Yuck! There's Hair in my Fudge!

A Furry Supplement for Fudge By C. Elliot Ritter

Yuck! There's Hair in my FUDGE! is licensed under the Open Gaming License, version 1.0a; see Section 10. Fudge System Reference Document Copyright 2005, Grey Ghost Press, Inc.; Authors Steffan O'Sullivan, Ann Dupuis, with additional material by other authors as indicated within the text. Available for use under the Open Game License (see Appendix I)

Yuck! There's Hair in my FUDGE! Copyright 2007, C. Elliot Ritter.

(Note: This draws heavily in concept from Palladium Games' *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* role-playing game. It could be out of print, but you can't got to a used RPG store without finding a few copies. Any other copyrighted material is used as example only and does not challenge the respective copyright holders.)

Since Furries can vary from the *Omaha*-like weird looking humans to a 6' animal and all that entails it's pretty hard to make a *generic* system without either making too many assumptions about them that someone's favorite type is left out or giving so many options that it's impossible to make a character without resorting to having a scientific calculator and a zoology degree. This systems makes it a fairly simple process to make a Furry simply by making a few choices about their appearance, senses, and natural weapons.

Human Norm, or Thou Shalt Never Assume.

The only assumption I make in this document is that there is a "Human Norm", that there is a species that is human for all intents and purposes. "But," you're saying, "not only do I not *have* Humans in my setting, I have nothing *like* Humans in it." So I say: Choose a zero point. If they all have Great agility compared to a Human then make it Average. If everyone can hear a dog whistle, then don't put Heighten Hearing on everyone's sheet. The exception is weapons or weapon-like powers. It's not that you **must** list them, everyone might have them, but you must define them somewhere to be fair.

Part 1: Choose Species

This should be the simplest part of creating your character. What is the animal your character is based on?

Part 2: Choose What Merits and Flaws You Need To Make Your Character

You must choose how you want the Furry's Hands, Posture, Looks, Senses, Size, Powers and Natural Weapons.

	Major	Minor	None
Hands (Flaws)	None: a paw	Some: Manipulation but not grasping (i.e. no opposable thumb)	Human-style hand (3 or 4 fingers & an opposable thumb)
Posture (Flaw)	Quadruped	Semi-bipedal like most primates	Full Bipedal Walk
Looks1	No human features Watership Down, Balto	Few Human features Iago (Aladdin), Scooby Doo, The Secret of NIMH	Nearly every Furry and Anime-style (insert animal name)girl/boy
Senses	Full Animal Senses (+2 on proper sense checks)	Partial Animal Senses (+1 on proper sense checks)	Human Norm
Natural Weapons ²	+1 Lethal Damage	+1 Non Lethal Damage	Human Norm
Powers	Musk Spray (skunk), Very High Speed Running (cheetah), Flight	Gliding, Pheromones, Jacobson's Organ, Smell Tracking	Human Norm

Now you wonder: what does this mean in game terms?

Major Merits/Flaws:

Hands: Look at your average cat or dog. No grasping or manipulation beyond what a human can do with a fist.

Usually isn't even noted unless there are a variety of Looks present then they become Merits or Flaws as needed.

² If you don't use Non-Lethal damage then change to: Major +2, Minor +1.

Posture: Cannot use front limbs when walking and cannot easily stand on two legs.

Looks: Like the original animal, but maybe with more facial expression. Usually they have a Major Flaw in Hands and Posture, but there are exceptions like primates and raccoons.

Senses: They gain a bonus in senses to the senses the animal has heightened. Taken as a flaw this can be poor distance vision or other dulled senses.

Natural Weapons: Sharp claws, sharp teeth, horns/antlers, etc. that can cut, impale, and/or batter and opponent to death.

Powers: A non-lethal weapon, incredible speed and/or maneuverability, an animal's psionics³.

Minor Merit/Flaws:

Hands: The character is very clumsy when handling things with two hands and cannot use anything requiring a grasp (like most weapons).

Posture: Walks like an ape, i.e. Cannot walk long distances comfortably on two legs, -1 on skills requiring a steady posture (most combat skills).⁴

Looks: Mostly animal but with many human features. Usually has at least a minor flaw of posture.

Senses: Same as Major, but weaker. At this level a Flaw can represent color blindness.

Natural Weapons: As Major except that weapons cause less aggravated wounds like a deep scratch, a "brass knuckle" hit, or a very painful head butt.

Powers: Limited special movement (like an otter in water or a flying squirrel), Pheromones *can* be if not totally overpowering, tracking by smell, chemical-based empathy (Jacobson's Organ), night vision.

None

Hands: Can fully manipulate tools.

Posture: Has no difficulty walking on two legs with a straight back.

Looks: Looks like a fur covered human with an animal's head and tail. This can also be a Human with animal ears and tail often seen in Anime.

Senses: 20/20 color vision, 40Hz-40KHz hearing, weak smell and taste, and no special touch senses.

Natural Weapons: None.

Powers: None.

Part 3: Attributes

Basically it's what everyone agrees is right. Ideally the more human they are in an attribute, the more Fair (+0) attributes you'll have. I wouldn't advise anything over Great (+2)/Poor (-2) in any case just for game balance. However, Scale may differ quite a bit, but I still assume Scale: 0 is roughly human-sized (6' / 1.83-meters) for ease of using other material. The key is to make a set template, then work from there.

At this point you are technically done with racial creation, but see Part 4 if Furries have World Specific issues.

Part 4: World Specific Issues

I can't end this without putting in a word about world specific issues. This is where the racist/speciest things go as well as special qualities of a species that are in our natural world. This is the place to say "All Great Cats have 'Royalty' Merit", "All Foxes have the 'Nymphomaniac / Satyriasic' Flaw", or "All Mice have Scavanging +1". This is also the place to say, "All Furries have the 'Valuable Property' Flaw" or, "All Furries have the 'Limited Lifespan' Flaw".

³ Animal Psionics are things that have been seen in real life, but cannot be fully explained using accepted science. Like a danger sense or migratory navigation

⁴ Realistically this is how bipedal digitigrade characters would be except, maybe, for the long distance problem. If your setting has no penalties for a bipedal digitigrades then ignore this.