

Siberian including Neva Masquerade [Index](#)

Introduction	Points	The Siberian is said to be Russia's native forest cat with records dating back to the year 1000 but it was not until the 1980s that the Russian Cat Fancy decided to define the modern Siberian Cat. This is a cat that was born to survive the harsh Russian winters and has no extremes in type
Description	100	The Siberian is a medium to medium-large cat demonstrating overall strength, presence and alertness with a sweet facial expression. They are slow to mature taking as long as 5 years. Females are smaller than males and this should be considered when comparing the standard for young cats and females. Size is secondary to type. They give a general impression of roundness and circles rather than rectangles or triangles.
Head	35	Modified wedge medium/large size with rounded contours. Broader at the top of the skull narrowing slightly to a full rounded muzzle. There is a slight doming on the top of the head and an almost flat but slightly curved forehead. Cheekbones should be neither high-set nor prominent. Entire males should have well-developed jowls. Chin well-rounded but not prominent and in line with the nose. Muzzle moderately short in length, full and rounded. Slight muzzle curvature with a gentle and inconspicuous transition between the side of the head and the muzzle. In profile the top of the head is almost flat with a gentle slope from forehead to nose. Faults: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight profile • Narrow or foxlike muzzle
Neck		Short, rounded, sturdy and well-muscled
Nose		The nose is the same width from bridge to nose leather. There is a slight curvature with a gentle slope from the forehead to the bridge of the nose and a slight convex curvature before for the tip when viewed in profile.
Ears	5	Small to medium, rounded, wide at the base and tilted slightly forward. They sit as much on the sides of the head as the top. Ear furnishings are longer from the middle of the ear and cover the ear base. Tufts desirable.
Eye Shape	5	Medium to large oval with a rounded lower edge. The outer corner is angled slightly towards the base of the ear. They are set more than one eye width apart and are open alert and expressive. Faults: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small, round, or oriental eyes • Set too close • Recessed eyes
Eye Colour		Shades of green, gold, green-gold, or copper in harmony with the coat colour. Pointed cats (Neva Masquerade) have blue eyes, the bluer the better. White cats or cats with white may also have blue or odd eyes.
Body	35	Medium to medium-large, well-muscled with the back arched slightly higher than the shoulders with a barrel shaped firm belly giving the impression of solid weight. Substantial boning and musculature. Allowances should be made for size of younger cats and females. Type is preferred over size. Faults: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of muscle • Long body • Square body
Legs		Medium in length, substantial boning, hind legs slightly longer than the front legs Faults: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delicate boning • Very long or very short legs
Paws		Large rounded feet with toe tufts in balance with the size of the cat

Tail	5	Medium in length reaching to the shoulder blade. Wide at the base, tapering slightly to a blunt tip without thickening or kinks. Tail is plume-like, evenly and thickly furnished. Faults: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short tail, long tail • Short or uneven furnishings
Coat	5	Semi longhaired to longhaired with a triple coat. The longer top coat is dense, waterproof and glossy; the hair is longer on the neck, chest, pantaloons and tail. The texture varies with the coat colour from coarse to soft. The tight undercoat is soft and fine and covers the undersides of the body and back-side of hind legs and may curl on the underbelly and pantaloons. Hair covering the shoulder blades and lower part of the chest thick and slightly shorter. There is an abundant ruff. Allowance to be made for seasonal changes in coat.
Colour	5	All colours except chocolate, cinnamon, lilac and fawn are accepted with or without white.
Pattern		All patterns are accepted with or without white. White is allowed in any amount and in all areas. Spots and lockets are allowed. Strong colours and patterns preferred. Pointed cats – Neva Masquerades: clear body colour preferred but allowances made for older cats but must be a definite contrast between points and body colour.
Condition	5	» go to <i>The Condition of the Cat Section</i> »
Allowable Outcrosses		None

