

MAINE COON CAT

The Maine Coon is a working cat, muscular, solid, medium to large in size. This cat is a result of natural evolution. Males may be larger, females are usually smaller. Females should not be penalized because of this size difference. Allowance should be made for slow maturation, as a Maine Coon does not achieve ultimate type until three to four years of age. Type must not be sacrificed for size, or size for type.

Scale of Points (see also General Preface)

<u>Head</u>	15	The head is medium in width and slightly longer than wide with a squareness to the muzzle. Allowance should be made for broadening in older males and studs. Cheek bones are high. Chin is firm and in line with the upper lip and nose. The nose is medium long, with a gentle concave curve, with no bump or break. Objections: flat face or long pointed nose; undershot jaw.
<u>Ears</u>	5	Ears are large, tall, tapering to a point, wide at the base, set high, no more than an ear's width apart. Lynx tipping is desirable. Tufting (hair growing from inside the ear) should extend beyond the ears. Allowance: A slightly wider ear set is allowed in older, mature males. Objections: short, rounded, or untufted ears.
<u>Eyes</u>	10	Eyes are large and wide set with a slight oblique setting. Gold and/or green eyes are desired but not required. White cats may also be blue or odd-eyed (blue with gold or green). Clarity of eye color is desirable. Objections: narrow or very slanted eyes; dull eye color.
<u>Body</u>	20	The cat should be medium to large in size. Females are usually smaller and should not be penalized for size. The body should be long and with all parts proportioned to create a rectangular appearance. The neck is medium to long; it may be thick and muscular in older males. The body should feel solid with firm muscle and no flabbiness. When viewed from the rear, there should be a definite squareness to the rump. Objections: cobby body; delicate bone structure; rounded rump.
<u>Legs & Feet</u>	5	The legs are well-muscled, medium in length, and in proportion to to body length.) Paws are large, round and well-tufted underneath and between the toes. Objections: short legs; delicate bone structure; untufted paws.
<u>Tail</u>	5	The fur on the tail is long and flowing. The tail is wide at the base and gradually tapering.
<u>Color</u>	10	See the Appendix for color descriptions. White trim around the chin and lip line allowed, except in solid color cats other than white.
<u>Coat</u>	20	The fur on the front shoulders is shorter and should become longer along the back towards the tail, ending in a shaggy heavy coat on the britches. The sides of the cat's coat should gradually get longer until the stomach is reached, where it should be long and full. A full ruff is not expected; however, there should be a slight frontal ruff beginning at the base of the ears. The coat should have a fine but heavy texture, and should fall smoothly. The coat should have a lustrous sheen but should not be

excessively oily or dull. A slight undercoat may be carried. This is the optimum coat and will vary with the climate. Cats should not be penalized for less than a full coat during the warm season nor shall they be penalized for a very full coat.
Objection: even length of coat.

Condition 10 Solid, firm and muscular. The cat should be presented in a well-groomed manner.
Objection: Flabby or emaciated.