

NORWEGIAN FOREST CAT

Scale of Points

- Head** 20 Triangular shaped. Leaning toward, but not quite approaching an equilateral triangle (all three sides equal in length) from the outer base of the ear to the tip of the chin. The overall appearance should be as long as it is broad. The frontal skull is flat. The neck is medium to short with heavy musculature, not in proportion to the body. The nose is medium to long, straight from the top of the forehead to the tip of the nose with no break. Females may exhibit a minimal curvature but no break. Preference should be given to females with straight noses. The muzzle appears nearly square; this illusion is heightened by a well-developed chin the profile outline is more square than round, not sharply pointed, and with no evidence of snippiness, foxiness, or whisker pinch. Chin shall be firm with no malocclusions and shall be gently rounded in profile.
- Shape and proportion - 10
 - Nose and profile - 5
 - Muzzle - 3
 - Chin - 2
- Ears** 5 The ears are medium to large, slightly rounded at the tip, set as much on the side of the head as on the top of the head, upright, alert and arched forward as though listening. The ears are heavily tufted. Tip tufts are desirable but absence should not be considered a fault.
- Eyes** 5 Large, almond-shaped and expressive, set at a slight angle with the outer corner slightly higher than the inner corner. It should be noted that between the ages of 6 months to a year, the cat goes through a stage of development where the eyes appear almost round; this should change at the time of the first birthday. Green-gold eye color is the preferred color although shades of green and gold are accepted. White cats may be copper-eyed, blue-eyed, or odd-eyed, in addition to shades of green and gold.
- Body** 10 The body is of moderate length, heavily boned, with a powerful appearance showing a full chest and considerable girth without being fat. Males should be large and imposing; females proportionately smaller than males. It should be noted that this breed is not fully mature until 5 years of age. The flank (fleshy areas) of the side between the ribs and the hips) has great depth causing considerable depth to the body when viewed from the side.
- Legs & Feet** 10 Legs are medium in length with the hind legs longer than the front legs making the rump higher than the shoulders. The thighs are heavily muscled with substantial lower legs. When viewed from the rear, the back legs are straight. The front feet appear to "toe out". The feet are large, round, firm and well tufted.
- Tail** 10 Long and flowing. The desirable length should be equal to the body length from the base of the tail to the shoulders.
- Coat** 20 A distinguishing double coat. When pressed down with the fingertips, an impression should be left in the coat. The outer coat is long and smooth, soft and not dry, with oily guard hairs covering the undercoat. The undercoat should be dense and cottony. The ruff consists of 3 separate sections: short back of the ruff, side muttonchops, and a full frontal bib. Allowance shall be made for less ruff and britches in younger cats under 2 years of

age. The britches are full on the hind legs and the coat is uneven. Solid colors, tortoiseshells, and bi-colors have a smoother softer coat than tabbies, with a less dense undercoat. It should be noted that it takes about 2 years for the coat to come in completely on colors other than tabbies. The season of the year should be considered when judging these cats as the overall coat is shorter and the mutton chops and breast collar are lacking or are much shorter in the summer; during hot weather, the tail, ear and toe tufts distinguish the cat as a longhair. Maturity (approximately 2 years for judging purposes) must also be considered when judging these cats for coat. Cats living in temperate climates exhibit coats, which are softer and shorter than those spending time in cooler climates.

Color & Markings 10

All colors and combinations of colors are acceptable with or without white with the exception of the pointed pattern and self-chocolate and self-lilac colors, which are not allowed. In the tabby group, white or off-white is allowable on the breast, chin and stomach. Buttons, spots and locketts are allowable in all colors.

Condition & Balance 10

The appearance of an alert, healthy, firm, muscular, well developed and well proportioned cat is essential. The males should be moderately large and imposing; the females proportionately smaller. Good muscle tone is necessary with no evidence of obesity or emaciation. Lack of good condition is evidenced by dullness in the eyes and the lack of coat luster. The cat should be well balanced physically and temperamentally and be gentle and amenable to handling.

PENALIZE:

Short legs, cobby body, extremely long body, short nose, nose with a break, round or square head, small ears in mature cats (2 years), dry coat, matted fur, or a short tail. Delicate bone structure is a cause for severe penalization.