BODY CONDITION IN THE DOG

1. Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones, and all bony prominences visible. Muscle mass loss is obvious (cachetic state).

2. Ribs, some bony prominence are visible, like lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones visible. Minimal loss of muscle mass.

3. Ribs palpable. No fat in ribs. Only the top of the lumbar vertebrae is visible. Pelvic bones a bit prominent or evident. Waist and abdominal tuck obvious.

4. Ribs are easily palpable, not visible, with almost no fat covering. Waist easily noted from above. Abdominal tuck evident. No bone prominences can be seen anymore.

5. Ribs are easily palpable, not visible, with little fat covering. The waist is visible from above. Abdomen tucked up in a side view.

6. Ribs palpable, not visible, with a slight amount of fat covering. Waist from above is discernible but not prominent. Abdomen tucked up in a side view.

7. Ribs cannot be seen or felt by touch, with heavy fat covering. Waist barely visible from above. Fat deposits in lumbar area and tail base. Abdominal tuck is barely present.

8. Ribs unseemable, with a hefty amount of fat. You must touch with a considerable pressure to feel them. Heavy fat deposits in lumbar area and tail base. Waist absent. Abdominal tuck absent.