

# *The Keeshond - An Illustrated Breed Standard*

## **GENERAL APPEARANCE**

***Short, compact body, confident carriage. Foxlike head with small pointed ears, alert expression, large ruff, well feathered tail over back.***

### ***Short, compact body;***

A Keeshond should never be long in body. It should present a square compact outline when standing.



### ***Confident carriage;***

Recognises that a Keeshond should be alert and self assured. Never slinky, sulky or cowardly.

### ***Foxlike head;***

This statement is somewhat misleading. The head of a Keeshond when viewed from above should be a clean wedge shaped. Unlike that of a fox which narrows in front of the eyes, into the muzzle.

### ***Small pointed ears;***

Indicates that the ears must not be overly large or prominent and, if correctly shaped, will be pointed at the tips.

### ***Alert expression;***

One of the most endearing attributes of the breed is the alert and intelligent expression of a typical Keeshond face.

### ***Large ruff;***

The coat should be most profuse around the neck, shoulders and forechest area, forming a distinctive ruff.

### ***Well feathered tail curled over back;***

Indicates a richly plumed tail with a double curl, which when correctly set forms an integral part of the overall silhouette of a Keeshond.

- FAULTS**
- Solid colours, or patches of white on body (*Only grey shading acceptable*).
  - Very light eyes.
  - Bad mouths.
  - Loose or uncurled tails.