

SIBERIAN

GENERAL STANDARD

The Siberian (Forest) Cat is an ancient breed now believed to have been ancestral to all modern longhaired cats including both the Angora and the Persian. The overall impression should be a cat of great strength and size with excellent physical tone. This large and impressive cat has a distinctive semi-long, dense triple coat of sculptured appearance, and a thick, densely covered tail, with no trailing hairs. Tail should have a rounded or blunt tip. This is a cat of circles or roundness, rather than angular features. Males are generally larger than females.

HEAD: Slightly longer than broad, softly rounded, massive. The forehead is broad, just slightly rounded. In profile, there is a slight indentation, but no nose break or stop.

EARS: Medium size, well open at the base. Tips are rounded with well-developed hairs inside and tufts. The placement must show good width between the ears, which should tilt slightly forward.

EYES: Large slightly oval shaped, wide apart, set slightly obliquely.

NOSE: Medium length and broad. The profile shows a slight indentation, but without a stop.

CHEEKS: Well developed and rounded. High set.

JAWS: Wide at the hinge, strong and gently rounded.

CHIN: Of good depth and slightly sloping back, in profile, creating a curve from the upper line of the nose.

NECK: Well-muscled, medium length and in proportion to the body.

BODY: Strong boned, broad chest, well muscled of medium length, back carried slightly rounded. Body in proportion to create a rectangular appearance.

LEGS: Strong, medium high to form a rectangle with the body.

PAWS: Large, round and well tufted between toes.

TAIL: Long and thick, with a rounded tip. Covered on all sides by dense hair with no hairs trailing down.

CONDITION: Excellent muscular condition is required. The coat is not presented like a Persian. The temperament is placid and easy to handle with no attempt to threaten or challenge.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head (general shape, nose, profile, chin)	25	
Ears (size, shape & placement)	10	
Eyes (shape & size)	5	40
Body (incl. shape, size, legs, paws)	20	
Tail (length & shape)	10	
Coat (quality, length, texture)	25	
Condition	5	60
TOTAL		100

FAULTS / PENALTIES

REFER TO GENERAL LIST OF FAULTS FOR ALL BREEDS, PLUS:

PENALISE:

Fine boning or small build.
Head round, long or narrow.
Straight profile.
Round eyes.
Large ears or set too high.
Thin long legs.
Short tail.
Coat fine, silky or lying flat.
Out of coat except in summer.

WITHHOLD:

Any clearly expressed signs of Persian type.

COAT AND COLOUR

COAT LENGTH AND TEXTURE: Semi long, well developed. Very dense undercoat, not lying flat. Overcoat water repellent, slightly hard to touch. Guard hairs are solid, glossy. The Russians refer to this coat as being triple coated with hairs being of near equal length. A fully coated cat has a well-developed shirtfront, a full frill and britches. The hair may thicken to curls on the underbelly and britches. Summer coat is distinctly shorter and less dense than the winter coat. Kittens can take up to 6 months to develop guard hairs.

COLOUR: All recognized colours and patterns with the exception of chocolate, lilac, cinnamon and fawn. As well, the Himalayan (pointed) pattern is not presently recognised.

NOTE: These are known in Russia as 'Neva Masquerade' and are judged separately there. Any amount of white is allowed e.g. blaze, locket, chest, belly, paws etc.

EYE COLOUR: Any colour, however, green preferred.

NOSE LEATHER, PAW PADS & EYE RIMS: Appropriate to the coat colour.