



## Chapter 3 – Conformation

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### Academic Summary

Chapter 3 examines canine structure in relation to breed standards. Conformation is defined as the physical form and arrangement of body parts in accordance with functional and breed-specific ideals. The chapter analyzes bite types, ear types, eye shapes, topline, tail carriage, feet, and angulation, linking structural traits to performance and movement efficiency.

### Core Learning Objectives

- Define conformation and explain its purpose.
- Identify major ear, bite, tail, and topline types.
- Explain forequarter and hindquarter angulation.
- Evaluate structure in relation to movement and function.

### Key Vocabulary

- Conformation
- Scissors Bite
- Undershot Bite
- Topline
- Angulation
- Forequarters
- Hindquarters
- Cat Foot vs. Hare Foot

### Conceptual Frameworks

- Breed Standard Evaluation Model
- Biomechanics of Movement
- Structural Efficiency Theory