



FIFe - Fédération Internationale Féline
A leading cat fanciers society

SPHYNX

History

The Sphynx is a natural mutation of the domestic cat, first documented in Canada in the 1960s. Similar hairless mutations have been observed in various breeds and populations throughout history, confirming the natural genetic origin of this trait. Through careful and selective breeding, this unique variety has developed into a well-balanced, healthy breed recognized for its extraordinary appearance and friendly temperament.



A combination of elegance and playfulness makes the Sphynx a really unique nature's masterpiece. It is a confident, loyal, and intelligent companion that brings joy and warmth to any home. Its distinctive look and loving heart make the Sphynx one of the most fascinating breeds in the world



Appearance

The Sphynx is a medium-sized, muscular, and well-proportioned cat. Its warm, soft skin resembles fine suede to the touch. Although Sphynx cats lack the fur and may have broken whiskers, it remains an excellent hunter - agile, alert, and full of curiosity. Its expressive eyes and graceful movements make it truly one of a kind. Affectionate, intelligent, and people-oriented, the Sphynx loves company and enjoys being the center of attention. It thrives on close contact and forms strong bonds with its human companions.

Health & Care

The Sphynx is a healthy and robust breed when responsibly bred and regularly monitored. Ethical breeders perform routine health checks, including heart and genetic testing, to ensure the well-being of their breeding lines. Balanced nutrition, proper hygiene, and regular veterinary visits help maintain the cat's excellent condition throughout its life.

The Sphynx's skin produces natural oils (sebum) which protect and balance it — just like in other cats. Excessive bathing removes this natural protection and may cause irritation, so healthy Sphynxes should not be bathed at all. Occasional bathing can be done, for example, before cat shows, but it should never become routine. Regular gentle wiping with a soft, damp cloth is fully sufficient to keep the skin clean.

Contrary to popular myths, Sphynx cats do not suffer from thermoregulation problems or skin diseases when properly cared for. They appreciate warmth and comfort, but do not require clothing — dressing them is unnecessary and unnatural.

FIFe Breed Councils

Breed Councils provide a voice for individuals with an interest in a breed, within the FIFe structure. You can join a Breed Council if you are Member of a National FIFe Member.

Check the relevant info and the list of Breed Councils at this link:

<https://fifeweb.org/cats/breed-councils/>

