

BREED CODE – MCO: MAINE COON

GENERAL TYPE STANDARD

The Maine Coon is America's native longhaired cat. The breed, with its essentially amiable disposition, developed through a natural selection process where only the fittest survived. It should always be remembered that the Maine Coon developed basically as a "working cat" able to fend for itself in rough, woody terrain and under extreme climatic conditions. The Maine Coon is a large breed with big ears, broad chest, substantial boning, a long, hard muscled, rectangular body and a long flowing tail. Good muscle tone and density give the cat the appearance of power.

Overall balance and proportion are essential to the Maine Coon and no one feature should dominate the eye's attention over any other.

Head Shape: Broad, modified wedge. Size in proportion to body. Slightly longer than wide. Distinct muzzle break can be seen under high prominent cheekbones.

Muzzle: Square

Profile: Gently curving forehead. Gentle concave curve at bridge of nose flowing into a smooth nose line. Slight nose bump allowed in kittens.

Chin: Wide and deep enough to complete square look of muzzle. Firm, in line with upper lip.

Ears: Large, wide at base with outer base set just slightly farther back than inner base. Outer base just above the level of the top of the eye. Outside edges have a very slight outward tilt that is not past eleven and one o'clock. Set fairly high on head with inner edge of ear bases no more than one ear's width apart. Taller than the width at base but still in balance with head length. Moderately pointed ears appear taller due to lynx tips. Furnishings extend beyond outer edge of ear.

Eyes: Large, slightly oval, appear round when wide open.

Outer corner of eye points toward outer base of ear. Wide-set.

Eye Colour: Any shade of green and/or gold. No relationship to coat colour. Blue and odd-eyes accepted in whites and with whites.

Body - Torso: Large, long, substantial, rectangular, equal in breadth from shoulders to hips. Broad chest. Level back. Females may be noticeably smaller than males.

Legs: Medium length to form a rectangle with the body.

Feet: Large, round and well tufted. Additional toes are allowed on either fore or hind paws or both.

Notes: *Polydactyly is a gene with variable expression and may produce anything from an extra dewclaw to extra digits on each paw. Any of these expressions is acceptable and there is no preference for more rather than fewer additional toes.*

Tail: At least as long as the body. Wide at base and tapering to tip with full, flowing fur.

Boning: Substantial.

Musculature: Substantial, powerful

Type should not be sacrificed for size. Breed is slow to mature. Allow for tighter earset in kittens and wider earset in mature adults

Coat & Texture:

Length: Uneven; shorter on shoulders, gradually lengthening down the back and sides. Long, full, shaggy belly fur and britches. Tail fur long, full, flowing. Frontal ruff becomes more developed with age.

Texture: All weather coat. A slight undercoat gives the coat body but coat still falls smoothly. Not cottony.

ALLOWANCES:

Standard favours the male. Allowance **MUST** be made for a significant size difference between the male and the female.

PENALIZE:

Eyes: Slanted, almond-shaped. Flat tops on openings.

Ears: Very close, set straight up. Narrow bases. Wide set, flared.

Chin: Weak or receding, narrow, lack of depth.

Muzzle: Prominent whisker pads.

Profile: Straight. Roman nose. Pronounced bump.

Torso: Narrow.

Tail: Short tail.

Coat: Lack of slight undercoat or belly shag. Overall even coat.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head	(including size, shape of eyes, ear shape and set)	35
Body	(including shape, size, bone and length of tail)	35
Coat	Texture, length, Colour	30
	Total	<u>100</u>

COLOURS/ Pattern: Any recognised colour or recognized combination of colour except chocolate, lilac, cinnamon or fawn. Any recognised pattern except the colourpoint pattern. The colour and pattern should be recognisable. Where there is white spotting or patching the amount is immaterial.

As Maine Coons are a natural breed, variation within each colour is to be expected. Type should be the over-ruling consideration over colour and pattern except in cats of otherwise equal merit.

MAINE COON			
MCO	Black	MCO s	Black Smoke
MCO A	Blue	MCO s/A	Blue Smoke
MCO D	Red	MCO s/D	Red Smoke
MCO G	Cream	MCO s/G	Cream Smoke
MCO W	White		
MCO E	Black Tortie	MCO s/E	Black Tortie Smoke
MCO E/A	Blue Tortie	MCO s/EA	Blue Tortie Smoke
MCO /W	Black & White	MCO s/W	Black Smoke & White
MCO A/W	Blue & White	MCO sA/W	Blue Smoke & White
MCO D/W	Red & White	MCO sD/W	Red Smoke & White
MCO G/W	Cream & White	MCO sG/W	Cream Smoke & White
MCO E/W	Black Tortie & White	MCO sE/W	Black Tortie Smoke & White
MCO EA/W	Blue Tortie & White	MCO sEA/W	Blue Tortie Smoke & White
MCO F	Brown Tabby	MCO s/F	Black Silver Tabby
MCO F/A	Blue Tabby	MCO s/FA	Blue Silver Tabby
MCO F/D	Red Tabby	MCO s/FD	Red Silver Tabby
MCO F/G	Cream Tabby	MCO s/FG	Cream Silver Tabby
MCO F/E	Brown Tortie Tabby	MCO s/FE	Black Tortie Silver Tabby
MCO F/EA	Blue Tortie Tabby	MCO s/FEA	Blue Tortie Silver Tabby
MCO F/W	Brown Tabby & White	MCO sF/W	Black Silver Tabby & White
MCO FA/W	Blue Tabby & White	MCO sFA/W	Blue Silver Tabby & White
MCO FD/W	Red Tabby & White	MCO sFD/W	Red Silver Tabby & White
MCO FG/W	Cream Tabby & White	MCO sFG/W	Cream Silver Tabby & White
MCO FE/W	Brown Tortie Tabby & White	MCO sFE/W	Black Tortie Silver Tabby & White

MCO FEA/W	Blue Tortie Tabby & White	MCO sFEA/W	Blue Tortie Silver Tabby & White
MCO P	Black Tipped	MCO s/P	Black Shaded Silver
MCO P/A	Blue Tipped	MCO s/PA	Blue Shaded Silver
MCO P/D	Red Tipped	MCO s/PD	Red Shaded Silver
MCO P/G	Cream Tipped	MCO s/PG	Cream Shaded Silver
MCO P/E	Black Tortie Tipped	MCO s/PE	Black Tortie Shaded Silver
MCO P/EA	Blue Tortie Tipped	MCO s/PEA	Blue Tortie Shaded Silver
MCO sP/W	Black Shaded Silver & White	MCO sPE/W	Black Tortie Shaded Silver & White
MCO sPA/W	Blue Shaded Silver & White	MCO sPEA/W	Blue Tortie Shaded Silver & White
MCO sPD/W	Red Shaded Silver & White		
MCO sPG/W	Cream Shaded Silver & White		
MCO Z	AOC Maine Coon (Any Other Colour/Pattern Maine Coon). NO CHALLENGE CERTIFICATES		

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