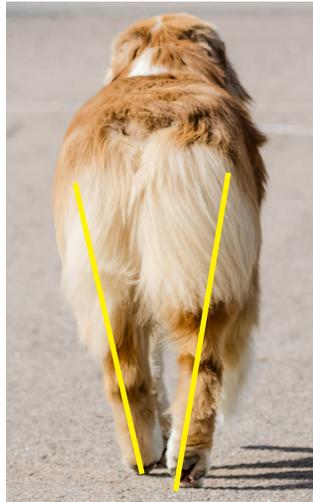


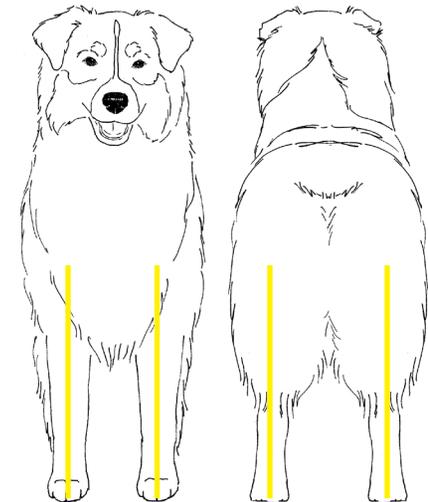
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CONNIE DUNCAN PHOTO. HART I'S SHORTY BRED BY NORMA HART



AUSSIES

AKC and FCI: Fore- and hind legs move straight and parallel with the center line of the body. As speed increases, the feet (front and rear) converge toward the center line of gravity of the dog while the back remains firm and level.

ASCA: As speed increases, both front and rear feet converge equally toward the centerline of gravity beneath the body. The top line remains firm and level.

MAS

AKC and FCI: Fore- and hind legs move straight and parallel with the center line of the body; as speed increases, the feet, both front and rear, converge toward the center line of gravity of the dog, while the back remains firm and level.

Correct movement

- Legs move in a straight column of support from the shoulder and hip to the corresponding feet. This enables the dog to move with powerful, efficient thrust from the hindquarters.
- Joints do not twist when the dog is trotting.
- As speed increases, the feet (both front and rear) converge toward the center line of gravity, resembling a "V" shape.
- The legs also move in parallel planes. When viewed from the front, as the dog moves, the front leg on one side of the body hides the rear leg on the same side.

Correct stance

FORELEGS drop straight and perpendicular to the ground. Aussies and MAS should have a chest wide enough for sufficient lung capacity, but not be so wide as to interfere with gait.

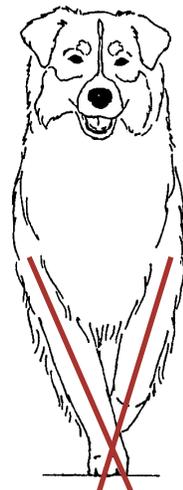
HOCKS are short and parallel to each other when viewed from the rear. For greatest strength and stability, the hind legs should appear as two straight columns of support that are parallel to each other and set just slightly outside the hip sockets.

Incorrect movement

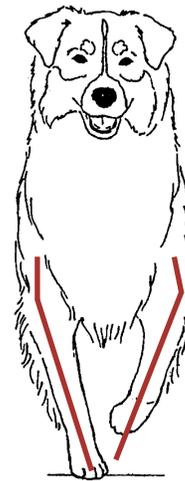
Dogs naturally attempt to move forward with the least amount of effort, so anything that detracts from efficient movement is considered a **fault**. This is especially important for dogs who work hard all day; without efficient movement, they are not able to perform necessary tasks.

The trot reveals the faults and virtues of a dog's conformation. Poor structure diminishes the efficiency and power of the gait and increases stress on the ligaments and tendons that support joints, which can result in pain and injury.

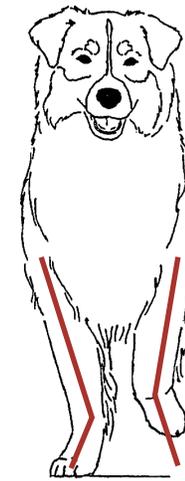
This page shows common movement faults that are evaluated when the dog is trotting away from and towards the judge. Incorrect movement of the legs exposes structural deficiencies of the front and rear assemblies as well as weak tendons and ligaments, and unstable joint conformation.



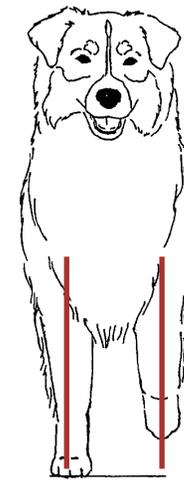
CROSSING OVER



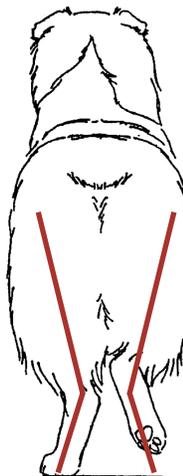
OUT AT ELBOWS



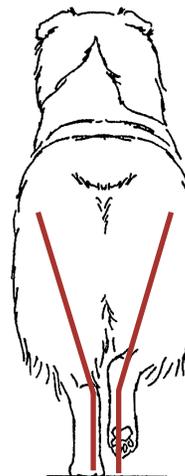
PADDLING



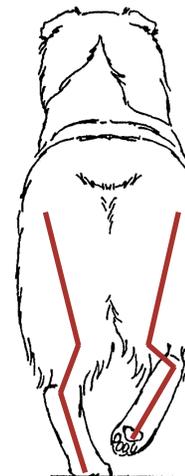
PARALLEL TRACKING



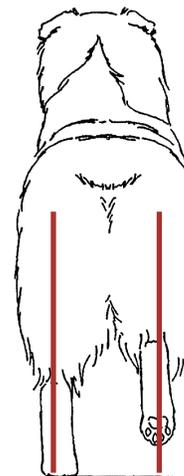
COW HOCKED



MOVING CLOSE



BOWHOCKED



PARALLEL TRACKING