

Hutchinson's Dog Encyclopaedia

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and are all of the Spitz type. These remains are said to be almost identical with the skeleton of the modern "Wolfspitz", and belong, with the Elkhound-like remains found in Scandinavia, to the first domesticated forms of dog known in history.

The mid-European Spitz is said to be descended from the *Canis familiaris ptilustris Rutimeyeri*, the fossil remains of which—belonging to the Stone Age—were discovered by the Palaeontologist Rutimeyer amongst the ancient pile dwellings in the Swiss Lakes.

The pre-war Spitz of the Pomeranian estate was a dainty dog, teeming with quality. The Rhineland Spitz was larger, coarser, very thickly coated, and inclined to apple-headedness.

About 1920 the trend of fashion in Germany was for a large dog—the larger the better, "but size not to prejudice type". Now fashion dictates a smaller, very compact animal with a finer head, small ears well pricked, and carried close together. This ideal comes nearer to the English ideal and should be more popular.

The Wolfspitz, together with the black and the



WOLFSPITZ

Photo [F. H.]

Mrs. Gatare with two Wolfspitz litters of pure German descent. Both are typical of the smart Pomeranian variety and should be compared with the heavier Rhineland type.

The German Spitz is subdivided into several varieties according to size and colour.

The "Grosser" Spitz, or large Spitz, is akin to the Keeshond of the Dutch and the Grand Loulon of the French.

The "Zwerg" or dwarf Spitz is identical to the "Dwerkkees" of the Dutch, the "Loulou Nain" of the French, and the Toy Pomeranian as known in England.

The large Spitz is subdivided again as to colour. The Wolfspitz is a grey dog, somewhat larger than the other large varieties, and is commonly known in England under the name of "Keeshond" or "Dutch Barge Dog". In appearance it has altered slightly with the whims of fashion.

white Spitz, was the dog of the carrier and of the vine grower. The home of the white Spitz is chiefly in the neighbourhood of Elberfeld, and these dogs, like the black variety, seldom measure more than 16 inches at the shoulder, whereas the grey measure anything above 18 inches.

The greys are mostly found on the Rhine in the districts of Mannheim and Stuttgart. The blacks hail from Wurtemberg, and are said to be even sharper and more watchful than the greys.

Parti-colour and any other colours are admitted. The Germans have kept careful records of the breed. Their first Stud Book was published in 1913, and mentions dogs born in 1893.

The "Verein für Deutsche Spitze", now known

1756

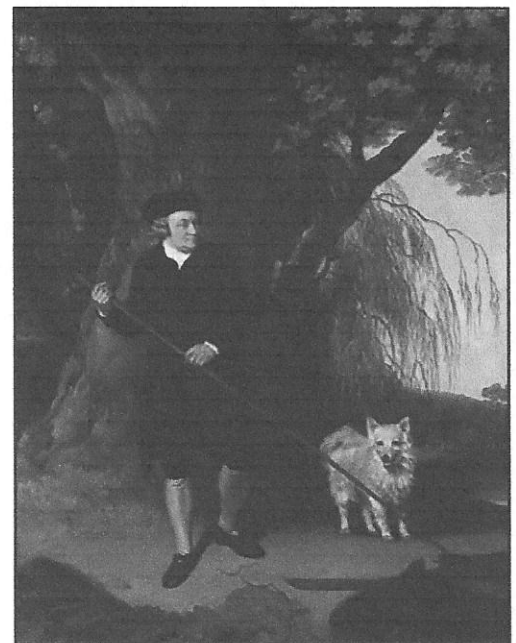
What was the Fox dog?

The Fox dog may have been the Spitz type described in German books of the early 1800s as *Canis Anglicus* or 'der Englische Spitz'. They said it was a small, finer boned, white Spitz. It was clearly something other than the typical white made famous by Gainsborough in the 1770s and not of German type.

And then there's ...

the *old Swiss type* - shorter legs and longer body - described by Max von Stephanitz as closer to the original type of ancient Spitz and appears to have been in England for a long time. Compare this painting by Wheatley (1775) to Gainsborough type and you'll see quite a difference. This type continued on in time and was favoured by Miss Hamilton of Rozelle - the first two white Pom champions owned by her are almost identical to the Wheatley Pom.

Right - Portrait of a Squire and his Dog by Wheatley 1775 This dog differs in type from other white Poms/Spitz of the era and may be an example of the old Swiss Type. The first 2 Pom champions were of this type.



Left - Ch König of Rozelle born 1891 almost identical to the Wheatley Pom (above) 120 years earlier.

Below - Pomeranian Dogs by Gainsborough - note difference in type to Wheatley's Pom