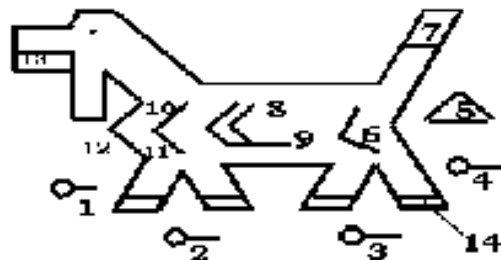


# WHAT IS THE PRISM PEDIGREE?

## A PRISM PEDIGREE FOR BASSET HOUND BREEDERS

The enclosed Prism Pedigree is comprised of stick figure Basset Hounds and is based on a color coding system which uses five magic marker colors to rate the quality of conformation traits in a Sire and Dam, Grandparents and Great-Grandparent. By coloring the body parts of the stick figures, breeders rate traits in each dog as **Excellent (BLUE)**, **Above Average (RED)**, **Average (YELLOW)**, **Below Average (GREEN)** or **Very Poor (BROWN)**. The Prism Pedigree is a fun and easy way to evaluate the chance a trait has of being passed on to offspring. The breeder seeking to produce better shoulder layback, for example, should color code the shoulder layback of each stick figure dog in the first 3 generations of the proposed breeding, basing his choice of color on how good or bad the shoulder angulation is. This provides not only a visual, color summary of the quality of shoulder layback, but also gives an idea of how many, if any, well laid back shoulders are likely to be produced in puppies from this mating. Keep in mind that traits have a better chance of being passed on by ancestors in the first 3 generations who are common to both the sire and dam.

A stick figure from the Prism Pedigree is shown below. To help explain how to use the pedigree we have added numbers to the figure below to illustrate how features such as movement, temperament, bone and important skeletal features can be color coded. If, for example, your Basset has "excellent" temperament, color the tip of the tail (#7) blue on the stick figure. If his bone is "below average," use the color green in the triangular symbol (#5) representing "bone." Color an "average" neck yellow and so on. Obvious features such as head, ears, topline, etc. are not numbered below, but should be color coded. Breeders are encouraged to add their own symbols relating to health factors and genetic diseases. They should also write any other pertinent information such as "produces nice fronts" or "produces shyness," etc. next to the stick figure. The more information included the better.



### An Explanation of the Stick Figure Numbers

1. Movement from front
2. Front side movement
3. Rear side movement
4. Movement from rear
5. Bone
6. Rear angulation
7. Temperament
8. Ribcage
9. Length of keel
10. Shoulder layback
11. Upper arm length
12. Sternum
13. Bite
14. Feet

### SCORING SYSTEM & COLORS

**BLUE - EXCELLENT** (Exemplifies the Standard in every way; can't be improved).

**RED - ABOVE AVERAGE** (Meets the Standard and is noteworthy).

**YELLOW - AVERAGE** (Acceptable; conforms to the Standard but is not noteworthy).

**GREEN - BELOW AVERAGE** (Departs from the Standard; needs improvement).

**BROWN - VERY POOR** (Is very far from the Standard; very faulted).