

## From the Breed Standards, ANKC website

**Malamute:** The head is broad and deep, not coarse or clumsy, but in proportion to the size of the dog. The expression is soft and indicates an affectionate disposition. Skull: Is broad and moderately rounded between the ears, gradually narrowing and flattening on top as it approaches the eyes, rounding off to cheeks that are moderately flat; there is a slight furrow between the eyes. The topline of the skull and the topline of the muzzle show a slight break downward from a straight line as they join. Muzzle: Is large and bulky in proportion to the size of the skull, diminishing slightly in width and depth from junction with the skull to the nose. The lips are close fitting. Nose, lips and eye rims' pigmentation: Is black in all coat colours except reds. Brown is permitted in red dogs. The lighter streaked "snow nose" is acceptable.

**Eyes:** The eyes are obliquely placed in the skull. Eyes are brown, almond shaped and of medium size. Dark eyes are preferred. Blue eyes are a disqualifying fault.

**Ears:** The ears are of medium size, but small in proportion to the head. The ears are triangular in shape and slightly rounded at the tips. They are set wide apart on the outside back edges of the skull, on line with the upper corner of the eye, giving ears the appearance, when erect, of standing off from the skull. Erect ears point slightly forward, but when the dog is at work, the ears are sometimes folded against the skull. High set ears are a fault.

**Malamute Tail:** Is moderately set and follows the line of the spine at the base. The tail is carried over the back when not working. It is not a snap tail or curled tight against the back, nor is it short furred like a fox brush. The Malamute tail is well furred and has the appearance of a waving plume.

**Siberian Tail:** The well furred tail of fox-brush shape is set on just below the level of the top line, and is usually carried over the back in a graceful sickle curve when the dog is at attention. When carried up, the tail does not curl to either side of the body, nor does it snap flat against the back. A trailing tail is normal for the dog when in repose. Hair on the tail is of medium length and approximately the same length on top, sides and bottom, giving the appearance of a round brush. Faults: A snapped or tightly curled tail; highly plumed tail; tail set too low or too high.

**Malamute Feet:** Are of the snowshoe type, tight and deep, with well-cushioned pads, giving a firm, compact appearance. The feet are large, toes tight fitting and well arched. There is a protective growth of hair between the toes. The pads are thick and tough; toenails short and strong..

**Siberian Feet:** Oval in shape but not long. The paws are medium in size, compact and well furred between the toes and pads. The pads are tough and thickly cushioned. The paws neither turn in nor out when the dog is in natural stance. Faults: Soft or splayed toes; paws too large and clumsy; paws too small and delicate; toeing in or out.

*In addition to the Siberian Husky, there are two other Arctic breeds, the Alaskan Malamute and the Samoyed, recognized by the American Kennel Club. These three recognized breeds are to be distinguished from the various cross-breeds known collectively as Alaskan huskies. The term "husky" is a corruption of the nickname "Esky" once applied to the Eskimos and subsequently to their dogs. The Siberian Husky is the only recognized breed in which this word has become part of the proper name.*

**Siberian:** Expression: is keen, but friendly; interested and even mischievous. Skull: Of medium size and in proportion to the body; slightly rounded on top and tapering from the widest point to the eyes. Faults: Head clumsy or heavy; head too finely chiselled. Stop: The stop is well-defined and the bridge of the nose is straight from the stop to the tip. Fault: Insufficient stop. Muzzle: Of medium length; that is, the distance from the tip of the nose to the stop is equal to the distance from the stop to the occiput. The muzzle is of medium width, tapering gradually to the nose, with the tip neither pointed nor square. Faults: Muzzle either too snipy or too coarse; muzzle too short or too long. Nose: Black in grey, tan or black dogs; liver in copper dogs; may be flesh coloured in pure white dogs. The pink-streaked "snow nose" is acceptable. Lips: Are well pigmented and close fitting.

**Eyes:** Almond shaped, moderately spaced and set a trifle obliquely. Eyes may be brown or blue in colour; one of each or particoloured are acceptable. Faults: Eyes set too obliquely; set too close together.

**Ears:** Of medium size, triangular in shape, close fitting and set high on the head. They are thick, well furred, slightly arched at the back, and strongly erect, with slightly rounded tips pointing straight up. Faults: Ears too large in proportion to the head; too wide set; not strongly erect.

**Malamute Coat:** The Malamute has a thick, coarse guard coat, never long and soft. The undercoat is dense, from 2.5 - 5 cm (1 - 2 ins) in depth, oily and woolly. The coarse guard coat varies in length as does the undercoat. The coat is relatively short to medium along the sides of the body, with the length of the coat increasing around the shoulders and neck, down the back, over the rump, and in the breeching and plume. Malamutes usually have a shorter and less dense coat during the summer months. The Malamute is shown naturally. Trimming is not acceptable except to provide a clean cut appearance of feet.

**Malmute Colour:** The usual colours range from light grey through intermediate shadings to black, sable and shadings of sable to red. Colour combinations are acceptable in undercoats, points, and trimmings. The only solid colour allowable is all white. White is always the predominant colour on underbody, parts of legs and feet, and part of face markings. A white blaze on the forehead and /or collar, or a spot on the nape is attractive and acceptable. The Malamute is mantled, and broken colours extending over the body or uneven splashing are undesirable.

**Siberian Coat:** The coat of the Siberian Husky is double and medium in length, giving a well-furred appearance, but is never so long as to obscure the clean-cut outline of the dog. The undercoat is soft and dense and of sufficient length to support the outer coat. The guard hairs of the outer coat are straight and somewhat smooth lying, never harsh nor standing straight off from the body. It should be noted that the absence of the undercoat during the shedding season is normal. Trimming of whiskers and fur between the toes and around the feet to present a neater appearance is permissible. Trimming the fur on any other part of the dog is not to be condoned and should be severely penalised. Faults: Long, rough, or shaggy coat; texture too harsh or too silky; trimming of the coat, except as permitted above.

**Siberian Colour:** All colours from black to pure white are allowed. A variety of markings on the head is common, including many striking patterns not found in other breeds.

## Comparison of Malamutes And Siberians

	Alaskan Malamute	Siberian Husky
<b>Skull</b>	broad	medium width
<b>Stop</b>	slight break from a straight line	well defined
<b>Muzzle</b>	bulky	tapering
<b>Lips</b>	tight fitting	close fitting
<b>Ears</b>	medium, small in relation to head	medium, thick, well furred
<b>Ear Set</b>	wide apart on the outside back edges of the skull	high set, pointing straight up
<b>Eyes</b>	almond, oblique	almond, oblique
<b>Nose Pigment</b>	snow nose acceptable, brown in red dogs, black in all others	snow nose acceptable pink in white dogs, liver in red dogs, black in all others
<b>Bite</b>	scissors, large teeth	scissors
<b>Neck</b>	strong and arched	medium and arched
<b>Ribs</b>	chest well developed	well sprung, not barrel
<b>Topline</b>	back straight and gently sloping to hips	level from withers to croup
<b>Tail</b>	waving 'plume' over the back, not snapped	round brush over the back in sickle curve
<b>Size</b>	There is a natural range in size. Dogs 63.5 cm (25 ins) at the shoulders - 38.5 kg (85 lbs) Bitches 58.5 cm (23 ins) at the shoulder - 34 kg (75 lbs)	Height: Dogs 53.5-60 cm (21/23 ins) at the withers 20-27 kg (45-60 lbs Bitches 51-56 cm (20/22 ins) at the withers 16-23 kg (35-50 lbs)
<b>Proportion</b>	longer than tall	longer than tall
<b>Bone</b>	heavy	medium
<b>Pasterns</b>	short, strong, slight slope	strong, slight slant, flexible
<b>Feet</b>	large, showshoe, compact, thick pads, fur between toes	medium, oval, compact, thick pads, fur between toes
<b>Hocks</b>	moderately bent, well let down	well defined and low to the ground
<b>Coat</b>	Double, dense, oily, woolly undercoat, coarse guard coat	Double, soft, dense undercoat, guard coat straight and smooth laying