

Siberian Breed Presentation



General Description

- The Siberian, Russia's native forest cat, first appeared in recorded history around the year 1000 and hails from the unforgiving climate of Siberia. This is a cat that nature designed to survive, with no extremes in type.
- The Siberian is a medium to medium large, strong triple coated cat with surprising heft for its size. The overall appearance should be one of strength, presence, and alertness, with a sweet facial expression.
- The breed is extremely slow to mature, taking as long as 5 years. Females are generally smaller than males and allowances should be considered when comparing females and young cats to the standard. Size is secondary to type. The general impression is one of roundness and circles, rather than rectangles and triangles.

Siberian Standard Points

HEAD..... 45 points

Shape..... 15

Profile..... 3

Ears..... 5

Eyes..... 5

Chin..... 4

Muzzle..... 10

Neck..... 3

COAT/COLOR..... 15 points

Length..... 5

Texture..... 5

Pattern..... 3

Color..... 2

BODY..... 40 points

Torso..... 10

Legs..... 5

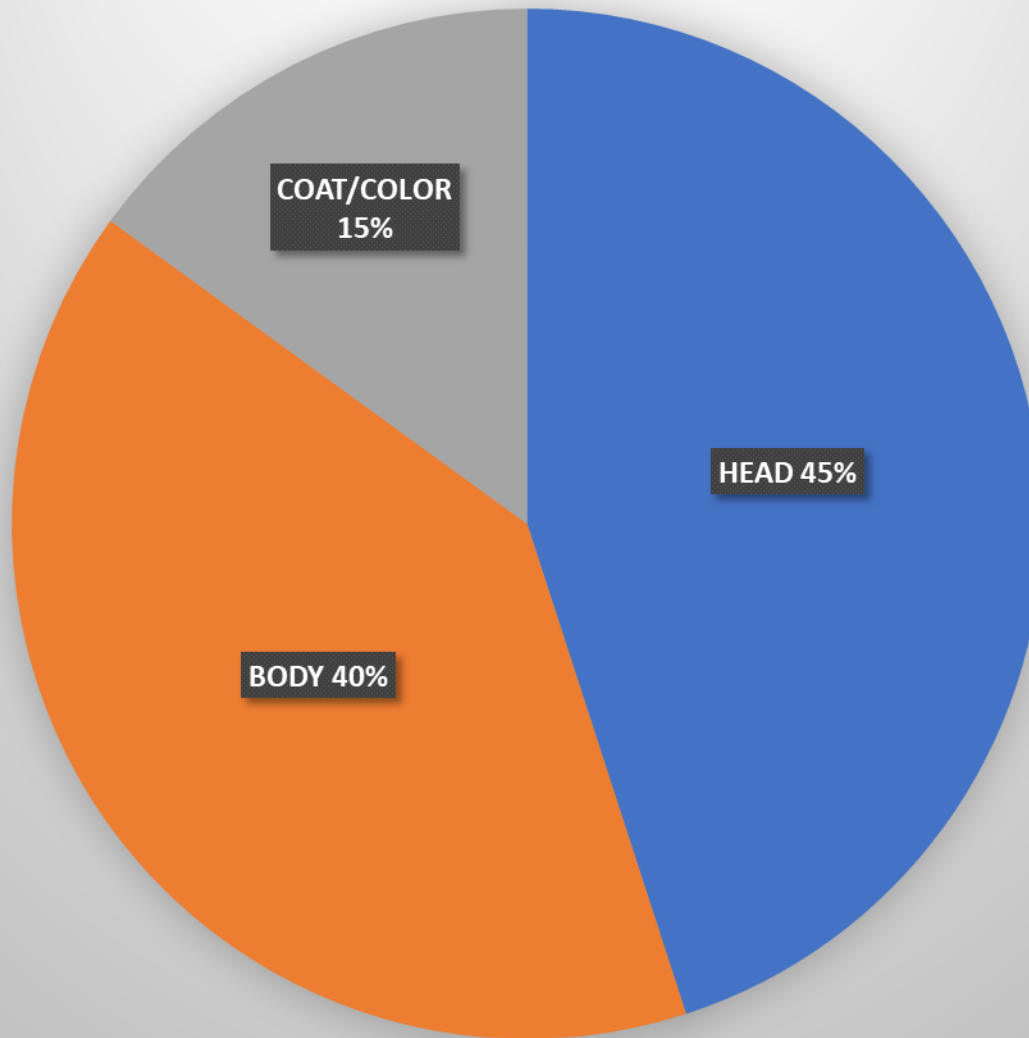
Feet..... 3

Tail..... 5

Boning..... 10

Musculature..... 7

TOTAL PERCENTAGES



HEAD. 45 Points

Shape. 15

Profile. 3

Ears. 5

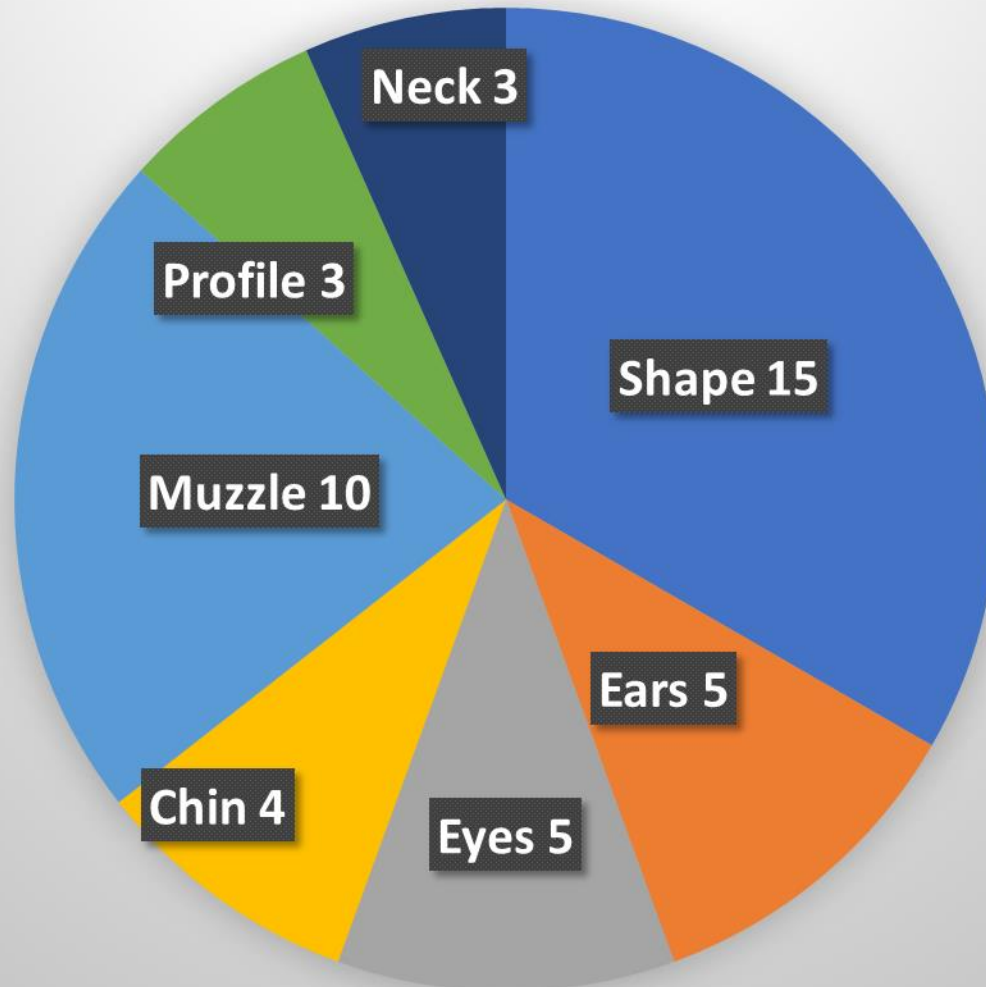
Eyes. 5

Chin. 4

Muzzle. 10

Neck. 3

Points For Head 45



Head: Shape - 15 Points

- Modified wedge of medium/large size with rounded contours.
- Head is in good proportion to the body.
- The head is broader at the top of the skull and narrows slightly to a full-rounded muzzle.
- The cheekbones are neither high set nor prominent.
- There should be a slight doming between the ears and an almost flat area on the forehead.
- Males will have well developed jowls and females will have a more moderate look.



Head Shape

The head is broader at the top of the skull and narrows slightly to a full-rounded muzzle



Photo by Ken McVay



Photo by Hidden RockRanch



Photo by Chanan

Head Shape

Slight doming between the ears

Almost flat area on the forehead



Photo by Ken McVay

Head Shape: Mature males will have well developed jowls



Photo by Preston Smith



Photo by Larry Johnson

Head Shape

Young Females and Young Males



Allowances should be considered when comparing females and young males to the standard



Photo by Helmi Flick

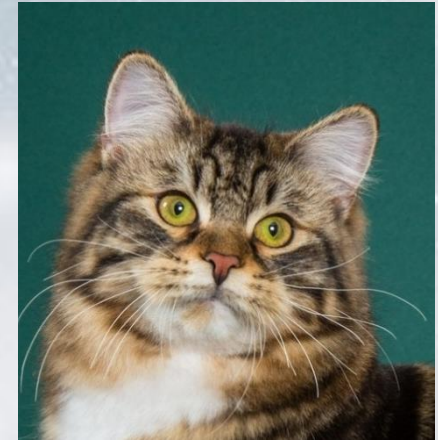


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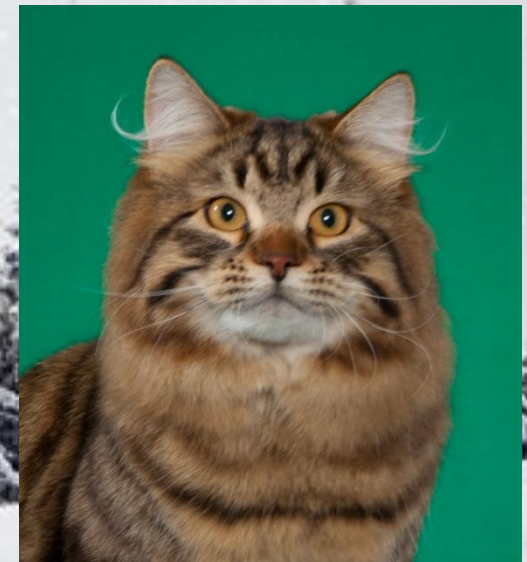


Photo by Preston Smith

Incorrect Head Shape (answers on next slide)



Photo by Helmi Flick

Incorrect Head Shape



Photo by Helmi Flick

Head: Ears – 5 Points

- Medium-large, rounded
- Wide at the base
- Tilt slightly forward
- The ears should be set as much on the sides of the head as on top
- The hair over the back of the ear is short and thin
- From the middle of the ear, the furnishings become longer and cover the base of the ear



Photo by Helmi Flick

Ears: Tilt slightly forward



Photo by Ken McVay



Photo by Alexander Kolesnikov



Photo by Helmi Flick

Ears: Good Spacing

Set as much on the sides of the head as the top



Ears: The Furnishings

From the middle of the ear, the furnishings become longer and cover the base of the ear.



Photo By Helmi

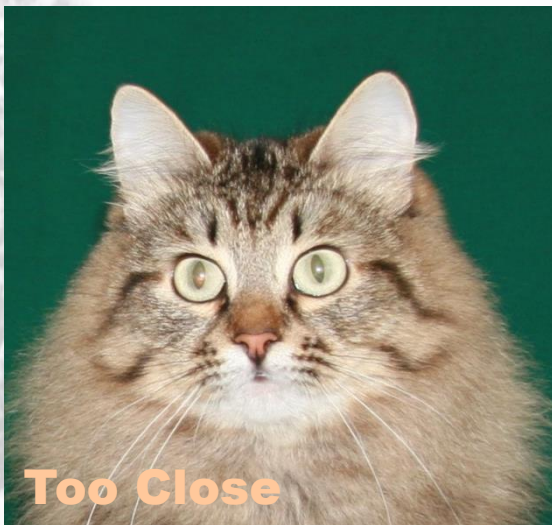


Photo By Chanan

Incorrect Ears (answers on next slide)



Incorrect Ears


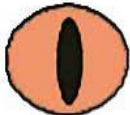












Head: Eyes – 5 Points

- Medium to large, almost round
- The outer corner angled slightly towards the base of the ear
- The eyes should be set more than one eye's width apart
- Should be open, alert, and expressive
- There is no relationship between eye color and coat color/pattern except in the color points, which have blue eyes
- **PENALIZE:** almond-shaped eyes



Eye Shape Chart

 Round	 Almost Round (Rounded)	
 Oval	 Large Oval	 Almost Oval
 Almond	 Large Almond	 Almost Almond
 Lemon	 Peach Pit	 Walnut
 Soft Triangle (Hooded)		

Incorrect Eyes (Answers on next slide)



Photo by Preston Smith



Photo by Preston Smith

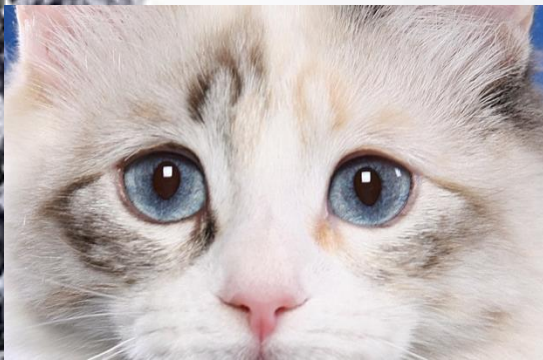
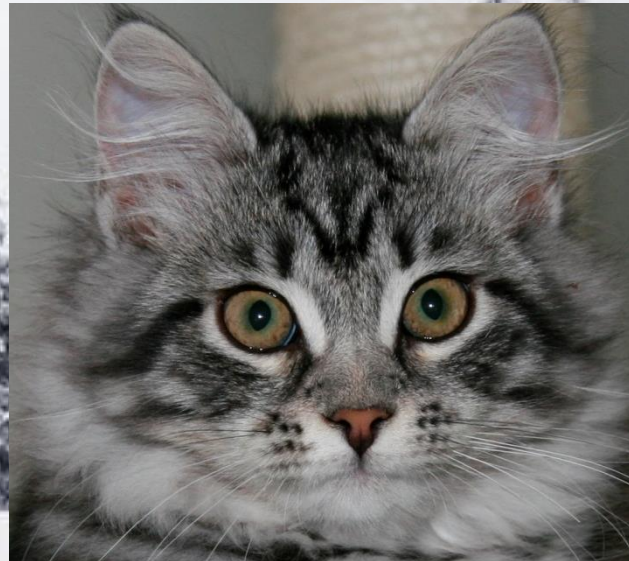


Photo by Heidi Flick



Incorrect Eyes



Hooded, Too Angled

Photo by Preston Smith



Oval, Small

Photo by Preston Smith



Walnut, Hooded

Photo by Heidi Flick



Almost Almond, Too Angled



Round, Small

Head: Chin – 4 Points

- The chin is well rounded
- Not protruding
- In line with the nose



Photo by Larry Johnson

Chin: In line with the nose

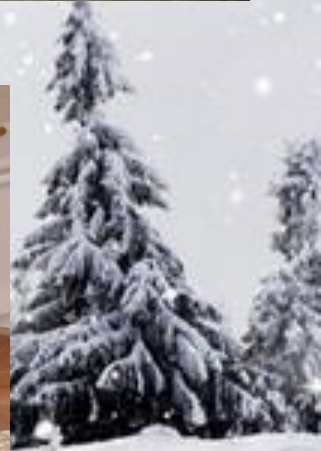


Photo by Ken McVay



Photo by Ken McVay

Incorrect Chin (Answers on next slide)



Incorrect Chin



Head: Muzzle – 10 Points

- Moderately short in length
- Full and rounded
- Slight muzzle curvature
- Transition between the side of the head and the muzzle is gentle and inconspicuous
- **PENALIZE:** narrow or foxlike muzzle



Photo by Preston Smith

Muzzle: Full and rounded



Photo by Helmi



Photo by Hidden Rock Ranch

Muzzle: Different Views



Photo provided by Alexander Kolesnikov



Photo by Helmi Flick

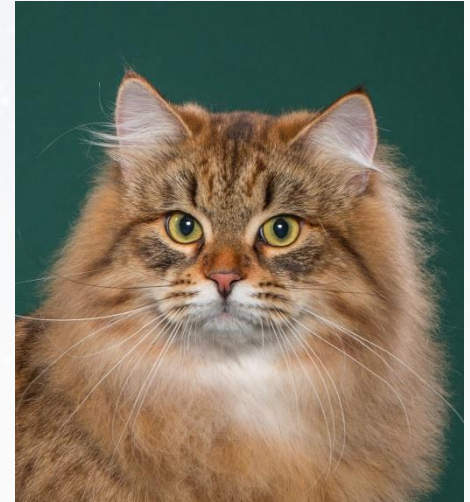


Photo by Preston Smith



Photo by Helmi Flick



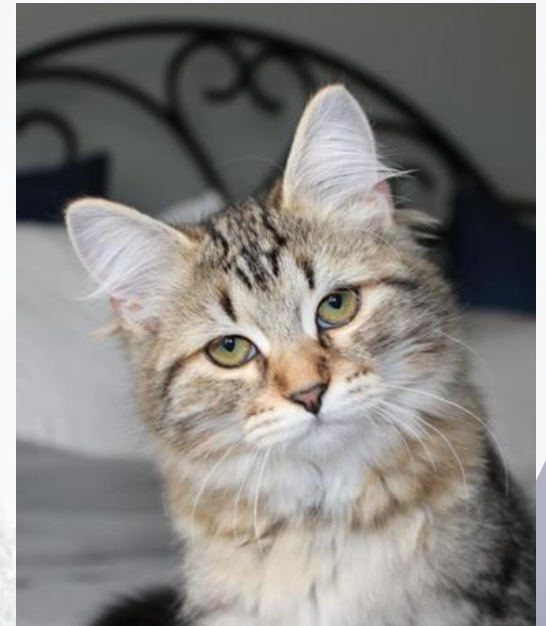
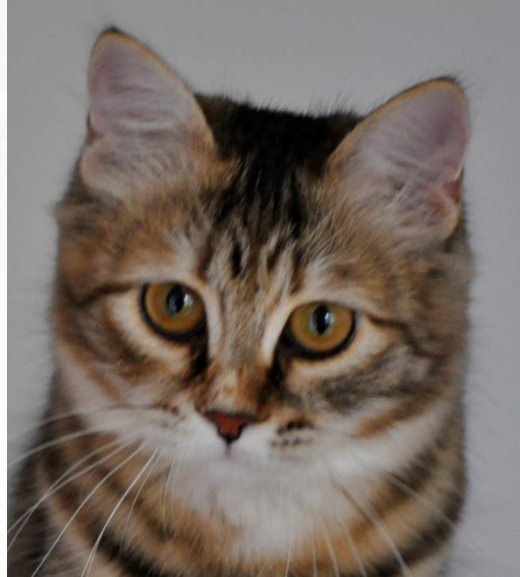
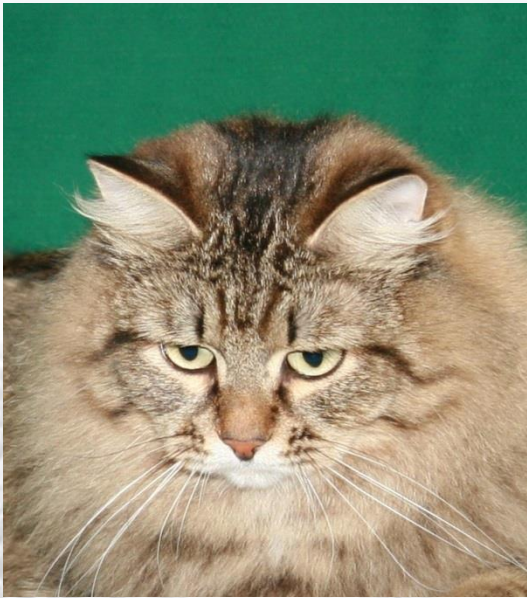
Muzzle: Correct View

When a correct muzzle is viewed at this angle, it seems to have the appearance of a trapezoid shape



Photo used with permission of Alexander Kolesnikov

Incorrect Muzzle - Narrow



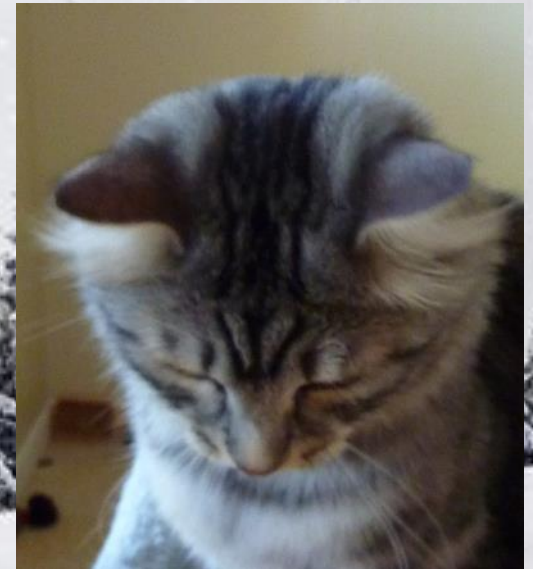
**PENALIZE: Narrow
or fox like muzzle**



Incorrect Muzzle - Narrow

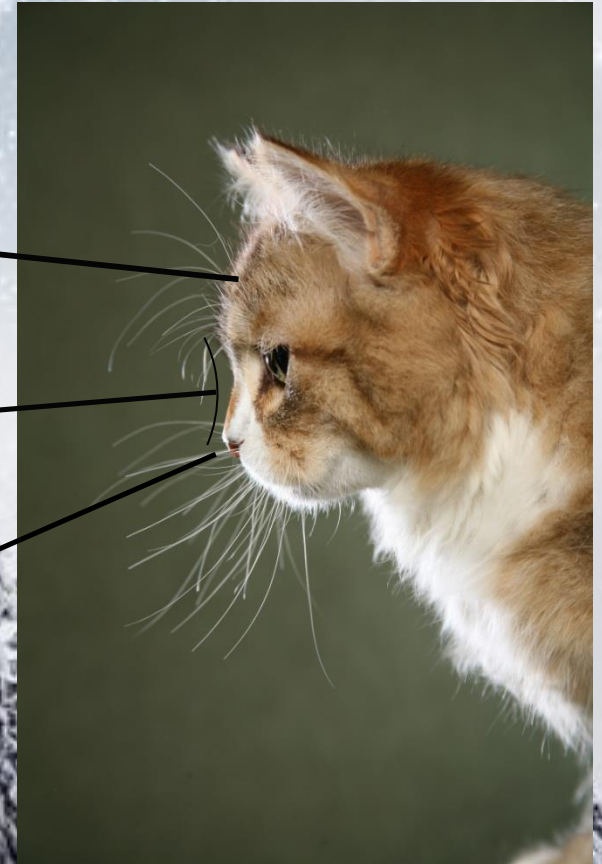


Photo by Helmi Flick



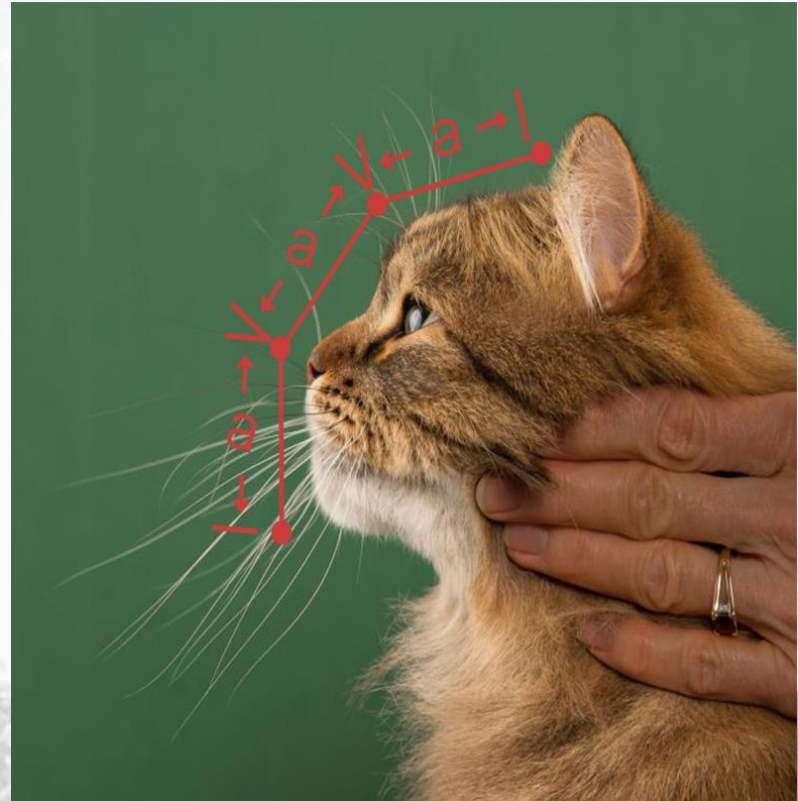
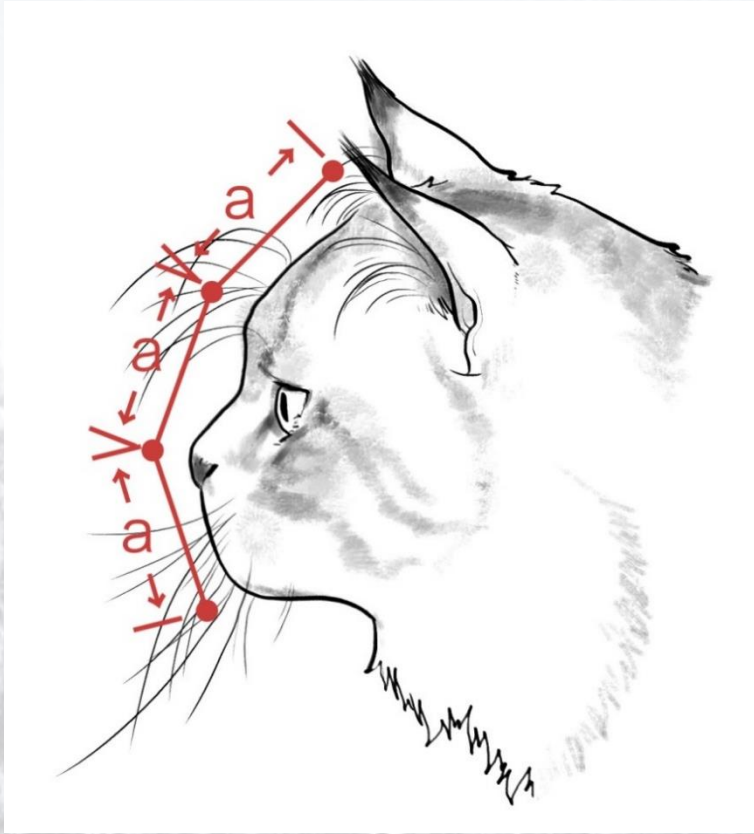
Head: Profile - 3 Points

- The top of the head is almost flat
- Slight nose curvature of a gentle slope from the forehead to the nose
- Slight concave curvature before the tip of the nose when viewed in profile



PENALIZE: Straight profile

Correct Profile: The proper profile gives the appearance of 3 parts of equal length



Incorrect Profile (answers on next slide)



Photo By Chanan



Incorrect Profile

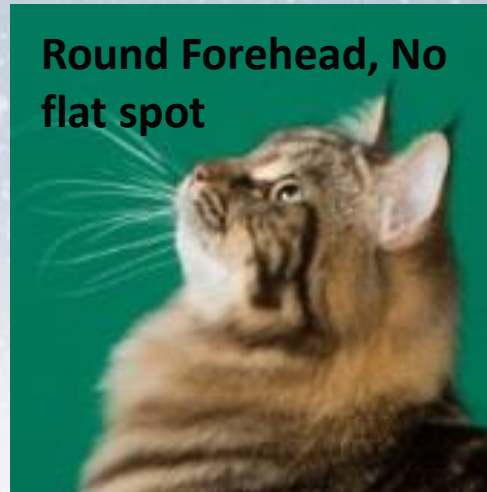
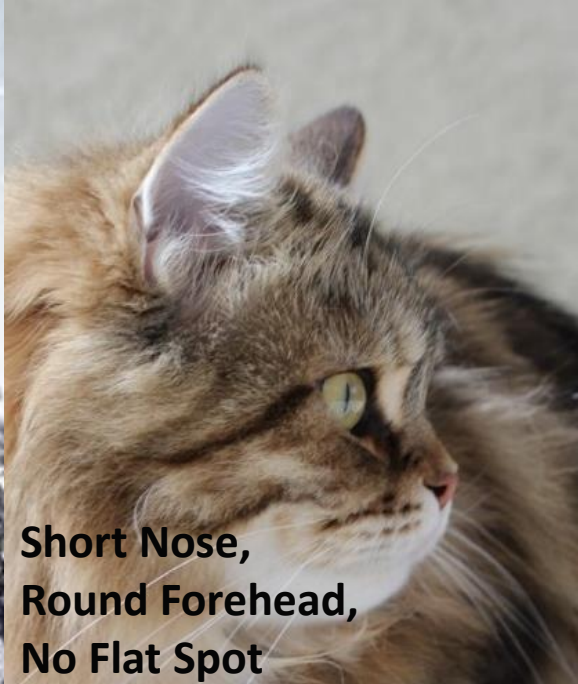


Photo By Chanan



Head: Neck - 3 Points

- Rounded
- Sturdy
- Well Muscled



Photo by Helmi



Photo by Larry Johnson

Body. 40 Points

Torso. 10

Legs 5

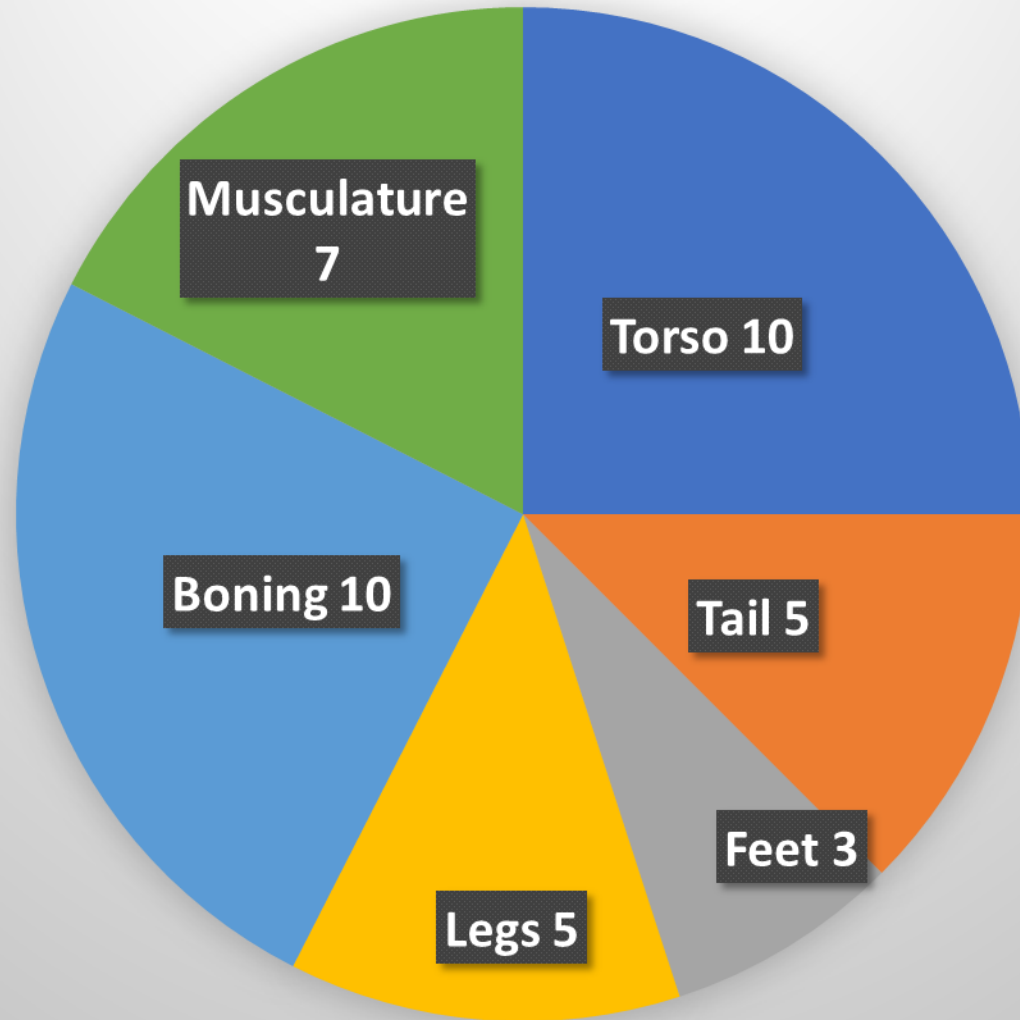
Feet. 3

Tail. 5

Boning. 10

Musculature. 7

Points for Body- 40



Body: Torso – 10 Points

- The body is medium in length
- Well muscled
- Back arched slightly higher than the shoulders
- Barrel-shaped, firm belly giving the sensation of solid weight
- **Moderate stomach pad or famine pouch on lower abdomen acceptable**



Photo By Prest0on Smith

Torso

Back arched slightly higher than the shoulders



Torso

Barrel-shaped, firm belly giving the sensation of solid weight



Photo by Hidden Rock Ranch

Torso: Barrel Shaped Belly



Photo by Hidden Rock Ranch



Photo by Hidden Rock Ranch

Torso: Barrel Shaped Belly Comparison

Incorrect Belly



Correct Belly

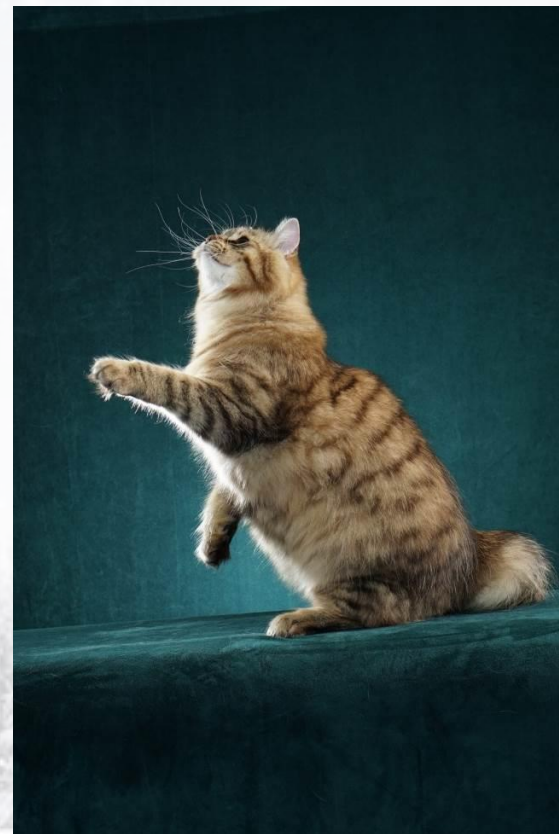


Photo by Helmi Flick

Body: Legs – 5 Points

- Medium in length
- Substantial boning
- Hind legs slightly longer than the front legs



Photo by Ken McVay



Photo by Preston Smith

Legs: Substantial Boning



Legs: Length

Hind legs slightly longer than the front legs



Incorrect Legs

A great coat can hide fine boning & long legs



Body: Feet – 3 Points

The feet are big and rounded,
with toe tufts desirable.



Photo by Helmi Flick

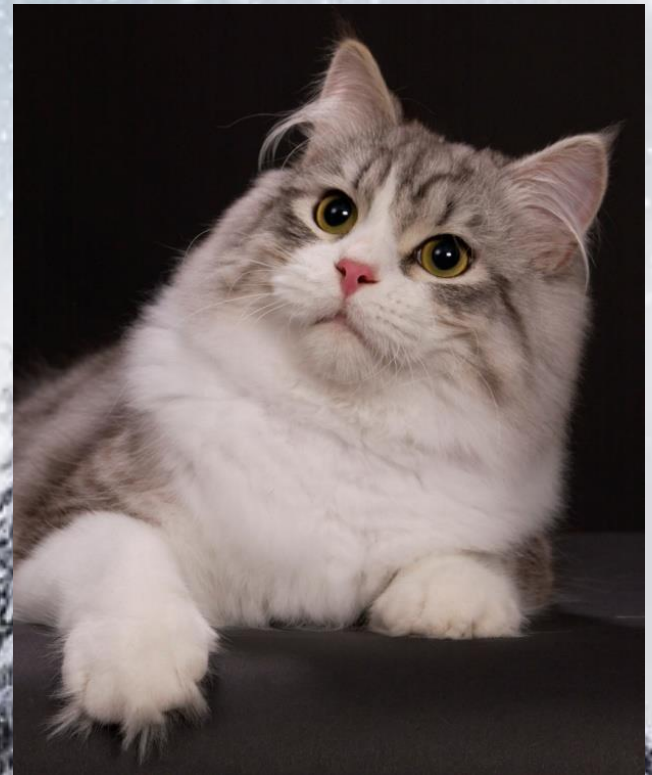


Photo by Ken McVay

The toe tufts may make the judging table seem slippery and cause the Siberian not to want to stand up while being judged.

Body: Tail – 5 Points

- The tail is medium in length
- Somewhat shorter than the length of the body
- Wide at the base, tapering slightly to a blunt tip without thickening or kinks
- Evenly and thickly furnished
- **PENALIZE: Long tail**



The tip of the tail should reach to the shoulder when pulled along the side of the body

Incorrect Tail: Too Long



Body: Boning – 10 Points

Substantial



Boning: Substantial



Body: Musculature – 7 Points

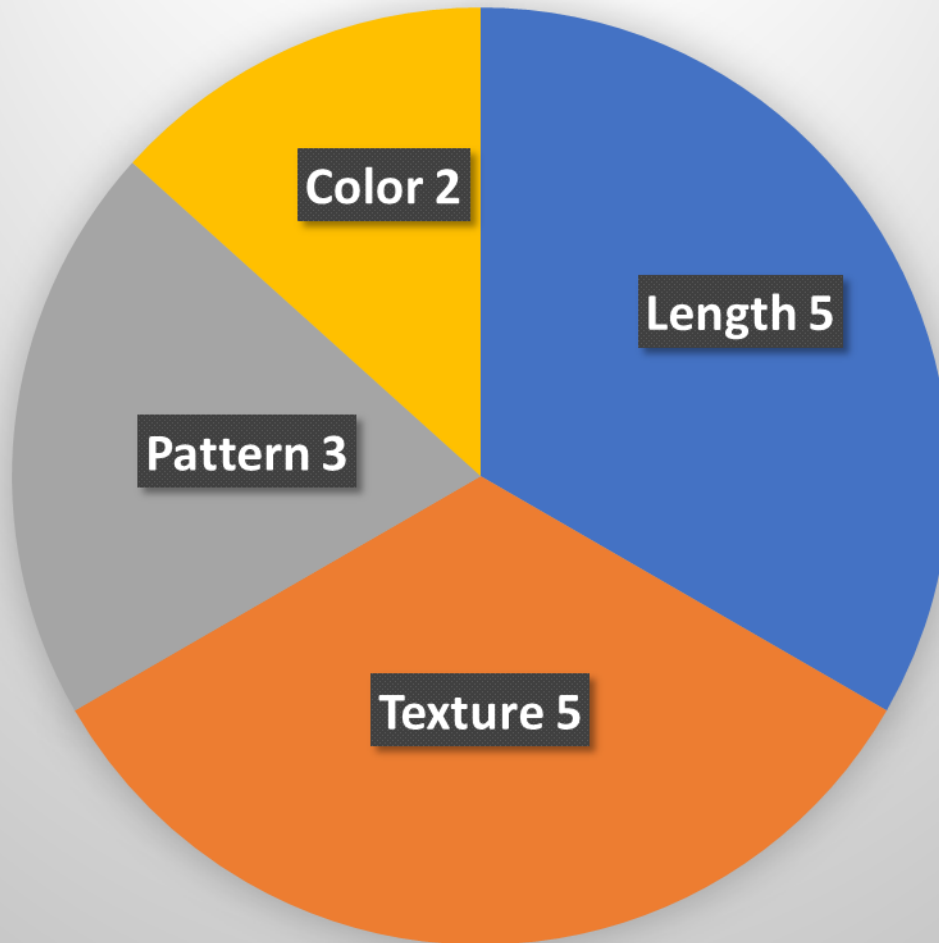
Substantial & Powerful



Coat/Color: 15 Points

- Length..... 5
- Texture..... 5
- Pattern..... 3
- Color..... 2

Points for Coat/Color 15



Coat/Color: Length – 5 Points

- This is a moderately long to longhaired cat with a TRIPLE coat.
- The hair on the shoulder blades and lower part of the chest should be thick and slightly shorter.
- There should be an abundant full collar ruff setting off the head in adults.
- **Allow for warm weather coats.**



Length: Triple Coat



Photo by Helmi Flick

Length: Warm Weather Coat
Allow for warm weather coats



Coat/Color: Texture – 5 Points

- Varies from coarse to soft, varying according to color
- There is a tight undercoat (in mature cats,) thicker in cold weather



Photo by Helen Miller



Tsui

Coat/Color: Pattern – 3 Points

- All colors and combinations are accepted with or without white
- White is allowed in any amount and in all areas
- White or off-white allowed on chin, breast and stomach of tabbies
- Buttons, spots and lockets are allowed
- Strong colors and clear patterns are desirable
- **Tarnishing on silvers is not penalized**



In colorpoints, body shading may take form of ghost striping (examples)

Coat/Color: Color – 2 Points



Photo by Helmi Flick



Other

- **Temperament:** Must be unchallenging.
- **Allowances:** Because the Siberian is a slow maturing breed, coat and physical structure should be taken into consideration when judging kittens and young adults. Buttons, spots and lockets are allowed.
- **Penalize:** Straight profile, narrow or fox-like muzzle, long tail, delicate boning, non-muscular, long body, almond-shaped eyes, and very long legs or very short legs; an adult with long body or without good body weight.
- **DISQUALIFY:** kinked tails, incorrect number of toes, crossed eyes. Evidence of illness, poor health, emaciation.

Handling Tips: Play



Siberians like to play, and many prefer toys that look like natural prey. Most will play or go up a scratching post if a hand is not placed on them.

Handling Tips: Tail & Belly



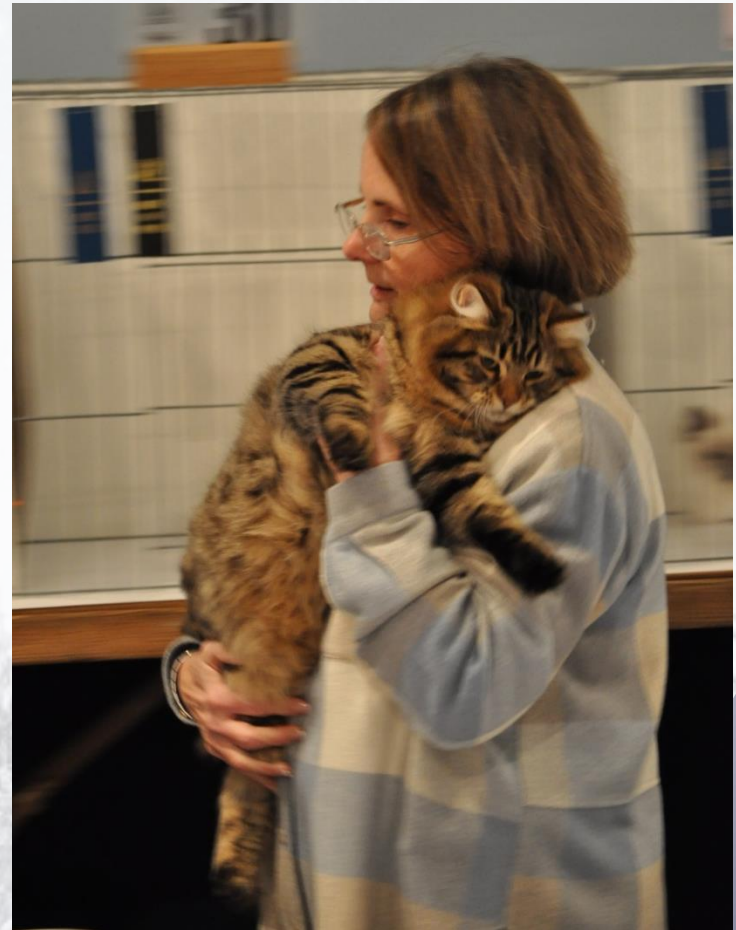
A Siberian will have a better response if the tail is checked while standing



Checking for a barrel-shaped, firm belly

Handling Tips: How to Carry

Siberians like to be carried close with back legs supported



Handling Tips

- How to properly handle the cat. Siberians like to be carried close to the judge's body, and this will often calm a nervous cat.
- Supported at the bottom? Most Siberians like support to their bottom - they are heavy cats and will feel safe when they have support
- Support their front legs with free hand, some are anxious to get to the judging table by trying to jump to it.
- How to carry to the table – stretched? Siberians do not have a long body, they have a compact body and stretching it only shows length that we do not want.
- On the table many Siberians will stand and go up a scratching post if a hand is not placed on their shoulders and a prey-like toy is actively used.

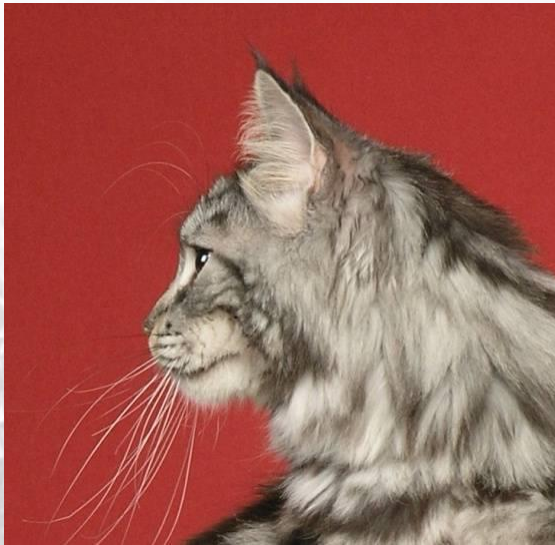


ADDENDUM I

A Comparison of:

- **Siberians**
- **Maine Coons**
- **Norwegian Forest Cats**

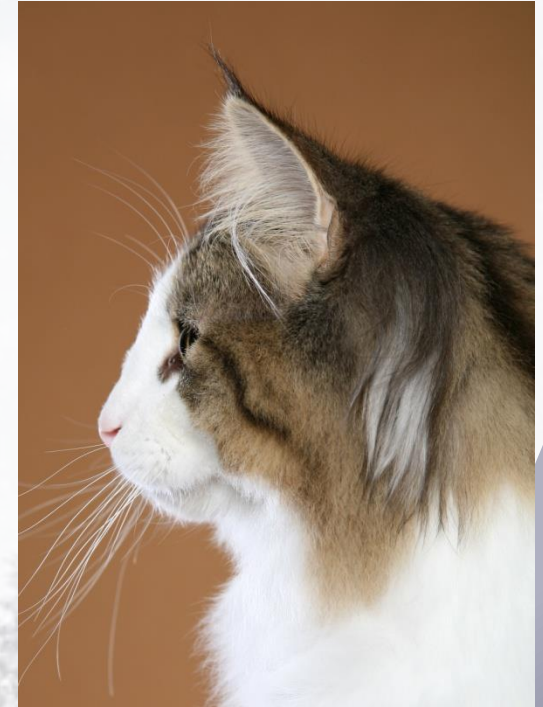
Profile Differences by Breed



Maine Coon



Siberian



Norwegian Forest Cat

Shape Differences by Breed:

Ears, Eyes, Head

Maine Coon



Photo by Helmi Flick

Siberian



Photo by Ken McVay

Norwegian Forest Cat



Photo by Helmi Flick

Shape Differences by Breed: Body

Maine Coon



Photo by Helmi Flick

Siberian



Photo by Ken McVay

Norwegian Forest Cat



Photo by Helmi Flick

So, What's The Difference?

	Siberian	Maine Coon	Norwegian Forest
Head	Modified wedge of medium/large size with rounded contours, in good proportion to the body. The head is broader at the top of the skull and narrows slightly to a full-rounded muzzle. The cheekbones are neither high set nor prominent. There should be a slight doming between the ears and an almost flat area on the forehead. Males will have well developed jowls and females will have a more moderate look.	Medium in width with high cheek bones. Squareness in muzzle; medium length nose.	Triangular shape which should be as long as broad. Medium to long wedge-shaped nose. Flat forehead. More of a square profile with the nose a straight line.
Ears	Medium-large, rounded, wide at the base and tilt slightly forward. The ears should be set as much on the sides of the head as on top. The hair over the back of the ear is short and thin. From the middle of the ear, the furnishings become longer and cover the base of the ear.	Large, wide at base and tapered to a point. Set high and well apart.	Medium to large, slightly rounded at tip. Spaced wider and tilted more forward. Set as much on sides as on the top of head.
Eyes	Medium to large, almost round. The outer corner angled slightly towards the base of the ear. The eyes should be set more than one eye's width apart and should be open, alert, and expressive. There is no relationship between eye color and coat color/pattern except in the color points, which have blue eyes.	Large, wide set. Slight oblique angle.	Large, almond shaped. Set at slight angle.
Neck	Rounded, sturdy, and well muscled.	Medium long	Medium to short.
Body	The body is medium in length, and well muscled with the back arched slightly higher than the shoulders, with a barrel-shaped, firm belly giving the sensation of solid weight.	Large, long and muscular; rectangular.	Medium length with rump higher.
Legs	Medium in length. The legs should have substantial boning with the hind legs slightly longer than the front legs	Medium length. Substantial and wide set. Toe tufts.	Medium length with hind legs longer. Toe tufts.
Coat	This is a moderately long to longhaired cat with a TRIPLE coat. The hair on the shoulder blades and lower part of the chest should be thick and slightly shorter. There should be an abundant full collar ruff setting off the head in adults. The tail is medium in length, being somewhat shorter than the length of the body.	Moderately long to long on body; should fur shorter. Full ruff on adults. All weather coat. Full britches and long flowing tail.	Moderately long to long on body; shorter on shoulders and on chest. Full ruff on adults. Double coat. Long and smooth with oily guard hairs. Long flowing tail.

Addendum II

- **Championship & Premiership Awards**
- **Milestones & History of the Breed**

First Year in Championship Class

2006 - 2007

Best Siberian in Championship



GC, BW, RW Siberkot Rocky Mountain

Second Best Siberian in Championship



CH Fialka Budimir Timange of Strekoza

First Year in Premiership Class

2006 - 2007

Best Siberian Premier



GP, RW Transsiberie's Lunar Attack

Second Best Siberian Premier



GP, RW Almaz Sherlock Holmes

Second Year in Championship Class

2007 - 2008

Best Siberian in Championship



BW RW GC Jean Sineglaziy Angel of Sineglazka

Second Best Siberian in Championship



GC Strekoza Peterhof

Second Year in Premiership Class

2007 - 2008

Best Siberian Premier



Photo by Jim Brown

GC Cooncreole Misha Terebova

Second Best Siberian Premier



GP Siberkot's Little Squirt

Third Year in Championship Class

2007 - 2008

Best Siberian in Championship



BW RW GC Jean Sineglaziy Angel of Sineglazka

Second Best Siberian in Championship



GC Strekoza Peterhof

Third Year in Premiership Class

2008 - 2009

Best Siberian Premier



GP Siberkot's Miska Galaxy

Second Best Siberian Premier

(No Photo Available)

GP Miakoschka Boriss

Fourth Year in Championship Class

2009 - 2010

Best Siberian in Championship



GC, BW, RW Kotchera Zabimaru

Second Best Siberian in Championship



GC, RW Misha Zemchug Navy of Sineglazka

Fourth Year in Premiership Class

2009 - 2010

Best Siberian Premier



CH, GP, RW Kotchera Alik of Anam Cara

Second Best Siberian Premier



GP Kender Peter Moon

Siberians Arrive in America

In 1990, when Communism fell and free trade opened up, Soviet/American cooperation took on new dimensions. The Siberian cat was allowed to be exported from the Soviet Union. On June 28, 1990, three young new immigrants arrived at the port of New York, just as most of our own ancestors did throughout U S history. The first three Siberian kittens had finally arrived!!! After 18 months of correspondence by Elizabeth Terrell with various Siberian breeders in Russia, KALIOSTRO VASENJKOVICH OF STARPOINT (brown classic tabby and white male), NAINA ROMANOVA OF STARPOINT (brown mackerel tabby female) and OFELIA ROMANOVA OF STARPOINT (brown mackerel tabby and white female) arrived at STARPOINT CATTERY in Louisiana from Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) Russia. Their arrival from Kotofei Cat Club along with their individual METRIKAS (certificates of birth), seals, signatures, and proper health documents heralded just the beginning of a new breed of longhair, hearty, natural, survival cats in the United States. The trio adapted with ease, relishing the abundant premium cat foods, superb medical care and gracious living, things we all take for granted in this Country but are scarce or non-existent elsewhere.



Siberian Milestones

Century	Date	Description	Comments
1000		Siberians first appeared in recorded history	Siberian Cats from the unforgiving climate in Siberia first appeared in recorded history around the year 1000.
1700		Siberians at first cat show in England	The Siberian cat was one of the three longhairs represented at the first cat shows held in England in the 1700's.
1900		First entry into USA found in a book	First entry into USA, found in a book -- originally published in 1900 by Helen M. Winslow entitled "Concerning Cats," "Mrs. Frederick Monroe of Riverside Ill. owns a remarkable specimen of a genuine Russian cat, a perfect blue of extraordinary size. The Russian long-haired pet is much less common even than the Persian and Angora."
1960		First feral pointed patterned cats found	Russian People had thought that long ago the feral pointed patterned cats and the feral Siberian cats "got together" along the banks of the Neva River in Leningrad (which is now named St. Petersburg) in the 1960s.
1987		The first cat show in the city of Leningrad, Russia	It was organized by two cat clubs 'Kotofei' and 'Kis'. This is the actual date of the beginning of breeding of Siberians in St. Petersburg. The Soviet Felinological Association registered the Siberian breed. It included both the traditional colors and the Siberian color point (Neva Maskarade).
1990	06/28/90	Siberians First Arrived in USA	The first breeding Siberians were introduced in the United States in 1990. Elizabeth Terrell imported the initial kittens. They arrived on June 28, 1990. Their names were KALIOSTRO VASENJKOVICH OF STARPOINT, OFELIA ROMANOVA OF STARPOINT and NAINA ROMANOVA OF STARPOINT.
1990	07/24/90	Registration accepted in ACFA	The original 3 Siberians imported by Beth Terrell were accepted for registration in ACFA
1990	10/15/90	First magazine article in USA	Cat Companion from Friskies contained the first article about Siberians.
1990	8/??/90	First ACFA show in USA	Fort Worth
1990	8/??/90	First TICA show	El Paso
1991		WCF accepted a working Siberian Standard	
1991	7/13/91	First Siberian Litter sired and born in USA	Anastasie gave birth to the first litter sired by Aleks - 3 babies in litter Linda Gray and Mary Armentrout both of Maine were the first ones to purchase breeding cats from Beth
1991		Kotofei Met	Kotofei met in 1991 to establish their own Siberian standard
1992	02/23/92	ACFA granted Siberians probationary status	ACFA semi annual approved the standard and granted probationary status

Siberian Milestones

Century	Date	Description	Comments
1992	03/06/92	TICA accepted the standard	TICA accepted the standard with some adjustments & put Beth & Foye & Sandy Roberson on breed committee
1992	03/08/92	CFF granted Siberians experimental status	CFF accepted the standard and the Siberian as Experimental - (the first registry we had to work from the ground up
1992	03/??/92	CCA, NCFA, & ACA approached	CCA, NCFA (later accepted) & ACA approached & approved standards
1992		CFF 91-92 show season first National year end award	Starpoint's Irida Kaliostrovna earned the title of 2nd Best Experimental in CFF
1992	11/??/92	TAIGA formed 11/92	The first Siberian Breed Club was formed by Elizabeth Terrill for the promotion of the Siberian breed through out all registries.
1992	12/24/92	Second generation of Siberians born in USA	first litter of Starpoint kids born out of Starpoint Cattery to Mary Armentrout in Maine
			The Siberians were first presented to CFA in 1993 by Linda Gray, but were not accepted for MISC. class.
1993	06/24/93	First introduced to CFA	Starpoint's Irida Kaliostrovna & Starpoint's Karina Loukanovna - another cat was there from another importer from CA but did NOT look like the 2 Starpoint cats.
1993	12/11/93	First Siberian Champion	First Siberian Champion in any registry - AACE - Audrey Oliver with non Starpoint cats - AACE accepted for championship immediately
1993		AACE new registry formed	Siberian Accepted
1994		Russian Standard	Official standard was accepted by the expert commission of WCF in 1994
1994	03/10/94	Asked to present Siberians to CFA Board	Tom Dent (CFA EXEC DIR) asked Beth to present Siberian to board - she declined due to the expense (remember they also invited the breed in 93) she sent written presentation
1994	05/01/94	CFF accepted Siberian as provisional	Siberian grandfathered in as Provisional by CFF after a changing of their Experimental rules
1994	10/30/94	First Grand Champion	AACE - Troika Zahar Ahlmazovich
1994	11/26/94	Largest competitive Siberians in one show	Largest competitive Siberians in one show - 13 - CFF
1995		Russian Standard published	
1995	04/30/95	First Supreme Grand	AACE - Troika Zahar Ahlmazovich
1995	05/06/95	CFF accepts Siberians for Championship	Standard of St.Petersburg Felinological Society and was published in the compilation of WCF standards in 1995
1995	05/07/95	ACA accepts for championship	
1996	01/01/96	Siberian accepted in Italy	

Siberian Milestones

Century	Date	Description	Comments
1996	05/01/96	CP accepted for championship in AACE	
1996	05/01/96	first Siberians in Canada	
1996	06/09/96	1st GRC Siberian in CFF	Comrade Vashin Paschanovich- 1st and still only GRC in CFF
1996	08/31/96	TICA accepted Siberians for championship	
1997	02/28/97	Color point introduced in the US	First color point was imported by Dana Osborn.
1997	05/01/97	CP's accepted for NBC in TICA	
1998	02/24/98	1st litter of colorpoints born	8 babies - Dana Osburn
1998	09/01/98	1st white Siberian enters US	Barbara Naame
1998	09/01/98	1st Siberian in Hawaii	
1999	02/20/99	ACFA accepts breed for Championship	
2000	05/01/00	Accepted in CFA as MISC	Accepted for Misc. Class in CFA.
2001	04/30/01	Siberian is TICA International Cat of the Year	W,SGC Treskuchiy Sibirskiy Moroz Mur Owner: Dan & Judy Chappetta
2001	09/01/01	Featured in Cat Fancy	Cover and article about Siberians
2002	05/01/02	CP advances to championship in CFF	
2002	05/01/02	CP advances to championship in TICA	
2004	04/01/04	Featured in Cat Fancy	Cover and article about Siberians
2004	08/01/04	Application for advancement in CFA	Application for advancement to Provisional status in CFA submitted
2004	02/05/05	Request for CFA Advancement	Request for Advancement presented to CFA BOD in Houston
2005	05/01/05	Advanced to Provisional Status in CFA	
2006	05/01/06	Advanced to Championship Status in CFA	
2006	08/12/06	First Grand Champion in CFA	GC RW BW Siberkot Rocky Mountain was the first grand champion in CFA. He graded at the Pacific Rim Albreed cat Show in Portland Oregon on August 11 & 12, 2006

Moscow Cat Circus



When talking to the people giving the performance, I asked them where they got their cats. He said that he got them off the streets of Moscow. Since the Siberian comes from the streets of Moscow and this cat in the picture looks so much like a Siberian and during the performance acted like so many Siberians that I have been around, I decided to include this picture in the presentation.

Pam Martin
First CFA Siberian Breed Council Secretary

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