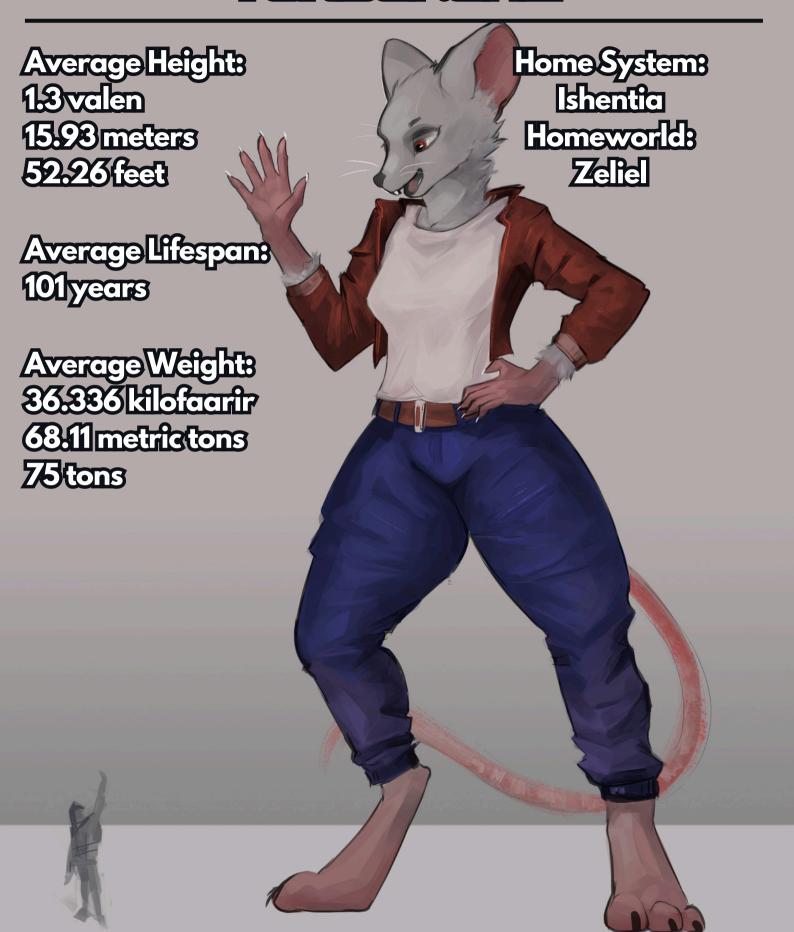
# TORDENCHI



# TORDENCHI INFO

### **APPEARANCE:**

The tordenchi resemble mice from Earth, but do not resemble any subspecies in particular. Any distinctive subspecies of their own have long ago blended together. Tordenchi fur colors have a low variety, typically only ranging between light and dark brown to gray and black. White is often mixed in, particularly with the brown furred tordenchi, but completely white tordenchi are anomalies. Eliminating albinism is usually standard procedure during in-utero therapy. Their eyes are far more developed than their counterparts on Earth with easily distinctive pupils and some varying colors. Brown, blue, green, and amber are all normal, with hazel or red being less so.

### PHYSICAL TRAITS:

The tordenchi are, second to humans, the shortest in the Union as of 2018 CE. They are also extremely flexible and capable of squeezing into very small spaces. These physical aspects have earned them a place among certain maintenance crews or other work that could utilize this advantage, and they have an entire line of specialized armored vehicles in the military. Their hands, paws, and tails are all mostly furless and not padded. If it weren't for the claws on their digits and their digitigrade legs, then they would would wear footwear more frequently rather than having a preference for none. However, footwear is still more common on tordenchi and ashar than the other nonhuman species. Unlike their counterparts on Earth, tordenchi are digitigrade and their their paws are broad like other species to help distribute their weight. They also have four digits on each foot.



**Starring Alice!** 

# TORDENCHI INFO

### SENSES:

The tordenchi have excellent hearing due to their large ears, comparable to the lupari, falashai, and ashar. They also have a great sense of smell, though they are not as effective at distinguishing distinct details in scents. The tordenchi, along with the ashar, are fairly unique in how their furless hands, paws, and tails permit a heightened sensitivity, which is a boon for fitting inside compact spaces and piloting vehicles when compared to larger species.

#### **REPRODUCTION:**

The tordenchi are not at all like their Earth counterparts when it comes to breeding. Like every other species, they average only one child at a time. Up to three can be born simultaneously without any major trouble, but this is a rarity. Gestation takes only three months, and the species is sexually active all year long. They are not genetically compatible with ashar. Naturally, tordenchi normally can only have healthy males and females. However, as per standard in-utero genetic therapy, intersex tordenchi are also possible.

#### PSYCHOLOGY:

By nature, tordenchi are not aggressive. Like most species, they only fight when needed.

Tordenchi love to explore and find new things. One that has moved to a new area would be excited and happy, as they would have the chance to see a new environment. It is not a sense of curiosity, as tordenchi are not any more inquisitive as others, so much as an enjoyment for mentally mapping everything around them.

Just like the ashar, the tordenchi do not lie. They are always honest to the point of being blunt. A tordenchi fresh off their homeworld with little experience when it comes to aliens often comes off as insulting, as they do not hesitate to speak their minds. They will immediately inform someone when they smell bad, for example. They do not mean to insult, but rather perceive their conduct as being helpful by highlighting faults they believe can be corrected. When lied to, a tordenchi is typically confused at worst. It is not easy to offend them, and a tordenchi would usually ask why they were lied to instead. Inexperienced tordenchi are considered easy to deceive if they rarely or never interact with other species.

# TORDENCHI HISTORY

Tordenchi and ashar evolved on different planets in their star system together, developing strikingly similar physical features while being entirely different species. Some have compared the relationship to ancient neanderthals or even fictional elves co-existing alongside modern day humans. Curiously, the two species aren't genetically compatible, despite potentially sharing a common ancestor. Like the katians, the two species eventually formed a mutually beneficial alliance as they explored the stars for the first time, which they called the Ishentian Alliance for short. Unlike the katians, they maintained separate governments rather than fully merging them together like the initial Katian Union.

After friendly first contact with the UTO, the tordenchi soon sought membership with the Union. However, when the ashar withdrew upon discovering the sissach, the tordenchi also backed away from diplomatic talks for fear of joining the Union without their fellow kin species joining the Union right alongside them. It took seven years for the tordenchi to join the Union after extensive treaty negotiations reworked agreements to include the ashar in trade, military cooperation, and other benefits without them actually becoming a member species as well. Once the ashar were essentially unofficial members, the tordenchi finally accepted full membership, and the ashar eventually became full members as well after seeing the tordenchi receive greater benefits. Several centuries later, the tordenchi almost seceded from the Union when the ashar did so themselves. However, a close vote kept the tordenchi within the UTO. For four centuries the tordenchi served as intermediaries between the independent ashar and the UTO, at least until the ashar rejoined the Union once more.









### **APPEARANCE:**

The ashar are comparable to rats found on earth, and like the tordenchi do not have any distinct subspecies. Their fur has the same spectrum of colors as the tordenchi, from light brown to black, but the ashar can have more white in their fur. It is possible for them to be predominantly white with large splotches of color in their fur, but fully white coats can eliminated with the treatment of albinism. Their eyes can be brown, green, or amber with red being a rarity. Blue and hazel eyes do not exist among the ashar.

### PHYSICAL TRAITS:

Compared to the tordenchi, the ashar are on average approximately half a meter taller. They are still incredibly flexible and capable of squeezing into tight places, however, and often fill the same roles the tordenchi do. Also like the tordenchi, their paws, tails, and hands are furless. Their digitigrade legs and four clawed paws lead to a species-wide preference for no footwear, but it is not uncommon for them to wear footwear for various purposes.

#### SENSES:

Their hearing isn't as sensitive as the tordenchi, but still heightened compared to neishor, humans, or katians. Their sense of scent is capable of picking up light smells, but unable to properly pick them apart like the canid species. The furless parts of their bodies can be remarkably sensitive compared to even humans.

### REPRODUCTION:

Pregnancies last a little longer than the tordenchi at four months, and typically yield only one child. Two children is their limit for a healthy pregnancy. Ashar are not genetically compatible with tordenchi. Without genetic therapy, intersex individuals are usually sexually underdeveloped and rare as a whole. However, with advanced in-utero genetic therapy, the ashar can healthily have a third hermaphroditic gender like most other species.

### **ASHAR INFO**

### PSYCHOLOGY:

Unlike the tordenchi, the ashar are aggressive, to a point. They'll rise to a challenge, but won't actually challenge anyone themselves. They're far from hostile, though can be extremely defensive.

However, their honesty being on the same level as the tordenchi means they still take well to having their faults highlighted. Genuine insults can still provoke a hostile reaction, and deception leads to the most visceral anger from an ashar. Whereas the tordenchi may be confused or curious as to why they were lied to, an ashar may begin to hate the liar for their deception. It's possible to completely ruin long standing relationships with ashar over a lie.

This does not mean ashar are hostile towards all lies, however. They may be agitated and confused over small, white lies. Above that, something like avoiding spending time with an ashar friend by providing a false excuse could have them angry and ignoring their friend for weeks. The worst of all lies that cost them something personally, such as a possession or currency, can completely break the relationship or even lead to violence.



# **ASHAR HISTORY**

The ashar did not take first contact with the rynar as well as their tordenchi allies. They rapidly built their military after that encounter, but it was never needed. Contact with the UTO happened not long after, and the ashar were pleased with the concept of the Union.

However, when it was revealed that the sissach were a part of the Union, the ashar quickly backed out of the negotiations to join and took the tordenchi with them. The sissach took days to be mentioned by UTO diplomats after the ashar shared their first contact experience with them, which the ashar took as an act of deception.

It took the ashar 36 years to fully join the Union. They seemingly grew envious over the tordenchi's membership reaping greater benefits compared to their own standing outside the Union, and their anger over the sissach deception had also waned over time.

Unfortunately, not even two decades after fully joining did an incident with the falashai occur. The ashar had claim to a system with a thick asteroid belt rich in erestal. Several falashai mining companies operated with their government to present an exchange with the ashar. For rights to the ashar system, the falashai offered rights to one of their own systems. The surveys they shared showed massive aluminum deposits in an asteroid belt, which was highly desirable for the ashar at the time. The ashar quickly accepted. However, when they arrived to set up operations, they found the asteroid belt was not only far smaller than the falashai claimed, but its aluminum was already heavily mined out.

The ashar were furious that they could be deceived like this by supposed allies. Within two days they voted to secede from the UTO, ignoring all pleas from the tordenchi to reconsider.

It took thirteen years afterward for the ashar to reestablish their first treaties with the UTO, with a further 403 years for the ashar to finally rejoin the Union once more. A long series of reassurances from the tordenchi were also required, stating that the Union reformed its internal communications and took on a far more transparent nature to avoid any potential deception, whether it be intended or not.

Because of ashar influence, dishonesty in internal treaties and written agreements can result in sanctions or criminal charges rather than simply allowing the slighted parties work out the issue among themselves, albeit these tend to be more extreme scenarios.