

## JAPANESE CHIN

*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 01/01/2026

### ORIGIN

Japan.

### UTILISATION

Companion dog.

### BRIEF HISTORICAL SUMMARY

According to ancient documents it is assumed that the ancestors of the Chin were presented as a gift from the rulers of Korea (during the Silla Dynasty age 377–935) to the Japanese court in 732. For a successive 100 years, there appears to have been a large number of Chins coming into Japan. Historical records also indicate that envoys sent to China (during the Tung Dynasty age 618–910) and North Korea (during the Po H'ai Dynasty age 698–926) brought back dogs of this breed directly. During the reign of the Shogunate Tsunayoshi Tokugawa (1680–1709) the breed was raised as an indoor toy dog in the Castle of Edo. In 1613 a British Captain, named Searles brought a Chin to England and in 1853 Commodore Perry from the U.S. brought several to the U.S. of which two were presented to Queen Victoria of England. Since 1868, the Chin has been favored as a lapdog by ladies of the upper classes, and currently is being widely spread as a companion dog.



Illustration courtesy of NKU Picture Library

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

Small sized dog with broad face, covered with profuse coat, with elegant and graceful figure.

### IMPORTANT PROPORTIONS

The ratio of height at withers to length of the body is equal. The body of females slightly longer.

### BEHAVIOUR / TEMPERAMENT

Clever, mild and lovely.

### HEAD

#### Cranial Region:

**Skull:** Broad and rounded.

**Stop:** Deep and indented.

#### Facial Region:

**Nose:** Nasal bridge very short and broad, the nose is set on a straight line with the eyes; the nose colour is black or deep flesh coloured, according to the coat colour. Well opened nostrils.

**Jaws/Teeth:** Teeth white and strong; level bite desirable, but scissor bite or undershot mouth permitted.

#### Eyes:

Large, without exaggeration, rounded, set wide apart and lustrous black in colour.

#### Ears:

Long, triangular, hanging, covered with long hair; set wide apart.

### NECK

Rather short, and held high.

## BODY

**Back:** Short and straight.

**Loin:** Broad and slightly arched.

**Chest:** Moderately broad and deep, with ribs moderately sprung.

**Underline and belly:** Belly well drawn up.

## TAIL

Carried up over back and covered with beautiful, profuse and long hair.

## LIMBS

### Forequarters:

**General appearance:** Forearms straight, fine bone; backside of forearms below the elbows feathered.

### Hindquarters:

**General appearance:** Hindlegs moderately angulated, rear of the rump covered with feathering.

## FEET

Small and hare-shaped, preferably feathered between the toes. Hind feet: Small and hare-shaped, covered with tufts of hair desirable.

## GAIT / MOVEMENT

Elegant, light and proud.

## COAT

### Hair:

Silky, straight and long. Whole body except face covered with profuse hair. The ears, neck, thighs and tail have profuse feathering.

### Colour:

- White with markings of black or red.
- \* Markings symmetrically distributed from around eyes over ears as on whole body desirable.
- \* Especially white and wide blaze from muzzle to crown desirable.

## SIZE

### Height at withers:

**Males:** approx. 25cm (approx. 10")

**Females:** slightly smaller than males.

***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.

- Shyness.
- Nose of any colour other than black in white dogs with black markings.
- Overshot mouth.
- Solid white coat with no markings; single marking on face.

### Disqualifying faults:

- Aggressive or overly shy dogs.
- Any dog clearly showing physical or behavioural abnormalities.
- Wry lower jaw.
- Tricolour.



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**FCI Standard No. 206: CHIN (JAPANESE CHIN)**

**FCI Classification: Group 9 – Companion and Toy Dogs.**

Section 8.2. Japan Chin and Pekingese

Without working trial.