

# MUNCHKIN

## GENERAL STANDARD

*The Munchkin is a medium sized cat, well muscled, with strong distinctive short legs. This is the result of a spontaneous autosomal dominant mutation; shortening the long bones in the legs. The short legs do not hamper mobility or survival ability. Munchkins are outgoing, intelligent and respond well to handling. They are accepted in both long and short coat lengths, and must not resemble any recognised breed. Males are generally larger than females.*

**HEAD:** Modified wedge with rounded contours, medium in size and in proportion to the body. Profile has a gentle rise from bridge of nose, showing a slight indentation.

**EARS:** Medium in size, broad at the base, tapering to a slightly rounded tip, placed as much on the top of the head as on the side. Well furnished on longhair.

**EYES:** Almost rounded, in a slightly oblique setting and well apart to give an open alert expression.

**NOSE:** Medium length, with a gentle curve and is set below the eye line. In profile, there is a slight indentation, but not a break or stop.

**CHEEKS:** Well rounded and broader in males.

**JAWS:** Strong and gently rounded.

**CHIN:** Firm and rounded and in a vertical line with tip of nose.

**NECK:** Medium sized, and firmly muscled, especially in males, in balance with the body and blending smoothly into the shoulders.

**BODY:** Medium sized and medium long in length. The muscular torso has a well-rounded chest, depth of flank and firm hips. The shoulder blades may appear higher, but should not be prominent. There is a slight rise from the shoulders to tail, as the back legs are slightly longer than the front legs. Back is straight and will show a slight rise from shoulders to rump. Hindquarters are firm and straight when viewed from behind. The cat when viewed from above has head shoulders and hips of nearly equal width.

**LEGS:** Short, with upper and lower forelegs equal in length. Elbows appear to be higher on body than other cats because of the shorter legs, and should lie close to ribcage and not bow outward. They should show good forearm muscle (this may give the illusion of bowing on well-muscled cats, due to the solid muscle development of the triceps and biceps) Bowing should be gauged from the inside forearms. Slight bowing is allowable especially in large mature males. Thigh and lower leg are approximately equal in length moderately angulated at knee and hock when at rest.

**PAWS:** Round and firm, squarely placed, not pointing excessively in or outward.

**TAIL:** Medium thick, tapering to a rounded tip with length in proportion to the body, set high and carried erect.

**CONDITION:** Excellent muscular condition is required. Any indication that the cat is not in good physical condition or has not had proper grooming should be penalized.

## SCALE OF POINTS

<b>Head</b> (incl. size & shape of eyes)	30
<b>Body</b> (incl. torso, neck, tail)	30
<b>Legs &amp; Paws</b>	20
<b>Coat Texture Colour &amp; Pattern</b>	15
<b>Condition &amp; balance</b>	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

## FAULTS / PENALTIES

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

### PENALISE:

- Cow hocks.
- Excessive bowing (front legs).
- Foreign type or fine boning.
- Extreme nose break or excessively long nose.
- Excessive cobbliness.
- Any resemblance to an established recognised breed

### WITHHOLD:

- Sway back.
- Excessive dip behind the shoulder (lordosis).

## COAT AND COLOUR

**COAT LENGTH AND TEXTURE (SHORTHAIK):** The texture is resilient, plush, dense and of medium texture. An all weather coat with natural protective appearance.

**COAT LENGTH AND TEXTURE (LONGHAIR):** A semi-longhair coat of moderate density and silky texture. It has a ruff, britches and a full flowing tail plume.

**COLOUR/PATTERN/MARKINGS:** All recognized colours and patterns. White lockets or buttons are permitted.

**EYE COLOUR:** No relationship between coat colour and eye colour.

**NOSE LEATHER:** Plain or mottled, to tone with the coat colour in the nose area.

**PAW PADS:** Plain or mottled, to tone with the coat colour in the nose area.

## BREEDING NOTES

Allowable out-crosses:

- Domestic short and longhair.
- Munchkin variants (normal leg length) as breeding partners, but not to show.

**NOTE:** *There should be no resemblance to an established recognized breed.*