

# FCI Standard No. 335

## Central Asian Shepherd Dog

*Sredneasiatskaia Ovtcharka; Zentralasiatischer Ovtcharka;  
Chien de Berger d'Asie Centrale Perro de Pastor de Asia  
Central; Central Asian Ovtcharka*



### Classification:

Group: II ..... Pinscher and Schnauzer - Molossians and Swiss Mountain and Cattle dogs.

Section: 2. .... Molossian Type

Subsection: 2. .... Mountain Type

Origin: Russia

### Info:

F.C.I. Standard No 335 dated 17/05/93

Translated by: by Mrs. Peggy Davis into English, and by Mme Alain, Professor at the University of Lille III assisted by Mr. R. Triquet into French from the original Russian

Please Note: Words contained in brackets (.....) are as in the Davis translation. Words contained in square brackets [...], are alternative translations or explanations.

**Brief Historical Summary:** The shepherd dogs of Central Asia are dogs of above average height and of great size; of a coarse conformation; strong; bold; distrustful of strangers [must be amenable to handling]; not demanding; who adapt easily to different climatic conditions. All these qualities allow the shepherd dog of Central Asia to be used widely in the different regions of the country. The main regions where the Central Asian Shepherd dogs have penetrated are the republics of Central Asia and the regions surrounding them.

**General Appearance:** Of a coarse conformation, with massive bone structure and powerful muscles. One often finds dogs of this breed with a tendency to looseness [soft; flabby]. The thick skin, with well developed and sufficiently elastic subcutaneous tissue, often forms folds in the region of the neck.

**Indication of Size [Proportions]** The male is square to just slightly long, and the female is slightly longer - height to length ratio.

**Sexual Characteristics:** Accentuated. The males are more masculine, stronger and more massive than the females. The sexual differences are clearly marked.

**Characteristics:** [Not specified - See General Appearance and Temperament]

**Temperament / Behavior:** Type of very great activity [industrious; willingness to work], calm and balanced. The predominant reaction is of active defense.

### DESCRIPTION:

**HEAD AND SKULL:** Massive, broad skull with well developed zygomatic arches. Flat forehead, slight stop. The muzzle is slightly shorter than the length of the skull; wide between the eyes, hardly narrowing at all towards the nose. Seen from the front and from above, the muzzle appears rectangular, whereas in profile it has a truncated [blunt] shape with a heavy [thick] upper lip which hangs at the corners. The nose is strong and black. In light colored dogs a brown [liver] nose is allowed.

**EYES:** Dark, wide apart, round, set straight.

**EARS:** Small, pendant, set low, triangular'

**MOUTH:** Teeth white, strong, fittingly tightly. The incisors are set with their base in a straight line. Scissor bite.

**NECK:** Short, muscular, carried low, forming an angle of about 30° to 40° with the line of the back.

**FOREQUARTERS:** Seen from the front, straight and parallel. The length of the leg, from the ground up to the elbows is slightly greater than half the height at the withers. The angle formed by the scapular and humerus [shoulder blade and upper arm] is about 100 degrees. The forearm is straight, massive and long. Pasterns short, broad, strong and upright.

### BODY:

**Withers:** High, well defined especially in the males. The height at the withers is 1 or 2 cm higher than the height of the croup.

**Chest:** Wide, deep, with rounded ribs. The lower line of the chest is level with or lower than the elbows.

**Abdomen [Belly]:** moderately tucked up

**Back:** Strong, straight, broad.

**Loin:** Short, broad, slightly rounded.

**Croup:** Broad, muscular, almost level.

**HINDQUARTERS:** Set parallel; moderate angulation of stifle and hock joint. Short second thighs.

**Metatarsals [Rear pasterns]** - Thick and perpendicular.

**FEET:** (Front and Hind) - Strong, oval, compact.

**TAIL:** Set high, sickle-shaped; hanging down, reaches to the hock joint. Preferably docked short.

**Gait/Movement:** The heavy, short striding trot and the gallop are the most characteristic gaits of this breed of dog. At the trot, the legs must move in a straight line, with a certain coming together of the forelegs towards a median [center; tend to single track] line.

**COAT:** Coarse hair, straight with well developed undercoat. The hair is short and flat against the skin on the head and on the front of the legs. The dogs are described according to the length of their coat:

Long-haired (7 - 8 cm) on the back and body, particularly on the ears, the neck, the back of the fore and hind legs, and on the tail.

Short-haired (3 - 5 cm) and smooth.

**COLOR:** White, black, gray, straw colored, russet (reddish brown), gray/brown, brindle, parti-colored and flecked.

**SIZE:**

**Height at the withers:** Males not less than 65 cm. Females not less than 60 cm

**FAULTS: General Appearance:** Obesity. Slight deviation from the indicated size.

**Temperament:** Lack of courage, nervous.

**Head & Skull:** Small head, very prominent zygomatic arches; domed forehead; pronounced stop; prominent eyebrows; short or long muzzle; wrinkled skin on head.

**Ears:** High set ears.

**Eyes:** Light eyes or set obliquely; lids drooping; white fleck on the eye.

**Mouth:** Teeth worn disproportionately to the age of the dog; broken teeth which do not spoil [deform] the bite. Missing more than two P1's or one P1 and one P2. Slight yellowing of the teeth.

**Neck:** Long neck with insufficient muscle. Pronounced dewlap.

**Forequarters:** Slight variation of the shoulder angulation. Slightly soft pasterns.

**Body:**

**Chest:** Flattened, somewhat slight [weedy]. Abdomen too tucked up (as in a greyhound), or drooping (voluminous).

**Withers:** Low, not sufficiently prominent from the backline.

**Back:** Soft or arched [roached].

**Loin:** Stretched [slightly long], straight or too rounded.

**Croup:** Slightly sloping.

**Hindquarters:** Slight deviation from hip to foot being in a straight line and parallel to each other. Hock joints slightly close.

Hind angulation slightly straight.

**Feet:** Splayed, long, flat. Toeing slightly in or out.

**Movement:** Slight deviation in relation to normal gaits.

**SERIOUS FAULTS:**

**General Appearance:** Weak constitution. rickety; muscular weakness. Great deviation from the indicated size. Feminine males. Monorchids; cryptorchids.

**Temperament:** Too liable to anger [irritability]; cowardice.

**Head & Skull:** Narrow head; weak, snipy [pointed] or turned-up nose.

**Mouth:** Small teeth; sparse teeth. Irregularly placed incisors. All deviations from the normal scissor bite. Missing one incisor or one canine. Missing a third or fourth premolar or one molar. Teeth with badly damaged enamel.

**Forequarters:** Straight shoulders or too closed [forming too small an angle with the upper arm]. Deformed leg bones. Soft pasterns.

**Body:** Chest: Flat, narrow, small, insufficiently developed. Back: Sway back or humped.

**Loin:** Long, narrow or hollow.

**Croup:** Narrow, short, steep, very high.

**Hindquarters:** Definite deviation from hip to foot being in a straight line and parallel to each other. Bowed legs. Hind angulation excessively straight.

**Feet:** Badly splayed, very flat. Toeing in or out badly.

**Movement:** Restricted movement; hobbled.

**Coat:** Very short coat without undercoat, soft, wavy or curly.

**ELIMINATING FAULTS:** All deviations from the correct scissor bite.

Absence of one incisor or one canine, a third premolar or a fourth premolar or of one molar. Monorchids; cryptorchids. Atrophied testicles.

**Note:** Male animals should have two apparently normal testicles fully descended in the scrotum.