet it is still present. And although the dog is clearly "lacking" the forehead, you can't call this skull "flat".

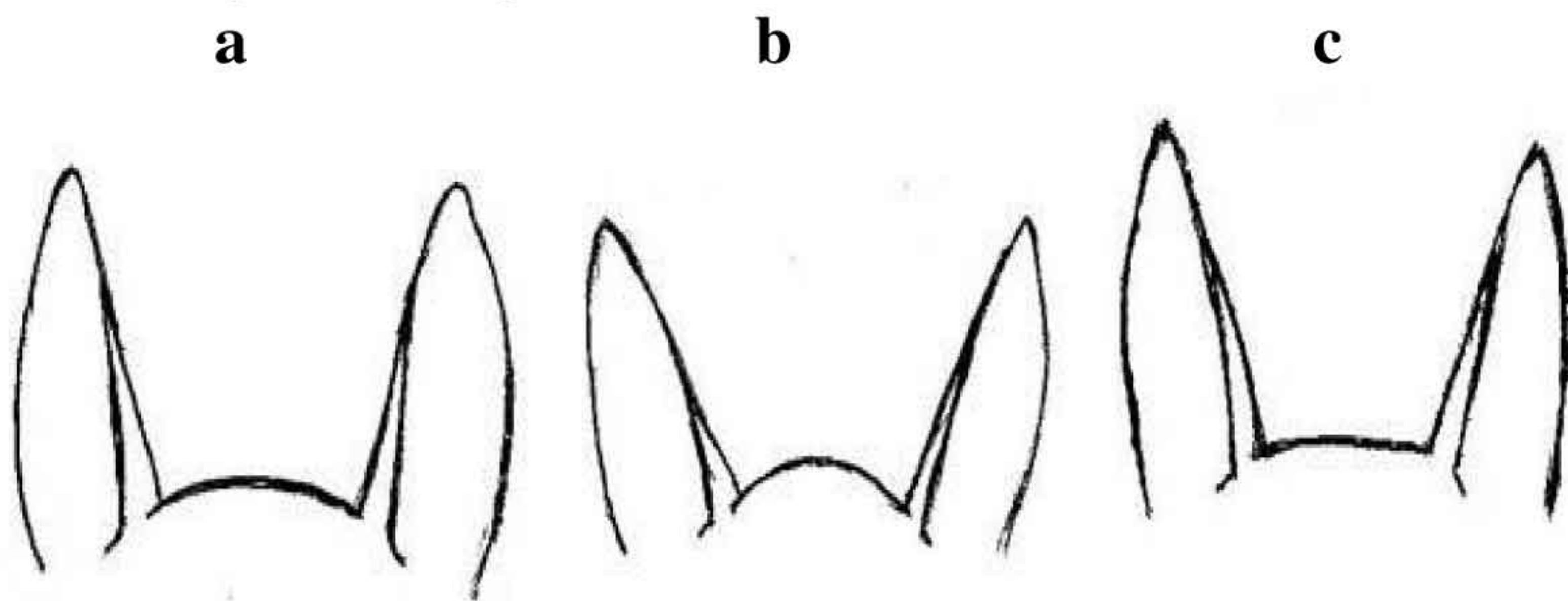
The dog in **Fig. 14c** has average roundness compared to the dogs in **a** and **b**. Whatever the case, all three skulls are rounded. Each of these heads has its special expression, and it can be argued which one is better. So far are all kinds of heads occur and win at the shows.

The same applies to the phrase: "*Stop* clearly pronounced." In **Fig. 14** the stop is pronounced in different ways; however, it is pronounced in all three. The degree of severity is not specified, but the concept of "clearly" can be interpreted in different ways. So, in the dog in **Fig. 14b** the stop is pronounced clearly enough to distinguish the front of the head from the skull. The fact that it could be better pronounced is another question. In young puppies the head is often closest to version **a**. But with



age, the forehead sometimes "drifts off", or muzzle gets stretched, or both. En masse, puppies at the age of 2-2.5 months have quite a good head. Stretching of the muzzle and smoothing of the stop is sometimes unpredictable. Sometimes the opposite happens; the muzzle remains very short, the head gets "full", the stop becomes even more pronounced, cheekbones broad. Therefore, to choose puppy with the head that you personally like (and the Standard still approves any roundness, as long as it is present), then look at their parents and ancestors. The more dogs in the pedigree with the type of head you need, the greater the chance that the puppy will be the same. By the way, the head in **Fig. 14b** dominates the rest; and in the process of development in these dogs, the forehead "knurls", which is, becomes more pronounced by three years of age.

And one more thing: the longer the muzzle is going to be in the adult dog, the more it is pronounced in the crook of the nose of the puppy. But the skull may be round not only in profile. Roundness of various degrees can be also observed between the ears. **Fig. 14-1** shows the possible options.



**Fig. 14-1. a - preferred option, b - "dome-shaped" head, c - flat head.**

The standard does not specify the form of the skull between the ears. I mention it here as an aside only. I believe, **a** is the most preferred option.

The nose lobe is small, black or matching the colour. I believe, "small" does not require an explanation.

Nose must not appear "transplanted" from a different dog - neither too large, nor too small. However, I have never observed this in Toys. The colour of the nose depends on the coat colour. The dogs of the following colours have black nose: black and tan, red without black, red with black (amount of black can be arbitrarily large or small). In dogs of these colours the middle of the nose sometimes is not coloured through; this is called "winter nose", because in many dogs it appears in winter, and in summer it goes dark. In some dogs it darkens a little, or not at all. There is nothing wrong with it, but it is still desirable that the nose is completely black.

The nose lobe has to be of brown colour in dogs of the following colours: brown and tan, reddish-brown. Brown can be expressed in different degrees - from the colour of dark chocolate to pale flesh. These noses are called "in tone with the colour."

Inexperienced people might call the light-flesh coloured nose pink. But it's not a pink nose! It is very important, because the pink - this "pinkness" - is generally due to the lack of pigment on the nose, on the whole or in part. This is acceptable in part ("winter nose"), but not in the whole nose. Unfortunately, Toys with the nose lobe of dark chocolate colour are rare. Basically they have a medium brown nose or a very, very light brown, body. This is normal, but the darker, the better.



In blue- and- tan dogs the colour of the nose lobe will be correspondingly of different shades of gray. Sometimes it is so full of gray that it appears black. The darker, the better. In cream-and-tan dogs, the nose lobe is basically brown, but this “brownness” is weakened by the influence of a special gene. Therefore, their nose lobe has a grayish-brown colour that is different from the lobes of brown- on- brown dogs (brown and tan and reddish-brown), and from gray lobes in blue and tan dogs.

"The muzzle is lean and pointed, and slightly shorter than the skull." Muzzle is a front portion of the skull from nose to stop. What is "dry"? This means that Russian Toy dogs must not have flabby, moist lips. However, I have never observed that in a toy. "Pointed" - this means that when viewed from above, it should gradually taper to the nose lobe and not look like stump.

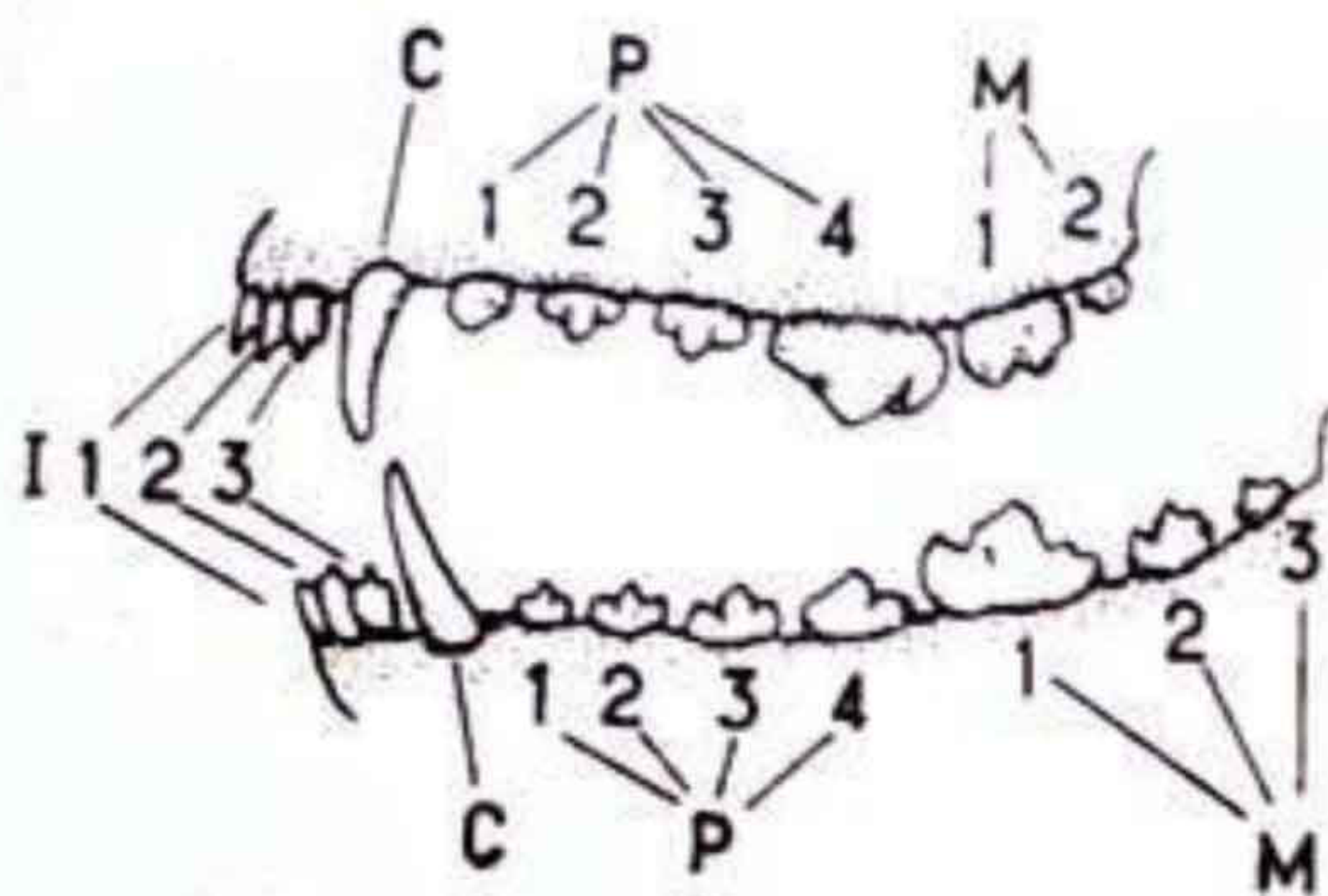
"*slightly* shorter than the length of the skull"; the length of muzzle is measured visually. The length from nose to stop should be shorter than the length from stop to occiput. But the concept is rather blurry, there are dogs that have obviously too short or too long muzzle; in both cases the muzzle shorter than the skull. This occurs because the skull in long-muzzled dogs is somewhat longer, while in the short-muzzled ones - shorter. Having a specific length of the muzzle, the dog, in most cases, will have a skull which is slightly longer than the muzzle, and the muzzle, naturally, somewhat shorter than the skull. Consequently, almost any muzzle fits into the framework of the standard as regards the skull from which it "grows". It is only when a pronounced long muzzle looks "fastened" to the short skull, then it goes against the standard.

"Lips are thin, lean, tight fitting, dark or matching the coat colour." Thin - this means that the lips should not be fleshy like a pug's, for example. Dry and tight - the lips should not be pendulous. Dark or matching the colour - the same as for the nose lobe. What the colour is, so is the colour of the lips.

## • MOUTH:

**Jaws/Teeth:** Small, white. Scissor bite. Absence of 2 incisors permitted in each jaw.

"Jaws and teeth: small, white, scissor bite." The jaws are small, that is, exactly such that the muzzle of the dog did not seem too rough. About teeth, I think, everything is clear. However, the bite needs to be examined in more detail. First we need to determine what teeth the dog has and what they are called (**Fig. 15**).

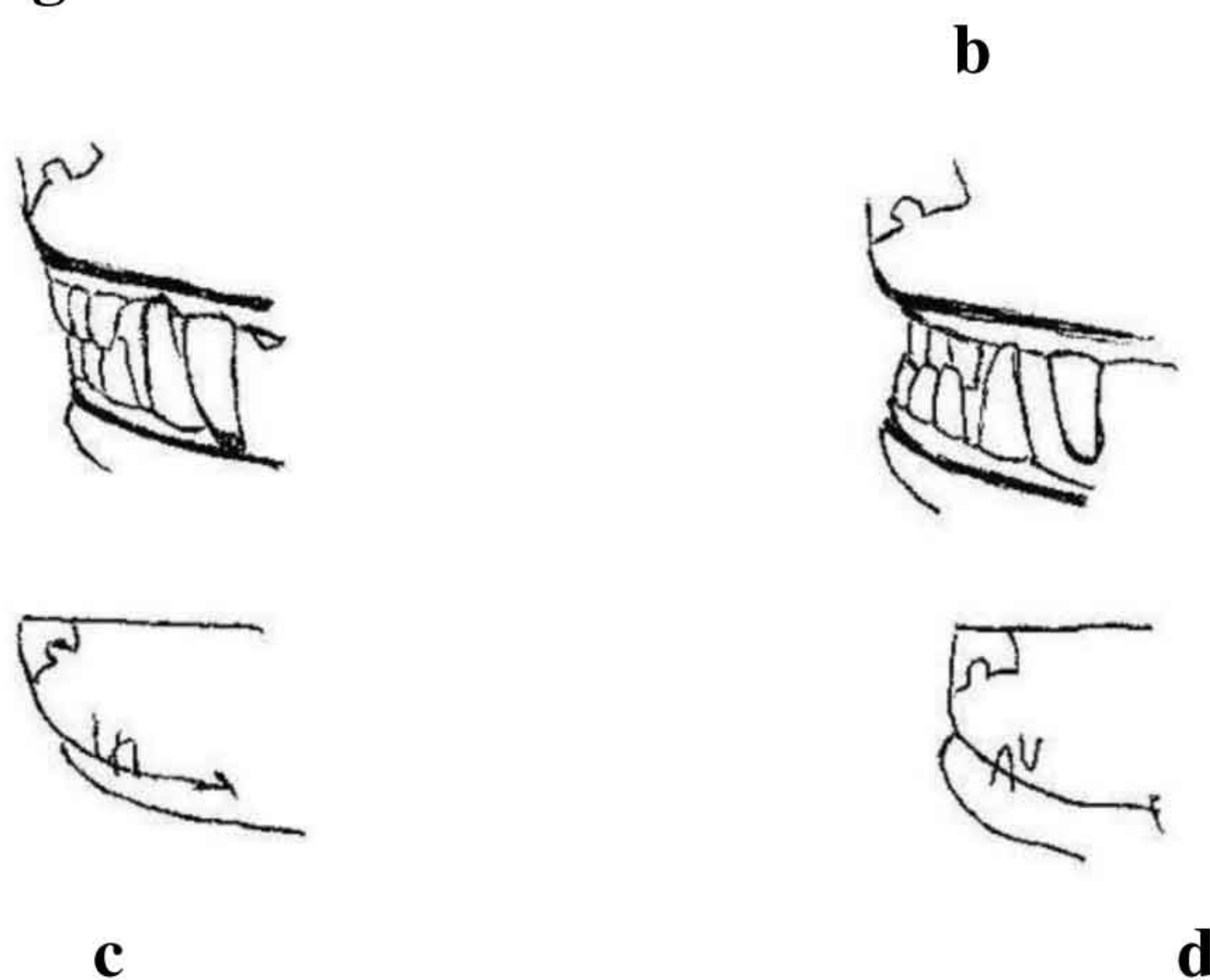


**Fig.15. Canine Dentition:** I: 1, 2, 3 – incisors; C - canines, P: 1, 2, 3, 4 – premolars; M: 1, 2 and 1, 2, 3 - molars.



Each jaw should have 6 incisors, 2 canines, 8 premolars; 4 molars on the upper jaw and 6 on the lower one. Together 12 incisors, 4 canines, 16 premolars and 10 molars; 42 teeth in total. Usually, they don't look at molars in Toys. Very few judges pay attention to premolars as well, although from time to time one can come across a dog with one or more premolars missing (usually P1, P2, less often P3 and P4). Russian toy should have scissor bite. This means that the upper incisors are in front of the lower ones and there should be no gap between upper and lower incisors –

**Fig. 16a.**



**Fig. 16.a - regular scissor, b – undershot bite, c- overshot bite, d - even, or "pincer" bite.**

With a scissor bite, a lower canine fits in the groove between the extreme incisor and the canine of upper jaw. This position of the canines is called the “lock”. With bite like that Russian toy has a good, pleasant expression when his mouth is closed. The “lock” for canines is shown in **Fig. 16a**,

With undershot bite (**Fig. 16b**), the lower incisors are in front of the upper. Canines can be positioned either in the "lock", or apart from each other. When the mouth is closed, the Toy will have a gloomy “facial” expression.

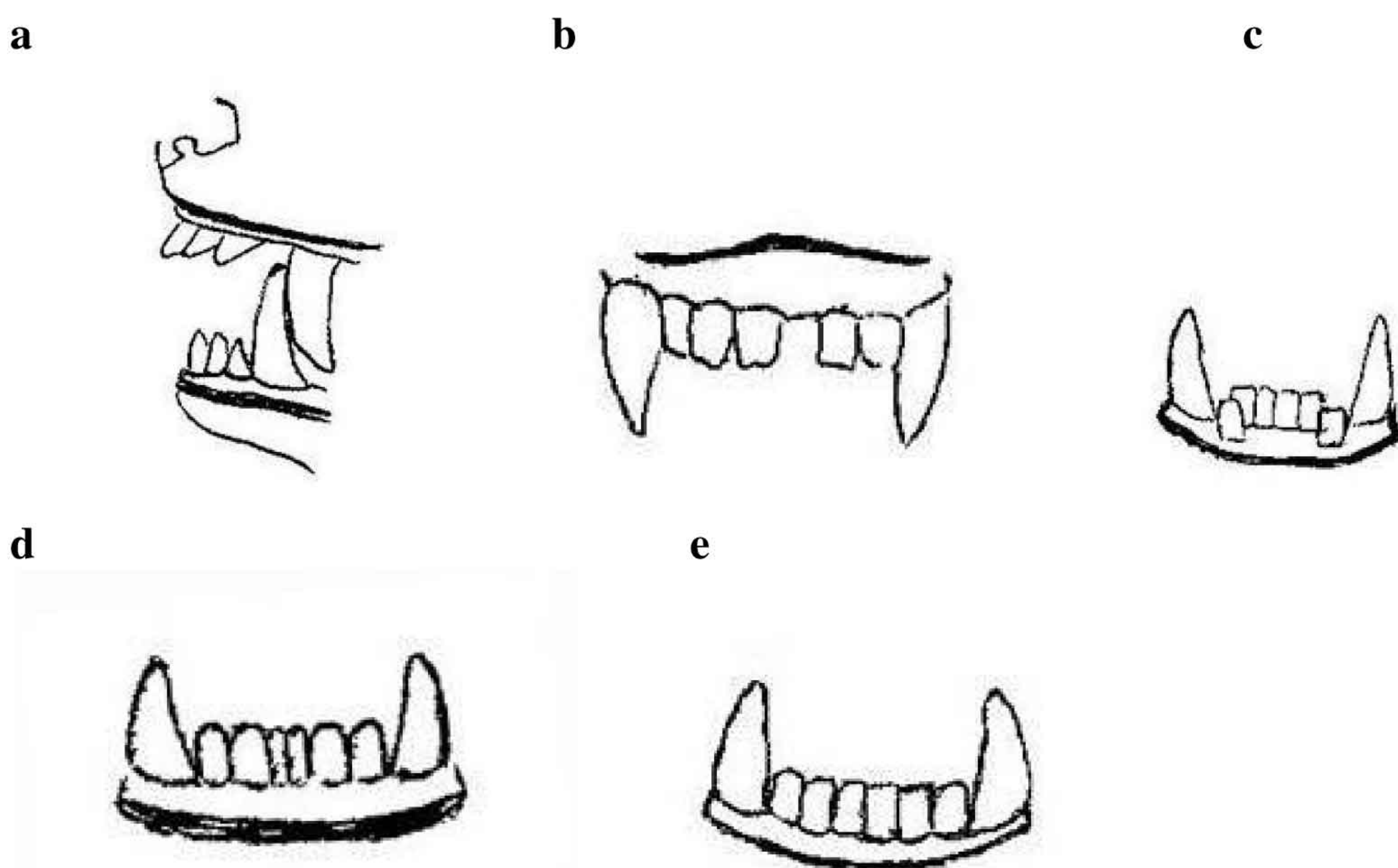
This bite will be disqualified.

With overshot bite (**Fig. 16c**) the upper incisors are in front of the lower, but between the upper and the lower ones there is a gap. With that, the canine of the upper jaw is in front of the canine of the lower jaw. With such a bite lower jaw is too short; the muzzle is too narrow and shallow. With the marked overshot, lower teeth hurt the gum (the area which is behind the upper incisors - the alveoli), and the upper teeth hurt the lower lip. The degree of severity may be very little, including the presence of "lock" in relation to canines - in this case, a bite is acceptable, though undesirable. Pronounced undershot bite in a Russian Toy is a disqualification.

With even bite (**Fig. 16d**), the upper and lower teeth do not close into each other and touch just with the tops. This can occur in young puppies. The earlier this bite will change into a scissor bite, the better. The longer the puppy stays with even bite, the more likely that the bite either will remain, or will change into undershot. So, buying a puppy with even bite be prepared to take risks. Even bite in an adult dog is acceptable, but undesirable. Ideally, the puppy should have a scissor bite with 6 incisors on each jaw, four teeth in the "lock" (two on each jaw), with the premolars.



After the change of teeth must be present 12 permanent incisors (six in each jaw), 4 canines in the "lock" (2 in each jaw), all premolars and molars. The incisors should be strictly vertical and stand in a row. But sometimes there are various deviations - **Fig. 17.**



**Fig. 17.** **a** – alveolar slope of the incisors, **b**- five incisors **c**- crowded teeth, **d** - too small central incisors, **e**- the correct line and the size of the incisors. In the alveolar slope incisors do not grow vertically, but at an angle. In principle there is nothing wrong provided the canines remained in the "lock". But when the jaws come together, there is a gap between the upper and lower incisors, which could be perceived as undershot, though it is not. The alveolar slope is acceptable, but undesirable (**Fig. 17a**).

After the change of milk teeth to permanent, some incisors can be missing. In **Fig. 17b**, one incisor on the upper jaw is missing although there is a room for it. This is not a typical picture: with the incomplete set of incisors the gap is not necessarily present. There are many examples where the dog has five flat, beautiful incisors stand side by side. The absence of one or two incisors is not a defect.

Dogs with incomplete set of canine teeth can have any titles. It is true that some judges don't award certificate and / or titles to edentate Toys (not only in the incisors, but also on premolars) out of principle. Some overlook edentate females, but not edentate males; it is at the discretion of the judge. It's hard to explain why the dog is missing an incisor, since edentate puppies are born from parents with complete teeth; and vice versa, from edentate parents come puppies with complete teeth. There are many scenarios; for example, the tooth is there, but it cannot break through the gum. This feature is observed in species with thick, "fleshy" gums (Pug). If the X-ray shows that the tooth is there, they make the incision in the gum, thereby helping the tooth to get out. However, I cannot say if this is permissible for a Toy,

After the change of teeth you can see a picture as in **Fig. 17c**. All six incisors are present, but the jaw is a bit narrow, so the teeth have to accommodate somehow. As a result, the incisors do not stand in one line, but haphazardly. Such an effect may be due to too late loss of milk incisors which would not allow permanent incisors to grow in its rightful place. Incisors can



also be about three-quarters rotated out. Crowded teeth are forgivable, though not desirable. **Fig. 17d** shows 2 central incisors which after the change were very small. This sometimes happens. These incisors are likely to fall out early which will present you with a dilemma: is it better to have the teeth like this, but all six, or of the smooth and uniform size, but only five. For comparison, **Fig. 17e** shows a set of incisors that are even. This is the perfect positioning and size of incisors. The absence of a canine is a disqualifying fault. If the canine had fallen as a result of injury or has been removed by veterinary indications, a certificate confirming this must be produced. However, judges usually do not trust any information. Therefore, if an adult dog for some reason lost a canine, we can only sympathize. If you already have a dog show adult assessment, it can be used in breeding, but at the shows - alas! There's nothing to be done.

The absence of more than two incisors in both jaws is a disqualifying defect; that is, when in both jaws there are just eight, or fewer, incisors.

Further on, the Standard says: "flat cheekbones." We talked about it earlier in connection with the width of the Toy's skull, which is determined by the shape of cheekbones.

- **EYES:**

**Quite large, rounded, dark, slightly prominent, set well apart and looking straight ahead.**

**Eyelids are dark or matching the coat colour, tightly fitting.**

The eyes should be large, rounded and reasonably convex. Compare the eyes of a Russian Toy and that of a Pekinese - the latter is clearly with convex cornea, round and large. In Chihuahua's eyes also generally larger than the Toy's, though in Toy and in Chihuahua you can see both very large and very small eyes. Generally, the more pronounced stop, the shorter snout, the larger the eye. The main difference is that in a Chihuahua the white can be seen in the inner corners of the eyes; in the Russian Toy it should not be so.

I must admit, I have not seen a Toy whose eyes were set close together or not evenly planted. Dark eyes - and the darker the better - give the dog a pleasant expression. However, in dogs with a brown colour (brown and tan, reddish-brown) the eye colour is lighter than in black-and-tan, red and red -and- black. Just a light brown, including almost yellow, eyes can be in creamy-tan and blue -and- tan dogs. This is normal. But again, the darker the better. The eyelids should be dark or matching the coat colour, just as the nose lobe and the lips would. In black and tan, red, and red with black the eyelids should be black. In brown and tan and reddish-brown - various shades of brown, up to flesh-coloured.. In blue and tan and cream-and -tan - of different shades of gray. The statement that the eyelids have to tightly fit to the eyes once again shows that the Russian Toy is of dry constitution- no lips or eyelids should be loose/pendulous.

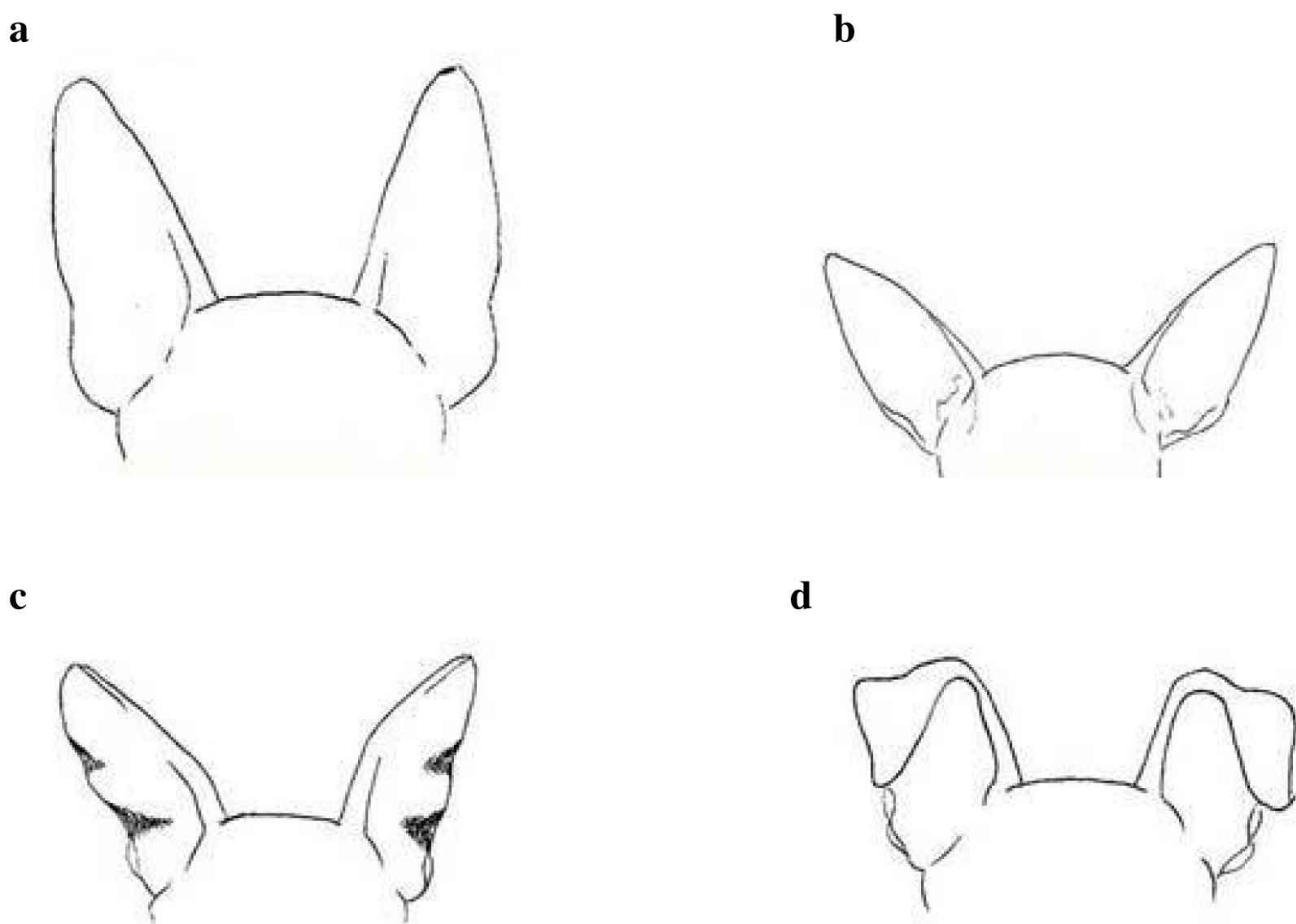
- **EARS:**

**Ears: Big, thin, set high, erect.**

"The ears are big, thin, set high, erect." Ears are an important feature of the breed as it is one of those setting the Toy apart from other ornamental species. By "large" it is meant that the ear is not big in itself (as, for example, in Basset Hound), but large in relation to the head. So, many people who see a Russian Toy, exclaim: "This is not a dog, it is all ears!" "Thin" means that the fabric of the ear should not be too fleshy,



and therefore could stand up. Now let's take a look at the ears of smooth-haired toy. What the ears should be like and what they can be is shown in **Fig. 18**



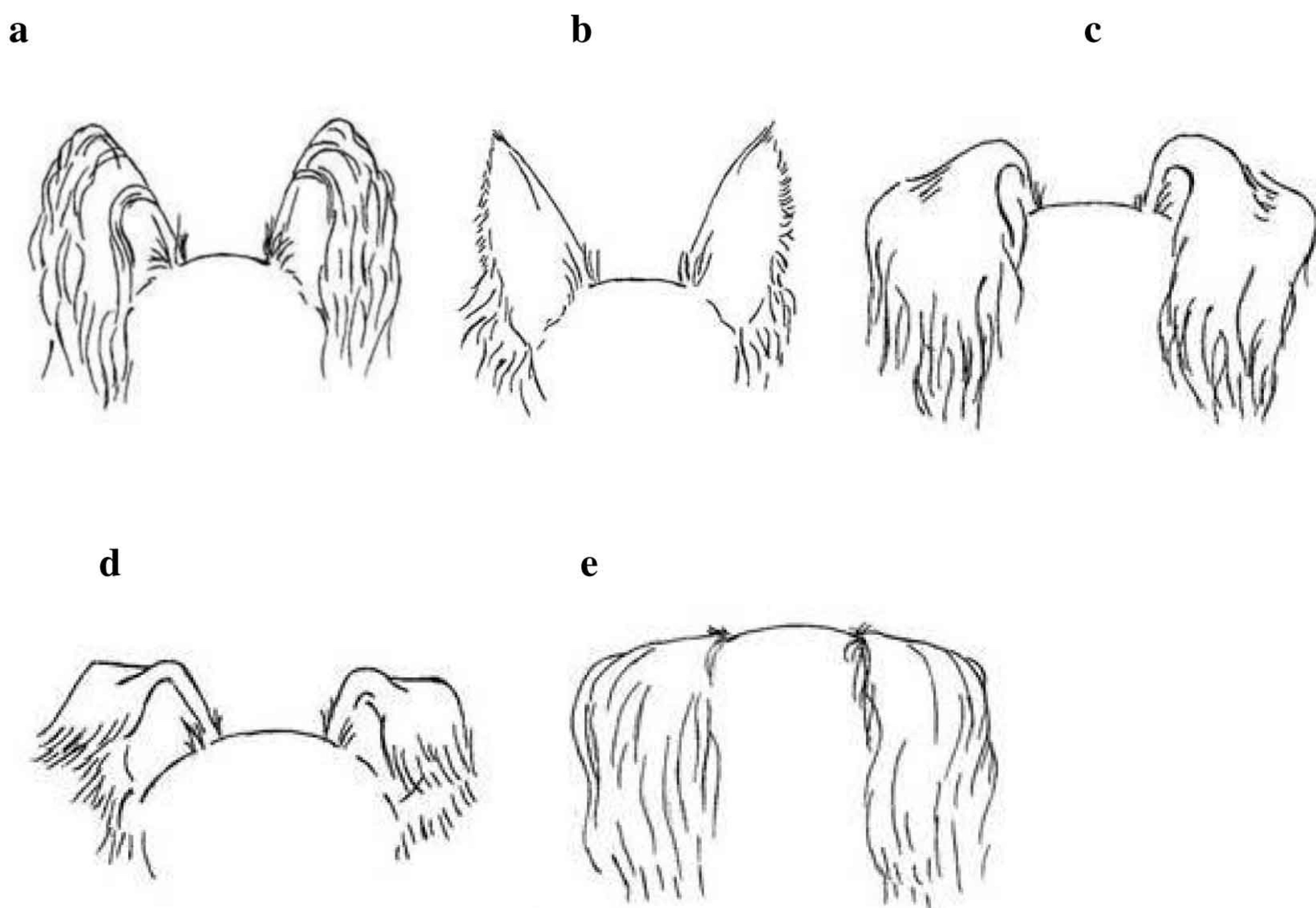
**Fig. 18.** a - erect ears, set high, b *erect*, “*hung-out*” ears, c - “*crumpled*” ears, d—flat ears. Ideally, the ears of a smooth-haired Toy should be as in Fig. 18a. The ears in Fig. 18b are permissible, but the more the ears are hung out, the worse. The same applies to the ears in Fig. 18c. A dog with the ears like in Fig. 18d would be disqualified. Puppies can have the ears of all four options.

The higher they are placed, and the less they fold, the better. Often with very large ears, they take the form as in **Fig. 18d**.

The standard does not say anything about the shape of the ears. There are ears with sharp points and rounded, broad, and quite narrow. There are breeders who prefer a particular shape of ears; there are those who do not pay much attention to this. The winning dogs would have different shapes of the ears, as long as they were standing, large, etc., according to the standard.

Now let's consider the ears in the long-haired Toy - **Fig. 19**.





**Fig. 19. a - erect ears, set high, well-dressed, b - erect, set high, ill- dressed ears, - c- semi-erect, well-dressed, d - semi-erect, ill-dressed, e - flat, perfectly dressed. Ideally, the ears in a long-haired Toy should be as in Fig.18a. Option b is only suitable for very young dogs, because, by the standard, in adult animals older than three years the fringe should evenly spread throughout the long edge of the ear, not just at the base.**

Other options are allowed, but not desirable. All other things being equal, the judge would prefer a dog with erect ears. A dog with semi-erect ears must be really good to win.

Ears in long-haired Toy puppies might take a long time to stand up. The earlier they stand up, the better. The dress-up is very individual. Puppies whose parents, grandparents and great-grandparents were well-dressed and puppies, whose ancestors had thick and long dress-up hair, at the age of 1.5-2 months, can be the same in terms of dress-up of ears. But if you look closely, you'll see that the puppies in the first option have thicker and longer ear hair than the puppies of the second option. Even the month –old puppies have a very short fringe around the edge of the ear. However, as in some lines and families the dress-up is achieved after long periods of time (which is normal), such a comparison may be invalid.

When choosing between two beautiful dogs, one of whom has erect ears and the other not, the preference is given to the dog with erect ears. If, however, the choice is between two generally beautiful dogs, one with poorly dressed standing ears, and the other hanging, but well-dressed ears, then there is something to ponder. The choice is difficult. It would be left to the discretion of the judge.



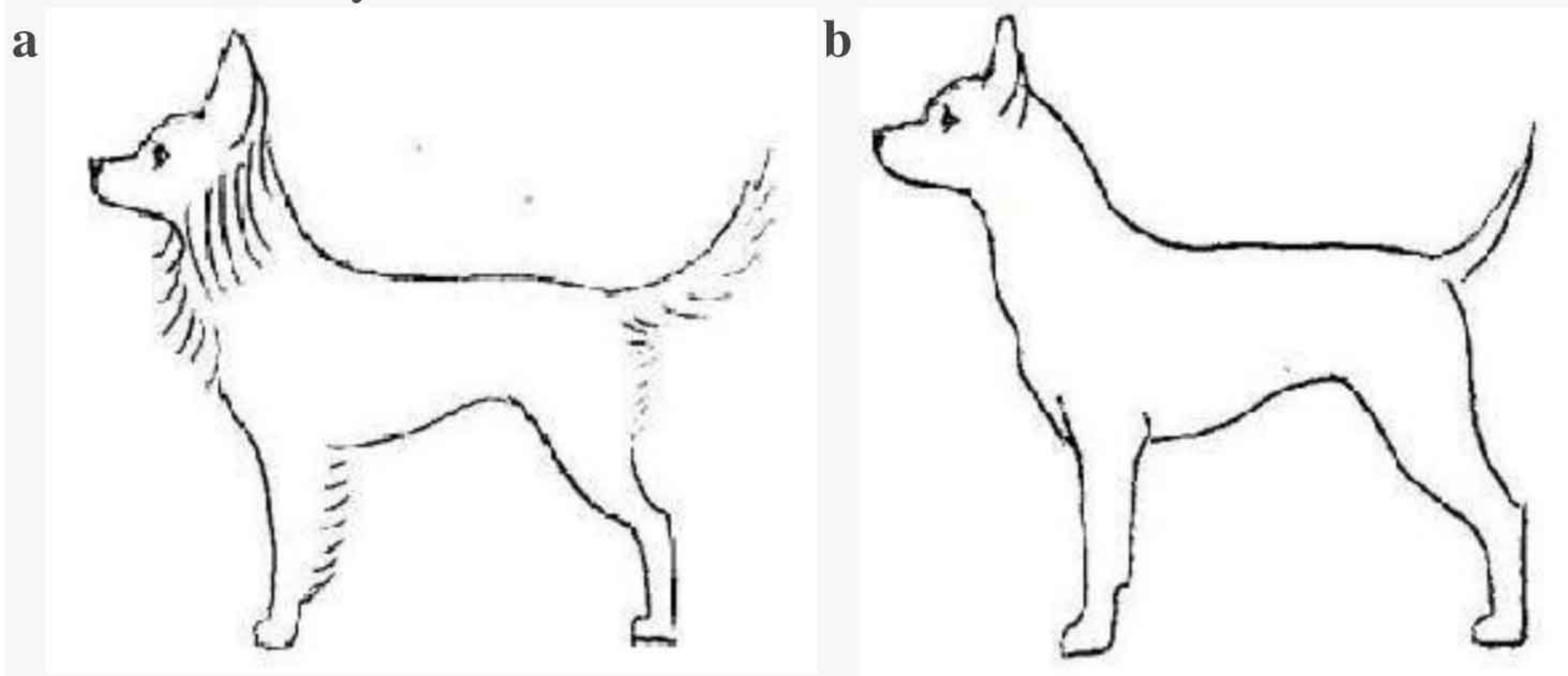
As the final point of examining the head and everything that applies to it, I'd like to clarify that I have given the examples only of the most common points.

- 

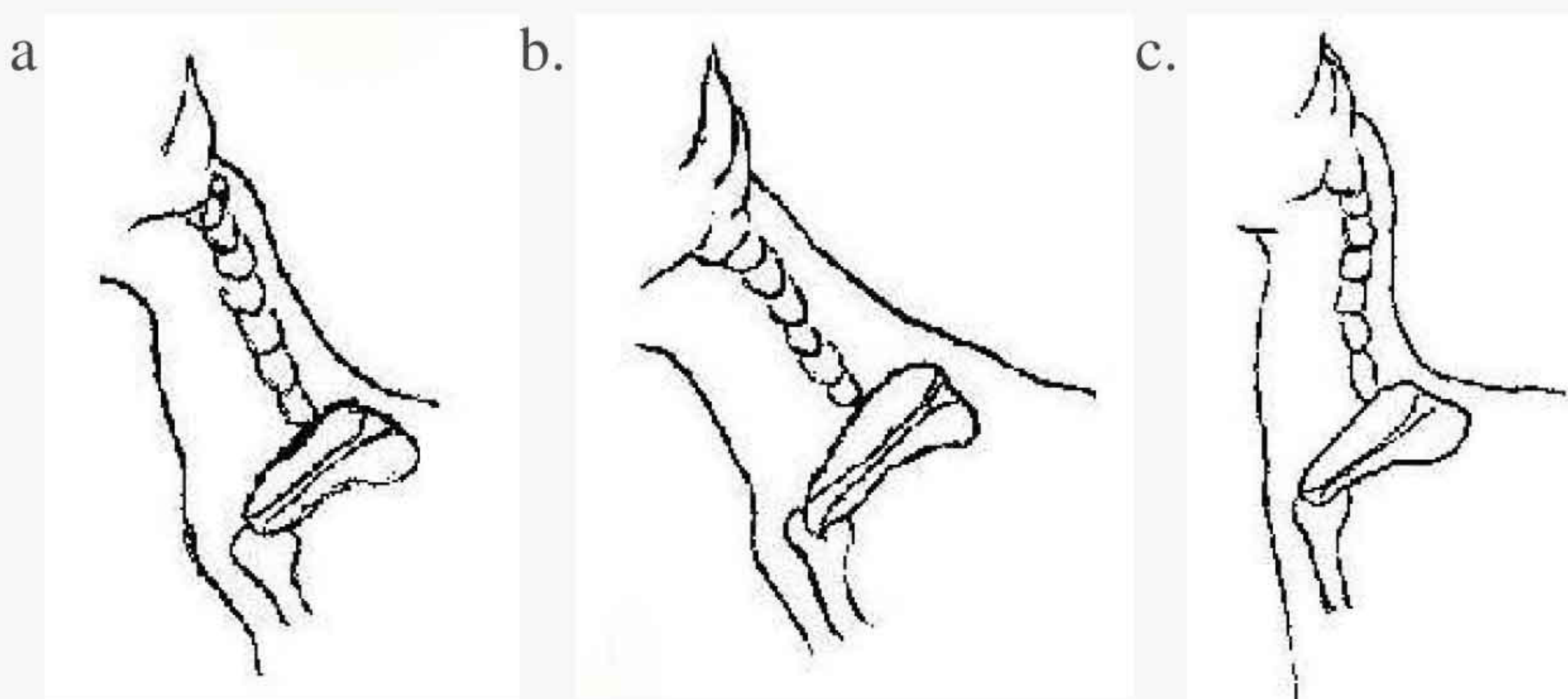
### NECK:

**Long, lean, carried high, slightly arched.**

the standard states: "**Long, lean, carried high, slightly arched.**" So, what is the neck of a Russian Toy?



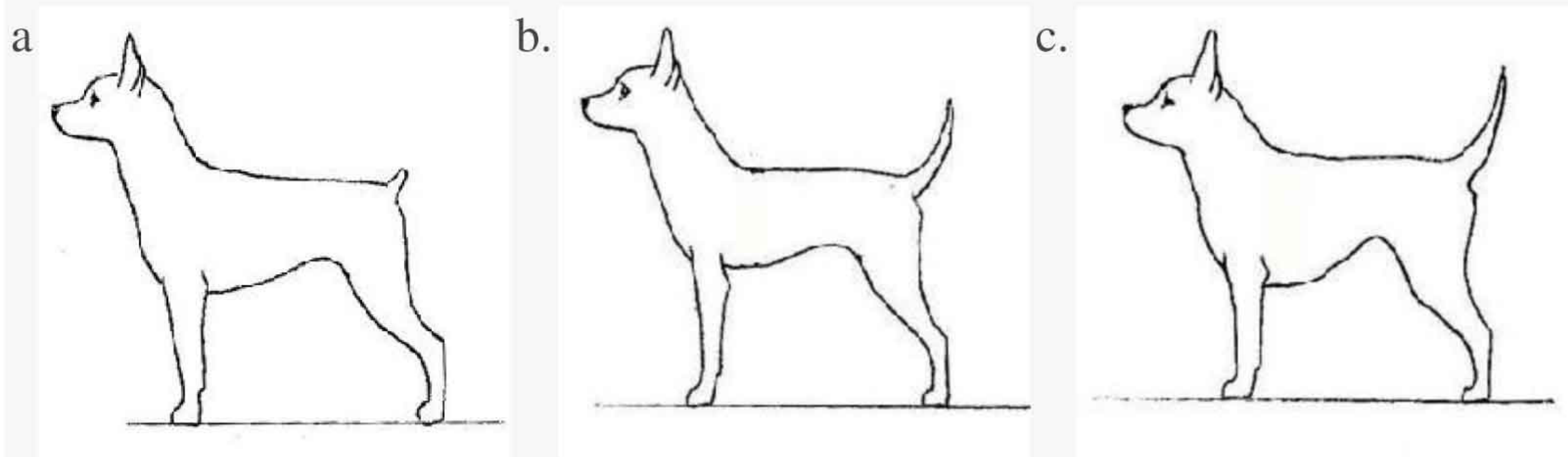
In **Fig. 20**. A good long neck carried high and slightly arched. By "slightly bent" means the line of the skull to the withers. In this long-haired curvature is not always noticeable due to the long hair. Postavy neck - the neck or out - can be moderate, low and high. The Russian Toy neck should be carried high, as in Fig. 20a.



In **Fig. 21**: **a** - good neck, **b** - low neck, - **c** too high Wareh neck. Dog in **Fig. 21b** has a low Wareh neck compared with the other two options. The lower set neck, the dog looks less elegant. Although this is very individual. Dog in Fig. **21c** is too high yield of the neck that makes it possible, very stately, proud, but this is due to a shoulder

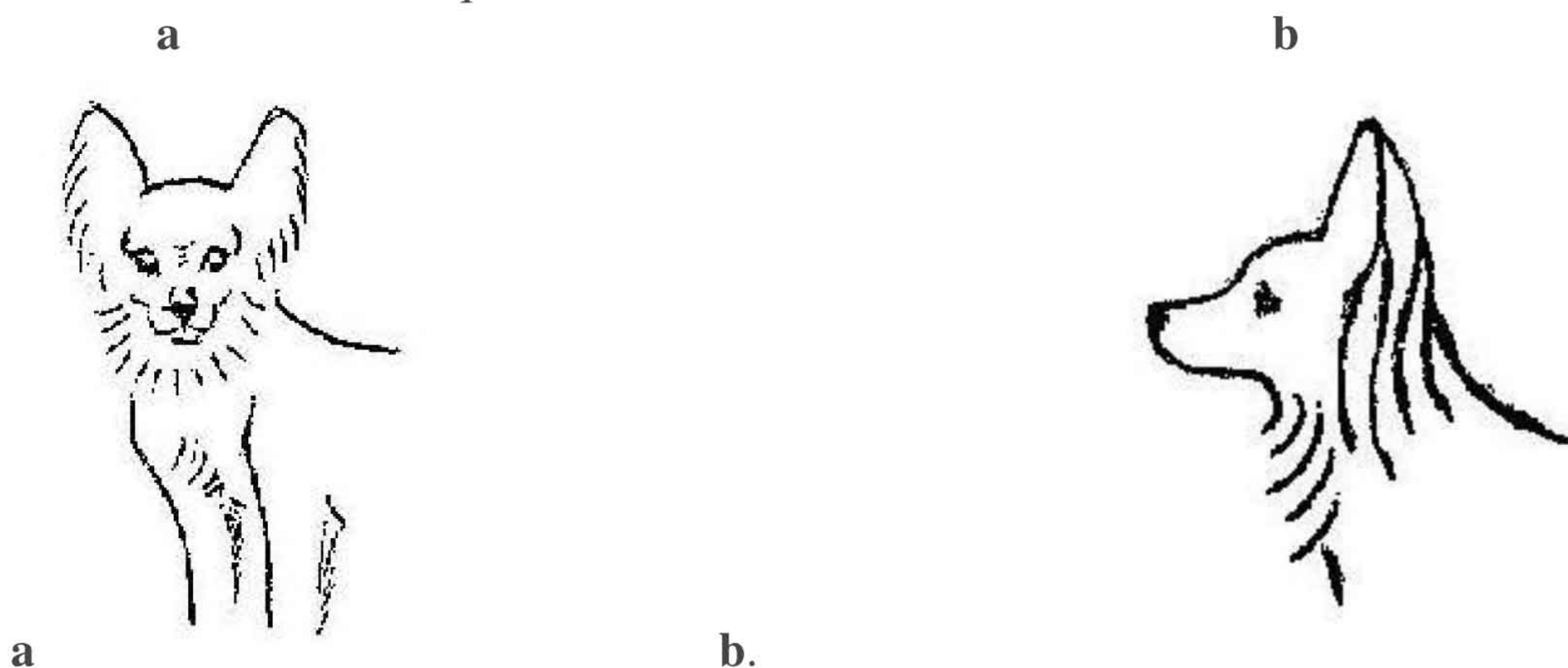


structure, in which the dog has distorted the movement of the forelegs. In other words, this release of the neck has a dog with straight shoulder. More details about this will be discussed below. With regard to the length of the neck, it may be secondary, long and short.



In **Fig. 22.** **a** - a good length of neck , **b** - a very long neck **c** - a short neck. Too long neck sometimes just seems such because of the excessive tenderness and overall "subtleties" dog. Accompanied by a short neck like a rough dog, so common and Dog normal constitution. In any case, the length of the neck should be such as to not spoil the impression of a dog, because, again, the length of the neck - very individual. In the long-haired normal length of the neck sometimes gets the impression that the neck is a bit short. This is due to the presence of a rich and long frill of hair on the ears.

In **Fig. 23** shows the long-haired dog, which in the presence of medium length neck is lost in the rich have acquired the throat and ears.



In **Fig. 23.** The neck is lost in the frills and fringes ears of a Long-haired Toy.

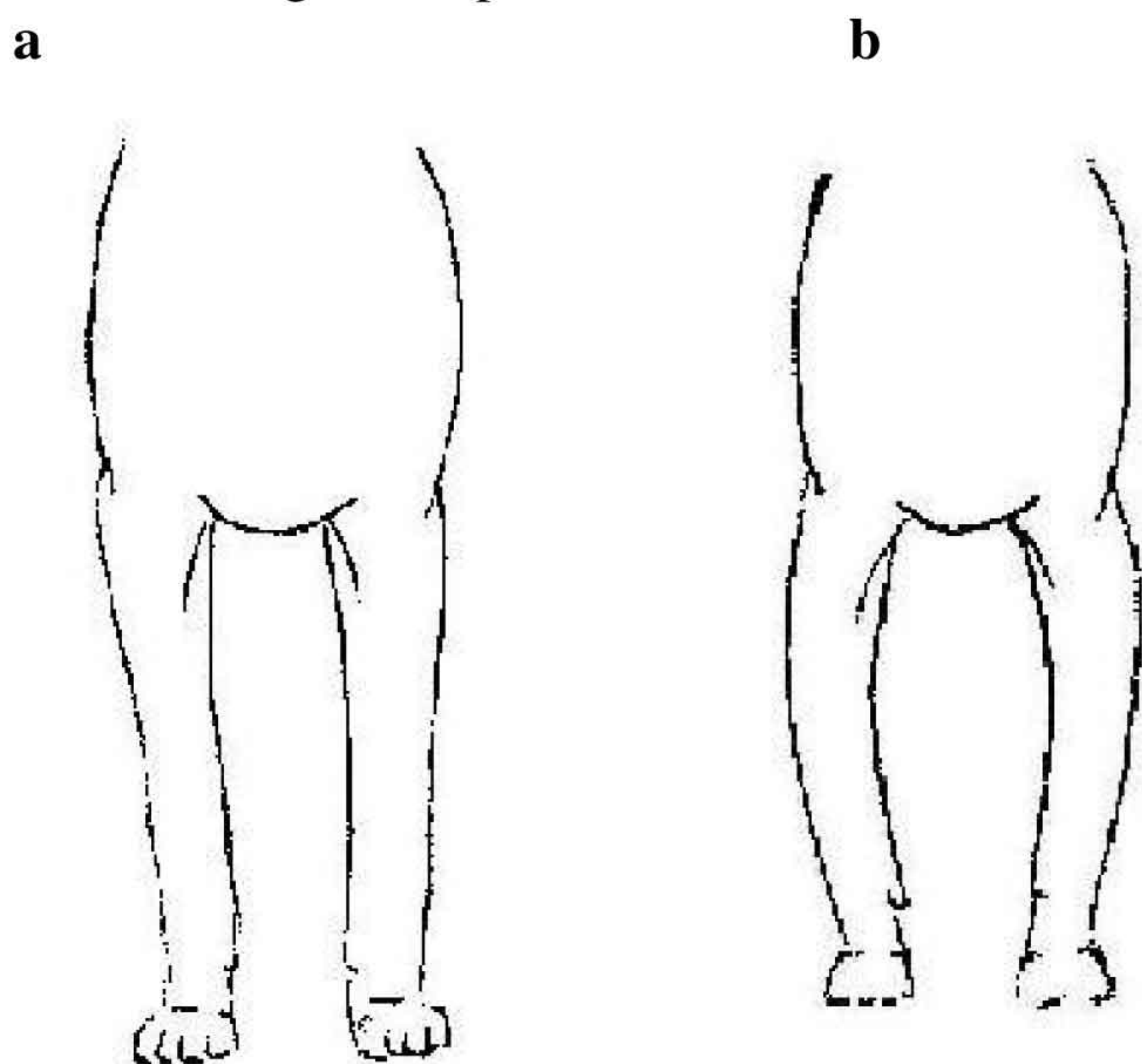
### **FOREQUARTERS:**

**Thin and lean;** seen from the front, the front legs are straight and parallel. **Shoulders:** The shoulder blades are moderately long and not too sloping. **Upper arm:** Forming an angle of 105 degrees with the shoulder blade. The length of upper arm is approximately equal to the length of shoulder. **Elbows:** In line with the body. **Forearm:** Long, straight.



**Carpus (Wrist): Lean. Metacarpus (Pastern): Almost vertical.**

So, what does "Thin and Lean" mean? The same thing as "when viewed from the front - straight and parallel" Look at the front limbs in **Fig. 24a**.



**Fig. 24.a** - correct front limbs are parallel to each other, **b** - curved limbs.

Of course, the Toy's front legs should be as in **Fig. 24a**. There should be no curvature, the joints in pasterns should not be too pronounced.

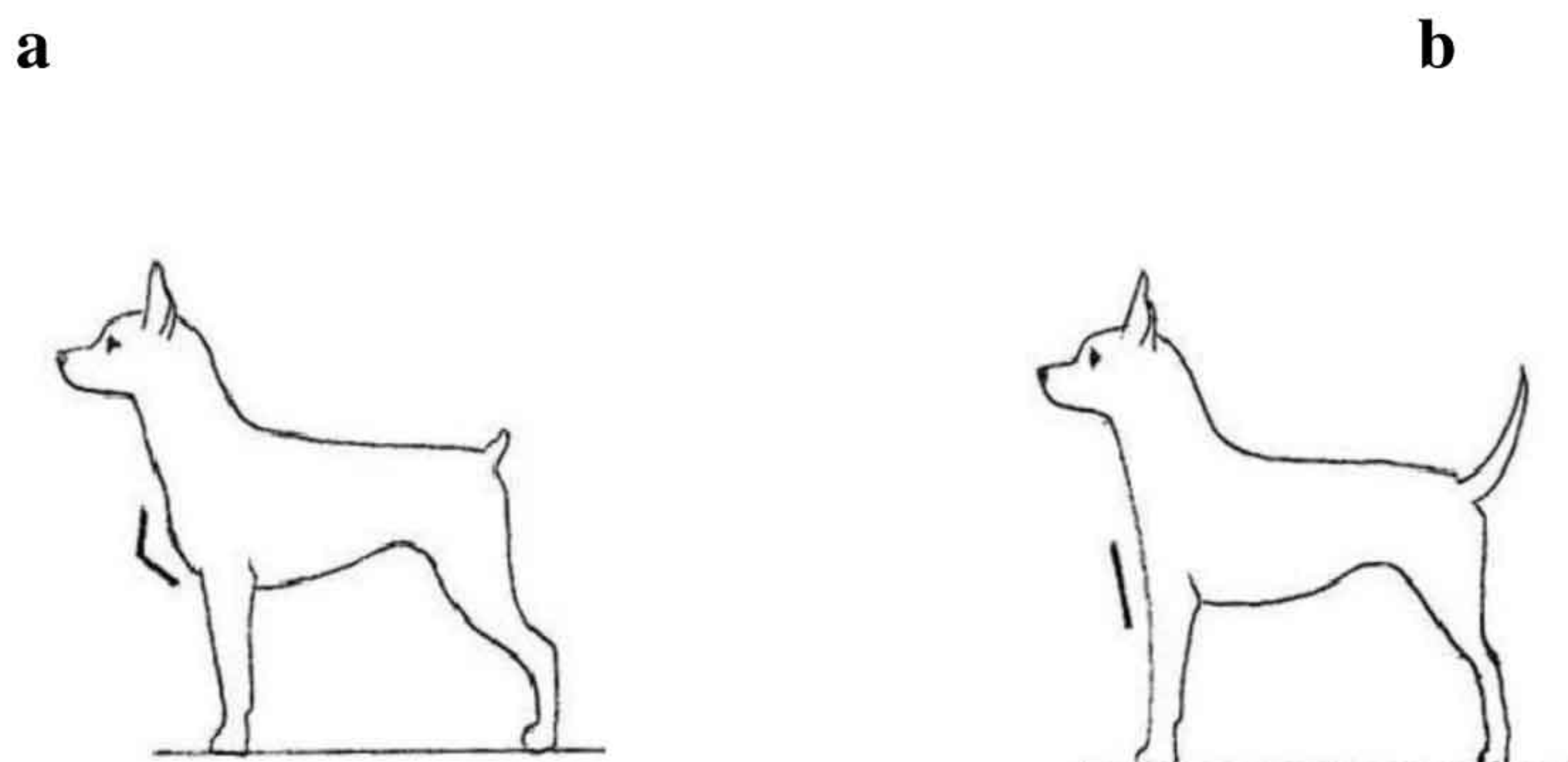
The front legs should be "dry"; that is, the skin should not be hanging in folds. You'll never see such a thing, anyway. The term "dry" also makes it clear that a Toy has rather thin limbs, both front and rear.

Further, "shoulder blade of moderate length, not too sloping." We considered the position of the shoulder blade in connection with the set of the neck. Problems with long shoulder blades usually don't occur; at least, I never met a Toy that had a problem with the shoulder blade of insufficient or excessive length. The slope of the blade is determined visually: one has only to look at the dog to figure out where the bone and where the upper arm is. The angle between them (glenohumeral joint) – in the Toy it must be about 105 degrees - determines the correct slope. With the right angle of the shoulder blade the Toy has pronounced withers, and the shoulder-blade angle is articulated.

Dogs have no clavicle; scapula and shoulder bones are connected directly to one another through the shoulder blade and upper arm. The shoulder bones are not outside, as in humans, but inside. About the shoulder, the Standard says: "shoulder is approximately equal in length to the shoulder blades." This means that visually the length of the scapula and that of the humerus should be the same. The angle, according to the standard, should be 105 degrees; in fact, it can range from 90 to more than 110 degrees. This is very individual and the dog should be regarded as a whole. Personally, I am impressed with the dogs with the angle of glenohumeral joint of 90-100 degrees. Dogs with an angle of 110 degrees or more have "straight" shoulder.



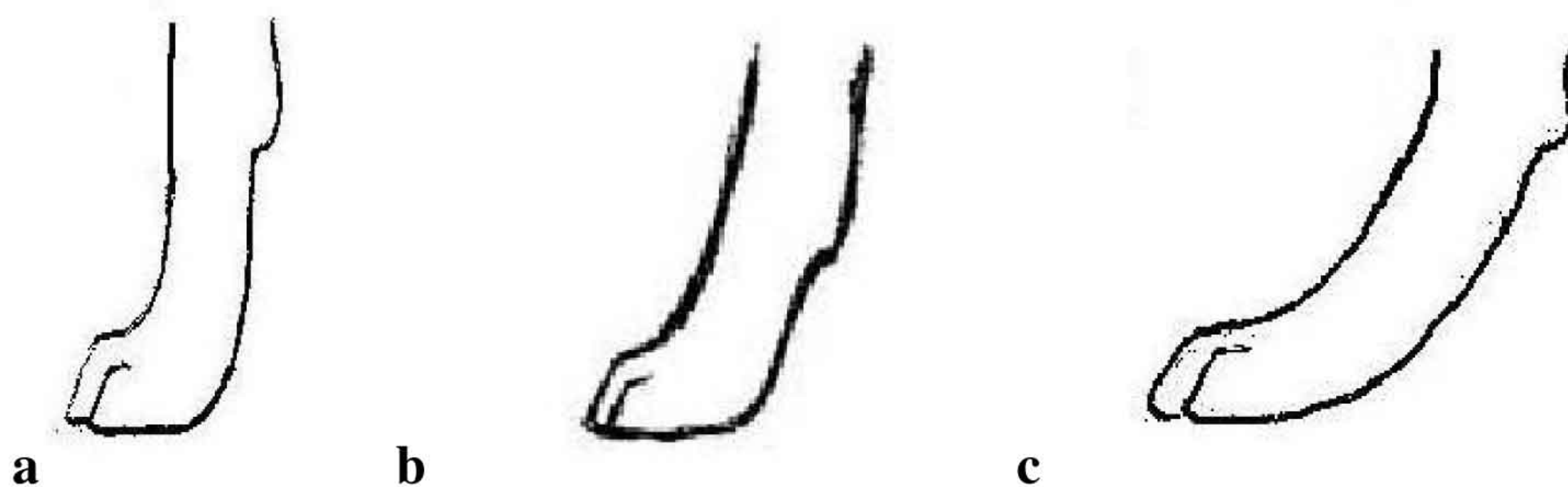
**Fig. 25 a - the angle of glenohumeral joint is visible; b - angle of glenohumeral joint is not visible, shoulder straight due to the short humerus.**



With the straight shoulder in a dog, the front line drawn from the throat to the feet of front limbs is straight. From the front such a dog looks good, but the movements of the front legs are not as good as we would like; the step becomes shorter.

Properly the limbs are described thus: " elbows pointed straight back, forearm long, straight, wrists dry, the pastern is almost vertical, feet are small, oval, arched, tight toes, pointing straight forward, claws black or matching the coat colour, pads firm, black or matching colour. " We've seen elbows in Fig. 9. Elbows should not stick to the sides, and should be pointed straight back. In young puppies inverted elbows are often observed as the chest has not yet completely formed. Still, this deficiency is undesirable even in puppies, because the dog can splay the elbows even with a good chest. Splayed elbows can be masked by skillful posture, but you cannot conceal it in movement.

**Fig. 26.a-** steep pastern, **b** - slightly sloping pastern, **c-** very sloping, weak pasterns.



This structure of the pastern shown in **Fig. 26 a** can cause trouble for the dog when it lands on its feet, as it has poor shock absorbency. On the other hand, the majority of dogs have steep pasterns, yet they live to a ripe old age without fractures. I do not claim this is the way it should be, but according to the Standard, the pasterns should be slightly sloped. The pastern in **Fig. 26 b** is sloped slightly, as expected, and the option c is not encouraged.

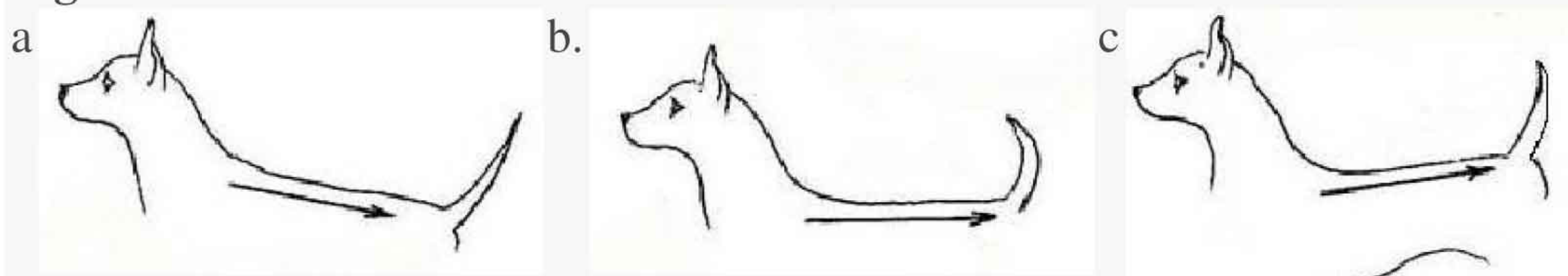


- **BODY:**

**Topline:** Gradually sloping from the withers to the root of the tail. **Withers:** Slightly pronounced. **Back:** Strong and straight. **Loin:** Short and slightly arched. **Croup:** The croup is somewhat rounded and slightly sloping. **Chest:** The chest is oval, sufficiently deep and not too wide. **Underline and Belly:** Tucked up belly and drawn up flanks, forming a nicely curved line from the chest to the flanks.

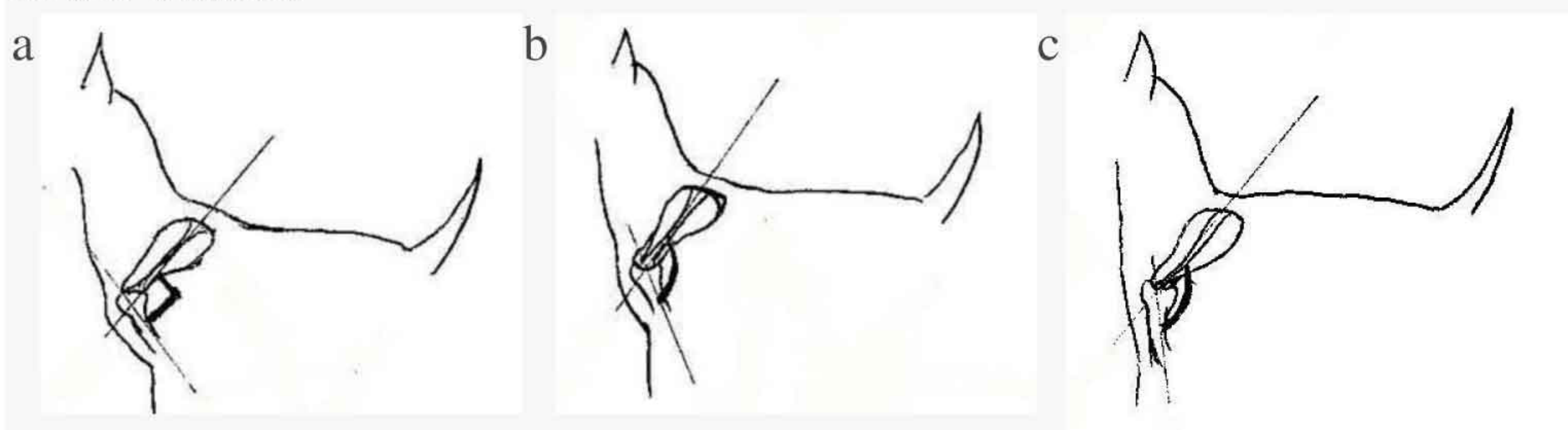
Top line falls gently from the withers to the tail - withers slightly prominent; - back strong and straight - loin is short, slightly convex; - croup is somewhat rounded and slightly sloping - chest deep enough, not too wide, oval in shape - bottom line: abdomen tight, up flanks, forming a nicely curved line from chest to groin.

**Fig. 27**



In **Fig. 27. a** - top line descends from the withers to the tail, **b** - top line parallel to the horizon, the - top line rises from the withers to the tail (overbuilt). Russian toy should be as in **Fig. 27a**.

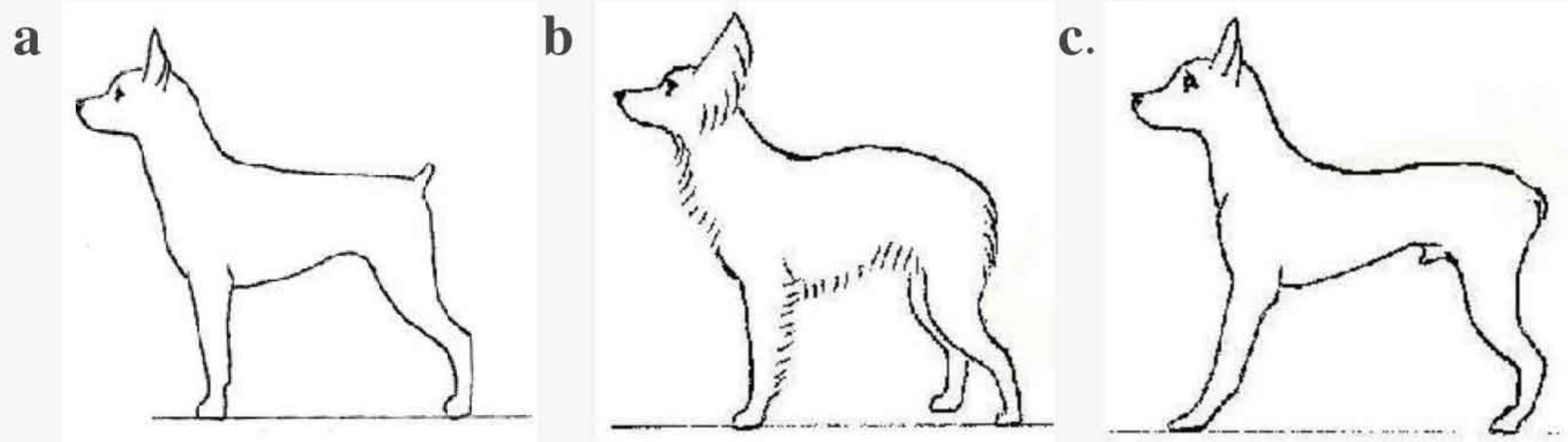
The topline consists of the withers, back, loin and rump. Withers - is the highest point in topline. This is the place where the neck goes into the back. The Russian Toy withers under the standard should be "slightly expressed," In **Fig. 28** depicts variants of the withers.



In **Fig. 28. Withers:** **a** - pronounced withers, **b** - average pronounced withers, **c** - not pronounced withers. The Toy should have withers as in **Fig. 28b**. . In **Fig. 28c** blade is upright, withers are not pronounced. **Fig. 28** also shows the angle between the scapula and the humerus. The back should be strong and straight, not hollow or roached.

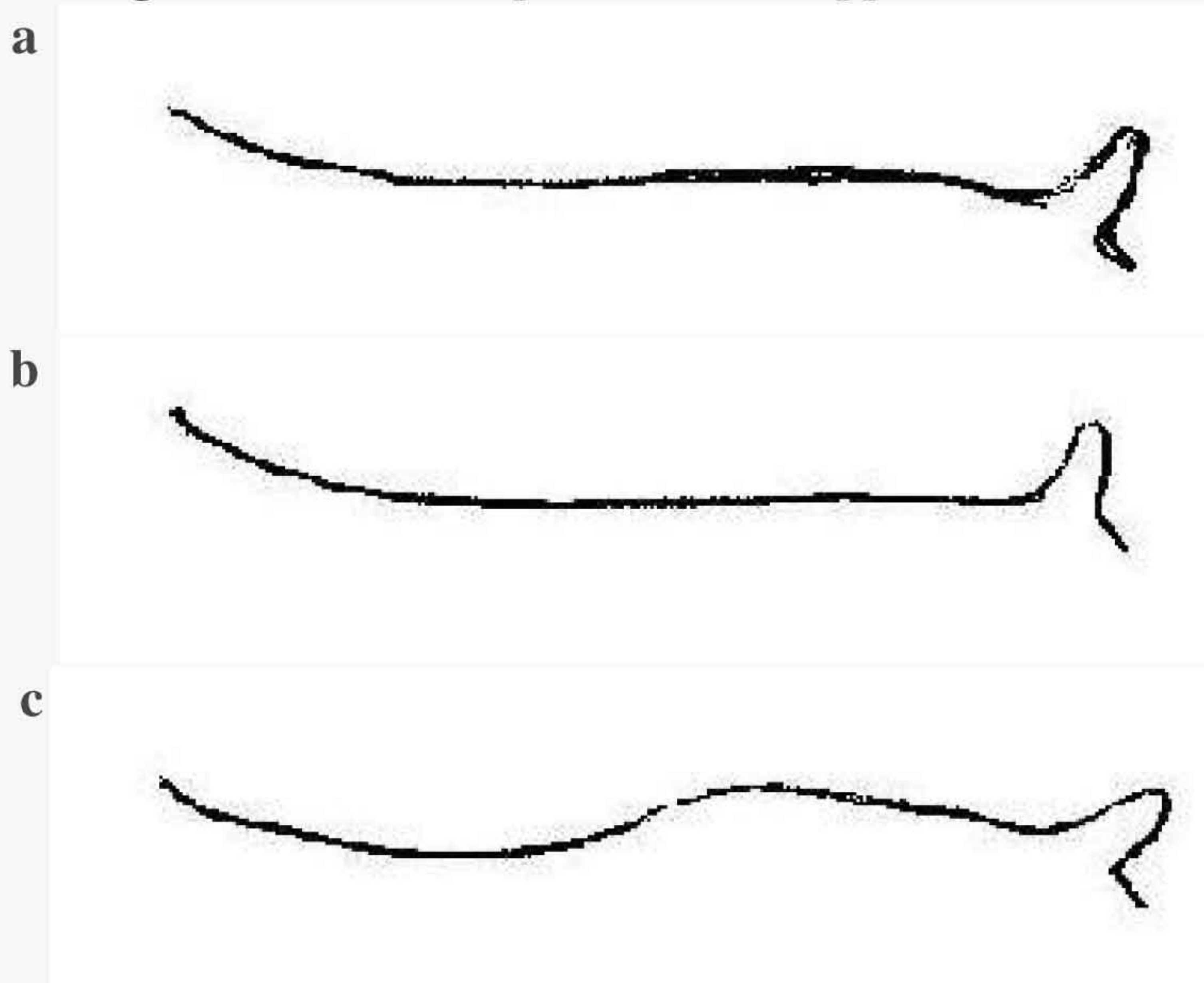


These features are reflected in **Fig. 29**.

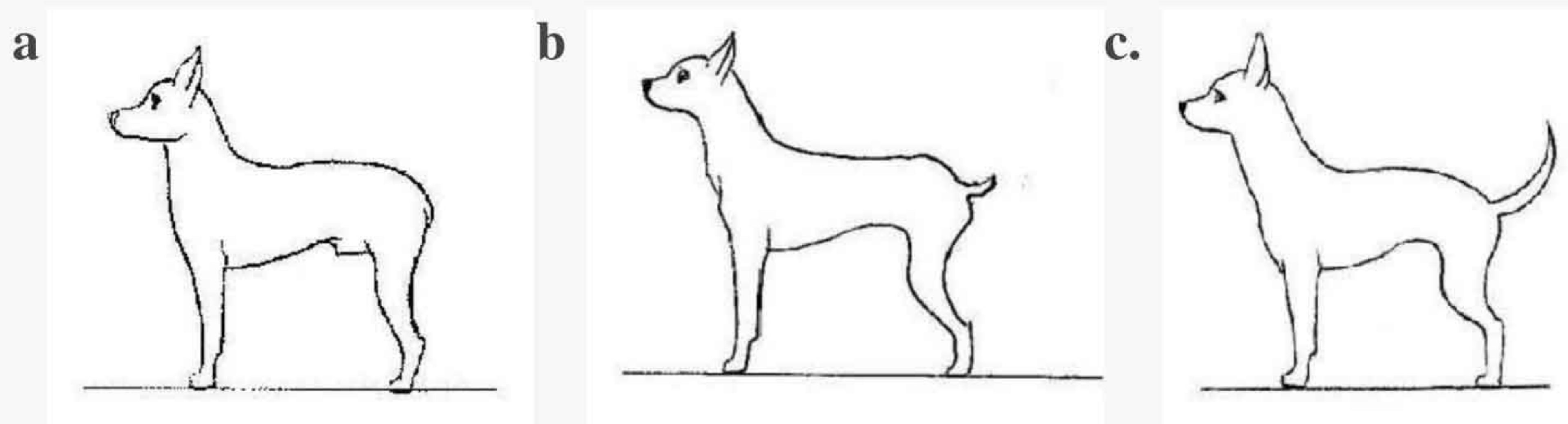


In **Fig. 29**. and **a**- straight back, **b** - roach back in **c** - back to the trough(sway back). The backs shown in **Fig. 29b** and **c** - are incorrect for the Toy.

In **Fig. 30** shows examples of what happens with loins.



In **Fig. 30**. and – (a) slightly arched loin, b - Loin "Slightly convex" . Option **b** is acceptable. Option **c** is unacceptable. - **Fig. 30**.

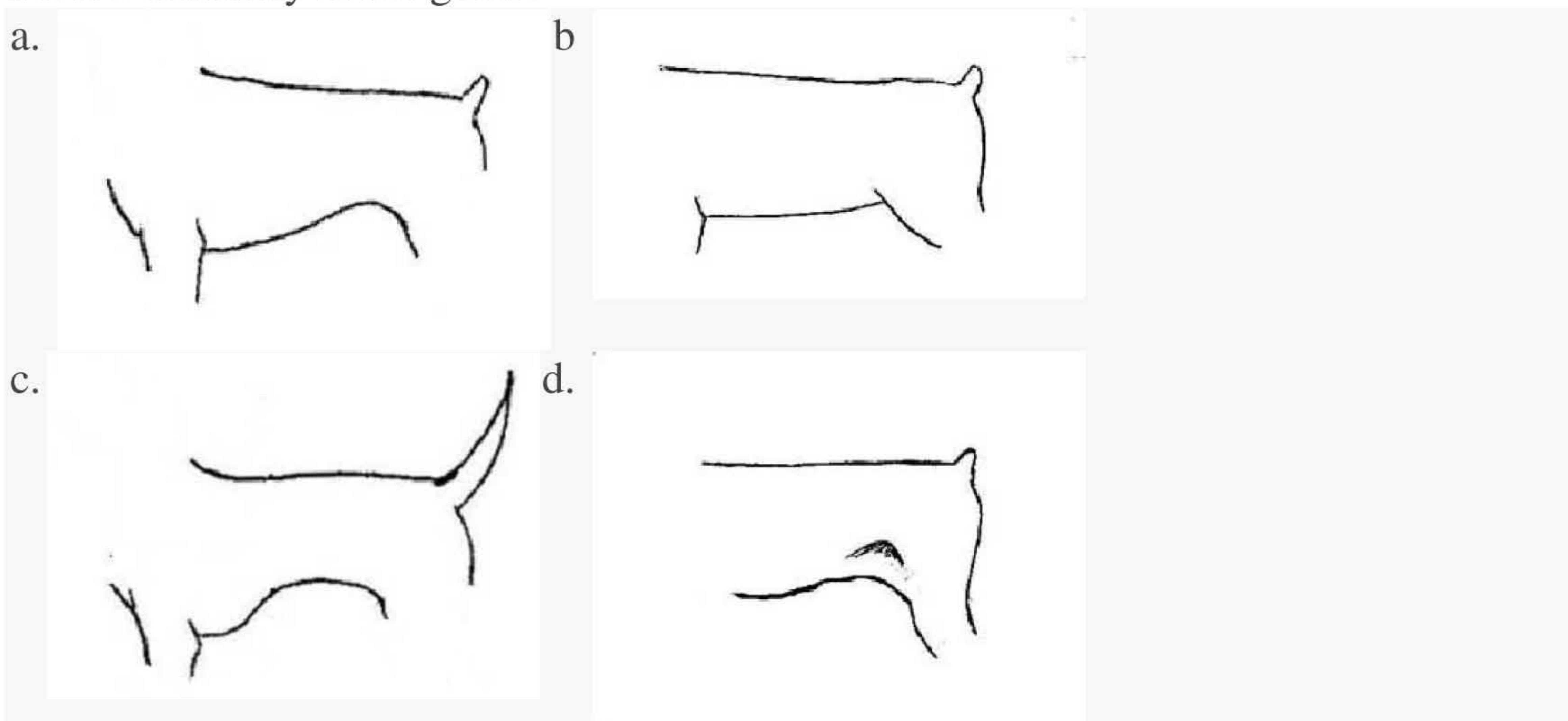


**Fig. 30** and – **a** the dog of the dome back, **b** - a dog's waist and straight sloping croup, in **c** - the dog with a beveled croup and loin dome. In **Fig. 30a**, the dog is too pronounced dome waist becomes too rounded croup. Croup can be "a little inclined," but the dog in **Fig. 30b** is tilted too much.. And while the waist of this dog is flat, the slope of the rump of its spoils. With sloping croup affects the movement of the hind limbs. The dog in **Fig. 30c** seems assembled from two different dogs.

We looked at the chest in the "general view". In contrast, the top line there is the under line. The standard line about the bottom reads: "Tucked up belly and drawn up flanks, forming a nicely curved line from the chest to the flanks." This means that a Russian



Toy should be pronounced waistline (belly tucked up) and the bottom line of the chest moves smoothly in the groin.



In **Fig. 31**. **a** - a beautiful bottom line, **b** – a poor bottom line – too straight. **c** – poor bottom line because of too short a rib cage. **d** This is one feature that is sometimes found in the Russian Toy. It is the existence of skin folds (skirts). In principle, nothing wrong with that, but, it unfortunately, somewhat distorts the bottom line and makes the dog even with very well angulated hind legs appear too heavy.

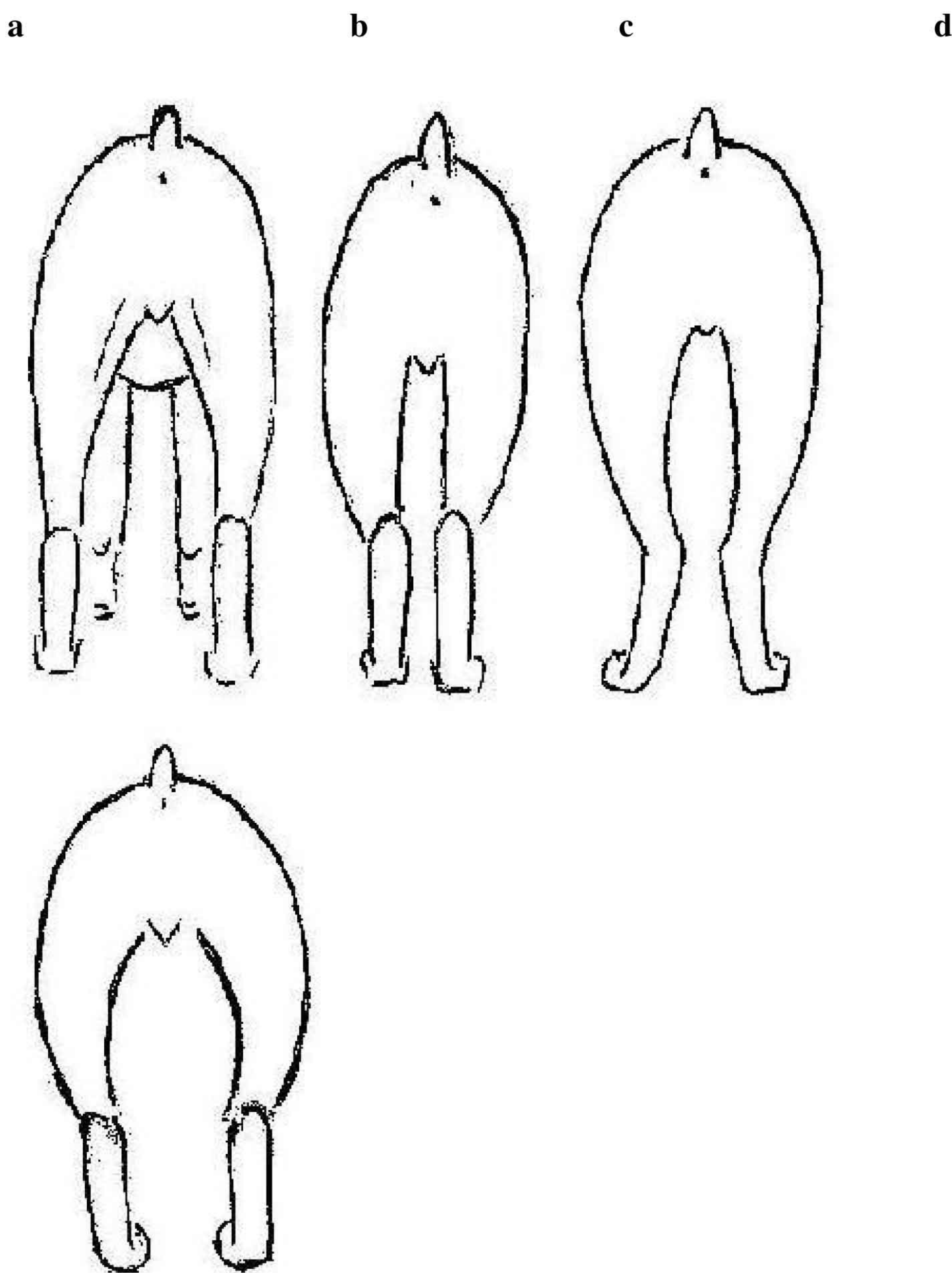
### **HINDQUARTERS:**

Seen from the rear, the hind legs are straight and parallel, but standing a little bit wider than the forelegs. Stifles and hocks are sufficiently bent. Upper thigh: Muscles are lean and developed. Lower thigh: The upper and lower thighs are of the same length.

**Hock:** Sufficiently angulated. **Metatarsus (Rear pastern):** Vertical.

So, the hind limbs can be like this: **Fig. 32.**





**Fig. 32. a - normal hocks, b - narrow hocks, c – cow hocks, d – barrel hocks**

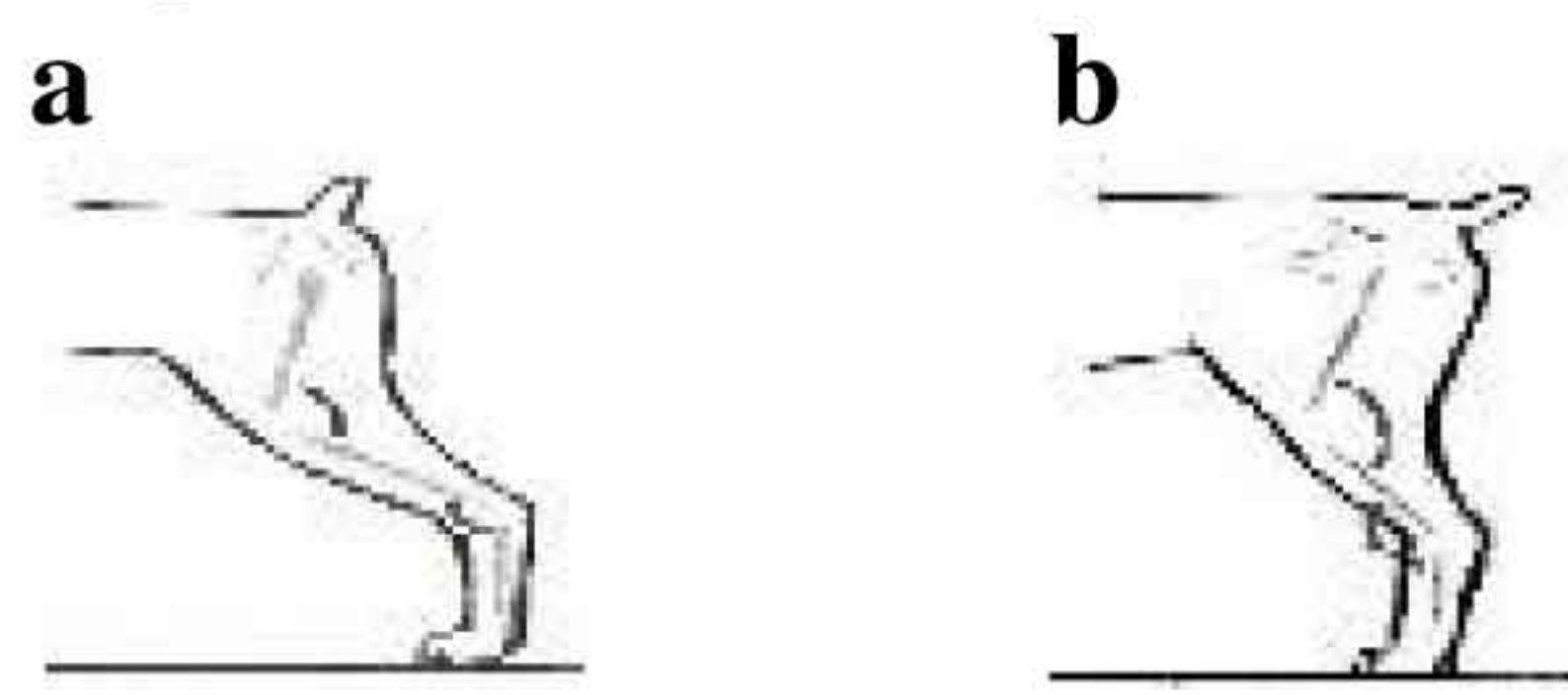
For a Toy, **a** is the perfect option. It is this version that the standard describes: the rear legs are straight, parallel, set slightly wider than the front legs. This feature must be preserved not only in the stack, but also in motion. Option **b** is fairly common; it is not the best, but not the worst. Options **c** and **d** are not welcome. In option **b** hocks are close together, toes turned out. In option **d**, femur and tibia are turned out too much; this provokes twist of the hocks and clubfoot. Options **c** and **d** have a negative impact on gait.

We now turn to the angulations of joints. The hind limbs are characterized by three joints: hip, knee and metatarsal. The hip is "inside", but the other two determine the



silhouette of the hind limb' and, therefore, decides whether the dog's angulation is correct or not.

**Fig. 33** shows the variations of joint angulations.



**Fig. 33: a - well-defined angulation; b - poor angulation.**

The angle between the femur and tibia bones forms a knee on the outside, and the angle between the tibia and metatarsus forms the hock. The more pronounced the knee and the hock, the better, because this dog will have a long step, a good range of movement and, therefore, a good way forward. Such a dog will follow you relentlessly for a walk and will be less tired, because nature bestowed him with such beautiful levers. This option is shown in **Fig. 33a**.

The angle shown in option **b** leads to the fact that the dog makes short, "crumpled" moves, he needs to make a greater effort in order to cover the same distance as the dog in option **a**. As a result, the dog gets tired quicker. When a dog moves, its hind legs are almost constantly under the body; such a movement is called "under himself." Therefore, the gait in such dogs is not flying, not precipitous, and too "composed", with poor forward movement. (**Fig.34.**)



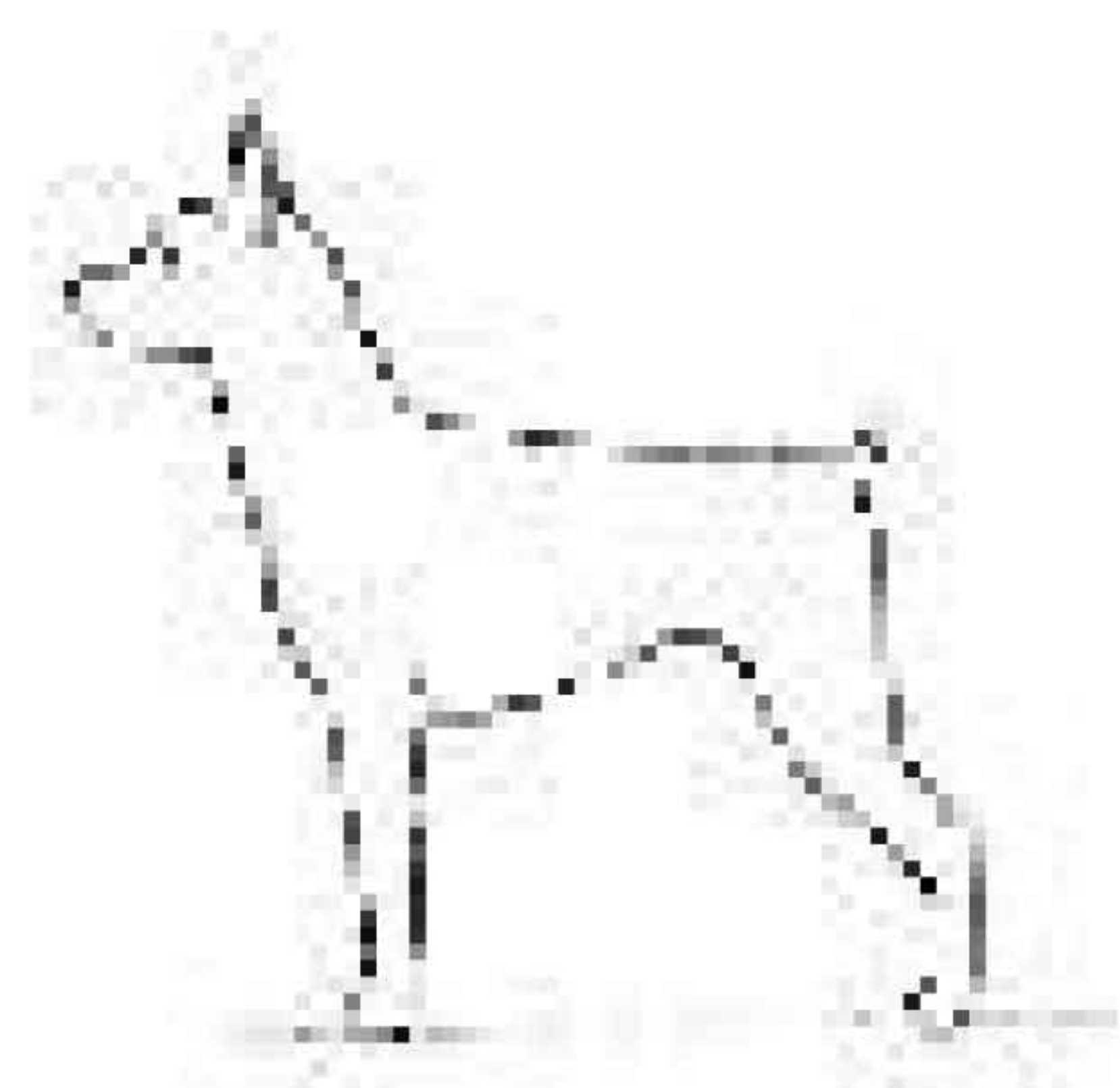
**Fig. 34. a - a good step, b - too short step.**

There are plenty of options. between **a** and **b** The angle of the knee and ankle joints can be moderately pronounced. And the concept of "moderate" is so loose that in each case the specific dog must be examined.

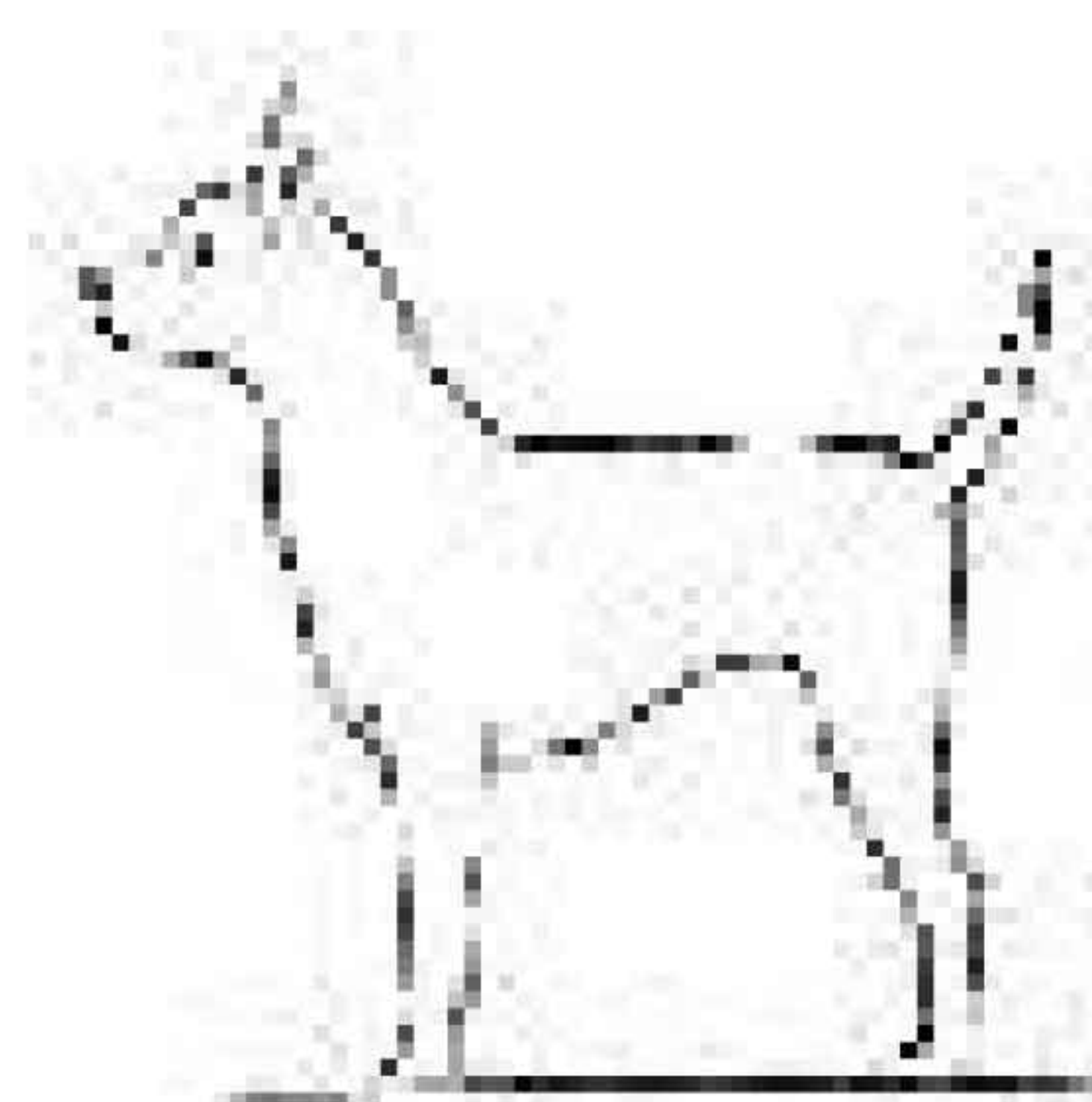
Good angulation is necessary for good movement. However, it often happens that the angles of the knee and hock are only moderately expressed, but the movement is more or less good. And vice versa - the angles are expressed very well, but the movement is waning, as if the dog does not know what to do with these beautiful limbs. It is also important to pay attention to match the angle of shoulder blade and upper arm and the angles of the hind limbs - **Fig. 35**.



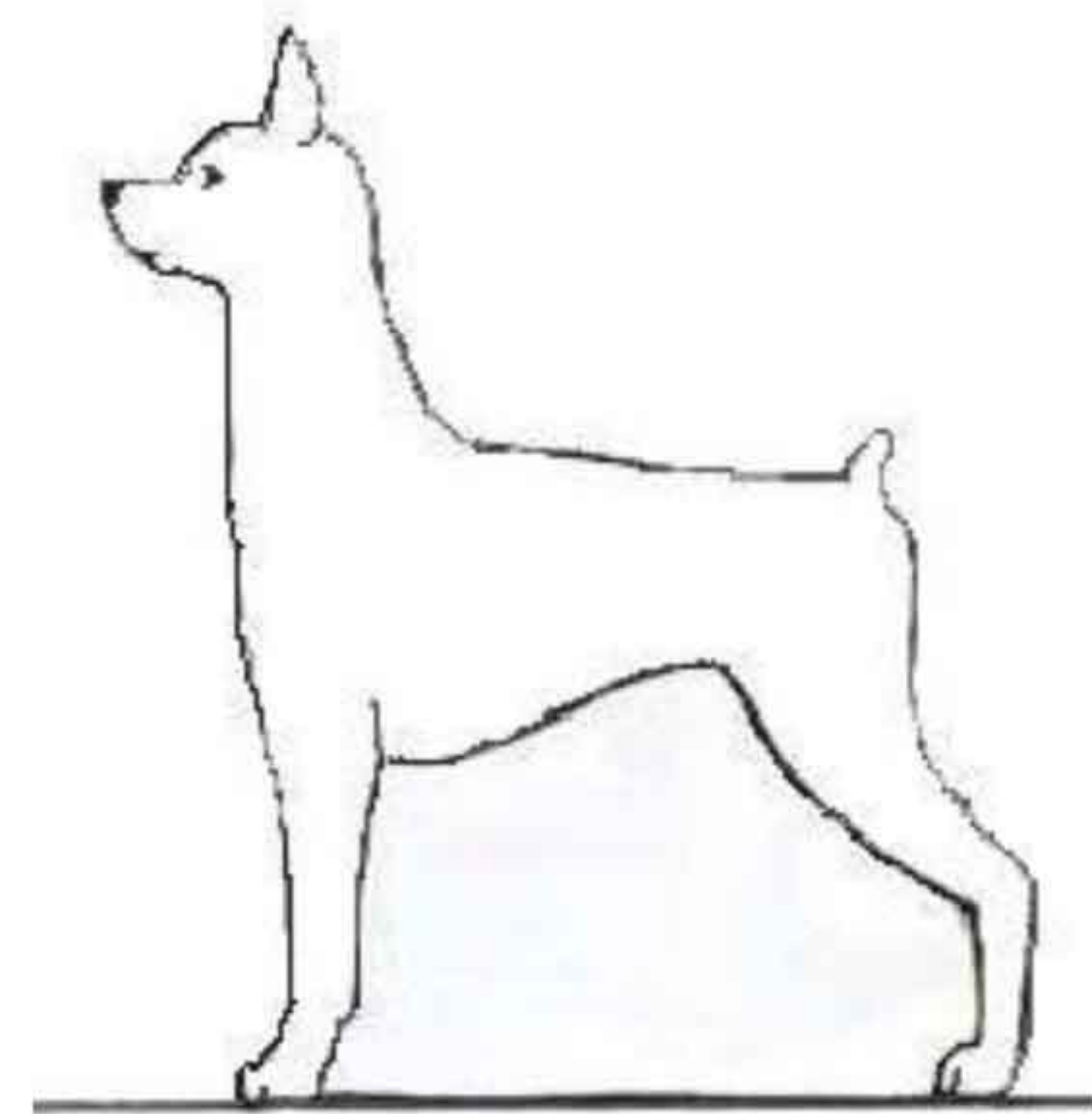
a



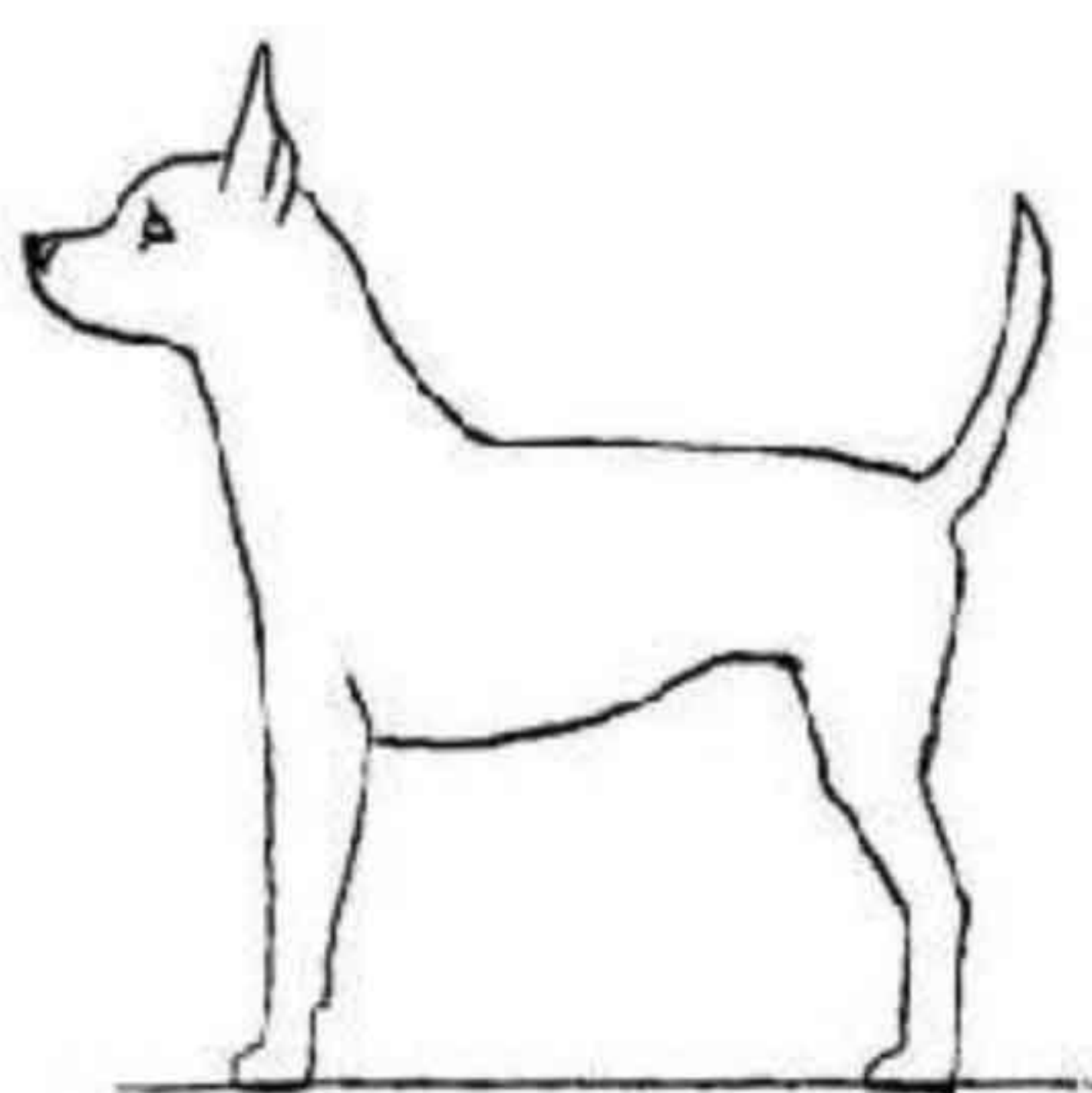
b



c



d



**Fig. 35. a - good angulation of the shoulder and the hind limbs, b - good angle of the shoulder, ill- pronounced angles of the hind limbs, c - straight shoulder, well-**



**defined angles of the hind limbs, d - straight shoulder, ill-pronounced angle of the hind limbs.**

If a dog has a wonderful shoulder angle and ill-pronounced angulation of the hind limbs (**Fig. 35b**), it is reflected in the movement by the fact that the front legs, "running away", and the rear ones cannot keep up, so they "mince". The dog in **Fig. 35c** does the opposite - they "mince" with the front legs, and the hind ones will be running. The dog in **Fig. 35d** has insufficient angulation of limbs, the front and rear. In this case, its motion will not be as good as of the dog in **Fig. 35a**, but at least front and rear will match each other.

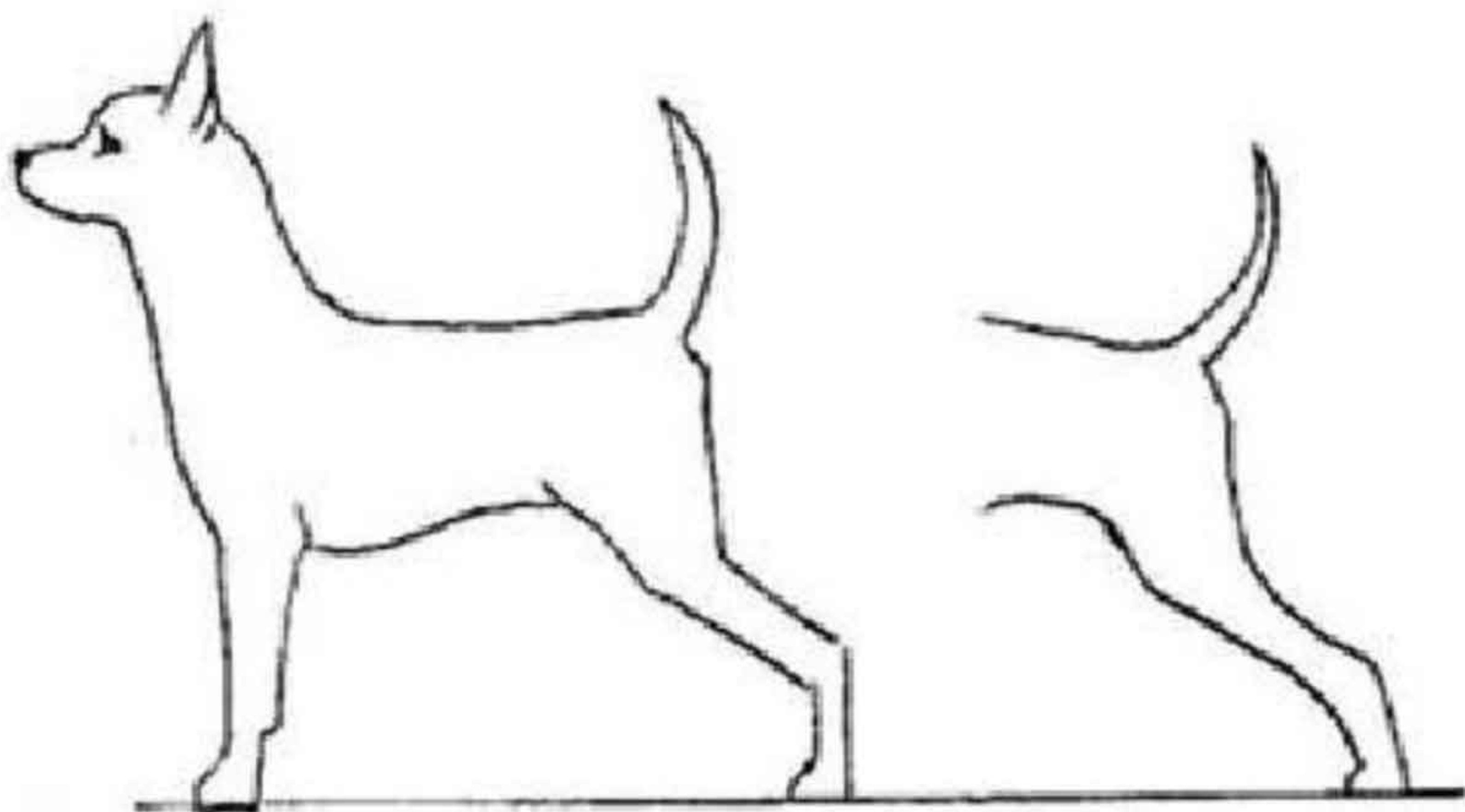
The standard says about the thigh: "the thigh has dry and developed musculature." This means that, even though the Russian Toy is a small dog that does not mean that it should be soft and not have good muscles. Both smooth - and longhaired Toys should have well-developed muscles that not only have a positive impact on the form of hip, emphasizing the prominence of the muscles of the latter, but also are an indicator of good health and activity of the Russian Toy. Further, the standard says: "leg length equal to the hips." This means that the lower and upper thigh have to correspond to each other - **Fig 36a**.

**a**



**b**





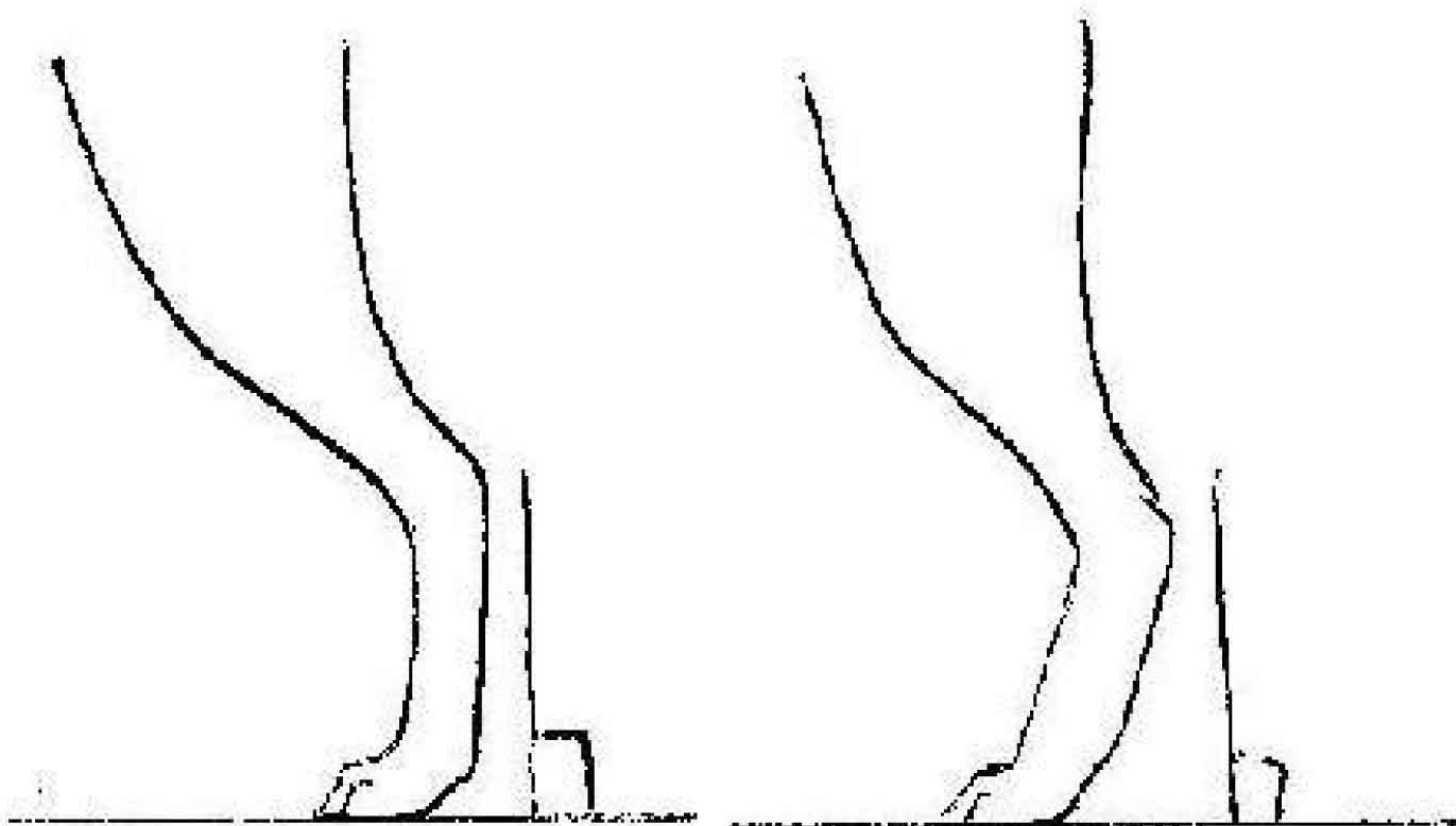
**Fig. 36. a - the lower and upper thighs are equal in length, b – the lower thigh is too long.**

To see whether the lower and upper thighs are equal in length, we must align them, as shown in **Fig. 36a**. When the lengths of the lower and upper thighs are not equal, the hind limbs are unbalanced. **Fig. 36b** is an example of the lower thigh being longer than the upper thigh. In this case, the dog that has a good angulation of hind limbs as well must somehow compensate for this length. Therefore, it raises its croup and becomes high in the rear.

Next, we read: "hock with adequate angles." I repeat that the hock joint is formed by the tibia and metatarsal bones. This angle is a beautiful component of the hind limbs, so the standard allocated a separate line to it. About the rear pasterns in the standard says: "pasterns placed vertically to the ground." **Fig. 37** shows the possible positions of pasterns.

**a**

**b**





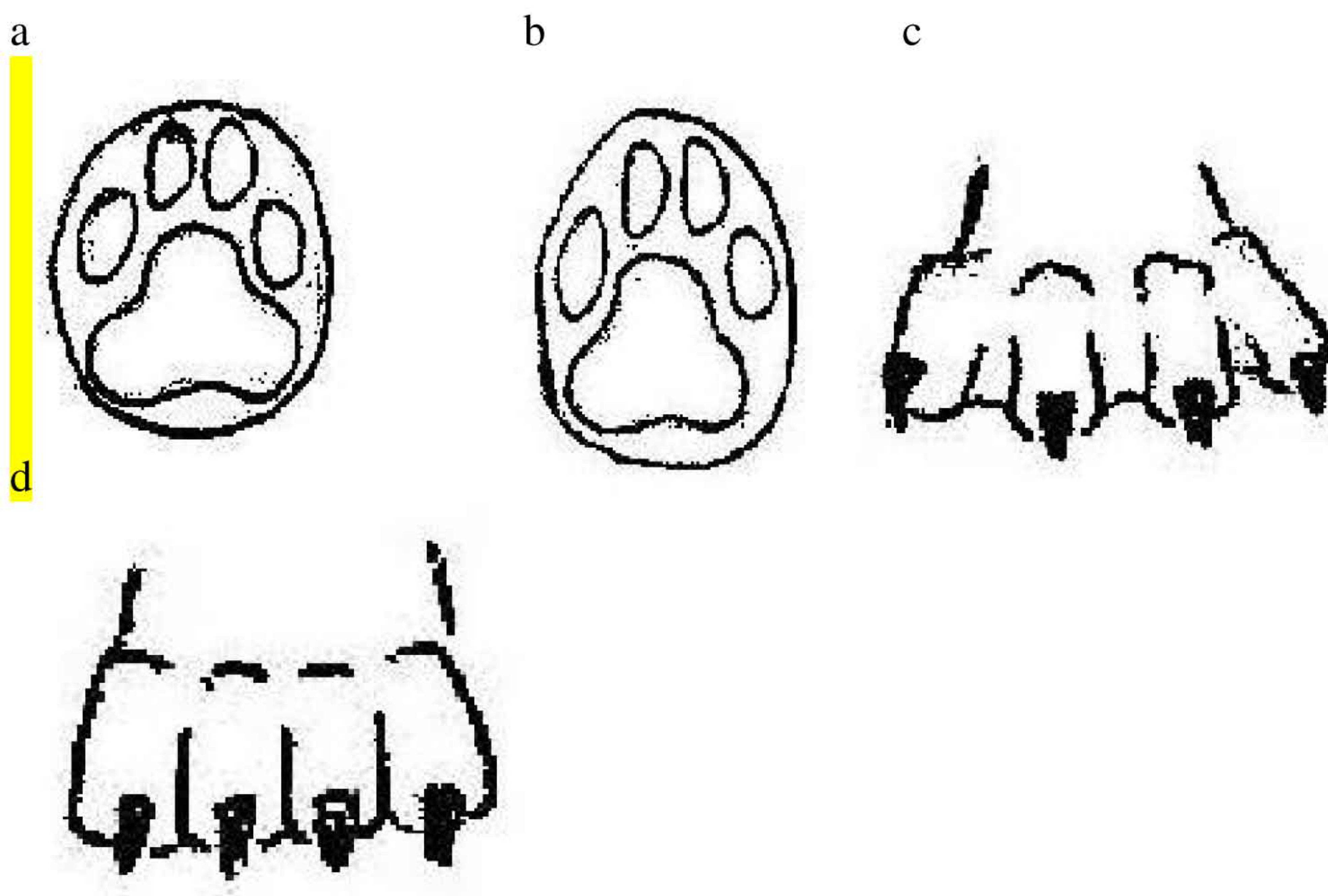
**Fig. 37. a - a steep pastern, set vertically to the ground, b - oblique pastern.**

The rear pastern in a Russian Toy should be as in option **a**. One can come across a dog as in option **b**, but usually this is due to inept stack. In general, there are almost no complaints about the pasterns in Toys.

- **FEET:**

**Forefeet:** Small, oval, turning neither in nor out. Toes well-knit and arched. Nails and resilient pads are black or match the coat colour. **Hind feet:** Arched, a little bit narrower than forefeet. Nails and pads are black or match the coat colour.

"The feet are small, oval, arched, tight toes, pointing straight forward." "Feet" means the paws, not the entire forelimbs. The fact that the feet should be small, I think, is clear. But the shape of feet - oval -fundamentally important parameter. The possible feet shapes are shown in **Fig. 38**.



**Fig. 38. a- round paw, b - oval paw c - splayed paw, d- arched paw.**



Toy should have oval feet. All toes are to be collected "in a pile," be strong; such a paw is said to be "arched" or "tight." If the dog has a weak, splayed foot (c), then pebbles, sand, etc. can get in between the toes causing irritation to the dog. To prevent splayed feet, the dog must walk on a dense regular (gravel, earth) and solid (asphalt) ground. Feet are directed forward, inside or in part (**Fig. 9a, c**). Feet should be directed straight forward; turn -out ("toes-out") or clubfoot are not encouraged.

About the paws, "paws arched and slightly narrower than the front ones; claws and pads are black or matching colour." The "archedness" of paws and the colour of toes and pads are discussed in the article about Forequarters. And here is an interesting addition that the rear paws are slightly narrower than the front ones. Indeed, it is. Why? Because the primary function of the front paws - to support the body, and the main function of the rear ones - to push the body forward. In order to support the body, the greater surface of the paws is required, that's why the front paws are slightly bigger

## • TAIL:

**Docked** (only two or three vertebrae are left), carried high. In countries where tail docking is prohibited by law, it is left in its natural state. **Undocked: sickle tail.** It should not be carried lower than back level.

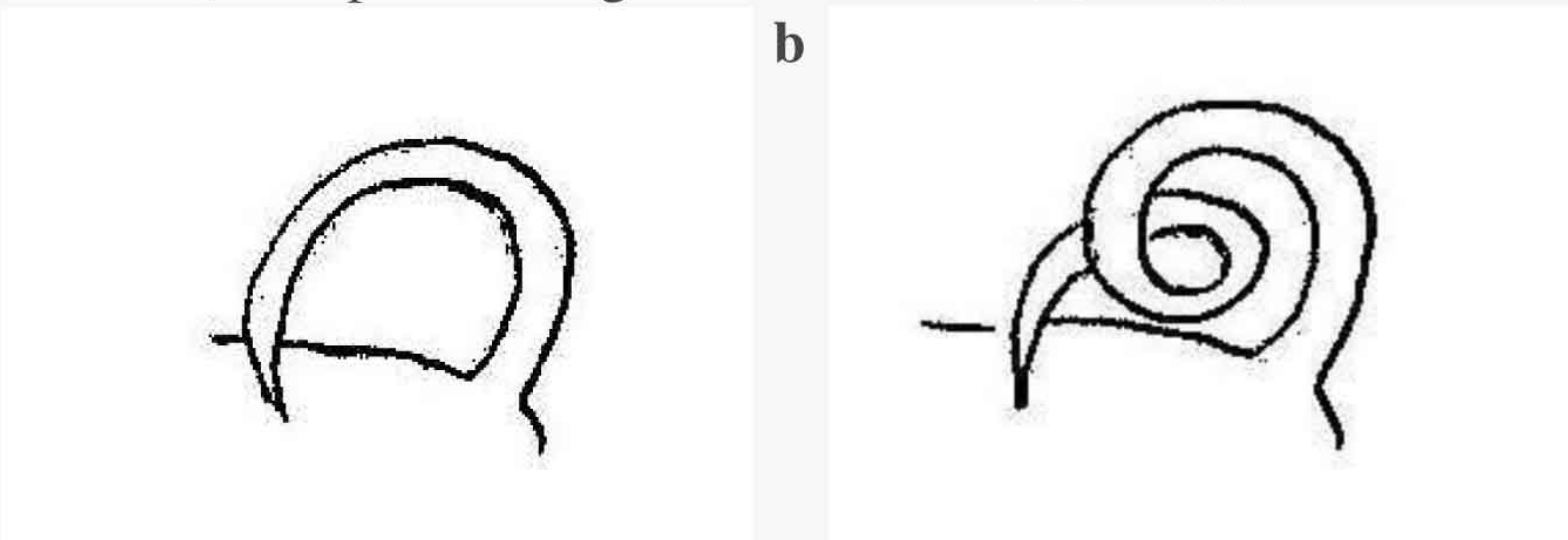
Unfortunately, the standard is silent on the tailset. **Fig. 39** shows the options:



In **Fig. 39: a** – well set tail, **b** - is too high set tail, in **c** - low-set tail, **d** - tail between its legs. The most acceptable option is **a**. Option **b** in its uncropped version would be in a ring. Options **c** and **d** are undesirable: You can create a whole gallery of uncropped tail. Here are some of them - **Fig. 39**.



In **Fig. 40: a** - well set tail with a sickle, the tip above level of back and **b** - a well-planted tail sickle, the tip is also higher than the back, **c** and **d**, both low set on sloping croup. **a**



In **Fig. 41 a** - too long a tail tip crosses the line of the croup, **b** - too long, the tail is



twisted corkscrew. I think that spoils the appearance of a Russian Toy. The tail should be moderately long. do not hang a log and do not stand as a straight stick, and a saber bend, fly high. It is desirable that the tip of the tail was above the level of back. If the tail is bent towards the head, its tip should not cross the line of the rump. Tail throughout its length, must not have swelling, deformity, vertebrae do not have to "walk" to each other. But if the tail - the only drawback, and the dog in general good, it probably is not the

## • **GAIT/MOVEMENT:**

**Easy, straightforward, fast. No noticeable change in the topline when moving.**

Movement is a very important part in the description of a dog because, even being a very cute animal, the Toy has zero use without movement. The Toy is not burdened with abundance of hair or too short limbs, to not be able to move quickly, easily and with a flourish (although, for example, a dachshund moves very nicely on his short legs). Many judges give preference to the dog which, though not so good in stack up, is positively transformed in motion. Proper motion is the key to a good structure, and a good structure is a pledge of endurance and health.

So, we read about the movement: "Easy, straightforward, fast. No noticeable change *in the topline when moving*". "Easy" means that the dog has good angulation at fore and hind limbs, which allows the dog to move with a good grip of space and speed. That is, there is no impression that something is hurting the dog, or as Luba Muradov aptly put it, there is no impression that his legs are tangled by an invisible thread so that he has to make an effort in order to move. "Straightforward" means that, when moving in a straight line, the dog's body does not deviate in any direction and his hind feet match into the foot prints of the front ones, not side by side. This method of travel is the most productive. It is fast which means that we are dealing with an active, lively dog. Therefore, its movement should not imply that it is indifferent to everything. The fact that the silhouette of the Russian Toy in stack differs very little from that in motion, in principle, is taken as a given, since the appearance of Russian Toy is not concealed by the long hair; moreover, this implies that there should be no such picture: that it looks beautiful on the stand, but in movement – terrible (and vice versa).

In general, movement is a very rich topic for discussion. Dogs who are "moulded" in the stack sometimes are quite distorted in movement. Dogs that are so-so on the stack are transformed in movement. Ideally, the dog looks equally good both in the stack and in movement.

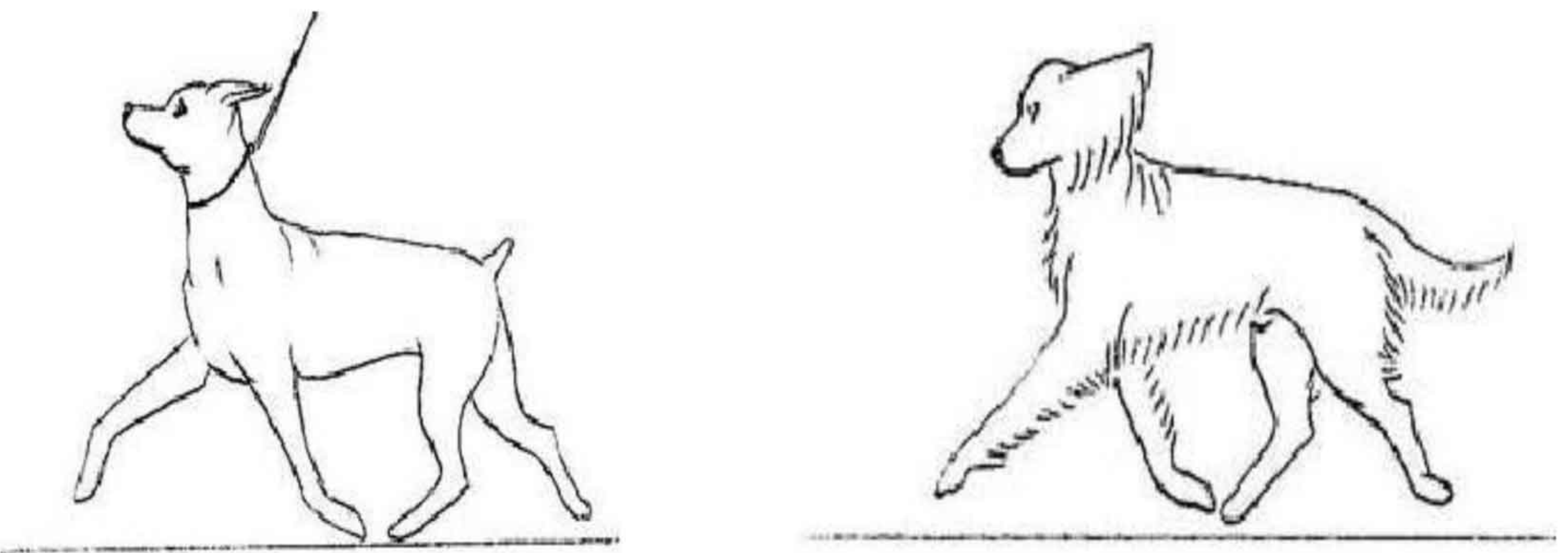
Let's look at some examples of dogs in movement.

**Fig. 42. Good movement: a – smooth-haired dog, b - long-haired dog**

**a**

**b**

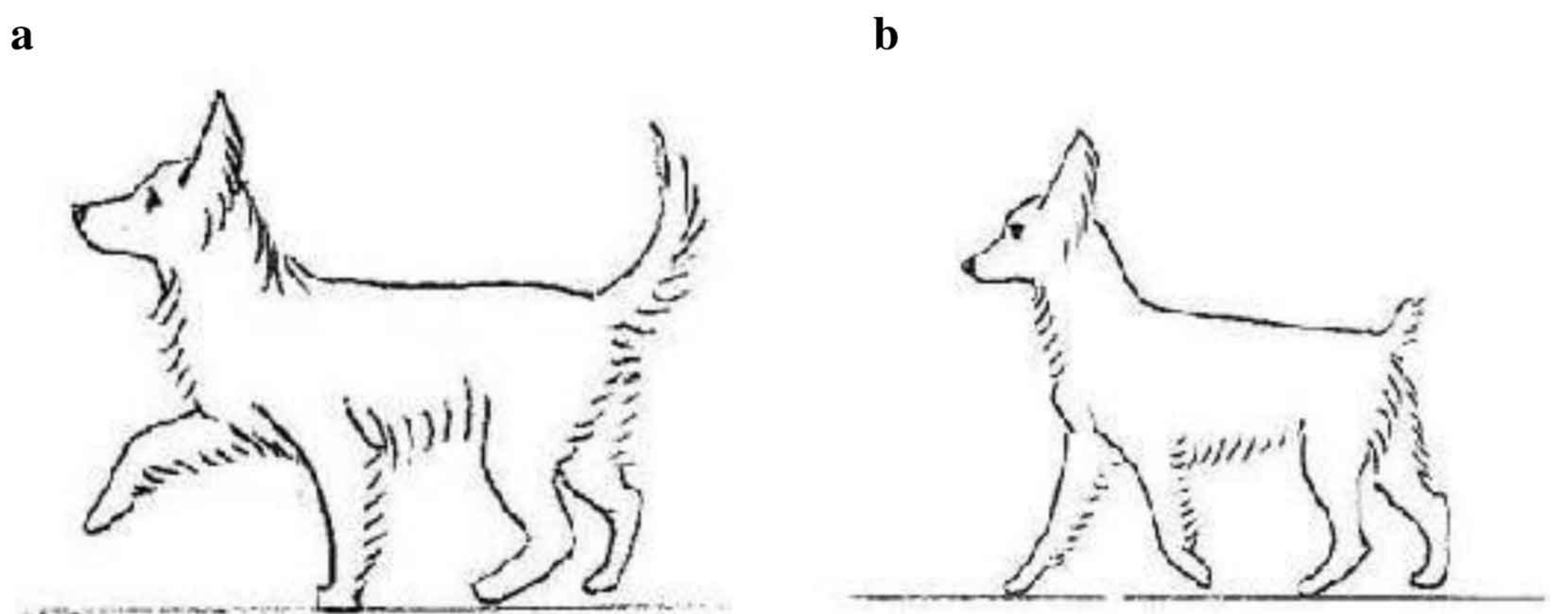




Both dogs are moving very well: they have wide stride of the front and hind limbs in trot, straight slightly sloping top line; they hold their head high, project confidence and ease.

One can only wish that the dog in option **a** not to pinch the ears. The same applies to dog in option **b** that is very good, but, by throwing back his ears, covered his neck with the long fringe. And I would like to wish he carries his well set tail merrily.

These dogs have excellent anatomical structure. Yet, even without such good qualities, the good movement can still be present - **Fig. 43**.



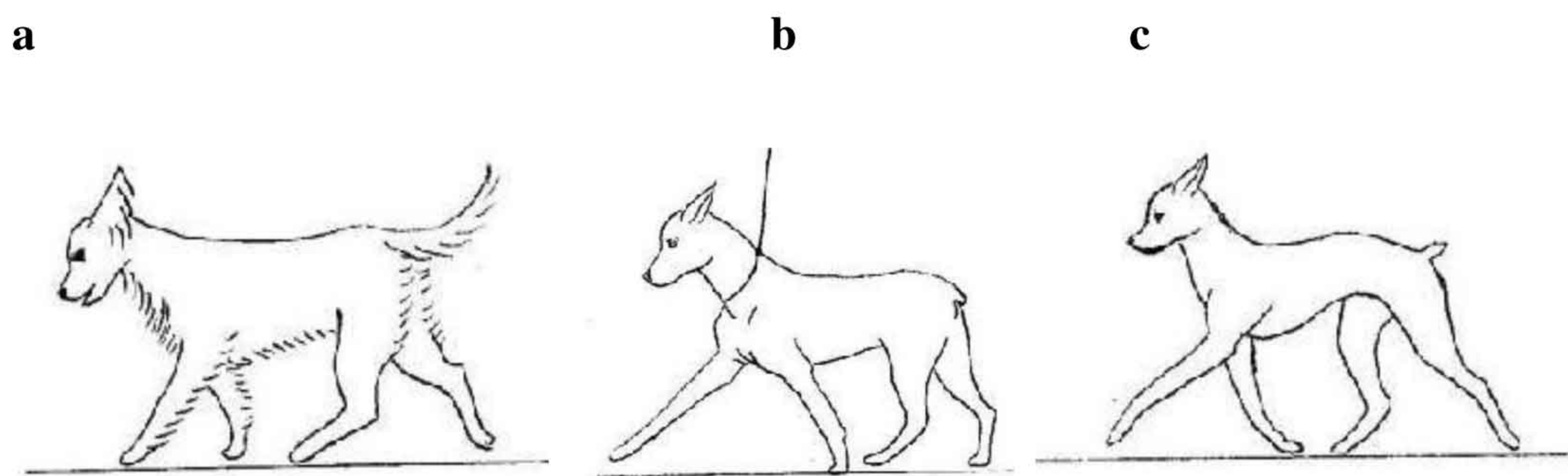
**Fig. 43. Good movement: a - short limbs, b - missing joints.**

Both of these dogs demonstrate confidence and good mood. The dog in fig. **a** has too short limbs, but with good angulation; plus he carries his head so well, has a good top line, the tail is properly planted and carries so well that many judges certainly would be sold on that. The second dog has the same advantages (long, well shaped neck,



sloping top line, correctly planted "merry" tail), but he does lack in angulation of front and hind limbs. As a result, his steps are short and he will have to do more movements to cover the same distance as the dog with good angulations. However, this dog is lucky: the angulations of front and hind limbs, though not perfect, are still balanced. In the end, though his trot is not very wide, the overall look of this dog is so good that not too pronounced angulation does not spoil it.

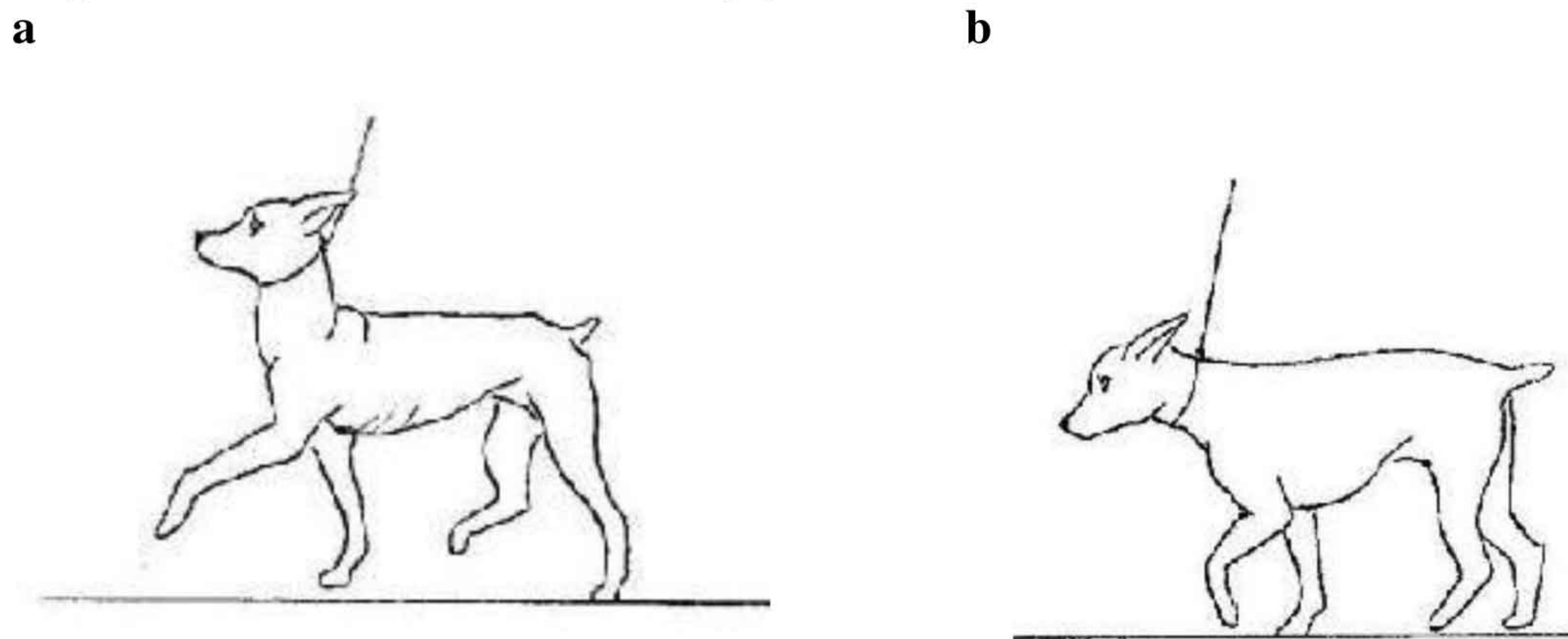
Let's consider the dogs in **Fig. 44**.



**Fig. 44. Features of the movement in dogs.**

The dog in option **a** has his front legs shorter than the hind ones, probably due to the short shoulder. On the stack, he definitely would have the angle between his shoulder blade and upper arm of more than 105 degrees. In movement it is manifested in the fact that the dog "falls onto his front." His front legs are walking and rear ones are running. He is uncomfortable so he lowers his head, mouth open; it takes a lot of effort to move in the right rhythm. If we make him hold his head higher by pulling the leash, his front legs will be lifting up too high, the dog will be "drumming" in the air. The dog in option **b** has a different problem - his front and hind limbs are of good length, but the angles of the front are better than the rear. This dog is not balanced, his front legs are ready to run, but the rear has nothing left to do but to "mince". In contrast to these two, the dog in option **c** has the limb length and angles matching each other, but what is he doing with his top line! This is the case when the dome in the lumbar region can be fixed in the stack, but in the movement - alas! - it wouldn't go away.

**Fig. 45** shows the variations of faulty gait.



**Fig. 46. a – high stepping -incorrect, of mood.**

**b – absence**



The dog in option **a** raises his limbs too high. He spends the effort not to advance forward, but on prancing. Despite the presence of moderately pronounced angulation of joints, straight top line, high yield of the neck, this dog's appearance is spoiled by his thinness and too "composed" gait.

The dog version of **b** is either not feeling well, or very tired. In general, this well-built dog moves like a donkey on a rope. Head down; the handler's tight leash cannot pick him up. The dog is not so much moving at a trot, as trying to walk fast. So the lack of ability or desire to move in the ring may be the reason for getting the last place at a show, not because the dog is ugly, but because he could not present himself. Some dogs in the ring begin to sniff every blade of grass, grain of sand and so on.

- **COAT & SKIN:**

- **SKIN:**

**Thin, dry and tight-fitting.**

- **COAT**

**HAIR:** There exists two types for the breed: smooth-haired and longhaired.

**Smooth-haired:** short, close-lying, shiny hair, without undercoat or bald patches.

**Longhaired:** body is covered with moderately long (3-5 cm), straight or slightly wavy hair, close-lying, which does not hide the natural outline of the body. Hair on the head and on the front part of limbs is short and close -lying. Distinct feathers on rear side of limbs. The feet have long, silky hair which completely hides the nails. Ears are covered with thick, long hair forming a fringe. Dogs of more than 3 years have such a fringe, which should completely hide the outer edges and tips of the ears. Body hair should not look tousled nor be too short (less than 2 cm.).

Thus, the skin is said to be "thin, dry, and tight on body." This is, probably, clear to understand. Skin of the Russian Toy is, indeed, thin, it has no wrinkles or flabbiness (dry) and is tight on body. It should be added that the skin must be clean, free of dandruff and other shortcomings. Skin colour in the standard is not considered.

About the coat, it reads: "two varieties: smooth-haired and long-haired. Smooth: the hair is short, skintight, and shiny, without undercoat and bald patches. "

Firstly, I would like to add a word about undercoat. The undercoat is still there. The smooth-haired variety has very little of it, almost nothing. The Standard says nothing about the undercoat in the long-haired variety, but it is present in it and this is what



dogs shed when molting. Molting is fast, it's not as intensely expressed, as in short-haired dogs (when it only takes to pat the dog for the hair to fall off him)

Secondly, the bald patches. In smooth-haired dogs bald patches are quite common, sometimes even in very beautiful dogs. Perhaps, bald patch is not such a great fault. But in black- and -tan and brown- and- tan dogs, the lighter-toned skin shows through the receding hair and completely bald patches (on the neck, lower chest, legs, head, ears) which looks ugly. In dogs with red-coloured coat the skin is lighter, so bald and receding hair patches are not so striking. In smooth-haired dogs with red-and-black colour (fawn colour) I have not seen a bald patch once. Many judges overlook even large bald areas. I'm not sure if this is correct. I believe, it is the same as in the case of the drop ears in long-haired breeds; other things being equal, to choose between a well-coated one with drop ears and a poorly coated one with prick ears is as difficult as to choose between a stately smooth-haired dog with bald patches and a smooth-haired "crooked" one with no bald patches.

Thirdly, the length of hair in long-haired variety. Among the long-haired toy dogs one can find the dogs with the hair length of 3-5 cm, as well as 2 cm and 7 cm; I mean the hair on the body, not the ears, tails, frills and fringes. Thus, in the withers in long-haired dogs the coat hair is longer and it is quite normal. And in some this is not very pronounced. Some dogs have the same hair length on the whole body, but on the rump somehow longer. Whatever it is, most importantly, the hair must not hang to the sides parted, like in the Yorkshire Terrier; it should not be curly, messy looking, and the wave - if there is one - should be only present on the ears and little-pronounced. I know of a dog who had very long body hair when adolescent, with not only parting on the back, but also hung from the sides. By three years of age it all disappeared, and the dog now has well-fitting, even if longish, coat not covering the contours of the body. I also saw Dalmatian Toy: his hair was only 4 cm long, but curled around the body, like a in a clipped poodle. This dog was about 5 years old. It is clear that the curls are going to stay.

In any case, ideally the long-haired dogs should have a pronounced fringe on the tail and ears, and on the body the hair is shorter, straight and flat, which I think creates the best effect from elegant ears and the tail.

The length of fringe in the long-haired toy is very individual. In general, the judges give very little attention to frills and tail and the focus is on the ears.

- **COLOUR:**

**Black and tan, brown and tan, blue and tan. Also red of any shade with or without black or brown overlay. Richer shades are preferable for all colours.**

I believe, everything is clear here. I would like only to add that tan in tan dogs can be very individual in the colour (bright red, pale red, etc.) as well as in extent, and in the pronouncement. Ideally, the tanned area has clear boundaries separating it from the main colour of the coat. Sometimes, this boundary is blurred; sometimes, there is too much tan; yet, sometimes the tan looks as if is diluted by the base colour, it is not as bright as if "smeared", with fuzzy boundaries. Sometimes the tan is so weak that it seems that it is a pure black or pure brown dog. Usually these dogs have a few red hairs in their eyebrows and under the tail.



In principle, there's nothing wrong with that, all varieties of tan have the right to exist, but the brighter and clearer it is pronounced, the better. All other things being equal, the dog with correct, rich tan will win.

Redness of any shade is a separate topic. At present, pale red (fawn) dogs have begun to appear. This is normal red colour, which can be more or less intense. Sometimes, in smooth-haired dogs, the red is so pale that it looks like a white dog. In fact, it is not. Suffices to put next to a Toy, for example, a White Poodle, to understand that this is not a white, but a light – light- yellow one. These dogs should not be disqualified, but they have less chance to win, because such fading does not become the dog. However, this is at the discretion of the judge.

Sometimes in long-haired toys, the hair on the bridge of the nose or between the eyes or grows in the opposite direction in the form of more or less pronounced bands. There are also twists. Usually, judges disregard this feature.

- **SIZE AND WEIGHT:**

**Height at withers:**        Dogs and bitches: 20 – 28 cm (tolerance +/- 1 cm)

**Weight:**                Dogs and bitches: up to 3 kg.

- **FAULTS:**

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog.

- Timid behaviour.
- Level bite or incisors sloping forward.
- Semi-pricked ears. This condition in longhaired dogs with heavy fringes is permissible but not desirable.
- Low set tail.
- Presence of bald patches in smooth-haired dogs.
- Too long or too short hair on body of longhaired dogs.
- Small white spots on chest and toes.
- Solid black, brown and blue colours. Tan markings too large or with dark shadings.

- **ELIMINATING FAULTS:**

- Aggressive, overly shy.



- **Overshot, pronounced undershot. Absence of 1 canine; absence of more than 2 incisors in either jaw.**
- **Hanging ears.**
- **Short legs.**
- **Many bald patches in short-haired dogs.**
- **Longhaired dogs: absence of fringes on ears and presence of curly hair.**
- **White coat, white spots on the head, abdomen and above metacarpus; large white patches on chest and throat, presence of brindle markings.**
- **Size over 30 cm or under 18 cm.**
- **Weight less than 1 kg.**

**Any dogs clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities shall be disqualified.**

***NB: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.***

## **JUDGING THE RUSSIAN TOY.**

Height at the withers for males and females 20-28 cm, weight in males and females - to 3 kg.

What if the dog fits into the framework of growth, but it does not fit the weight? At dog shows the dogs are not weighed. Is it only on specialised (monobreed) ones, and then only rarely. Often at first glance, the dog looks big, but after weighing its weight is less than 3 kg. Or vice versa; a dog seems a little fragile, but the scales show 2.5 kg, and even more. All this is very individual. Only overtly large and overfed dogs get penalised. However, by and large it would be necessary to penalise too thin ones as well.

Shortcomings. All these shortcomings will be disregarded, depending on each case. If, for example, in a long-haired dog the only drawback is the presence of non-erect ears, it has a chance to get the highest score and everything else that he is entitled to. If he's got few other flaws, even if lightly pronounced, his chances decrease, yet do not disappear. In addition, a lot depends on the judge. That is why in one show the dog with bald patches would win his class, yet in another they will only give him a mark. One judge would overlook a white mark on his chest, and another will pick on that. One judge will pick on the low-set tail, and another wouldn't pay attention to it. Dogs without shortcomings do not exist. All champions of the World, Europe and different countries have weaknesses. But these are expressed so little, and the strong qualities are so outstanding that the dogs' shortcomings are forgiven. Also, the dog is evaluated not only by himself, but also in comparison with others; so when the owner wonders why the dog with bald patch was given the first place, and his dog with exactly the same flaw was not given, it does not mean that the judge was blind. Because, perhaps, the other dog had some very bright features that impressed the



judge, which made him forgive his bald patches. Yet another judge might not be impressed with these features.

Faults. The faults differ from the shortcomings in that it doesn't matter how strongly they are expressed. The presence of a fault places a dog outside exhibitions and breeding. The fault does not make the dog a mongrel. If a Russian Toy possesses any (or several) of the listed faults it does not cease to be a Russian Toy breed. The only thing that can be considered as not a purebred option is its colour, because the closest sister breed to Toy - Chihuahua - has any amount of white colour in the standard, as well as brindle (black stripes on a red background). The birth of a white puppy dog with lots of white or with brindle makes one to question the origin of the dog.

However, with the white colour is not so simple.

The standard finishes with a comment: "Males should have two visibly normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum." If the dog is missing one or both testicles it is a disqualifying fault.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**TRANSLATION** : by R. Triquet and J. Mulholland.

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL LTD sincerely thanks Anastasiya Pogrebinskaya, Vice President of National Club of Breed "Russian Toy", Moscow, Russia, for permission to use the script and illustrations used throughout this Breed Standard Extension.

I, Elena Plevaya

NAATI [National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters]  
accredited

translator No.38929 am the translator of a copy of this document presented to me and I state that it is a true translation to the best of my knowledge and belief. No warranty as to the authenticity or otherwise of the original document is given.