

Northern Japanese Spitz Club

Breed Standard



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Japanese Spitz Breed Standard

The Standard: Fit for Function - Fit for Life

The Kennel Club has pioneered a new standard which focuses on ensuring that Breeders, Judges and Puppy Buyers are aware of the opportunities to work with the KC on health related issues and reminds them that a dog's health should be the most important consideration in any decisions they make.

This includes halting the trend towards exaggeration in certain breeds, encouraging participation in and funding of research into health testing, the education of Judges and developing even further the Assured Breeder Scheme.

General Appearance

Profuse, pure white, stand-off coat. Overall quality of body firm and strong. Pointed muzzle, Triangular shaped ears standing erect. Well plumed tail carried over back. Ratio of height to length 10:11.

Characteristics

Affectionate, Companionable. Slightly chary at first meeting with strangers.

Temperament

Alert, Intelligent, Bold and Lively.

Head and Skull

Head medium size without coarseness. Wedge shaped when viewed from above. Moderately broad. Slightly rounded skull, broadest at occiput. Well-defined stop, forehead not protruding. Muzzle in proportion to the head, tapering to a small, black, round nose. Lips black, firm and tight.

Eyes

Dark, moderate size, oval-shaped, set rather obliquely and not too wide apart; Black eye rims.

Ears

Small, triangular, standing erect, set high, facing forward; Not too wide apart.

Mouth

Jaws, Strong with perfect, regular and complete scissor bite, i.e., upper teeth closely overlapping lower teeth and set square to the jaws.

Neck

Strong, arched and of moderate length.



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Forequarters

Moderately sloping shoulder; upper arm of sufficient length to ensure elbow is vertically below point of withers. Forelegs straight, elbow firm and tight; pasterns slightly sloping.

Body

Length from point of shoulder to point of buttock slightly greater than height at withers. Chest broad and deep. Ribs well sprung, belly firm with moderate tuck-up. Back straight and short, full of flexibility. Loins broad and firm, with a slight rise. Level croup with high set tail.

Hindquarters

Well-proportioned and balanced. Muscular, moderately angulated. Hindlegs parallel to each other when viewed from rear. Rear pasterns vertical from hock to heel.

Feet

Small round, cat-like and well cushioned. Pads black, nails preferably dark.

Tail

Moderate length, well plumed, high set, carried curved over the back.

Gait/Movement

Light, nimble, active, energetic and very smooth. Straight coming and going, viewed from side, effortless, brisk action.

Coat

Outer coat straight and stand-off. Profuse, short, dense undercoat, soft in texture. Shorter on face, ears, front of fore and hindlegs and below hocks. Remainder of body covered with long coat. Mane on neck and shoulders reaching down to brisket. Tail profusely covered with long hair.

Colour

Pure white.

Size

Height at shoulders: Dogs: 34-37 cms (13½-14½ ins); Bitches 30-34 cms (12-13½ ins).

Faults

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

Note

Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.