

MAINE COON

The Maine Coon is a medium to large, solid, rugged cat that projects the impression of subdued power and can endure a harsh climate. Its distinctive coat is both smooth and shaggy. A Maine Coon has an even disposition and is easy to handle—it is calm, alert, affectionate, and intelligent with a gentle voice. Females are somewhat smaller than males. Type must not be sacrificed for size, or size for type.

I – BODY/CONFORMATION (35)

(20) BODY – Muscular, broad chested, medium to large in size. Overall appearance is a well-balanced rectangular cat with no parts exaggerated, type should not be sacrificed for size.

(5) LEGS & FEET – Legs are substantial, widely set, medium in length and contribute to a rectangular appearance. Paws are large, round and well tufted.

(10) TAIL – Tail is long, equal to body in length (i.e. – distance from end of rump to shoulders), and wide at the base tapering to the tip. Coat is a long flowing plume.

II – HEAD TYPE (30)

(15) HEAD SHAPE – Head is medium in width and medium to long in length. Allowance should be made for broadening in males. Cheekbones are high. Muzzle is square with large whisker pads that contribute to the squareness of the muzzle but not exaggerated. Chin is firm and in line with upper lip and nose. Nose is medium long and slightly concave. The profile should be relatively smooth and free of pronounced bumps and/or humps. A profile that is straight from the brow line to the tip of the nose is not desirable, nor should the profile show signs of having a “break” or “stop.”

(10) EARS – Ears are large, wide at the base, moderately pointed and well tufted. Ears are set high on the head and are approximately one ear width apart. Lynx-like tipping is desirable but not required.

(5) EYE SHAPE – Eyes are large, expressive, widely set and have slightly oblique setting.

(5) NOSE – Nose is medium in length with gentle, concave curve and no break or bump.

III – COAT TEXTURE/LENGTH (15)

The coat is designed to be warm, waterproof and (more or less) self-maintaining. Fur on head, neck and shoulders is short and becomes gradually long along the back, and longer again toward the tail and down the sides, towards the belly. The fur on the frontal ruff is heavier in males than in females and develops with maturity. The coat is double with a lightly dense undercoat covered by a coarser, glossy outer coat. The cat is not fluffy, but flows smoothly down the body, continuing in the same manner on the tail. The tail is heavily furred, but not bushy as in a fox’s “brush”. The coat is markedly subject to seasonal variations.

IV – COLOUR (15)

(10) COAT COLOUR – The distribution of points for colours of cats with special markings should be divided into 5 points for colour and 5 points for markings.

(5) EYE COLOUR – Eye colour possesses shades of green through gold (green/gold) or copper; although, white cats may be blue-eyed or odd-eyed. There is no relationship between eye colours and coat colours. Clarity and depth of eye colour is desirable.

V – CONDITION & BALANCE (5)

Maine Coons should be solid, rugged, and muscular. They must be in excellent physical condition.

OBJECTIONS

	DEDUCT
* Delicate bone structure.	3-7
* Untufted paws.	1-3
* Straight profile or bump.	3-5
* Poor condition.	3-5
* Nose break.	3-5
* Undershot chin.	1-3
* Short, rounded muzzle.	3-5

WITHHOLDS

- * White buttons, lockets and spots.
- * Overall even coat length.
- * Short, cobby body.
- * Crossed eyes.
- * No white on any one paw (Any Colour & White patterns)
- * All grounds for withholding awards as listed in the General Preface.

RECOGNIZED COLOURS

Refer to Colours & Patterns appendix for complete list. Cats showing evidence of hybridization resulting in the colours chocolate, lavender, the Himalayan pattern; or unpatterned agouti on the body (i.e., Abyssinian type ticked tabby) are not recognized.

BREED ORIGIN:	Natural Breed
REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:	F2 Allowed UNTIL Dec. 31, 2002
SHOWING REQUIREMENTS:	No Foundation Allowed
ALLOWED ANCESTRY:	Maine Coon
ALLOWED MATINGS:	Maine Coon
