



GROUP VI: NON-SPORTING DOGS

AMERICAN ESKIMO DOG (MINIATURE & STANDARD)

RECOGNIZED: 1910

Effective: January 2018

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 American Eskimo Dog, a loving companion dog, presents a picture of strength and agility, alertness and beauty. It is a small to medium-sized Nordic type dog, always white, or white with biscuit cream. The American Eskimo Dog is compactly built and well balanced, with good substance, and an alert smooth gait. The face is Nordic type with erect triangular shaped ears and distinctive black points (lips, nose and eye rims). The white double coat consists of a short, dense undercoat, with a longer guard hair growing through it forming the outercoat, which is straight with no curl or wave. The coat is thicker and longer around the neck and chest forming a lion-like ruff, which is more noticeable on dogs than on bitches. The rump and hind legs down to the hocks are also covered with thicker, longer hair forming the characteristic breeches. The richly plumed tail is carried loosely on the back.

TEMPERAMENT

The American Eskimo Dog is intelligent, alert, and friendly, although slightly conservative. It is never overly shy nor aggressive, and such dogs are to be severely penalized in the show ring. At home it is an excellent watchdog, sounding a warning bark to announce the arrival of any stranger. It is protective of its home and family, although it does not threaten to bite or attack people. The American Eskimo Dog learns new tasks quickly and is eager to please.

SIZE

There are three separate size divisions of the American Eskimo Dog (all measurements are heights at withers).

Toy: 22.75 cm (9 in) to and including 30.5 cm (12 in)

Miniature: Over 30.5 cm (12 in) to and including 38 cm (15 in)

Standard: Over 38 cm (15 in) to and including 48.25 cm (19 in)

There is no preference for size within each division.

Proportion: Length of back from point of shoulder to point of buttocks is slightly greater than height at withers, an approximate 1.1 to 1 ratio. *Substance:* The American Eskimo Dog is strong and compactly built with adequate bone.

COAT

The American Eskimo Dog has a stand-off, double coat consisting of a dense undercoat and a longer coat of guard hair growing through it to form the outercoat. It is straight with no curl or wave. There is a pronounced ruff around the neck, which is more noticeable on dogs than bitches. Outer part of the ear should be well covered with short, smooth hair, with longer tufts of hair growing in front of ear openings. Hair on muzzle should be short and smooth. The backs of the front legs should be well feathered, as are the rear legs down to the hock. The tail is covered profusely with long hair. THERE IS TO BE NO TRIMMING OF THE WHISKERS OR BODY COAT AND SUCH TRIMMING WILL BE SEVERELY PENALIZED. The only permissible trimming is to neaten the feet and the backs of the rear pasterns.

COLOUR

Pure white is the preferred colour, although white with biscuit cream is permissible. Presence of biscuit cream should not outweigh consideration of type, structure or temperament. The skin of the American Eskimo Dog is pink or gray.

HEAD

Expression is keen, intelligent, and alert. *Eyes* are not fully round, but slightly oval. They should be set well apart, and not slanted, prominent or bulging. Tear stain, unless severe, is not to be faulted. Presence of tear stain should not outweigh consideration of type, structure or temperament. Dark to medium brown is the preferred eye colour. Eye rims are black to dark brown. Eyelashes are white. *Ears* should conform to head size and be triangular, slightly blunt-tipped, held erect, set on high yet well apart and blend softly with the head. *Skull* is slightly crowned and softly wedge-shaped, with widest breadth between the ears. The **stop** is well defined, although not abrupt. The **muzzle** is broad, with length not exceeding the length of the skull although it may be slightly shorter. **Nose pigment** is black to dark brown. **Lips** are thin and tight, black to dark brown in colour. The **jaw** should be strong with a full complement of close-fitting teeth. The bite is scissors or pincer.

NECK

The neck is carried proudly erect, well set on medium in length and in a strong, graceful arch.

FOREQUARTERS

Forequarters are well angulated. The **shoulder** is firmly set and has adequate muscle but is not overdeveloped. The shoulder blades are well laid back and slant 45° with the horizontal. At the point of shoulder, the shoulder blade forms an approximate right angle with the upper arm. The **legs** are parallel and straight to the pasterns. The **pasterns** are strong and flexible with a slant of about 20°. Length of leg in proportion to the body. Dewclaws on the front legs may be removed at the owner's discretion; if present, they are not to be faulted. **Feet** are oval, compact, tightly knit and well padded with hair. Toes are well arched. Pads are black to dark brown, tough and deeply cushioned. Toenails are white.

BODY

The **topline** is level. The body of the American Eskimo Dog is strong and compact, but not cobby. The **chest** is deep and broad with well-sprung ribs. Depth of chest extends approximately to point of elbows. Slight tuck-up of belly just behind the ribs. The **back** is straight, broad, level, and muscular. The **loin** is strong and well muscled. The American Eskimo Dog is neither too long nor too short-coupled.

HINDQUARTERS

Hindquarters are well angulated. The lay of the pelvis is approximately 30° to the horizontal. The **upper thighs** are well developed. **Stifles** are well bent. **Hock joints** are well let down and firm. The rear **pasterns** are straight. Legs are parallel from the rear and turn neither in nor out. **Feet** are as described for the front legs. Dewclaws are not present on the hind legs.

TAIL

The tail is set moderately high and reaches approximately to the point of hock when down. It is carried loosely on the back, although it may be dropped when at rest.

GAIT

The American Eskimo Dog shall trot, not pace. The gait is agile, bold, well balanced and frictionless, with good forequarter reach and good hindquarter drive. As speed increases, the American Eskimo Dog will single-track with the legs converging toward the centre line of gravity while the back remains firm, strong and level.

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.

- Amber eye colour or pink eye rims
- Pink nose pigment or pink lip pigment

DISQUALIFICATIONS

- Any colour other than white or biscuit cream
- Blue eyes
- Height: Under 22.75 cm (9 in) or over 48.25 cm (19 in)

