

## JAPANESE SPITZ

*A breed standard is the guideline which describes the ideal characteristics, temperament and appearance including the correct colour of a breed and ensures that the breed is fit for function. Absolute soundness is essential. Breeders and judges should at all times be careful to avoid obvious conditions or exaggerations which would be detrimental in any way to the health, welfare or soundness of this breed. If a feature or quality is desirable it should only be present in the right measure. However, if a dog possesses a feature, characteristic or colour described as unacceptable, it must not be rewarded in the show ring.*

Most recent changes to this Standard have an effective date of 01/01/2020

### ORIGIN

Japan.

### UTILISATION

Companion dog.

### BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The origin of the Japanese Spitz is said to be the large-sized white German Spitz brought to Japan around 1920 via the continent of Siberia and north-east part of China. Around the year 1921, the breed was first exhibited at a dog show in Tokyo. Subsequently, in 1925, two pairs of white Spitz were imported from Canada, and until around 1936, imports came from Canada, the U.S., Australia, and China. Eventually, their offspring were crossbred to produce better breed type. After the 2nd World War, the unified breed standard was established by the Japan Kennel Club in 1948, and is valid to the present.



### GENERAL APPEARANCE

Covered with profuse, pure-white coat, with pointed muzzle, triangular pricked ears, and feathering tail over back. The constitution tough, and the whole well-balanced, its harmonious beauty causing spirit and dignity peculiar to this breed, expressing elegance.

### IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

The ratio of height at withers to length of body is 10 : 11.

### BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT

Intelligent, cheerful, keen in sense. Noisy not permitted.

### HEAD

Size in balance to body, moderately broad and rounded.

#### Cranial Region:

**Skull:** Forehead moderately developed. Rear part of skull broadest.

**Stop:** Defined.

#### Facial Region:

**Nose:** Small, round, and black.

**Muzzle:** Pointed, the tip slightly round, and well-balanced. Lips tight and, preferably, black.

**Jaws and teeth:** Teeth white and strong, with scissor bite.

#### Eyes:

Moderately large, almond-shaped, set slightly oblique, dark in colour. Black eye-rims.

#### Ears:

Set on high, small, triangular, pricked, facing forward, and not too far apart.

### NECK

Moderately long, muscles well-developed.

## BODY

**Withers:** High.

**Back:** Straight and short.

**Loin:** Broad.

**Chest:** Wide and deep, ribs well sprung.

**Underline and belly:** Well tucked up.

## TAIL

Set on high, moderately long, carried over back.

## LIMBS

### Forequarters:

**Shoulder:** Well-sloping

**Elbow:** Tight

**Forearm:** Straight.

### Hindquarters:

**General appearance:** Muscular.

**Stifle (knee):** Moderately-bent.

**Hock joint:** Moderately-bent.

## FEET

Cat-feet. Pads thick and desirably black, as well as the nails.

## GAIT / MOVEMENT

Quick and active.

## COAT

- Outer coat straight and stand-off.
- Undercoat short, soft, and dense.
- The foreface, ears, front of forearms, and part below hocks are short haired, and the rest covered with abundant long coat, especially from neck to shoulders; forechest covered with beautiful frill, and the tail also has long profuse feathering.

## COLOUR

- Pure white.

## SIZE

### Height at withers:

**Males:** 30cm – 38cm (approx. 12" – 15").

Bitches slightly smaller than dogs.

***N.B.** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum. Only functionally and clinically healthy dogs, with breed typical conformation should be used for breeding.*

## FAULTS

Any departure from the foregoing points should be considered a fault and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog, and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

- Overshot or undershot mouth.
- Strongly curled tail.
- Shyness; noisiness.

### Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Drop ears.
- Tail not carried on back.

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**FCI Standard No 262: NIHON SUPITTSU (JAPANESE SPITZ)**

**FCI Classification: Group 5: Spitz and Primitive types**

Section 5.3. Asian Spitz and related breeds

Without Working Trial