



GROUP III: WORKING DOGS

KOMONDOR

RECOGNIZED: 1960

Effective: 2015

The breed standard outlines the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance of a breed, and ensures that a dog can carry out its original purpose. Breeders and judges should be mindful to prioritize dogs that are healthy and sound in both mind and body.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Komondor is characterized by imposing strength, courageous demeanour and pleasing conformation. In general, he is a big muscular dog with plenty of bone and substance.

TEMPERAMENT

As a house guard as well as a guardian of herds he is, when grown up, an earnest, courageous, and very faithful dog. The young dog, however, is just as playful as any other puppy. He is much devoted to his master and will defend him against attack by any stranger. On account of this trait, he is not used for driving the herds but only for guarding them. His special task is to protect the animals, and he lives during the greater part of the year in the open air without protection against strange dogs and all kinds of beasts of prey.

SIZE

The height at the top of shoulders is 59.75 to 80 cm (23.5 to 31.5 in). The bigger the Komondor, the better. A minimum height of 63.5 cm (25 in) at top of shoulders for dogs and 59.75 cm (23.5 in) for bitches is required. The body and the legs should form a rectangle.

COAT

The entire body of the Komondor is covered with a long, soft, woolly, dense hair of different length on the different parts of the body, with inclination to entanglement and shagginess. If the dog is not taken care of, the hair becomes shaggy on the forelegs, chest, belly, rump and on the sides of the thigh and the tail. The longer and the more ragged, the better, though as above stated, the length of the hair varies on the different parts of the body. The longer hair begins on the head and ears and lengthens gradually on the body, being longest on the thighs and the tail. A somewhat shorter, but still long hair, is found on the legs, the muzzle and the cheeks. Too curly hair is undesirable.

COLOUR

The colour of the hair is white. Any other colour is disqualifying.

HEAD

The head of the Komondor is covered all over with long hair, and thus, the head looks somewhat short, in comparison to the seemingly wide forehead. When the hair is smoothed, it will be seen that the **skull** is somewhat arched if viewed from the side; the forehead is not wide, but appears, however, wider through the rich growth of hair. The stop is moderate, it is the starting point of the muzzle which is somewhat shorter than the length of the skull. The topline of the **muzzle** is straight and about parallel with the line of the top of the skull. The muzzle should be fairly square. In comparison to the length given in the head description, the muzzle is wide, coarse and not pointed. The **lips** cover the teeth closely and are black. The muzzle is mostly covered by long hair. The edges of the muzzle are black or steel-blue grey. The nostrils are wide. The colour of the **nose** is black. Komondors with

flesh-coloured noses must absolutely be excluded from breeding. A slate-coloured or dark-brown nose is undesirable but may, however, be accepted for breeding purposes. The jaws are powerful, and the teeth are level and close together evenly. The **eyes** express fidelity. They are medium-sized and almond-shaped, not too deeply set and surrounded by rough, unkept hair. The iris of the eyes is of a coffee or darker brown colour; a light colour is not desirable. Blue-white eyes are disqualifying. The edges of the eyelids are slate grey. The **ears** are rather low set and hang along the side of the head. They are medium-sized, and their surface is covered with long hair.

NECK

The neck is covered with long hair, is muscular, of medium length, moderately arched. The head erect. No dewlap is allowed.

FOREQUARTERS

The **shoulders** slope into the neck without apparent protrusion. The **forelegs** should be straight, well-boned and muscular. Viewed from any side, the legs are like vertical columns. The **upper arm** joins the body closely, without loose elbows. The legs are covered all around by long, evenly hanging hair.

BODY

The body is moderately long and level. It is characterized chiefly by the powerful, deep **chest** that is muscular and proportionately wide. **Back** and **loins** are wide. The rump is wide, muscular, moderately sloping towards the root of the tail. The body should be somewhat drawn up at the rear, but not Greyhound-like.

HINDQUARTERS

The steely, strong bone structure is covered with highly developed muscles, and the legs are evenly covered with long hair, hanging down in matted clods. The **legs** should be straight, as viewed from the rear. **Stifles** well bent. Dewclaws may be removed. The **feet** should be strong, rather large and with close, well-arched toes. The hind feet are stronger, and all are covered with long hair. The nails are black or slate grey. The pads are hard, elastic and black.

TAIL

The tail is as a straight continuation of the rump-line and reaches down to the hocks slightly curved upwards at its end. It is covered in its full length with long hair, which when the dog is at ease almost touches the ground. When the dog is excited, the tail is raised up to the level of the back. The tail should not be docked. Komondors born with short tails must be excluded even for breeding purposes.

FAULTS

Any departure from the aforementioned ideals shall be considered faulty to the degree in which it interferes with the health and well-being of the dog and the breed's traditional purpose.

- Light or flesh-coloured nose
- Albino or blue eyes
- Highly set and small ears
- Short, smooth hair on the head and legs
- Strongly curled tail
- Colour other than white

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Blue-white eyes
- Colour other than white