

SWEDISH LAPPHUND

- BREED STANDARD
- HOW TO INTERPRET IT



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Standards - SWEDISH LAPPHUND:

TRANSLATION:

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ORIGIN:

Sweden

GENERAL APPEARANCE:

Typical Spitz dog. Of medium size and rectangular shape and good carriage.

UTILIZATION:

Herding dog, used for reindeer, nowadays mainly kept as a companion dog.

BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY:

The Swedish Lapphund (a Nordic Spitz used for reindeer herding by the Sami nomadic tribes) is known in the Nordic area for centuries. The Lapphund is very receptive and willing to work. Its abilities as a good guard and herding dog made it very useful in the reindeer-trade.

Nowadays the breed is foremost kept as a companion dog; it's very versatile, suitable for obedience training, agility, herding, tracking etc. It's easy to train, full of endurance and toughness and with a weather-resistant coat.

BEHAVIOUR/TEMPERAMENT:

Lively, alert, kind and affectionate.

HEAD:

CRANIAL REGION:

Skull: Skull slightly longer than broad, forehead rounded and occiput not clearly defined.

Stop: Stop very well defined.

FACIAL REGION:

Muzzle: Length of muzzle a little more than one-third of length of head. Foreface strong, evenly tapering towards tip of nose. Nose bridge straight.

Lips: Close fitting lips. Palate and lips strongly pigmented.

Nose: Preferably black, or very dark.

Jaw/Teeth: Scissors bite with even and well developed teeth.

EYE:

Set well apart, round, fairly big but not protruding. Brown, preferably dark brown and full of expression. Rims strongly pigmented.

EAR: Triangular, broad at base, small, pricked, tips slightly rounded. Set well apart and very mobile. Tipped ears are undesirable but not a disqualifying fault.

NECK:

Medium length, clean-cut and powerful.

BODY:

Well put together, slightly longer than height at withers.

Back: Back level, strong, muscular and springy.

Loin: Loins short and broad.

Croup: Croup proportionally long and broad, slightly sloping and well muscled.

Chest: Chest rather deep reaching to elbow. Rib cage proportionally long, oval and with well developed last ribs. Forechest well developed and well defined.

Underline and belly: Belly slightly tucked up.

Tail: Rather high set, reaching to hock when extended. Carried curled over back when the dog is moving.

LIMBS:

FOREQUARTERS: Forelegs straight, strong and parallel, standing and moving.

Well angulated to provide good reach.

Shoulder: Shoulders well laid back.

Elbow: Elbows fitting close to chest.

Forefeet: Strong, oval, with tightly knit toes, hardy and elastic padding well covered with fur also between pads. Nails and pads strongly pigmented.

HINDQUARTERS:

General appearance: Well angulated, but not exaggerated, in stifle and hock joint.

Thigh: Muscular.

Hocks: Low-set to enable great power of propulsion. Dewclaws undesirable.

Hindfeet: As front feet.

GAIT / MOVEMENT:

Light and springy covering ground with drive.

COAT:

Profuse double coat. Hair standing straight out from body, undercoat dense and very finely frilled. Short on head and front of legs. Longer on brisket, back of legs and on tail. Bushy, long and dense on tail. Forming a ruff around the neck.

COLOUR:

Usually solid black, bronzing is typical. Liver or Brown, Bear brown was known a long time ago. White on chest, on feet and tip of tail is permissible but more white is undesirable.

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT:

Height at withers: Ideal size males: 48 cm, allowance of +/- 3 cm. Ideal size females: 43 cm, allowance of +/- 3 cm.

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.

DISQUALIFYING FAULTS:

-Untypical.

-Abnormalities

- No trace of undercoat on the day of examination.

N.B.: Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended into the scrotum.

SWEDISH LAPPHUND

RUOTSINLAPINKOIRA

Swedish Lapphund
- Judges Guide



FORWARD:

Swedish Lapphund is a time-honoured Nordic breed, which is elegant & mature. A Nordic spitz used in the past for reindeer herding by Sami people has been known in the Nordic area for over 10,000 years. The Lapphund is very agile & willing to work. Its abilities as a good guard & herding dog made it very useful in the reindeer-trade. Now days the breed is foremost kept as a companion dog. It's very versatile, suitable for obedience training, agility, herding, tracking etc. It's easy to train, full of endurance & toughness & with a weather-resistant coat.

Swedish Lapphund dog is in proportion with correct depth of chest & good front & rear angulations & bone. These combined with muscular rear provide pace & powerful gate propulsion.



This dog is lacking in bone & angulation. There for will not move correctly. The ears are too big & the topline is sloping which is also incorrect.



The skull is lacking sufficient stop. The ears are too big. There is insufficient bone & lacks coat, untypical of breed. Skeleton is slim & hock is too long.



This dog with extravagant coat, That is interfering with its contour & proportion.



This example of a head is more typical
The head when viewed from the side should
Show a definite stop tapering to the nose.
A roman nose is not desired.



This beautiful masculine head
Forehead rounded occiput not clearly defined
Stop clearly defined
Ears are triangular set broadly apart at the
Base.

The eyes should be dark & expressive
Palate , lips & eye rims strongly
pigmented

To larger ear must be penalised, as it
disrupts
The overall picture.



When viewed side on the swedish lapphund
should not be a square. Too long or too short
a body will detract from the dog's ability to
perform the work they are bred for.

The croup will be short & wide, this means
the dog can work for long periods of time.



When the dog is stationary the tail does not
have to be over the back.

Breed type must always remain a strong dog
with powerful & effortless movement.

A dog who is weak should not be awarded it
is important to maintain good angles depth of
chest & rectangular body shape with dark
pigmentation.



Swedish lapphund is a working dog breed; the breed requires strength to perform at its top level of endurance.

The vertical position of each fur coat will make the coat water & snow repellent. The outer coat has a shine but is not so soft that it cannot stand off the body.

The under coat has a curl.

Dog's will have a fuller mane, in both sexes the hair on the front of legs & on the head is shorter.

If the hair is fine & soft the snow will form lumps on the coat & cause the dog to become an ineffective worker.

The hair on the feet is thick between the pads this prevents snow burn.



This dog has acceptable white marks on the chest & feet. This applies to both black or brown (liver) colour dogs, too much white is considered not typical of the breed type & often lack pigmentation.



SUMMARY

Today in particular we must take into account the following details.

Movement should be light, flexible & powerful.

Consistency in type, size & strength should be aspired too but not at the expense of size & skeletal shape.

Too small or too large with tiny bones should not be rewarded.

Heads, it is difficult to find the head where all details are in place. List stop, small triangular ears with rounded tips, larger round eyes, (dark brown) preferred, with correctly set ears.

Temperament

Swedish lapphund should be lively, alert, friendly & loyal dogs.