# Body Condition Assessment


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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| 5     | Emaciated | No palpable fat  
All bony prominences evident from a distance  
Severe abdominal tuck and extreme hourglass shape |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| 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 |
| 1     | Ideal     | Abdomen tucked slightly when viewed from the side  
Waist visible from above, just behind the ribs  
Ribs palpable without excess subcutaneous fat |