

Body Condition Assessment

After Dr. G. Patronek, *Tufts Care and Condition Scoring Scales*, American Humane Association, 1998.

Body condition is determined by both looking at the animal and feeling the animal

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| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Emaciated | No palpable fat Obvious loss of muscle mass All bony prominences evident from a distance Severe abdominal tuck and extreme hourglass shape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Very Underweight | No palpable fat Some loss of muscle mass Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible Prominent abdominal tuck. Hourglass shape to torso |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Thin | No palpable fat Minimal loss of muscle mass Ribs easily palpated (may be visible) Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible Pelvic bones becoming prominent Obvious waist and abdominal tuck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Underweight/Lean | Waist visible from above. Abdominal tuck evident Ribs easily palpable with minimal subcutaneous fat No muscle loss May be normal for lean breeds such as sighthounds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ideal | Abdomen tucked slightly when viewed from the side Waist visible from above, just behind the ribs Ribs palpable without excess subcutaneous fat |