

CD Breed Study Review - Sherlock MultiMedia

No matter what your breed this description of the Sherlock CD Breed Study shows you how to use this excellent and highly interactive product.

Thanks to Faye Strauss of Sherlock Multimedia, we now have live-action evaluations for ten breeds. This technology is an excellent tool for aspiring judges, breeders and exhibitors. When I first viewed the CD-ROM on my home computer, I planned to spend a good hour reviewing it. There was so much information that three hours had passed before I even knew it, and I still had more to review. How I wished I had seen this when I acquired my first dog 30 years ago. Strauss has produced educational CD-ROM's for ten breeds and each standard is demonstrated with pictures and video, has a glossary of terms, incorporates the history of the breed and has a quiz with 40 true-false and multiple-choice questions with animated answers.

The user-friendly interactive computer imaging enables the viewer to adjust deviations and transform proportions to correct structure. There are measurement tools the viewer can use to drag and click to correct angulation and shoulder layback and to morph length and height (a viewer can create his own dog, but if the angles are too far fetched the dog will bark).

Another fun and educational feature can correct pigment and color. Using the wonders of computer imaging, the fault is colored in and the correct pigment is shown. If only Strauss could figure out a way that breeders could use these aides to fix actual dogs, we would really have something!

The picture gallery of champions is especially nice. Viewers have the opportunity to play judge and to score a class of three by awarding I to IO points for each dog. By clicking another key, the results of how actual judges placed and scored each dog are revealed, along with an explanation, such as: "Square-built dog. Front and rear are balanced but straight. Chest is not deep and does not go to the elbows. On the head the stop is not moderately well defined. The dog is too light boned."

The video library provides good action shots of side gait, front and rear movement and of movement faults such as too close in the rear and sidewinding. Another special section on anatomy shows structure and function. Viewers can see the muscles of the dog and how they work. Line up your cursor with each muscle group on the dog and the correct muscle, bone or joint is highlighted and described in detail. Bones and joints are also shown in detail.

The CD-ROMs, which are always popular, when introduced at national specialties, are now a big hit at \$39.95, plus \$5 for US priority air shipment. Mention your national club and Sherlock will donate \$5 for judges' education.

For more information, in the US: Call (800) 662-4118, or 253-631-1442 or Sherlock's web site at: <http://www.k9cd.com> where you can preview the entire CD collection.