

# Official Standard for the PUMI

## GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Pumi is a medium-sized alert, intelligent, energetic, and agile Hungarian herding breed, originating in the 17th or 18th centuries from the ancestral Puli, and used to herd cattle, sheep, and swine. He is characterized by his square outline, curly coat, circular tail, and long head with semi-erect ears, and whimsical expression. The Pumi originated in Hungary where pastures were small and the livestock were driven to local fields for grazing. He is a versatile stock dog, equally adept at gathering, driving and keeping the stock within boundaries as directed by the shepherd, working very close to the livestock, and using his voice and quick movement to keep the stock under control.

## SIZE, PROPORTION, SUBSTANCE

The Pumi is square, with the height at the withers equal to the distance from prosternum to buttocks. The bone is medium and the body is dry, lithe and muscular, with an off-standing, curly coat.

**Size:** Dogs are from 16" to 18½", bitches from 15" to 17½".  
*Disqualification: Height ½" above or below the desired range.*

**Weight:** Ideal weight in dogs is 27 – 29 lbs and in bitches 22 -24 lbs.

## HEAD

Long, with the muzzle 40-50% of the length of the head. The planes are parallel with a slight stop.

**Expression** is lively and intelligent.

**Eyes** are medium sized, dark brown, deep set, and oval, set moderately wide apart and slightly oblique. The pigment is dark and complete with tightly-fitting eye rims.

**Ears** are set on high, of medium size, and carried two-thirds erect with the tips pointing somewhat towards the sides. The ears are covered with hair, enhancing their whimsical expression. The ears are mobile and alert, moving quickly in reaction to any stimulation.  
*Disqualifications: Ears prick or hanging.*

**Skull** is long, moderate in width, with a very slight rounding at the sides and back, but flat when viewed from the side. The occiput is not apparent.

**Muzzle** is strong, tapering to a blunt end at the nose, which is always black in all coat colors. *Lips* are tight and darkly pigmented, as are the gums.

**Jaws** are strong, with a full complement of well-developed, white teeth that form a scissors bite.

## NECK, TOPLINE AND BODY

**Neck** is of medium length, slightly arched, and well-muscled. The skin at the throat is tight, dry, and without dewlap.

**Withers** pronounced and forming the highest point of the body.

**Body:** The body is smooth and tight with hard, but not bulging muscles, and particularly lean. The *back* is short, straight, and taut. The *loin* is short, straight, and firmly coupled. The *croup* is not too long, slightly sloped, and of medium breadth.

The **chest** is deep, fairly narrow, and extends well back to a moderate tuck-up. The ribs are slightly sprung with a deep brisket reaching to the elbows. The forechest is not pronounced. The depth of the chest is slightly less than 50% of the height at the withers.

**Tail:** set high, it arches over the back forming a full circle from base to tip, sitting just on top of the topline. In repose it may hang down. Docking is not permitted nor is a naturally short tail (stump).

## FOREQUARTERS

**Shoulders:** The shoulders are moderately angulated, with long, well-knit shoulder blades and an upper arm matching in length. The angle formed between the shoulder blade and upper arm should be 100 to 110 degrees. The *elbows* are tucked firmly against the brisket.

The **legs** are long and straight, with medium bone. The **pastern** is very slightly sloped.

The **feet** are tight, and round with well-knit toes – a cat foot, with well-cushioned pads. The nails are strong and preferably black or nearly black.

## HINDQUARTERS

The hindquarters are well-developed and muscular, and in balance with the forequarters having moderate angulation. The upper thigh is thick and strong, with a long, strong second thigh.

The hocks are short, vertical, and parallel to each other. A vertical line can be drawn from the ischium down to the ground just in front of the rear toes when viewed from the side. Rear dewclaws, if any, may be removed. Hind feet same as the forefeet..

## COAT

The coat is a combination of wavy and curly hair, forming corkscrews or curls all over the body, and is never smooth or corded. The coat consists of an even mixture of harsh hair and softer undercoat

The coat stands out from the body approximately 1½” to 3” and is prepared using a combination of stripping and trimming. The eyes and the foreface are free of long hair.

The hair on the underside of the tail ranges from ½” at its shortest to 3” to 5” and has little undercoat.

In order to achieve the characteristic corkscrews and curls in the coat, the hair is allowed to dry naturally. **The coat must never appear fluffed and blown dry, obscuring the characteristic curls.**

#### **COLOR**

Black, white, or any shades of gray. Shades of fawn from pale cream to red, with some black or gray shading desirable. The grays are born black and fade to various shades of gray. In any of the colors, an intermixture of some gray, black or white hairs is acceptable as long as the overall appearance of a solid color is maintained.

A white mark on the chest less than 1” at the longest dimension is permissible, as are white toe tips.

Skin pigmentation is dark, with the coat colors intense and solid, although there may be lighter or darker shadings on head and legs. *Disqualification: Any multiple-color pattern or patches, e.g. black and tan pattern, piebald, parti-colored.*

#### **GAIT**

The gait is light and spirited, energetic and efficient, with moderate reach and drive, enabling them to change direction instantly. Head and tail are carried up. From the front and rear, the legs travel in a straight line in the same planes, and tend to converge toward a median line of travel as speed increases.

#### **TEMPERAMENT**

Lively, alert, intelligent, bold, and ready for duty, yet reserved with strangers, the Pumi assesses each new situation.

#### **FAULTS**

Any deviation from the foregoing should be considered a fault, the seriousness of the fault depending upon the extent of the deviation. Additional emphasis should be given to those characteristics that distinguish the Pumi from the Puli: head, ears, tail, and coat.

#### *DISQUALIFICATIONS*

*Height ½” above or below the desired range.*

*Ears prick or hanging.*

*Any multiple-color pattern or patches, e.g. black and tan pattern, piebald, parti-colored.*