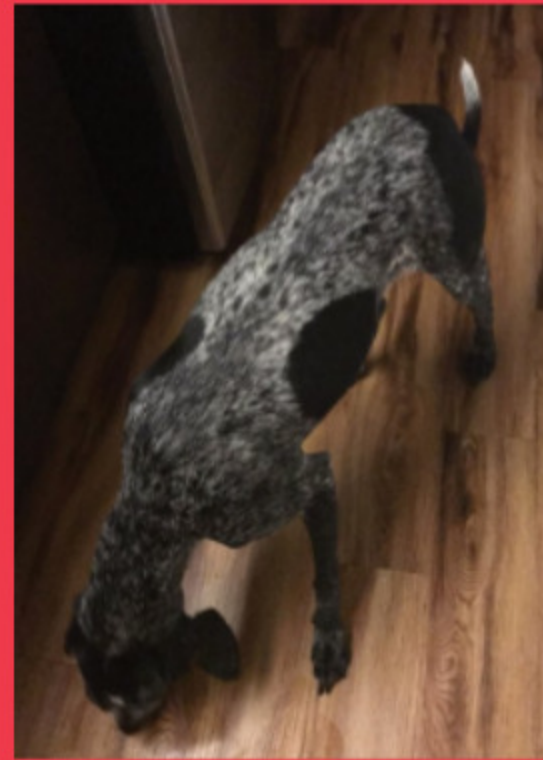




All Domestic Dogs Should Look Like Coyotes

Coyotes are the perfect weight. Any amount of being overweight has been linked to an average of two years of a decrease in lifespan for dogs. It is particularly important to strive to maintain a normal weight in your dog. It is hard to normalize weight once a dog is overweight thus it would be beneficial if we tried from the beginning of their life for a normal weight.





A dog should not have a big body in relation to their legs. Your dog should have the same size or thinner waist than the width of the ribs when standing. This results in an hourglass appearance from above and a tucked abdomen in front of the rear legs from the side when standing. Also standing, the ribs should feel like the back of your hand. The ribs should not be prominent with no tissue filling the gaps between or with more tissue overtop of the ribs. Continuing in this position, palpate the neck, shoulder blades, hips and spine. Often dogs will have fat overlying the neck, shoulder blades and hips. None of these areas should have prominent bones, but this is especially noted on the spine.

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