

# **BREED STANDARDS FOR FULL AND GUIDE STANDARD CAVIES**

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## INTRODUCTION TO STANDARDS

Standards provide the fundamental basis of all forms of livestock competition in which the appearance of the animal, as opposed to its ability to perform tests, jump obstacles or run more quickly than its peers, determines success or failure. Standards state what breeders and exhibitors should look for in the perfect specimen; and when, as is inevitable, exhibits prove to be less than perfect in some respects, standards should indicate which features are the most important and which are the least when making a decision on which are the winners and which the losers. Without clear standards, all breeding and judging of exhibition livestock would come down to a simple matter of opinion.

For example, if a given judge were to dislike Sells that have broad heads because he likes them to look like thoroughbred horses, or believes that it is unnatural to keep longhairs in wrappers, then, without standards to tell him otherwise, he would be perfectly entitled to place long-headed Sells above typey ones and clipped longhairs above long-coated ones. So for anyone who shows any cavies other than pets, and who cares even in the slightest whether they win or lose when they show, standards are important.

Standards have been in existence for exhibition cavies for probably as long as there has been a cavy fancy, well over 100 years. For many years these standards were devised by the relevant Specialist Club for each breed, with new standards or changes to standards having to be agreed by the National Cavy Club Annual General Meeting. As the number of new breeds of cavy began to increase, and as several breed clubs came to identify weaknesses in their existing standards, the discussion of standards at an AGM inevitably proved more and more difficult; and in the late 1970s it was agreed to set up a new body, the British Cavy Council, consisting of representatives of all Specialist Breed Clubs, to undertake the task of vetting standards.

The role of the British Cavy Council in looking at standards is then, as its rules state:

“To determine the Standards to be applied when judging the various breeds of cavy in the United Kingdom, these standards normally but not in all cases being effected by the discussion of proposals made by the relevant Specialist Club.”

In doing this job, the Council attempts, again as its rules spell out:

“To ensure that such standards are phrased to be as clear as possible to judges, breeders and exhibitors; offer a difficult but achievable challenge to the breeder and exhibitor; and provide a logical basis for comparisons to be made regarding the relative merits of exhibits of different breeds.”

There are two types of Standards, known as ‘Full Standards’ and ‘Guide Standards’. As the Council Rules state:

“**Full Standards** are defined for all breeds of cavy that in the Council’s opinion represent varieties that are distinct from all other existing breeds, provide a desirable addition to the Cavy Fancy, and for which a standard of excellence has been established and agreed after a sustained process of breeding and exhibition.

Such standards will describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of each breed and indicate, via an allocation of **points** adding up to 100, the relative weighting to be given to each of these characteristics in assessing different exhibits. However, the importance of ‘**balance**’ in an exhibit must always be considered: an exhibit that is a ‘near miss’ on all characteristics may be regarded as more desirable than one that is perfect in several but very poor in a particular one, and the points allocated are therefore not intended to be used as the basis of a scoring system.”

“**Guide Standards** are defined for breeds of cavy that are in a process of development but that, in the Council’s opinion, represent varieties that are distinct from all other existing breeds, are likely to provide a desirable addition to the Cavy Fancy, and for which a provisional standard of excellence can be stated after an initial period of breeding and exhibition under the auspices of a Specialist Breed Club.

Such standards will describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of the breed, but are likely to be stated in more general terms than for a Full Standard; and no points allocations will be given to indicate the relative importance of different characteristics.”

Other important Council Rules state that:

“In Open cavy shows the only cavies that may be exhibited are those having a Full Standard agreed by the Council, with the following exceptions:

- (a) Cavies of breeds for which a Guide Standard has been agreed by the Council, and as specifically detailed in these notes (including appropriate Crested and Satin versions of Guide Standard varieties).
- (b) Cavies of non-standardised colours of standardised breeds, which are viewed as having a de facto Guide Standard, the guidance points being as for the standardised breed but with colour definition(s) remaining to be specified.

(Cavies in these categories (a) and (b) may only be shown in a class or classes specifically defined for Guide Standard cavies and are not eligible for awards in competition with fully standardised cavies.)

- (c) Cavies not satisfying the above conditions, i.e. new or emerging varieties, will only be permitted to enter classes specifically defined to allow the assessment of such varieties under conditions laid down by the Council. These conditions will be framed to encourage serious breeding activities aimed at developing valid new varieties, but duplication outside these specific ‘assessment’ classes will not be allowed.
- (d) Pet cavies, for which judging criteria are subject to individual opinion but include cleanliness and health. These cavies cannot be shown in competition with cavies in other categories.

Other Council Rules in relation to Standards state that:

“At any Open show (i.e. not a show held under the auspices of a Specialist Breed Club) there should be at least one breed class available for entry by any breed of cavy that has a Full Standard. There should also be at least one class available for any breed of cavy that has a Guide Standard, as defined above.

“Judges who are on the panels of Specialist Clubs represented on the Council should at all times when judging in the United Kingdom apply the Breed Standards currently defined by the Council.

“Breed Names and Standards approved by the Council shall remain the absolute copyright property of the Council. Such Standards and Names may be used, without seeking the Council’s express prior permission, by all Clubs in the United Kingdom organising shows for exhibition cavies, on the strict understanding that Council rules and policies will be followed in defining the schedule of classes to be used in such shows.”

## THE APPROACH TO DEFINING STANDARDS

In order for Standards to be as useful as possible to breeders, exhibitors and judges, certain important **principles** must be followed when they are defined:

- Standards must be phrased clearly and unambiguously.
- Standards must be phrased in a consistent way, so that the same features for different, but comparable, breeds of cavy are described in the same terms.
- The points allocated to the various different features of a breed must accurately reflect the relative importance of these features within that breed.
- The points allocations for similar features in similar breeds should be the same.
- Standards should be easy to understand and remember. (This will be greatly aided if the sequence in which features are described is the same for all breeds.)

In attempting to follow these principles, it is important that cavy breeds are grouped in a logical manner, so that breeds with similar characteristics can readily be compared with each other. The following **classification** is used to compare the breeds currently recognised in the United Kingdom:

- **Self**, covering short-haired, normal-coated, solid-coloured cavies;
- **Ticked**, covering short-haired, normal-coated, ticked cavies (Agouti, Argente, Solid Agouti);
- **Marked**, covering short-haired, normal-coated cavies in which the placement and quality of markings are of great importance (including Dutch, Tort & White, Tricolour, Bicolour, Tortoiseshell, Brindle, Dalmation, Roan, Harlequin, Magpie, Belted);
- **Marked Pattern**, covering short-haired, normal-coated cavies that have markings occurring in a defined pattern, the clarity and definition of which are most important (including Himalayan, Tan, Fox);
- **Crested**, being variants of any of the above that have a crest;
- **Satin**, being variants of any of the above that have a satinised coat;
- **Rough-coated Shorthair**, which may be rosetted (Abyssinian) or rexoid (Rex and Teddy);
- **Longhair**, which may be smooth-haired (Sheltie), crested smooth-haired (Coronet) or rosetted (Peruvian), or rexoid variants of the above (Texel, Merino, Alpaca respectively).

In defining Standards it is also helpful to group the features described under 'broad headings' of related features, so that these can be compared across different breeds. The following 'broad headings' cover all breeds currently found in the U.K., though obviously not all apply to each breed:

- Head, Eyes & Ears
- Coat Appearance around Head (crest; frontal in Peruvians & Alpacas; head/mane in Abys)
- Body Shape
- Satinisation
- Markings
- Ticking
- Colour
- Coat 'Look'
- Coat 'Feel'
- Presentation

Then, within each Standard, these broad headings of features are placed in a logical order, the same order being used for all Standards regardless of how important the particular feature is within the particular breed. The order chosen is one that firstly takes the features that are obvious to the observer at first glance (starting 'head first' and then going to body and coat colour), and then taking those that involve closer examination.

In the case of **Smooth short-hairs** (Selves, Ticked, Marked, Marked Pattern, Crested, Satin), this means that a logical sequence is:

- Head/Eyes/Ears, Crest (if any),
- Body Shape,
- Satinisation (if any),

- Marking or Ticking (if any),
- Colour
- Coat (feel).

In the case of **Rough short-hairs** (Abyssinian, Rex, Teddy) a logical sequence is:

- Head/Eyes/Ears and Coat on Head
- Body Shape
- Coat Look
- Coat Feel.

In the case of **Longhairs** (Sheltie, Coronet, Peruvian, Texel, Merino, Alpaca) a logical sequence is:

- Head/Eyes/Ears and Coat on Head
- Body Shape
- Coat Look
- Coat Feel
- Presentation.

Within these headings there are likely to be sub-headings defining particular features, for example the Head, Eyes and Ears individually, specific Markings that are sought or particular aspects of Coat Look and Coat Feel. In doing this it is important to ensure that all key features are actually mentioned by the standard but are placed within the appropriate heading, e.g. Head with 'Head, Eyes & Ears' not as part of 'Body Shape'; 'Coat' separate from 'Colour'; points for colour of ears separated from those for shape of ears etc.

In defining Points Allocations the general principles are:

Within **Smooth short-hairs**:

- The points for HEE vs Body Shape vs Ticking or Marking vs Colour vs Coat should accurately reflect the relative importance of these features in each breed.
- Since Sells have no requirements in terms of Ticking or Marking they will carry the highest points for all other features, and will have the highest expectations in these features.
- Points allocations for Agoutis and Argentes will be the same, and in requiring a significant number of points to be given to Ticking will allocate rather fewer points to the other features than are appropriate to the Self.
- Points allocations for Marked Varieties will be similar to each other, but will reflect slightly different requirements between particular breeds. In particular, Dutch, T/W, Tricolour, Bicolour, Tortoiseshell and Brindle will use similar points allocations, in which a majority of points are allocated to the vital features of Markings; but Himalayans will carry slightly reduced points for Markings and correspondingly increased points for Colour, to emphasise Contrast; whilst Dalmatians and Roans will carry slightly increased points allocations for Head, Eyes and Ears and slightly reduced points for Colour, as appropriate to the specific requirements of these breeds.
- Crested and Satin variants of the above will carry a defined number of points for the crest or satinisation, with the remainder allocated pro rata to the points in the standard of the breed of which they are variants.

Within **Rough shorthairs**:

- The points for HEE & Coat on Head vs Body Shape vs Coat Look vs Coat Feel should accurately reflect the relative importance of these features in each breed.
- Points allocations for HEE & Coat on Head and for Body Shape will be the same, but points for Coat Look and Coat Feel will differ between Abyssinians and Rex. (In fact the points allocated to Coat Look and Coat Feel are reversed between the two breeds.

Within **Longhairs**:

- The points for HEE & Coat on Head vs Body Shape vs Coat Look vs Coat Feel vs Presentation should accurately reflect the relative importance of these features in each breed.

- Points allocations for HEE & Coat on Head, Body Shape, Coat Look, Coat Feel and Presentation will be the same within each breed.

Having followed these principles, points may then be shown for individual detailed features. However, these will be shown as subsets of the points for the major features themselves, being indicated as such by brackets.

For example the points for Markings in a Dalmation might be shown as:

<b>Markings</b>		<b><u>60</u></b>
of which		
<b>Head Markings</b>	To have a white blaze with solid colour on either side, giving a well balanced appearance.	(20)
<b>Spotting</b>	To have coloured spotting on a white body; spots to be clear, distinct and well-distributed all over the body including belly.	(30)
<b>Feet Markings</b>	To have solid colour covering the feet.	(10)

Grouping features in this way is aimed to make it easier for judges in particular to see what are the most important characteristics for each breed and how the relative importance of these characteristics varies from breed to breed, before the detailed features for each breed are emphasised. The simple premise is that, **if standards are made easier to compare and remember, more notice is likely to be taken of what they say.**

So, the result of following these principles should be:

- Standards that are laid out in a logical sequence, consistent from breed to breed;
- Related features grouped together where necessary under the major headings of Head/Eyes/Ears/Coat on Head, Body Shape, Satinisation, Markings or Ticking, Colour, Coat Look, Coat Feel (although, of course, not all of these apply to each breed), with detailed breakdowns of these major features being given where appropriate;
- Points ratios that are generally agreed to reflect the relative importance of the different features within each breed,
- Points ratios that are consistent between similar breeds rather than having unnecessary divergences.
- Standards that are easier to understand, remember and use, and which are likely to have a positive impact on the knowledge and expertise of anyone – be they judges, breeders, exhibitors or merely observers - who tries to use them.

The guiding principle is that:

**“Standards should be logically laid out, easy to understand, clear and consistent, both within individual breeds and between different breeds; for without standards there can be no real fancy.”**

However good the Breed Standards are, we are unlikely ever to reach a situation in which every judge is able to judge every cavy of every breed 100% accurately and correctly. Good standards should, however, produce a situation in which judges are given the best possible information to help them try to do so.

## SUMMARY OF STANDARD POINTS ALLOCATIONS FOR EACH BREED

<b>BREED</b>	<b>STANDARD</b>				
<b>English Self</b>	H, E, E 30	Body Shape 25		Colour 30	Coat 15
<b>Agouti</b>	H, E, E 20	Body Shape 20	Ticking 30	Colour 20	Coat 10
<b>Argente</b>	H, E, E 20	Body Shape 20	Ticking 30	Colour 20	Coat 10
<b>Dutch</b>	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 15	Coat 5
<b>T/W</b>	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 15	Coat 5
<b>Brindle/Tort</b>	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 15	Coat 5
<b>Tri/Bi-Colour</b>	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 15	Coat 5
<b>Dalmation</b>	H, E, E 15	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 10	Coat 5
<b>Roan</b>	H, E, E 15	Body Shape 10	Markings 60 (split)	Colour 10	Coat 5
<b>Himalayan</b>	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 50 (split)	Colour 25	Coat 5
<b>Tan</b>	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 50 (split)	Colour 25	Coat 5
<b>Fox</b>	H, E, E 10	Body Shape 10	Markings 50 (split)	Colour 25	Coat 5
<b>English Crested</b>	H, E, E 24 + Crest 20	Body Shape 20 (80%)		Colour 24 (80%)	Coat 12 (80%)
<b>American Crested</b>	H, E, E 18 + Crest 20	Body Shape 15 (60%)	Crest Markings 20	Colour 18 (60%)	Coat 9 (60%)
<b>Crested Ticked</b>	Crest 20+ 80% of other points.				
<b>Crested Marked</b>	Crest 20+ 80% of other points.				
<b>Solid Satin</b>	H, E, E 25	Body Shape 20	Satinisation 30	Colour 15	Coat 10
<b>Satin Ticked</b>	Satinisation 30 + 70% of other points				
<b>Satin Marked</b>	Satinisation 30 + 70% of other points				
<b>Satin Crested</b>	Satinisation 30, Crest 20 + 50% of other points				
<b>Rex</b>	H, E, E 20	Body 15	Coat - Look 20	Coat - Feel 45 (split)	
<b>Teddy</b>	H, E, E 20	Body 15	Coat - Look 20	Coat - Feel 45 (split)	
<b>Abyssinian</b>	H, E, E 5 + Mane/Hd 15	Body 15	Coat - Look 45 (split)	Coat - Feel 20	
<b>Sheltie</b>	H, E, E 20	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
<b>Coronet</b>	H, E, E 10 + Crest 10	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
<b>Texel</b>	H, E, E 20	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
<b>Merino</b>	H, E, E 10 + Crest 10	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
<b>Peruvian</b>	Front/Chops 15 + H,E,E 5	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10
<b>Alpaca</b>	Front/Chops 15 + H,E,E 5	Body 10	Coat - Look 30 (split)	Coat - Feel 30 (split)	Presentation 10



## THE LAYOUT OF BRITISH CAVY COUNCIL BREED STANDARDS

First, **General Principles** are described for the use of Breed Standards by judges in particular, but these should also be understood by breeders and exhibitors.

After this, **Faults that apply to all breeds or specified groupings of breeds** are specified.

These are divided into Faults that are so serious that Disqualification is appropriate, and Faults that are significant but not so serious as to warrant Disqualification of the exhibit.

Finally, **Individual Breed Standards** for each Full Standard and Guide Standard variety of cavy are described. These are laid out in a consistent format as:

1. **The Standard** itself: A statement of the key features of the Breed, under the major headings described above, with (for Fully Standardised Varieties) points showing the relative importance of major features and how these might be broken down into more detailed features. These describe the ideal of the breed.
2. **Specific Requirements Applying to the Breed** (for example the way in which Longhairs must be shown).
3. **Definitions of Colours within the Breed.**
4. **Guidance Notes**, aimed to give the breeder, exhibitor or judge additional information to help them better understand the breed. These will contain a general description of the breed's characteristics; may also give further information on particular features of the breed; and are likely to indicate any allowances that should be made when assessing exhibits.
5. **Specific Disqualifications**, these being faults applying to the given breed specifically, which are of such seriousness that they warrant the disqualification of the exhibit.
6. **Specific Faults**, these being faults applying to the given breed specifically, which are not of such seriousness that they warrant the disqualification of the exhibit.

## GUIDANCE TO JUDGES ON USE OF STANDARDS

**Breed Standards** are intended to describe the most important characteristics of the ideal exhibit of each breed of cavy, and indicate, via an allocation of points adding up to 100, the relative weighting to be given to each of these characteristics in assessing different exhibits.

However, the importance of '**Balance**' in an exhibit must always be considered. An exhibit that is a 'near miss' on all characteristics may be regarded as more desirable than one that is perfect in several but very poor in a particular one.

The points allocations are therefore not intended to be the basis of any form of scoring system.

Although **Condition** is not specifically mentioned within Breed Standards, it is an essential attribute of all exhibition cavies that they be shown in good health and sound physical condition; and judges should not hesitate to penalise exhibits that are not in such condition and to disqualify any that are in poor physical condition.

In addition, **Good Temperament** is a highly desirable quality in the show exhibit; and animals that prove difficult to handle or control, or that show clear signs of aggression, should be penalised, with Disqualification being appropriate in extreme cases.

Breed classes at shows are only intended for cavies of the species '*Cavia porcellus*', and not for other species such as '*Cavia aperea*' (the so-called Giant cavy).

1. **DISQUALIFICATIONS APPLYING ACROSS BREEDS**

**Disqualifications Applying to All Breeds**

- 1.1. Sows obviously in pig.
- 1.2. Running lice.
- 1.3. Breaks in skin.
- 1.4. Fatty eye (fault to be visible without disturbance of the eyelid).
- 1.5. Serious physical abnormalities, for example: missing or badly damaged eyes; cataracts; bent leg; wry neck; or any other gross physical deviations from the norm.  
N.B. Neutered boars may be shown.  
Single extra toes on each foot are of minor significance.
- 1.6. Evident ill-health, such as obvious, visible breathing difficulties, significant evidence of mucus or other abnormal discharges from the eyes, nose, mouth, ears or reproductive or intestinal openings.

**Disqualifications Applying only to Short, Smooth--Haired Varieties**

(Also applying to Crested versions of smooth-haired varieties, with the obvious exception that the crest does not constitute a fault).

- 1.7. Side-whiskers.
- 1.8. Rosettes in coat.

**N.B. Both Hairless and so-called ‘Skinny’ cavies may not be shown at any cavy show held in the United Kingdom.  
Judges should immediately disqualify any such cavies that are presented for exhibition.**

2. **FAULTS APPLYING ACROSS BREEDS**

**Faults Applying to All Breeds**

- 2.1. External Cysts Fault to be penalised according to size of cyst.
- 2.2. Hem in Ears Fault to be penalised in accordance with importance of ears in the standard.
- 2.3. Damaged Ears Fault to be penalised in accordance with importance of ears in the standard and the extent of the damage.
- 2.4. Static Mite Fault to be penalised according to amount of mite present.
- 2.5. Red Flesh around eye Fault to be penalised in accordance with importance of eyes in the standard.
- 2.6. Breaks in Coat Fault to be penalised according to extent of break.
- 2.7. Extra Toes Single extra toes on each foot are of minor significance.

**Faults Applying only to Short, Smooth--Haired Varieties**

(Also applying to Crested versions of smooth-haired varieties)

- 2.8. Quiffs or Swirls Pronounced quiffs or swirls in coat, including around the eyes, on sides, flanks or belly.  
Fault to be penalised according to extent.

**Other faults and disqualifications specific to any particular breed are listed under individual breed standards.**

## ENGLISH SELF

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>		<b><u>30</u></b>
of which		
Head	To have a pronounced Roman nose. To have good width of muzzle, squared off at the end but rounded at the corners.	
Eyes	To be large, bright, bold and appealing, set wide apart.	
Ears	To be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, broad, cobby body with very deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>25</u></b>
<b>Colour</b>	Top colour to be lustrous and of glossy sheen, of even shade all over the head & body. Hair on feet to match body colour. Undercolour to match top colour down to the skin, giving an appearance free from flakiness. Colours of coat, eyes, ears and pads to match Descriptions below.	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>15</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

White	To be pure snow white. Eyes pink (P.E.W) or dark (D.E.W.), dark-eyed to be as dark as possible. Ears flesh pink. Pads flesh pink.
Cream	To be a pale cream colour, free from yellow or lemon tinge. Eyes ruby (D.E.C.) or pink (P.E.C.). Ears pink. Pads pink.
Buff	To be a deep, rich buff shade with no hint of lemon, apricot or cream. Eyes ruby. Ears pink. Pads pink.
Saffron	To be a medium sand colour. Eyes pink. Ears pink. Pads pink
Golden	To be a medium gold colour with no suggestion of brassiness, yellow or red. Eyes pink (P.E.G.) or dark (D.E.G.), dark-eyed to be as dark as possible. Ears pink/golden. Pads pink/golden
Lilac	To be a medium dove grey colour, with no suggestion of beige. Eyes pink. Ears pink/ lilac. Pads pink/lilac.
Beige	To be a medium colour. Eyes pink. Ears pink/ beige. Pads pink/beige.
Red	To be a rich, dark colour. Eyes dark. Ears dark. Pads dark.
Chocolate	To be a rich, dark colour. Eyes dark ruby. Ears chocolate. Pads chocolate.
Black	To be deep and lustrous. Eyes dark. Ears black. Pads black.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **English Self** is a solid (single) -coloured cavy bred for Head qualities (head, eyes & ears), Body Shape (particularly shoulders and breadth & compactness of body, Colour and Coat.

The **Outline** of the English Self cavy should consist of a series of gentle curves, rising from the nostrils to the peak of the shoulders, then dipping to the back and levelling briefly before again dipping over the rear.

**Viewed from above** the overall impression should be of a brick, rounded at the corners.

**Size** is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

**Condition** is very important. The cavy should carry plenty of firm flesh but not be gross or flabby.

The **sex** of the exhibit will usually be apparent from its facial qualities.

Boars, if complying with the standard, should not be penalised when in competition with sows on account of slightly different head shape.

Normally the upper **weight limit** for an U/5 months Self cavy will be 30 oz or thereabouts.

For a cavy of 8 months it will be 37 oz or thereabouts.

Although the judge's discretion is absolute as regards whether a cavy is eligible for the class in which it is entered, judges should give careful consideration in cases where these weight limits are exceeded.

The ears of **PE Goldens and DE Goldens** should match the body colour. Ears whose colour deviates from the body colour should be penalised according to the extent of the deviation

The colours of **young Lilac and Beige** cavies are appreciably darker than those expected in adult exhibits of these breeds. This should be taken into account when judging young classes of Beige and Lilacs.

The belly colour of a Beige indicates the colour that it is likely to attain when it reaches adulthood.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Hairs of a different colour to be penalised according to quantity.

Areas of darker pigmentation on rims of ears to be penalised.

Areas of dark pigmentation on the skin around the eyes or on the vent of **PE and DE Goldens** should be penalised

White toenails, except on Whites, to be penalised.

## AGOUTI

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and gently rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Ticking</b>	To have sharp, level ticking extending evenly over the head, body, chest and feet. Ticking on chest to be carried well down between the front legs. Feet to match body and chest.	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Colour</b>	Top colour to be bright and lustrous and conform with Descriptions below. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be the same colour as the ticking colour but not ticked (to be tipped), even and with well-defined demarcation line; and to be as narrow as possible, although not at the expense of condition.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>10</u></b>

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**100**

## DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

<b>Golden</b>	Deep <b>black</b> undercolour with dark <b>golden</b> ticking. Belly to be a rich mahogany and free from brassiness. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Silver</b>	Deep <b>black</b> undercolour with <b>silver</b> ticking. Belly to be a rich silver and free from whiteness. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Lemon</b>	Deep <b>black</b> undercolour with <b>lemon</b> ticking. Belly to be lemon. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Chocolate</b>	Deep rich <b>chocolate</b> undercolour with <b>orange</b> ticking. Belly to be a rich orange. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Cream</b>	Deep rich <b>chocolate</b> undercolour with <b>cream</b> ticking. Belly to be cream. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Cinnamon</b>	Deep rich cinnamon (milk <b>chocolate</b> with pinky tinge) undercolour with <b>silver</b> ticking. Belly to be a rich silver and free from whiteness. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads cinnamon. Nails to match pad colour.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Agouti** is a dark-eyed ticked cavy in which the ticking covers the whole of the body other than the belly.

In **judging Agoutis**, the emphasis must be on quality of ticking, colour, type and condition. Exhibits should not be unduly penalised for minor faults if they possess these qualities.

**Size** is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

**Grooming** is essential to producing an even effect on the body and sides of the cavy.

**Chest faults** are often accompanied by poor colour and, if this is the case, should be severely penalised.

Exhibits should not be penalised for **wide belly** unless the belly colour is visible when viewed from the side.

**Dark or unticked feet**, although these are faults, are preferable to **light or uneven feet**.

In **U/5 exhibits** a small degree of eye circles or some unevenness on feet should not be unduly penalised, as these faults may clear as the cavy matures.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Nails and foot pads different from those specified in the Standard.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Long in ticking, producing too light an appearance in body colour.

Circles of lighter ticking colour around the eye ('Eye circles').

Light streaks or patches on chest, body or sides.

Lightness on jowls.

Feet that are lighter or darker than the body colour, or that are odd.

White or other odd coloured hairs, to be penalised according to quantity.

## SOLID AGOUTI

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and gently rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Ticking</b>	To have sharp, level ticking extending evenly over the head, body, chest, belly and feet. Feet to match rest of cavy.	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Colour</b>	Top colour to be bright and lustrous and conform with Descriptions below. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be ticked evenly all over, as per the body.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>10</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

<b>Golden</b>	Deep <b>black</b> undercolour with dark <b>golden</b> ticking. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Silver</b>	Deep <b>black</b> undercolour with <b>silver</b> ticking. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Lemon</b>	Deep <b>black</b> undercolour with <b>lemon</b> ticking. Eyes dark. Ears and Pads black. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Chocolate</b>	Deep rich <b>chocolate</b> undercolour with <b>orange</b> ticking. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Cream</b>	Deep rich <b>chocolate</b> undercolour with <b>cream</b> ticking. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads chocolate. Nails to match pad colour.
<b>Cinnamon</b>	Deep rich cinnamon (milk <b>chocolate</b> with pinky tinge) undercolour with <b>silver</b> ticking. Eyes ruby. Ears and Pads cinnamon. Nails to match pad colour.

The colour of the Solid Agouti is likely to appear darker than that of the corresponding 'Normal' Agouti. So long as the ticking is sharp, distinct and even, this should not be penalised.



## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Solid Agouti** is a dark-eyed ticked cavy in which the ticking covers the whole of the Body, including the belly.

In **judging Solid Agoutis**, the emphasis must be on quality and evenness of ticking over the entire cavy, along with colour, type and condition.

Exhibits should not be unduly penalised for minor faults if they possess these qualities.

**Size** is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

**Grooming** is essential to producing an even effect on the body, sides and head of the cavy.

The **ticking on the feet** is likely to be less pronounced than on the rest of the body. This is a relatively minor fault.

**Cinnamon Solid Agoutis** often become darker with age, tending towards chocolate undercolour rather than cinnamon as in the 'Normal' Agouti. This is not a fault.

It should be noted that some Solid Agoutis are born solid in colour, and develop ticking later. Accordingly, incomplete ticking on **U/5 exhibits** should not be unduly penalised.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Nails and foot pads different from those specified in the Standard.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Long in ticking, producing too light an appearance in body colour.

Circles of solid colour around the eye ('Eye circles').

Light streaks or patches on chest, body, belly or sides.

Lightness on jowls.

Feet that are darker than the body colour, or that are odd.

White or other odd coloured hairs, to be penalised according to quantity.

A 'shadow belly', or the impression of a belly band caused by longer ticking on the belly, is a serious fault.

## ARGENTE

	<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	
<b>Body Shape</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
To have short, cobby body with deep, broad shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	
<b>Coat Appearance</b>	<b><u>30</u></b>
Throughout the head, body, chest and feet the Argente should have individual hairs ticked with gold, lemon or white over a base colour of beige or lilac. This should produce an shimmering, 'shot silk' effect that is even all over the body, including around the eyes and on the chest and feet.	
<b>Colour</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
Top colour to be bright and lustrous and conform with Descriptions below. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Belly colour to be the same colour as the ticking colour but not ticked (to be tipped), even and with well-defined demarcation line; and to be as narrow as possible, although not at the expense of condition.	
<b>Coat</b>	<b><u>10</u></b>
To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	
<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>	

### DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS (Descriptions state the ticking colour first)

<b>Golden/Lilac</b>	Deep lilac undercolour with golden ticking. Belly to be golden. Eyes pink. Ears pink/lilac. Pads pink.
<b>Golden/Beige</b>	Deep beige undercolour with golden ticking. Belly to be golden. Eyes pink. Ears pink/beige. Pads pink.
<b>Lemon/Lilac</b>	Deep lilac undercolour with lemon ticking. Belly to be lemon. Eyes pink. Ears pink/lilac. Pads pink.
<b>Lemon/Beige</b>	Deep beige undercolour with lemon ticking. Belly to be lemon. Eyes pink. Ears pink/beige. Pads pink.
<b>White/Lilac</b>	Deep lilac undercolour with white ticking. Belly to be white. Eyes pink. Ears pink/lilac. Pads pink.
<b>White/Beige</b>	Deep beige undercolour with white ticking. Belly to be white. Eyes pink. Ears pink/beige. Pads pink.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Argente** is a pink-eyed ticked cavy in which the ticking covers the whole of the body other than the belly.

In **judging Argentes**, the emphasis is on quality of ticking, colour, type and condition. Exhibits should not be unduly penalised for minor faults if they possess these qualities.

**Size** is very desirable, but not at the expense of cobbiness or quality.

**Grooming** is essential to producing an even effect on the body and sides of the cavy.

**Chest faults** are often accompanied by poor colour and, if this is the case, should be severely penalised.

Exhibits should not be penalised for **wide belly** unless the belly colour is visible when viewed from the side.

**Dark or unticked feet**, although these are faults, are preferable to **light or uneven feet**.

In **U/5 exhibits** a small degree of eye circles or some unevenness on feet should not be unduly penalised, as these faults may clear as the cavy matures.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Circles of lighter ticking colour around the eye ('Eye circles').

Light streaks or patches on chest, body or sides.

Lightness on jowls.

Feet that are lighter or darker than the body colour, or that are odd.

Evidence of dark pigmentation on the ears.

White or other odd coloured hairs, to be penalised according to quantity.

Large patches of unticked hairs to be severely penalised.

Indistinct colours in either ticking or undercolour to be severely penalised.

## DUTCH

	<b>Points</b>	
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	<p>Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.</p>	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	<p>To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.</p>	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b> of which		<b><u>60</u></b>
<b>Blaze, Cheeks, Neck &amp; Ears</b>	<p>Blaze to be an inverted 'V' of white coat, widest at the smellers (nostril and whisker bed) and narrowing to a point or narrow, <u>thin</u> line between the ears. Cheeks to be rounded in shape, following the jaw line but clear of the mouth, and ideally should go as near as possible to the smellers without touching them. Neck to be clean, i.e. white and free from any extension of cheek markings. Ears to be sound, i.e. the outside to be coloured, with no flesh markings due to lack of pigmentation.</p>	(25)
<b>Saddle &amp; Undercut</b>	<p>Saddle and undercut to be positioned midway between the neck and hips; to be cut as a straight line with the sides at right angles to the body. A higher cut (i.e. cut line nearer to the head) is preferable to a low, 'slipping' one (i.e. further back towards the hips).</p>	(20)
<b>Foot Stops</b>	<p>There must be two foot stops and these should be of the same length ('balanced'), ideally being cut midway between the hock and the toe ends. Each stop must have three white toenails, and the white pigmentation on the pad must not run to the hock. The hairs covering the toes must be white.</p>	(15)
<b>Colour</b>	<p>Colours ideally to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC or NACC Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen, free from hairs of a different colour (brindling, roaning, or any patches), with the colour carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness. Ear pigmentation to be appropriate to breed colour.</p>	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	<p>To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.</p>	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<b><u>100</u></b>

### DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

Dutch cavies are only recognised in the following standardised colours:

<b>Red</b>	These colours should conform as nearly as possible to English Self Cavy Club (ESCC) and National Agouti Cavy Club (NACC) requirements, although Red Dutch can be lighter and Cream Dutch can be darker (towards Buff).
<b>Black</b>	
<b>Chocolate</b>	
<b>Cream</b>	With the exception of Creams and Cream Agoutis, colour should be as dark and rich a shade as possible.
<b>Lilac</b>	
<b>Golden Agouti</b>	In Agouti Dutch the belly colour should be as narrow as possible but dark enough to ensure that the demarcation line on the undercut can be clearly seen.
<b>Chocolate Agouti</b>	
<b>Silver Agouti</b>	Eye colour should be dark in all varieties except Lilac Dutch, where it should be pink.
<b>Cinnamon Agouti</b>	
<b>Cream Agouti</b>	

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Dutch** is a Self or Agouti-coloured and White cavy, in which the areas of colour occur in a defined pattern on the cheeks and ears of the cavy, and on its entire rear half below a centre line across the back, with the exception of an area of white between the toe ends and the hocks (the 'foot stops').

The white colour defines a blaze on the head, as well as a 'clean neck' and the 'stops' mentioned above.

The blaze should be an inverted "V" separating the cheeks, meeting at a point or narrow, thin line mid-way between the ears

The quality of these markings is by far the most important aspect of the Dutch.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Only one stop, no stops or stop(s) above the hock.

Any coloured toenails.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

### Flesh Marks

Flesh marks on the ears, hocks or body are particularly undesirable and are to be penalised accordingly.

### Long Stops

A long stop that runs to but not over the hock should be penalised as a serious failing but is not a disqualification.

### Very Short Stops

Stops consisting only of a few hairs above the nails are to be penalised.

### Eye Circles

Eye circles in Agouti Dutch should be penalised. However, slight evidence of eye circles should not be unduly penalised in an U/5 exhibit as this fault may clear as the cavy matures.

### Brindling

Intermixing of a particular colour in areas of another colour, e.g. red hairs in black.

### Roaning

Intermixing of white in areas of another colour.

## **TORTOISE & WHITE**

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b>10</b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b>10</b>
<b>Markings</b>	To consist of square cut patches of black, red and white colour, of uniform shape and evenly distributed on each side of the body on either side of a central 'line' formed by the meeting of patches of different colours.	<b>60</b>
of which		
<b>Head Markings</b>	Head ideally to have two colours divided down the centre. A different colour on each side of the head divided by a blaze of the third colour is almost as desirable.	(5)
<b>Line &amp; Distribution of Patches</b>	Patches to be placed on each side of the body so as to give no overlaps over the central line top or under. Each side of the <u>body</u> of the cavy to have three or more patches. Each side of the <u>cavy</u> to have patches of all three colours.	(30)
<b>Shape &amp; Clarity of Patches</b>	Patches to be square-cut with straight edges and of equal size Patches to be clean-cut and distinct from each other, with no intermingling of colours.	(25)
<b>Colour</b>	Colours to be rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness, with patches free from hairs of a different colour (brindling or roaning). Black to be jet black. Red to be rich; may be lighter than ESCC Red but must not be pale or 'washed out'. White to be pure and clean. Eye colour to be dark, but a blue tinge (when the head has a white patch) is not a fault.	<b>15</b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b>5</b>

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**100**

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Tortoise & White** is a smooth coated cavy, carrying a chequerboard pattern of square-cut patches of black, red & white, of equal size, with a dividing 'line' formed by the meeting of patches on opposite sides of the body running the length of the cavy both top and underside. No patches should overlap the central line, either on top or under side.

There is no set sequence for the patches; but in considering the quality of a Tort & White the overall balance of patches and colour on each side and top & under is important.

On well marked exhibits 4 or 5 patches on each side would be preferable to three, but not at the expense of a loss of uniformity in the size and shape of the patches.

Each patch should consist of a solid colour, clearly defined from surrounding patches, and with no intermingling of hairs of a different colour.

Because a fault that is seen readily on the top side of the cavy has a greater adverse impact on the overall appearance than one which is 'hidden' underneath, preference should be given to a cavy with a good top and less good under than one with the opposite characteristics.

However, patching on the belly must be taken into account when considering overall quality. When assessing the Tort & White, the quality of the markings is by far the most important aspect of the cavy; and minor faults in type, such as a straight head or ears not drooping, are of very little significance. However, soundness of all of the three colours is important to creating the overall impact of the patchwork.

Because it is extremely difficult to fix the desired markings on the Tortoise & White, judges should not be too harsh in assessing 'good attempts' with clear patches and solid colour.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

### Line Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first, but dependent on extent of failing)

Band

A patch of colour going all the way around the body.

Belt

A patch of colour going more than half way round the body.

Overlap

A patch of colour overlapping the centre line, top or under.

Solid Head

Head of a single colour.

Dutch-pattern Head

Head with the same colour on each side of the head with a blaze of a different colour.

This is a minor fault.

### Distribution Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

Missing Colour

An absence of any of the three colours on either side of the cavy.

Shortage of Patches

Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

(N.B. In the case of a cavy with only one or two patches on the side, both would apply).

### Clarity Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

Intermixing of any colours (white for roaning) where patches meet.

### Colour Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

(To be penalised according to extent of failing)

Intermixing of hairs of a different colour (white for roaning) within patches.

A small amount of brindling or roaning should not be too harshly penalised on an otherwise well-marked exhibit.

Some young cavies may show evidence of roaning that will disappear with the adult coat.

This should not be viewed as a serious fault.

### General:

Cavies showing excessively light, 'washed-out' colour should be severely penalised.

A flesh ear is not a fault.

## TRICOLOUR

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b>	To consist of square cut patches of black, red and white colour, of uniform shape and evenly distributed on each side of the body on either side of a central 'line' formed by the meeting of patches of different colours.	<b><u>60</u></b>
of which <b>Head Markings</b>	Head ideally to have two colours divided down the centre. A different colour on each side of the head divided by a blaze of the third colour is almost as desirable.	(5)
<b>Line &amp; Distribution of Patches</b>	Patches to be placed on each side of the body so as to give no overlaps over the central line top or under. Each side of the <u>body</u> of the cavy to have three or more patches. Each side of the <u>cavy</u> to have patches of all three colours.	(30)
<b>Shape &amp; Clarity of Patches</b>	Patches to be square-cut with straight edges and of equal size Patches to be clean-cut and distinct from each other, with no intermingling of colours.	(25)
<b>Colour</b>	Colours to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC (Self colours), NACC (Agouti colours) or RVCC (Argente colours) Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness. Eye colour to be dark or pink, as appropriate to the constituent colours.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<hr style="border: 1px solid black;"/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## COLOURS

Tricolours may be shown in white plus any two fully standardised colours as recognised by the ESCC, NACC, or RVCC, with the exception of red, black and white, this being the Tort & White, and D.E. golden, black and white, which is insufficiently differentiated in colour from the Tort & White.



## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Tricolour** is a smooth coated cavy, carrying a chequerboard pattern of square-cut patches of three colours, one being white, of equal size, with a dividing 'line' formed by the meeting of patches on opposite sides of the body running the length of the cavy both top and underside.

No patches should overlap the central line, either on top or under side.

There is no set sequence for the patches; but in considering the quality of a Tricolour the overall balance of patches and colour on each side and top & under is important.

On well marked exhibits 4 or 5 patches on each side would be preferable to three, but not at the expense of a loss of uniformity in the size and shape of the patches.

Each patch should consist of a solid colour, clearly defined from surrounding patches, and with no intermingling of hairs of a different colour.

Because a fault that is seen readily on the top side of the cavy has a greater adverse impact on the overall appearance than one which is 'hidden' underneath, preference should be given to a cavy with a good top and less good under than one with the opposite characteristics.

However, patching on the belly must be taken into account when considering overall quality.

When assessing the Tricolour, the quality of the markings is by far the most important aspect of the cavy; and minor faults in type, such as a straight head or ears not drooping, are of very little significance. However, soundness of all of the three colours is important to creating the overall impact of the patchwork.

Because it is extremely difficult to fix the desired markings on the Tricolour, judges should not be too harsh in assessing 'good attempts' with clear patches and solid colour.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

### Line Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first, but dependent on extent of failing)

Band

A patch of colour going all the way around the body.

Belt

A patch of colour going more than half way round the body.

Overlap

A patch of colour overlapping the centre line, top or under.

Solid Head

Head of a single colour.

Dutch-pattern Head

Head with the same colour on each side of the head with a blaze of a different colour.

This is a minor fault.

### Distribution Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

Missing Colour

An absence of any of the three colours on either side of the cavy.

Shortage of Patches

Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

(N.B. In the case of a cavy with only one or two patches on the side, both would apply).

### Clarity Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

Intermixing of any colours (white for roaning) where patches meet.

### Colour Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

(To be penalised according to extent of failing)

Intermixing of hairs of a different colour (white for roaning) within patches.

A small amount of brindling or roaning should not be too harshly penalised on an otherwise well-marked exhibit.

Some young cavies may show evidence of roaning that will disappear with the adult coat.

This should not be viewed as a serious fault.

### General:

Cavies showing excessively light, 'washed-out' colour should be severely penalised.

A flesh ear is not a fault.

## BICOLOUR

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b>	To consist of patches of any two colours other than black and red together, evenly distributed on each side of the body on either side of a central 'line' formed by the meeting of patches of different colours.	<b><u>60</u></b>
of which <b>Head Markings</b>	Head to have two colours divided down the centre.	(5)
<b>Line &amp; Distribution of Patches</b>	Patches to be placed on each side of the body so as to give no overlaps over the central line top or under. Each side of the <u>body</u> of the cavy to have three or more patches.	(30)
<b>Shape &amp; Clarity of Patches</b>	Patches to be square-cut with straight edges and of equal size Patches to be clean-cut and distinct from each other, with no intermingling of colours.	(25)
<b>Colour</b>	Colours to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC (Self colours), NACC (Agouti colours) or RVCC (Argente colours) Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness. To be free from white hairs (other than for White Bicolours – see Faults below). Eye colour to be dark or pink, as appropriate to the constituent colours.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## COLOURS

Bicolours may be shown in any two fully standardised colours as recognised by the ESCC, NACC or RVCC, with the exception of red and black (the Tortoiseshell).

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Bicolour** is a smooth coated cavy, carrying a chequerboard pattern of square- cut patches of two colours, of equal size, with a dividing 'line' formed by the meeting of patches on opposite sides of the body running the length of the cavy both top and underside.

No patches should overlap the central line, either on top or under side.

There is no set sequence for the patches; but in considering the quality of a Bicolour the overall balance of patches and colour on each side and top & under is important.

On well marked exhibits 4 or 5 patches on each side would be preferable to three, but not at the expense of a loss of uniformity in the size and shape of the patches.

Each patch should consist of a solid colour, clearly defined from surrounding patches, and with no intermingling of hairs of a different colour.

Because a fault that is seen readily on the top side of the cavy has a greater adverse impact on the overall appearance than one which is 'hidden' underneath, preference should be given to a cavy with a good top and less good under than one with the opposite characteristics.

However, patching on the belly must be taken into account when considering overall quality.

When assessing the Bicolour, the quality of the markings is by far the most important aspect of the cavy; and minor faults in type, such as a straight head or ears not drooping, are of very little significance. However, soundness of all of the two colours is important to creating the overall impact of the patchwork.

Because it is extremely difficult to fix the desired markings on the Bicolour, judges should not be too harsh in assessing 'good attempts' with clear patches and solid colour.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

**Line Faults** (In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first, but dependent on extent of failing)

- Band A patch of colour going all the way around the body.
- Belt A patch of colour going more than half way round the body.
- Overlap A patch of colour overlapping the centre line, top or under.
- Solid Head Head of a single colour.
- Dutch-pattern Head Head with the same colour on each side of the head with a blaze of a different colour.  
This is a minor fault.

**Distribution Faults** (In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

- Missing Colour An absence of any of the two colours on either side of the cavy.
- Shortage of Patches Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

## Clarity Faults

- Brindling / Roaning: Intermixing of any colours (white for roaning) where patches meet.

## Colour Faults

- Brindling / Roaning: (To be penalised according to extent of failing)  
Intermixing of hairs of a different colour (white for roaning) within patches.  
A small amount of brindling or roaning should not be too harshly penalised on an otherwise well-marked exhibit.  
Some young cavies may show evidence of roaning that will disappear with the adult coat.
- White Hairs Exhibits carrying small clumps of white hairs that do not in total exceed the size of a £1 coin may be shown in Bicolour classes. This fault is to be penalised according to the size of the clumps.

## TORTOISESHELL

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b>	To consist of patches of black and red, evenly distributed on each side of the body on either side of a central 'line' formed by the meeting of patches of different colours.	<b><u>60</u></b>
of which		
<b>Head Markings</b>	Head to have two colours divided down the centre.	(5)
<b>Line &amp; Distribution of Patches</b>	Patches to be placed on each side of the body so as to give no overlaps over the central line top or under. Each side of the <u>body</u> of the cavy to have three or more patches.	(30)
<b>Shape &amp; Clarity</b>	Patches to be square-cut with straight edges and of equal size	(25)
<b>Colour</b>	Colours ideally to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness. To be free from white hairs (see Faults below). Eye colour to be dark.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<b><u>100</u></b>

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Tortoiseshell** is a smooth coated cavy, carrying a chequerboard pattern of square-cut patches of black and red, of equal size, with a dividing 'line' formed by the meeting of patches on opposite sides of the body running the length of the cavy both top and underside.

No patches should overlap the central line, either on top or under side.

There is no set sequence for the patches; but in considering the quality of a Tortoiseshell the overall balance of patches and colour on each side and top & under is important.

On well marked exhibits 4 or 5 patches on each side would be preferable to three, but not at the expense of a loss of uniformity in the size and shape of the patches.

Each patch should consist of a solid colour, clearly defined from surrounding patches, and with no intermingling of hairs of a different colour.

Because a fault that is seen readily on the top side of the cavy has a greater adverse impact on the overall appearance than one which is 'hidden' underneath, preference should be given to a cavy with a good top and less good under than one with the opposite characteristics.

However, patching on the belly must be taken into account when considering overall quality.

When assessing the Tortoiseshell, the quality of the markings is by far the most important aspect of the cavy; and minor faults in type, such as a straight head or ears not drooping, are of very little significance. However, soundness of both colours is important to creating the overall impact of the patchwork.

Because it is extremely difficult to fix the desired markings on the Tortoiseshell, judges should not be too harsh in assessing 'good attempts' with clear patches and solid colour.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

### Line Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first, but dependent on extent of failing)

Band

A patch of colour going all the way around the body.

Belt

A patch of colour going more than half way round the body.

Overlap

A patch of colour overlapping the centre line, top or under.

Solid Head

Head of a single colour.

Dutch-pattern Head

Head with the same colour on each side of the head with a blaze of a different colour.

This is a minor fault.

### Distribution Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

Missing Colour

An absence of any of the two colours on either side of the cavy.

Shortage of Patches

Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

### Clarity Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

Intermixing of any colours (white for roaning) where patches meet.

### Colour Faults

Brindling / Roaning:

(To be penalised according to extent of failing)

Intermixing of hairs of a different colour (white for roaning) within patches.

A small amount of brindling or roaning should not be too harshly penalised on an otherwise well-marked exhibit.

Some young cavies may show evidence of roaning that will disappear with the adult coat.

White Hairs

Exhibits carrying small clumps of white hairs that do not in total exceed the size of a £1 coin may be shown in Tortoiseshell classes. This to be penalised according to the size of the clumps.

## BRINDLE

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b>	To consist of an even intermixing of red and black hairs all over the body. Black and red hairs should be in equal proportions, with no areas of distinct black or red colouration.	<b><u>60</u></b>
of which		
Head		(10)
Feet		(10)
Body		(30)
Belly		(10)
<b>Colour</b>	Colours ideally to conform as nearly as possible to ESCC Standards, although slight variations from these should not be penalised so long as colour is rich, even, of glossy sheen and carried well down to the skin to avoid any appearance of flakiness. Eye colour to be dark.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Brindle** cavy has red and black hairs intermingled all over the body, including the head and feet.

Brindles may be 'dark' (where there is an excess of black hairs over red), 'light', where there is an excess of red hairs over black, or 'medium', where the black and red hairs are present in equal quantities.

The ideal colour effect is medium; but evenness of brindling is far more important than the exact shade produced, so long as the darkness or lightness are not excessive.

## **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

None

## **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

Patches                      Any patches of solid colour, to be penalised according to extent of patching.

## DALMATION

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b>		<b><u>60</u></b>
of which		
<b>Head Markings</b>	To have a white blaze with solid colour on either side, giving a well balanced appearance.	(20)
<b>Spotting</b>	To have coloured spotting on a white body; spots to be clear, distinct and well-distributed all over the body including belly.	(30)
<b>Feet Markings</b>	To have solid colour covering the feet.	(10)
<b>Colour</b>	Colour to conform with ESCC, NACC or Argente Standards, as appropriate. Eye colour also to conform to these standards, except for the Black whose eyes may have a ruby tint.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## COLOURS

Dalmations may be exhibited in any of the colours that are standardised for:  
Selfs (with the obvious exception of White), Agoutis or Argentes.  
Dalmations in Guide Standard Self or Ticked colours should also be regarded as having Guide Standards, with colour / ticking features as for the relevant GS cavy.



## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Dalmation** is, in appearance, a white cavy with coloured markings. The colour should be confined to the feet, head (with a central white blaze) and spotting, the latter to be evenly distributed throughout the body.

The **distribution and clarity of spotting** are of more importance than size, shape and quantity of spots. Spotting should be clear and distinct, with good demarcation between spots.

**Large solid patches/areas of colour** are undesirable other than on the head and feet.

**Roaned areas** (patches of intermingled white and coloured hairs) anywhere on the body are undesirable.

Intermittent white hairs on the head and/or feet do not constitute roaning but are still undesirable.

The **head demarcation line** (dividing the white body from the coloured head) should follow the line of the head behind the ears and be clean-cut.

The blaze should begin at the nostrils and end at a point between the ears with no break in between. A blaze that runs through the mouth or through the demarcation line at the top of the head should be penalised.

The width of the blaze is immaterial as long as it is centrally placed between the eyes ears and has a balanced shape.

**White whiskers** are not a fault.

Whilst the **eye colour** should generally conform to the relevant breed standard of the base colour, dark eyes with a ruby tint should not be penalised.

Some Dalmations with large eyes may have a blue/grey ring completely round the outer edge of the eye: this is not a fault.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Solid head.

Incomplete blaze (blaze to appear complete without disturbance of coat).

Nails and/or foot pads deviating from appropriate Self, Agouti or Argente standards.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

The following faults are to be penalised according to extent:

Uneven Spotting

Roaning

Spinal Bar (a definite white line, lacking any form of spotting, and running the length of the spine from head to rump - usually found in more heavily marked exhibits).

Head Drag (solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body).

Uneven or Offset Blaze.

White hairs in otherwise solid coloured areas on head and feet.

## ROAN

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b> of which	To have solid head and feet but white hairs evenly intermixed throughout the body.	<b><u>60</u></b>
<b>Head Markings</b>	To have solid colour with a clean demarcation line separating it from the body markings	(20)
<b>Roaning</b>	To have an even intermixing of white and coloured hairs all over the body, including belly, to create a level appearance with no areas of shading.	(30)
<b>Feet Markings</b>	To have solid colour covering the feet.	(10)
<b>Colour</b>	Colour to conform with ESCC, NACC or Argente Standards, as appropriate. Eye colour also to conform to these standards, except for the Black whose eyes may have a ruby tint.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## COLOURS

Roans may be exhibited in any of the colours that are standardised for Selves (with the obvious exception of White), Agoutis or Argentes.  
Roans in Guide Standard Self or Ticked colours should also be regarded as having Guide Standards, with colour features as for the relevant Guide Standard cavy.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Roan** is basically a coloured cavy with white hairs mixed evenly throughout the body, other than the head and feet, which should be of solid colour, these contrasting sharply with the evenly roaned body.

The solid colour of the **head** should have a clean-cut demarcation following the line of the head behind the ears.

Within the **roaned area** an even mix of white and coloured hairs is desirable.

However, the evenness of roaning is of more importance than the exact ratio of white and coloured hairs.

Intermittent white hairs on the face or head do not constitute roaning or the vestige of a blaze but are still undesirable.

White whiskers are not a fault.

Whilst the **eye colour** should generally conform to the relevant breed standard of the base colour, dark eyes with a ruby tint should not be penalised.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Vestige of a blaze (solid groups of white hairs above the mouth).

Nails and/or foot pads deviating from the appropriate Self, Agouti or Argente standards.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

The following faults are to be penalised according to extent:

Uneven roaning.

Spinal Bar (a definite white line, lacking any form of roaning, and running the length of the spine from head to rump - usually found in more heavily marked exhibits).

Dappled belly, having the appearance of spots intermingled with the roaning.

Head Drag (solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body).

Solid patches anywhere on the body other than head and feet.

White hairs in otherwise solid coloured areas on head and feet.

## HIMALAYAN

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings (Points)</b> of which	To consist of even, sharply defined dark points on face, ears and feet with clear demarcation from the background white body colour.	<b><u>50</u></b>
<b>Smut</b>	To be prominent, wider at the nostril end, ideally pear-shaped and carried well up between the eyes; sharply defined and intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate.	(25)
<b>Ears</b>	To be intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate, dense to the base.	(5)
<b>Feet</b>	To be even and intensely coloured black or rich milk chocolate; sharply defined, with colour carried well up the legs and including nails and pads.	(20)
<b>Colour (of body)</b>	To be pure white and as free from body pigment (stain) as possible.	<b><u>25</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.	<b><u>5</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

Himalayans may be exhibited in two colours:

**Black Himalayan** to have black pads.

**Chocolate Himalayan** to have dark pink to chocolate pads.

Jet black and rich milk chocolate are the desired shades.

Both colours of Himalayan should have bright red eyes.

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Himalayan** is an albino cavy that develops pigment on its nose, ears and feet (the Points) during the first few months of life. The **contrast** between the sharpness of these Points and a pure white body colour is the essence of the Himalayan's appeal and so is highly desirable.

**U/5s** should not be excessively penalised for white hairs in Points.

In **5/8s** white hairs may still be expected on the inside of the ears, and exhibits should not be penalised for this.

N.B. There is a tendency to form body pigment in very cold weather. The tendency is reversed in very hot weather, when Points, particularly smut & feet, may fade in intensity.

In badly faded Blacks the smut & feet may appear brown, but the black ears should prevent confusion with Chocolates.

## **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

White patches in markings.

Unpigmented areas in foot pads.

Unpigmented toenails.

## **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

Uneven markings, speckled with white hairs giving a 'peppered' effect.

Poor demarcation between Points and body colour.

Excessive pigmentation in the body colour, giving a 'muddy' effect.

## FOX

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Markings</b>	To have solid base colour all over the body except for white areas that must be solid, clearly defined and distinct, both from the base colour and from each other:	<b><u>50</u></b>
of which		
<b>Nostril, Jowls, Chest &amp; Throat</b>	Nostril area, jowls and chest to be white. There should be a clear band of base colour across the throat.	(15)
<b>Eye Circles, Pea-Spots</b>	White eye circles to be clearly distinguishable. On the forehead beside each ear should be clear white markings, known as 'pea-spots'. These should not run into the ears.	(15)
<b>Belly, Legs</b>	Belly to be white, with minimal darker undercolour showing and with belly colour only just visible when viewed from the side. The inside of each leg should be white, with base colour on the outside.	(10)
<b>Sides</b>	Sides, including sides of hips, to be thickly laced with long white-tipped ticking.	(10)
<b>Colour</b>	Base colour to conform to ESCC requirements, be even, with glossy sheen and carried down to the skin. White to be pure and clean. Eye colour to match requirements of relevant ESCC base colour. Toenail pigmentation to match ESCC requirements appropriate to toe colour.	<b><u>25</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs, other than on flanks where grooming may remove the desirable white markings.	<b><u>5</u></b>

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**100**

## COLOURS

Fox cavies are only recognised in the following standardised base colours:

**Black**

**Chocolate**

**Lilac**

**Beige**

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Fox** is a smooth-coated solid coloured cavy with sharply defined white markings around the face, chest and belly, with white-tipped ticking on the sides. It is important that white areas must not run into each other. Hairs inside the ears may be either of base colour or white.

## **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

Solid areas of white on top or flanks that exceed the size of a £1 coin.

## **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

Hairs of a different colour in the top colour to be penalised according to quantity.

N.B. This does not apply to the white-tipped ticking on the sides and flanks.

Short ticking on the belly, giving the appearance of an 'Agouti belly', should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

White markings should not spread up from the nostril area to meet the eye circles.

## TAN

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b>10</b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b>10</b>
<b>Markings</b>	To have solid base colour all over the body except for tan areas that must be solid, clearly defined and distinct, both from the base colour and from each other:	<b>50</b>
of which		
<b>Nostril, Jowls, Chest &amp; Throat</b>	Nostril area, jowls and chest to be tan. There should be a clear band of base colour across the throat.	(15)
<b>Eye Circles, Pea-Spots</b>	Tan eye circles to be clearly distinguishable. On the forehead beside each ear should be clear tan markings, known as 'pea-spots'. These should not run into the ears.	(15)
<b>Belly, Legs</b>	Belly to be tan, with minimal darker undercolour showing and with belly colour only just visible when viewed from the side. The inside of each leg should be tan, with base colour on the outside.	(10)
<b>Sides</b>	Sides, including sides of hips, to be thickly laced with long tan-tipped ticking.	(10)
<b>Colour</b>	Base colour to conform to ESCC requirements, be even, with glossy sheen and carried down to the skin. Tan to be rich mahogany, with minimal undercolour showing. Eye colour to match requirements of relevant ESCC base colour. Toenail pigmentation to match ESCC requirements appropriate to toe colour.	<b>25</b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs, other than on flanks where grooming may remove the desirable tan markings.	<b>5</b>

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**100**

## COLOURS

Tan cavies are only recognised in the following standardised base colours:

**Black**

**Chocolate**

**Lilac**

**Beige**



## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Tan** is a smooth-coated solid coloured cavy with sharply defined tan markings around the face, chest and belly, with tan-tipped ticking on the sides.

It is important that tan areas must not run into each other.

Hairs inside the ears may be either of base colour or tan.

## **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

Solid areas of tan on top or flanks that exceed the size of a £1 coin.

## **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

Paleness of tan colouration should be penalised.

Hairs of a different colour in the top colour to be penalised according to quantity.

N.B. This does not apply to the tan-tipped ticking on the sides and flanks.

Short ticking on the belly, giving the appearance of an 'Agouti belly', should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

Tan markings should not spread up from the nostril area to meet the eye circles.

## OTTER

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b>10</b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b>10</b>
<b>Markings</b>	To have solid base colour all over the body except for cream areas that must be solid, clearly defined and distinct, both from the base colour and from each other:	<b>50</b>
of which		
<b>Nostril, Jowls, Chest &amp; Throat</b>	Nostril area, jowls and chest to be cream. There should be a clear band of base colour across the throat.	(15)
<b>Eye Circles, Pea-Spots</b>	Cream eye circles to be clearly distinguishable. On the forehead beside each ear should be clear cream markings, known as 'pea-spots'. These should not run into the ears.	(15)
<b>Belly, Legs</b>	Belly to be cream, with minimal darker undercolour showing and with belly colour only just visible when viewed from the side. The inside of each leg should be cream, with base colour on the outside.	(10)
<b>Sides</b>	Sides, including sides of hips, to be thickly laced with long cream-tipped ticking.	(10)
<b>Colour</b>	Base colour to conform to ESCC requirements, be even, with glossy sheen and carried down to the skin. Cream to be pale and free from yellow or lemon tinge Eye colour to match requirements of relevant ESCC base colour. Toenail pigmentation to match ESCC requirements appropriate to toe colour.	<b>25</b>
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs, other than on flanks where grooming may remove the desirable cream markings.	<b>5</b>

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**100**

## COLOURS

Otter cavies are only recognised in the following standardised base colours:

**Black**

**Chocolate**

**Lilac**

**Beige**

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Otter** is a smooth-coated solid coloured cavy with sharply defined cream markings around the face, chest and belly, with cream-tipped ticking on the sides.  
It is important that cream areas must not run into each other.  
Hairs inside the ears may be either of base colour or cream.

## **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

Solid areas of cream on top or flanks that exceed the size of a £1 coin.

## **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

Colour tending towards buff should be penalised.

Hairs of a different colour in the top colour to be penalised according to quantity.

N.B. This does not apply to the cream-tipped ticking on the sides and flanks.

Short ticking on the belly, giving the appearance of an 'Agouti belly', should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

Cream markings should not spread up from the nostril area to meet the eye circles.

## ENGLISH CRESTED

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<u><b>24</b></u>
<b>Crest</b>	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	<u><b>20</b></u>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To conform to ESCC standard.	<u><b>20</b></u>
<b>Colour</b>	To conform to ESCC standard for matching English Self.	<u><b>24</b></u>
<b>Coat</b>	To conform to ESCC standard.	<u><b>12</b></u>
		<hr/> <u><b>100</b></u>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the ESCC Standard.

## COLOURS

As for English Self.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **English Crested** is a Self-coloured cavy with a crest on the forehead.  
The crest consists of a rosette radiating from a centre point between the eyes and ears. It should be deep and regular, with no areas of flatness, have a pinpoint centre and the lower edge should be well down the nose.  
All other features are as for the English Self, although obviously shape of head will not be so apparent because of the crest.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for English Self.  
Crest not to have an open centre.  
Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

## AMERICAN CRESTED

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<b><u>18</u></b>
<b>Crest</b>		<b><u>40</u></b>
of which		
<b>Formation</b>	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	(20)
<b>Colour</b>	To consist of a complete circle of contrasting colour (usually white) to the body colour.	(20)
<b>Body Shape</b>	To conform to ESCC standard.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Colour</b>	To conform to ESCC standard for matching English Self.	<b><u>18</u></b>
<b>Coat</b>	To conform to ESCC standard.	<b><u>9</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 40 for the crest and 60% from the ESCC Standard.

## COLOURS

As for English Self.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **American Crested** is a Self-coloured cavy with a crest of contrasting colour (normally white) on the forehead.

The crest is to consist of as near a circle of contrasting colour as is possible.

The colour of any skin that may be visible at the centre of the crest is irrelevant.

All other features are as for the English Crested.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Patches of the crest colour appearing anywhere else in the body.

A blaze of the crest colour.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for English Self.

Crest not to have an open centre.

Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

Hairs of the body colour appearing in the crest to be penalised.

## **CRESTED TICKED (Agouti, Argente)**

	<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	<b><u>16</u></b>
Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	
<b>Crest</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	
<b>Body Shape</b>	<b><u>16</u></b>
To conform to standard for corresponding Agouti or Argente.	
<b>Coat Appearance</b>	<b><u>24</u></b>
To conform to standard for corresponding Agouti or Argente.	
<b>Colour</b>	<b><u>16</u></b>
To conform to standard for corresponding Agouti or Argente.	
<b>Coat</b>	<b><u>8</u></b>
<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>	

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the corresponding Agouti (NACC) or Argente (RVCC) Standard.

### **VARIETIES**

This standard applies to:  
**Crested Agouti**  
**Crested Argente**

### **COLOURS**

As for Agoutis (NACC) or Argentes (RVCC)

### **GUIDANCE NOTES**

These are Ticked (Agouti or Argente) cavies with a crest on the forehead.  
Crest requirements are as for the English Crested, other features required being as for the corresponding Agouti or Argente.

### **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

None

### **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

As for Agoutis or Argentes.  
Crest not to have an open centre.  
Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

### CRESTED MARKED (Dutch, T/W, Tri, Tort, Bi, Brindle)

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>8</u>
<b>Crest</b>	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	<u>20</u>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Marked Variety	<u>8</u>
<b>Markings</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Marked Variety	<u>48</u>
<b>Colour</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Marked Variety	<u>12</u>
<b>Coat</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Marked Variety	<u>4</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the corresponding Marked Variety Standard.

### VARIETIES

This standard applies to:

**Crested Dutch**  
**Crested Tort & White**  
**Crested Tricolour**  
**Crested Bicolour**  
**Crested Tortoiseshell**  
**Crested Brindle**

### GUIDANCE NOTES

These are Marked cavies with a crest on the forehead.

Crest requirements are as for the English Crested, other features required being as for the corresponding Marked Variety.

### SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

### SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for corresponding Marked Variety.

Crest not to have an open centre.

Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

### **CRESTED MARKED PATTERN (Himalayan, Tan, Fox)**

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u><b>8</b></u>
<b>Crest</b>	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	<u><b>20</b></u>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u><b>8</b></u>
<b>Markings</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u><b>40</b></u>
<b>Colour</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u><b>20</b></u>
<b>Coat</b>	To conform to standard for corresponding Patterned variety.	<u><b>4</b></u>
		<hr/> <u><b>100</b></u>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the Corresponding Marked Pattern Variety standard.

**VARIETIES** This standard applies to:  
**Crested Himalayan,**  
**Crested Tan,**  
**Crested Fox**

#### **GUIDANCE NOTES**

These are Marked Pattern cavies with a crest on the forehead.  
Crest requirements are as for the English Crested, other features required being as for the corresponding Marked Pattern variety.

#### **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

None

#### **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

As for corresponding Marked Pattern variety.  
Crest not to have an open centre.  
Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.



## CRESTED DALMATION / ROAN

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<u>12</u>
<b>Crest</b>	To radiate from a centre point between the eyes and ears. To be a deep, regular rosette, with the lower edge well down the nose. To have a pinpoint centre.	<u>20</u>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To conform to standard for Dalmation or Roan, as appropriate	<u>8</u>
<b>Markings</b>	To conform to standard for Dalmation or Roan, as appropriate	<u>48</u>
<b>Colour</b>	To conform to standard for Dalmation or Roan, as appropriate	<u>8</u>
<b>Coat</b>	To conform to standard for Dalmation or Roan, as appropriate	<u>4</u>
		<hr/> <u>100</u>

N.B. The points in this Standard are comprised of 20 for the crest and 80% from the relevant DRCC Standard.

### VARIETIES

This standard applies to:

**Crested Dalmation**

**Crested Roan**

### GUIDANCE NOTES

These are Dalmation or Roan cavies with a crest on the forehead.

Crest requirements are as for the English Crested, other features required being as for the Dalmation or Roan as appropriate.

### SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

### SPECIFIC FAULTS

As for Dalmation or Roan as appropriate.

Crest not to have an open centre.

Any differently coloured hairs in the crest to be severely penalised.

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### CRESTED OTHER VARIETIES

**Crested versions of the Sheltie (Coronet), Texel (Merino) and Satin** are covered by separate standards for these cavies and come under the remit of other Specialist Clubs.

**English Crested versions of all smooth-coated Guide Standard cavies will be regarded as having a Guide Standard**, this comprising the same features as for the corresponding Guide Standard cavy, plus the crest which must conform to the requirements laid down in the Standard for the English Crested.

**Crested versions of Coated varieties such as Abyssinian, Rex, Teddy, Peruvian and Alpaca, and American Crested versions of Ticked or Marked cavies, are not recognised as either Standardised or Guide Standard cavies.**

## SOLID SATIN

	<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	<b><u>25</u></b>
Roman nose with good width of muzzle, squared off at the end but rounded at the corners. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	
<b>Body Shape</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
To have short, cobby body with very deep, broad shoulders. Broad in body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	
<b>Satinisation</b>	<b><u>30</u></b>
To show a distinct satin sheen that is pronounced and even on all body areas, able to 'catch' and reflect any light that is directed towards the coat.	
<b>Colour</b>	<b><u>15</u></b>
To be of any solid colour, but to be even all over the body, although allowance must be made for the fact that shorter hair on the face and feet will reflect light differently and make colour appear darker than on the body. Undercolour to be carried well down to the skin. Pigmentation on ears, feet and nostrils to match body colour.	
<b>Coat</b>	<b><u>10</u></b>
To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.	
	<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## COLOURS

Any solid colour is allowed, with any eye colour.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Solid Satin** is a solid-coloured cavy with a satinised coat, satinisation being due to hollow hair shafts in the coat. The satin sheen of the coat is of great importance. To assess the degree and quality of the sheen, judges should handle the cavy in such a way that the coat 'catches the light' to its fullest advantage. Satinisation imparts an extra intensity to any colour, so that exact compliance with shades in other varieties should not be expected.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Hairs of a different colour to be penalised according to quantity.  
Areas of darker pigmentation on rims of ears to be penalised.  
White toenails, except on Whites, to be penalised.

## **SATIN NON-SELFS**

Satins may be exhibited in any of the following Non-Self varieties:

**Satin Agouti**

**Satin Argente**

**Satin Dutch**

**Satin Himalayan**

**Satin Tan**

**Satin Fox**

**Satin Tort & White**

**Satin Tricolour**

**Satin Bicolour**

**Satin Tortoiseshell**

**Satin Brindle**

**Satin Himalayan**

**Satin Dalmation**

**Satin Roan**

**Satin Crested** (of Standardised Crested varieties)

In all cases, other than for Satin Cresteds, the Standard will consist of 30 points for Satinisation, defined as for the Solid Satin, and 70% of the points for the corresponding Non-Self variety.

For Satin Cresteds the Standard will consist of 30 points for Satinisation, defined as for the Solid Satin, 20 points for crest (formation) and 50% of the points for the corresponding Crested variety (including crest colour on American Cresteds).

However, where the corresponding Breed Standard refers to ESCC colours, in the case of the Satin this will be taken to mean 'Any Solid Colour'.

**This means that Cresteds in Guide Standard solid colours are fully standardised in their Satin versions.**

The same Guidance Notes as for Solid Satins apply, as do any Guidance Notes, Specific Faults and Specific Disqualifications for the corresponding variety.

## **SATIN OTHER VARIETIES**

**Satin versions of smooth short-coated Guide Standard cavies will be regarded as having a Guide Standard**, this comprising the same features as for the corresponding Guide Standard cavy, plus satinisation, which should conform to the requirements laid down in the Standard for the Solid Satin.

**N.B. This does not apply to satin versions of GS cavies of solid colour, which are fully-standardised Satin Solids.**

Because satinisation affects coat quality in a fundamental way, due to the hollow hair shafts of the satin coat:

**Satin versions of Standardised Coated varieties such as Abyssinian, Rex and all Longhairs (but not short-coated Cresteds) will be recognised as and exhibited in Guide Standard classes only**, until specific requirements for such cavies can be defined, taking into account the effect of satinisation on the normal coat qualities.

**Satinised versions of Guide Standard Coated breeds (e.g. Teddy) are not recognised as having a Guide Standard.**

## REX

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	<b>Head</b> to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. <b>Muzzle</b> to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. <b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. <b>Ears</b> to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering shoulders. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>15</u></b>
<b>Coat Appearance</b>	To have a crimped, erect coat appearing dense and even all over the body, with no areas of flatness or with coat tending to lie down. Guard hairs to be removed. Belly to be well covered. Coat length to be no more than 1.2 cm (0.5 inches) in length, preferably shorter.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Coat Feel</b>		<b><u>45</u></b>
of which		
<b>Density</b>	To have thick, dense coat all over the body.	(15)
<b>Springiness</b>	To be springy and resilient when brushed with the palm of the hand, readily returning to the original erect appearance.	(15)
<b>Texture</b>	To be coarse to the touch, particularly on the top of the back, with allowance for a slightly less coarse feel to sides. To be clean and free from grease.	(15)
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

The following notes define the main colour groups and give guidance on the correct classes to enter when exhibiting:

<b>Solid Colour</b>	The cavy must be <u>totally</u> of one colour. Any coloured hairs visible on the surface of the coat mean that it should be shown as Any Other Colour (AOC). A solid Rex which darkens at its points with age should continue to be shown as a Solid Colour throughout its show career. White Rex that show colouring of hair on nose and feet similar to the Points on a Himalayan should be shown as AOC.
<b>Agouti</b>	The cavy must be <u>totally</u> Agouti, although normal Agouti belly colour is allowed. Cavies showing faults that occur in smooth Agoutis, such as eye circles, lightness on chest, solid feet or belly colour extending onto legs or body are <u>still</u> Agoutis. Any patches of colour, no matter how small, mean that a cavy cannot be shown in this class.
<b>Agouti Bi-Colour</b>	A bi-coloured cavy where one of the colours is Agouti. Golden Agouti & Gold and Silver Agouti & White are common examples of Rex Agouti Bicolours.
<b>AOC</b>	Any other Rex cavy that does not conform to the above categories, e.g. Argente Rex, Himalayan Rex, Dalmation Rex.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Rex** is a short-coated cavy with a rexoid coat that should appear crimped and erect from the body. The feel of the coat is particularly important, being dense and even all over the body but springy and resilient to the touch.

**Colour and Coat markings** are used only to divide Rex classes at shows. No points are awarded for Colour or Coat markings.

Whilst the preference is for a curly or wavy **belly**, a straight one should not be unduly penalised.

Allowance should be made for the fact that **younger exhibits** will generally have a softer coat.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes, partial rosettes.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Extreme tendency for parting in centre of back.

Coat length over 1.2cm (half an inch).

Soft coat on top of body.

Flatness anywhere on body.

Presence of guard hairs.

## **TEDDY**

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.	<b>20</b>
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering shoulders. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b>15</b>
<b>Coat Appearance</b>	To have a short, raised coat of even length, with a definite lie from the rump towards the head. There should be a visible fringe ('cap') due to the forward orientation of the coat. To appear dense and even all over the body, with no areas of flatness. Guard hairs to be removed. Coat on the belly to be well-covered. Coat length to be no more than 1.2 cm (0.5 inches) in length, with a shorter length preferable.	<b>30</b>
<b>Coat Feel</b>		<b>35</b>
of which		
<b>Density</b>	To have thick, dense coat all over the body.	(15)
<b>Bouncyness</b>	To have a bouncy feel when brushed with the hand.	(10)
<b>Texture</b>	To be plush but slightly harsh to the touch. To be clean and free from grease.	(10)

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**100**

## **DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS**

The following notes define the main colour groups and give guidance on the correct classes to enter when exhibiting:

<b>Solid or Agouti</b>	A cavy that is <u>totally</u> of one colour or agouti. N,B, White Teddies that show colouring of hair on nose and feet similar to the Points on a Himalayan should be shown as AOC.
<b>Bicolour or Agouti Bicolour</b>	A cavy that has solid patches of two colours or of agouti and another colour.
<b>Tricolour or Agouti Tricolour</b>	A cavy that has a combination of white and any two other solid colours or of white, agouti and another solid colour.
<b>Roan</b>	A cavy having roan colouration on any part of its body.
<b>AOC</b>	Any other cavy that does not conform to the above categories. This includes Teddy versions of other marked varieties such as Himalayan, Tan, Fox or Dalmation.

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Teddy** is a short-coated cavy with a rexoid-type coat that should appear raised from the body, lying with orientation from the rump towards the head. This should be particularly evident when the coat is gently brushed forward.

The Teddy may be shown in any colour or combination of colours.

No points are awarded for colour or coat markings, although these may be used to divide Teddy classes at shows.

## **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

Rosettes, partial rosettes.

## **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

Extreme tendency for parting in centre of back.

Coat length over 1.2cm (half an inch).

Flatness anywhere on body.

Presence of guard hairs.

## ABYSSINIAN

	<b>Points</b>
<b>Head Furnishings, Mane, Eyes, Ears</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Head</b> to be well furnished with hair and a prominent <b>moustache</b> .	(15)
<b>Mane</b> to be harsh and erect.	
<b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold.	(5)
<b>Ears</b> to be medium-sized and slightly drooping, and set with good width between.	
<b>Body Shape</b>	<b><u>15</u></b>
To have a short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders.	
To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh.	
To have good size appropriate to age.	
<b>Coat Appearance of which</b>	<b><u>45</u></b>
<b>Ridges</b>	(25)
To be straight, erect, stand well up and be placed as in Definitions below.	
To be placed so as to give a neat, close coupled effect.	
Colour of coat to be rich, clear and bright with plenty of lustre and to extend down the hair shaft.	
Length of coat not to exceed 1.5 inches (4 cm).	
<b>Rosettes</b>	(20)
To be well formed, of good depth, and radiate from pinpoint centres.	
To be distributed evenly over the body, with each rosette clear & distinct from any other.	
To be placed as in Definitions below.	
<b>Coat Feel</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
To have a wealth and depth of thick, harsh coat. To be clean and free from grease.	
	<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## DESCRIPTION OF COLOURS

The following notes define the main colour groups and give guidance on the correct classes to enter when exhibiting:

<b>Brindle/Tortoiseshell</b>	Brindles have interspersed red and black hairs, as well mixed as possible. Brindles in which red hairs predominate are termed 'light Brindles'; those in which black hairs predominate are termed 'dark brindles'. Tortoiseshells have patches of red and black hairs, these to be as clear as possible but in no set pattern. True Brindles and Tortoiseshells are rarely seen, the majority being a mixture of both patchwork and brindling. Occasionally exhibits can carry small clumps of white hairs. Providing that these do not in total exceed the size of a £1 coin, these cavies can be exhibited as Brindles/Tortoiseshells.
<b>Tortoise and White</b>	To consist of patches of red, black and white hairs placed separately but in no definite order. Although brindling is often seen, clarity of colour and patches is sought, and this adds to the attractiveness of the exhibit.
<b>Roan</b>	To consist of interspersed white and coloured hairs. Mixtures of white and black hairs are termed 'Blue Roans'; mixtures of white and red are 'Strawberry Roans'. However, the majority of Roans have mixtures of red, black and white hairs. Any cavy exhibiting any area of roaning must be termed a Roan, but the best examples will carry roaning over most of the body.
<b>Self</b>	Any exhibits of one solid colour, the most common today being Red and Black.
<b>Any Other Colour (AOC)</b>	Any exhibit not falling into one of the above groups is termed 'AOC'. The most commonly seen today are Red & White, Black & White and the Chocolate, Red & White Tricolour. All other colours are permissible.



## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Abyssinian** is a rough-coated, short-haired cavy in which a specific arrangement of rosettes creates a pattern of ridges both parallel and at right angles to the body. The **overall effect** is most important in the Abyssinian. It should be cobby, thick-set & with a dense, harsh coat giving the ridges their erectness. When the **ridges** are straight, a checkerboard pattern is formed. The Abyssinian should appear '**short-coupled**': this is achieved when the collar ridge is set well back behind the shoulders & the back ridge is well up in front of the hip bones. This gives a compact-looking animal with deep-centred cup-shaped rosettes. The **head** is greatly enhanced by a **wealth of mane and moustache** (which is formed by the hair growing forward from the jaw-line meeting the hair growing on the nose). **Shoulder rosettes** are optional but improve appearance when displayed. **Rump rosette centres** are normally two-thirds of the way down the rump, and should not be too low. A **double, 'lifter' or split rosette** on an otherwise good exhibit should not be unduly penalised. **Open centres** and '**guttering**' are often wrongly identified and penalised on dark-coloured Abyssinians or light-coloured ones with dark skins. On account of their harsher coats, **boars** are more commonly shown in Adult classes, but **sows** should not be unduly penalised because of their coat texture. It is difficult to assess coat qualities in **young Abyssinians**, as their coats are not usually 'through' until they are at least 12 weeks of age.

## SPECIFIC DEFINITIONS

Ridges	To consist of: A centre ridge, to follow a line along the backbone from collar to rear. Two side ridges, to follow a line parallel to the centre ridge on either side. A collar ridge, to follow a line over the shoulders at right angles to the centre ridge. A back ridge, to follow a line over the hips and back parallel to the collar.
Rosettes	To consist of: Four rosettes in direct line across the body, these being the saddle and side rosettes. A rosette on each hip in line with each other. Two thumb-shaped rump rosettes with equal centres.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

None

## SPECIFIC FAULTS (in descending order of importance, i.e. worst first)

Flatness anywhere, especially on back, as 'runs' to collar or as flat sides.  
Weak, thin or twisted ridges.  
Double or split rosettes, open centres, lifters or guttered rump rosettes.

## SHELTIE

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	<b>Head</b> to be large, bold and broad, with a gently curving profile. <b>Muzzle</b> to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. <b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. <b>Ears</b> to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Coat Appearance (Mane, Chops, Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)</b>	<b>Mane</b> to be unparted and full. To be swept back to join in with sweep. <b>Chops</b> to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. <b>Shoulders</b> to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around Sides. <b>Sweep</b> to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident..	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Coat Feel (Texture &amp; Density)</b> of which	<b>Coat Texture</b> to be soft and silky, and free flowing over all areas of the body. <b>Coat Density</b> to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat.	<b><u>30</u></b> (15) (15)
<b>Presentation</b>	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat, slight waviness should not be punished.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body</b>	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown without a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

The hair on the face should lie pointing towards the rear of the cavy

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Sheltie** is a smooth-haired, long-coated cavy. As in all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.

The cavy should be typey, with no hint of flatness on head when viewed in profile.

Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.

Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.

Shelties may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

## CORONET

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes, Ears &amp; Coronet</b>		<b><u>20</u></b>
of which	<b>Head</b> to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils. <b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. <b>Ears</b> to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	(10)
and	<b>Coronet</b> to be a rosette on front of head, radiating from a pinpoint centre, & to be well -formed and symmetrical with lower edge well down the nose.	(10)
<b>Coat Appearance</b>	<b>Chops</b> to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. <b>Shoulders</b> to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around Sides. <b>Sweep</b> to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident.	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Coat Feel (Texture &amp; Density)</b>		<b><u>30</u></b>
of which	<b>Coat Texture</b> to be soft and silky, and free flowing over all areas of the body. <b>Coat Density</b> to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat.	(15) (15)
<b>Presentation</b>	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat, slight waviness should not be punished.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body</b>	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Coronet** is a smooth-haired (other than the crest), long-coated cavy with a crest (coronet) on its forehead. As in all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.  
Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.  
Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.  
Coronets may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes other than the coronet.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

## TEXEL

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	<b>Head</b> to be large, bold and broad, with a gently curving profile. <b>Muzzle</b> to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. <b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. <b>Ears</b> to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	<b><u>20</u></b>
<b>Coat Appearance</b> ( <b>Chops, Shoulders, Sides, Sweep</b> )	<b>Chops</b> to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. <b>Shoulders</b> to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around Sides. <b>Sweep</b> to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. <b>Coat</b> to be springy in appearance & show rexoid characteristics. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident.	<b><u>30</u></b>
<b>Coat Feel (Texture &amp; Density)</b> of which	<b>Coat Texture</b> to be soft and springy; and free flowing over all areas of the body. <b>Coat Density</b> to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat. Belly to be curly, woolly and dense.	<b><u>30</u></b> (15) (15)
<b>Presentation</b>	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body</b>	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

The hair on the face should lie pointing towards the rear of the cavy.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Texel** is a rexoid, long-coated cavy, being the rexoid equivalent of the Sheltie. As with all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.

Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.

Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.

Texels may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

## MERINO

	<b>Points</b>
<b>Head, Eyes, Ears &amp; Coronet</b>	<b><u>20</u></b>
of which	<b>Head</b> to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils. <b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. <b>Ears</b> to be large and drooping, and set with good width between. (10)
and	<b>Coronet</b> to be a rosette on front of head, radiating from a pinpoint centre, & to be well -formed and symmetrical with lower edge well down the nose. (10)
<b>Coat Appearance (Chops, Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)</b>	<b><u>30</u></b>
	<b>Chops</b> to be strong, even, dense and well-furnished, with no gaps. <b>Shoulders</b> to have hair of appropriate length continuing evenly around Sides. <b>Sweep</b> to cover the hindquarters of the cavy and be full and of even length. Generally the sweep will be a little longer than the sides. <b>Coat</b> to be springy in appearance & show rexoid characteristics. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident.
<b>Coat Feel (Texture &amp; Density)</b>	<b><u>30</u></b>
of which	<b>Coat Texture</b> to be soft and springy; and free flowing over all areas of the body. (15) <b>Coat Density</b> to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat. (15) Belly to be curly, woolly and dense.
<b>Presentation</b>	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body</b>	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb. <b><u>10</u></b> To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.

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**100**

### SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size, and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

### GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Merino** is a rexoid, long-coated cavy with a crest, being the rexoid equivalent of the Coronet. As with all Longhairs coat qualities are paramount.  
Coat length should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 2.5 cm (1 inch) per month of age.  
Allowance should be made that the coat will appear thinner in older, longer coated exhibits because the undercoat does not attain the same length as the top coat, which is spread over a larger area.  
Merinos may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

### SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Rosettes other than the coronet.

### SPECIFIC FAULTS

None

## PERUVIAN

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Frontal, Chops, Head, Eyes, Ears</b>		<b><u>20</u></b>
of which	<b>Frontal and Chops:</b> The hair constituting the frontal should originate from the shoulders and be brushed so as to evenly cover the face with no gaps at the side of the head., meeting hair from the 'chops' so as to fall in a manner that produces a 'curtain' effect at the front of the cavy. Chops to be strong, with hair of one length and no gaps. Frontal to be of good length, in keeping with the cavy's age.	(15)
and	<b>Head</b> to be short & broad, <b>Muzzle</b> of good width & rounded at the nostrils. <b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. <b>Ears</b> to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	(5)
<b>Coat Appearance (Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)</b>		<b><u>30</u></b>
	<b>Shoulders and Sides</b> should continue evenly from the frontal and chops of the cavy, with good length in keeping with the cavy's age. <b>Sweep</b> should cover the hindquarters, with good length in keeping with age. There should be no evidence of a parting in sweep hair. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident, so as to continue the curtain effect that is desired.	
<b>Coat Feel (Texture and Density)</b>		<b><u>30</u></b>
of which	<b>Coat Texture</b> to be soft and silky; flowing freely over all areas of the body;	(15)
and	<b>Coat Density</b> to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat.	(15)
<b>Presentation</b>	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb. Whilst the aim is for a straight coat, slight waviness should not be punished.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body</b>	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>

## SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

The cavy must be shown with a central parting, on a board of appropriate size. These should be large enough to give an outline of coat shape, maximum 20 x 20", and covered in natural-coloured hessian.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Peruvian** is a long-coated cavy with two rosettes on the rump.

The **placement of these rosettes** is important in producing density in the sweep.

If the rosettes are high, more hair is pushed into the sweep and it has sufficient density to support its extra length.

With low rosettes the sweep can lack density, and as it grows can hang to show a 'split' in the middle.

Given good placement of rosettes, there should be no problem with the sweep.

The **overall appearance**, looking down onto the top of the cavy, should be of an oval shape but as near round as possible.

With coat of even length coming from a central parting along the spine, the hair should fall forwards to cover the head and backwards over the rear to form the sweep.

Along with the shoulders and sides, this should create a continuous 'curtain' of hair around the body.

The **undercoat** of the Peruvian stops at 6 to 7 ", so when the top coat reaches 3 to 4" longer than this there starts to be an impression of thinness, as increasing amounts of show board are seen beneath the coat of the cavy. This does not constitute lack of density, which should be felt near to the cavy's body.

When the coat length increases towards 18" it is spread so far out that individual hairs are apparent and an impression of wispieness is given. This is unavoidable even with a very densely coated cavy.

**Density** should also be apparent from the appearance of the coat, with no breaks or thin areas of coat evident.

**Coat length** should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 1 inch per month of age. The coat grows in 'layers', this being more evident in U/5s.

In **young cavies** the sweep may appear to be slightly longer than the sides, but an even length all round is sought in intermediate and adult stock.

Peruvians may be shown in any **colour** or mixture of colours.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Crests.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Additional rosettes, causing a visible impact on the coat, to be penalised according to severity of this impact.

## ALPACA

		<b>Points</b>
<b>Frontal, Chops, Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>		<b><u>20</u></b>
of which	<b>Frontal and Chops:</b> The hair constituting the frontal should originate from the shoulders and be brushed so as to evenly cover the face with no gaps at the side of the head., meeting hair from the 'chops' so as to fall in a manner that produces a 'curtain' effect at the front of the cavy. Chops to be strong, with hair of one length and no gaps. Frontal to be of good length, in keeping with the cavy's age.	(15)
and	<b>Head</b> to be short & broad, <b>Muzzle</b> of good width & rounded at the nostrils. <b>Eyes</b> to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. <b>Ears</b> to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.	(5)
<b>Coat Appearance (Shoulders, Sides, Sweep)</b>		<b><u>30</u></b>
	<b>Coat</b> should be springy in appearance & show rexoid characteristics. <b>Shoulders and Sides</b> should continue evenly from the frontal and chops of the cavy, with good length in keeping with the cavy's age. <b>Sweep</b> should cover the hindquarters, with good length in keeping with age. There should be no evidence of a parting in sweep hair. No breaks in coat, thin areas <u>near the body</u> or uneven length should be evident, so as to continue the curtain effect that is desired.	
<b>Coat Feel (Texture &amp; Density)</b>		<b><u>30</u></b>
of which	<b>Coat Texture</b> to be soft and springy to handle & free flowing over the whole body;	(15)
and	<b>Coat Density</b> to be full and dense in all areas when assessed nearer the body where the undercoat supports the top coat. Belly to be curly, woolly and dense.	(15)
<b>Presentation</b>	To be clean, free of grease and unmatted, with no resistance to a comb.	<b><u>10</u></b>
<b>Body</b>	To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.	<b><u>10</u></b>
		<hr/> <b><u>100</u></b>
<b>SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS</b>		
	The cavy must be shown <u>with</u> a central parting, on a board of appropriate size. These should be large enough to give an outline of coat shape, maximum 20 x 20", and covered in natural-coloured hessian.	



## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Alpaca** is a long-coated rexoid cavy with two rosettes on the rump, being the rexoid equivalent of the Peruvian.

The placement of rosettes is important in producing density in the sweep.

The **overall appearance**, looking down onto the top of the cavy, should be of an oval shape but as near round as possible.

With coat of even length coming from a central parting along the spine, the hair should fall forwards to cover the head and backwards over the rear to form the sweep.

Along with the shoulders and sides, this should create a continuous 'curtain' of hair around the body. However, the coat grows in 'layers', this being more evident in U/5s.

The **undercoat** of the Alpaca stops at 6 to 7", so when the top coat reaches 3 to 4" longer than this there starts to be an impression of thinness, as increasing amounts of show board are seen beneath the coat of the cavy. This does not constitute lack of density, which should be felt near to the cavy's body.

When the coat length increases towards 18" it is spread so far out that individual hairs are apparent and an impression of wispieness is given. This is unavoidable even with a very densely coated cavy.

**Density** should also be apparent from the appearance of the coat, with no breaks or thin areas of coat evident.

**Coat length** should be appropriate to the age of the cavy, a guideline being circa 1 inch per month of age.

In **young cavies** the sweep may appear to be slightly longer than the sides, but an even length all round is sought in intermediate and adult stock.

Alpacas may be shown in any **colour** or mixture of colours.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Crests.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

Additional rosettes, causing a visible impact on the coat, to be penalised according to severity of this impact.

## **SLATE (Guide Standard)**

### **Head, Eyes & Ears**

of which

#### **Head**

To have pronounced Roman nose.

To have good width of muzzle, squared off at the end but rounded at the corners.

#### **Eyes**

Eyes to be large, bright, bold and appealing, set wide apart.

#### **Ears**

Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.

### **Body Shape**

To have short, cobby body with very deep, broad shoulders.

To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh.

To have good size appropriate to age.

### **Colour**

Top colour to be lustrous and of glossy sheen, of even shade all over the head & body.

Hair on feet to match body colour.

Undercolour to match top colour down to the skin, giving an appearance free from flakiness.

Colour of coat to be slate blue. Eyes dark. Ears & Pads slate.

### **Coat**

To be soft & silky, clean and short, groomed free of guard hairs.

N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on that for:

**The English Self.**

**Guidance Notes, Specific Faults and Disqualifications** are as per the ESCC Standard.

## HARLEQUIN (Guide Standard)

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
<b>Markings</b> of which <b>Head Markings</b>	To consist of patches of black, yellow and black/yellow mixture, evenly distributed on each side of the body on either side of a central line formed by differently coloured patches. Head ideally to have two colours divided down the centre. A different colour on each side of the head divided by a blaze of the third colour is almost as desirable.
<b>Line &amp; Distribution of Patches</b>	Patches to be placed on each side of the body so as to give no overlaps over the central line top or under. Each side of the <u>body</u> of the cavy to have three or more patches. Each side of the <u>cavy</u> to have patches of all three colours.
<b>Shape &amp; Clarity of Patches</b>	Patches to be square-cut with straight edges and of equal size Patches to be clean-cut and distinct from each other, with no intermingling of colours.
<b>Colour</b>	Colours to be rich, even, with glossy sheen and carried well down. Eye colour to be dark.
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.  N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on that for: <b>The Tortoiseshell &amp; White.</b>

## COLOURS

As well as being based on a Black / Yellow combination, as referred to in the Standard above, the Harlequin may also be based on a Chocolate/Yellow combination.

**IMPORTANT NOTE** In using the word 'colours' in this Standard, this refers both to the black (or chocolate) and yellow colours and to the patches of black (or chocolate)/yellow mixing.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Harlequin** is a smooth coated cavy, carrying a chequerboard pattern of square-cut patches of black (or chocolate), yellow and black (or chocolate) / yellow intermingling, with a dividing line running the length of the cavy both top and underside.

There is no set sequence for the patches.

The head should ideally consist of two colours, split down the middle, but a head with three colours is almost as desirable.

There should then be at least three patches on each side of the cavy.

All of the colours should be present on each side of the cavy, ideally on the body.

Looking from either above or below the cavy, patches on opposite sides of the body should meet so as to form a central 'line' down the spine and mid-belly of the cavy.

No patches should overlap this central line, either on top or under side.

Patches should ideally be square-cut and of the same size all over the body

Each patch should consist of either a solid colour or an even intermixing of colours, clearly delineated from surrounding patches, and having in the solid patches no intermingling of hairs of a different colour.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Patches of white hairs anywhere on the cavy.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

### Line Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first, but dependent on extent of failing)

Band

A patch of colour going all the way around the body.

Belt

A patch of colour going more than half way round the body.

Overlap

A patch of colour overlapping the centre line, top or under.

Solid Head

Head of a single colour.

Dutch-pattern Head

Head with the same colour on each side of the head with a blaze of a different colour.

This is a minor fault.

### Distribution Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

Missing Colour

An absence of any of the two colours on either side of the cavy.

Shortage of Patches

Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

### Distinctiveness Faults

(To be penalised according to extent)

Brindling

Intermixing of any colours in patches of other colours (except in black/yellow or chocolate/yellow patches).

## MAGPIE (Guide Standard)

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
<b>Markings</b> of which <b>Head Markings</b>	To consist of patches of black, white and black/white mixture, evenly distributed on each side of the body on either side of a central line formed by differently coloured patches. Head ideally to have two colours divided down the centre. A different colour on each side of the head divided by a blaze of the third colour is almost as desirable.
<b>Line &amp; Distribution of Patches</b>	Patches to be placed on each side of the body so as to give no overlaps over the central line top or under. Each side of the <u>body</u> of the cavy to have three or more patches. Each side of the <u>cavy</u> to have patches of all three colours.
<b>Shape &amp; Clarity of Patches</b>	Patches to be square-cut with straight edges and of equal size Patches to be clean-cut and distinct from each other, with no intermingling of colours.
<b>Colour</b>	Black / Chocolate colours to be rich, even and with glossy sheen, and carried well White colour to be pure and clean. Eye colour to be dark.
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.  N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on that for: <b>The Tortoiseshell &amp; White.</b>

## COLOURS

As well as being based on a Black / White combination, as referred to in the Standard above, the Magpie may also be based on a Chocolate / White combination.

**IMPORTANT NOTE** In using the word 'colours' in this Standard, this refers both to the black (or chocolate) and white colours and to the patches of black (or chocolate)/white mixing.

## GUIDANCE NOTES

The **Magpie** is a smooth coated cavy, carrying a chequerboard pattern of square-cut patches of black (or chocolate), white and black (or chocolate) / white intermingling, with a dividing line running the length of the cavy both top and underside.

There is no set sequence for the patches.

The head should ideally consist of two colours, split down the middle, but a head with three colours is almost as desirable.

There should then be at least three patches on each side of the cavy.

All of the colours should be present on each side of the cavy, ideally on the body.

Looking from either above or below the cavy, patches on opposite sides of the body should meet so as to form a central 'line' down the spine and mid-belly of the cavy.

No patches should overlap this central line, either on top or under side.

Patches should ideally be square-cut and of the same size all over the body

Each patch should consist of either a solid colour or an even intermixing of colours, clearly delineated from surrounding patches, and having in the solid patches no intermingling of hairs of a different colour.

## SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS

Patches of yellow hairs anywhere on the cavy.

## SPECIFIC FAULTS

### Line Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first, but dependent on extent of failing)

Band

A patch of colour going all the way around the body.

Belt

A patch of colour going more than half way round the body.

Overlap

A patch of colour overlapping the centre line, top or under.

Solid Head

Head of a single colour.

Dutch-pattern Head

Head with the same colour on each side of the head with a blaze of a different colour.

This is a minor fault.

### Distribution Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

Missing Colour

An absence of any of the two colours on either side of the cavy.

Shortage of Patches

Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

### Distribution Faults

(In descending order of significance, i.e. worst faults first)

Missing Colour

An absence of any of the three colours on either side of the cavy.

Shortage of Patches

Less than three patches on any side of the body, two patches being better than one.

### Distinctiveness Faults

(To be penalised according to extent)

Roaning

Intermixing of white hairs in patches of other colours (except in black/white or chocolate/white patches).

### **BELTED (Guide Standard)**

<b>Head, Eyes &amp; Ears</b>	Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile. Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils. Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between. Ears to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
<b>Body Shape</b>	To have short, cobby body with good width across shoulders and body. To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh. To have good size appropriate to age.
<b>Markings</b>	To have a belt of white colour circling the body just behind the shoulders and including the front legs and feet. The belt to be vertical (at right angles to the spine), even in width and as straight as possible. The width of the belt should be between 3 and 5 cm.
<b>Colour</b>	Colour to be black, even & with glossy sheen, and carried down to the skin. White colour to be pure and clean. Eye colour to be dark.
<b>Coat</b>	To be soft, clean and groomed free of guard hairs.

N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on that for:  
**The Himalayan or T/W** in terms of Points Allocations.

### **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Belted** is a smooth coated solid coloured (black) cavy with a belt of white circling the body just behind the shoulders and incorporating the front legs and feet.  
Younger exhibits may have a narrower belt.

### **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

None

### **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

Differently coloured hairs found within the Black or White are to be penalised according to quantity.  
Step in the belt to be penalised.

## **RIDGEBACK (Guide Standard)**

- Head, Eyes & Ears** Head to be short and broad, with a gently curving profile.  
Muzzle to be of good width and rounded at the nostrils.  
Eyes to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between.  
Ears to be large and drooping, with lower rim parallel to the ground & set with good width between.
- Body Shape** To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders.  
To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering shoulders.  
To have good size appropriate to age.
- Coat Appearance** To have smooth coat other than for a ridge which should be pronounced, unbroken, erect and straight, running down the spine from between the ears to the hips.  
The ridge should be up to approx. 2.5 cm (one inch) in height, and be most pronounced at the shoulder and tapering towards the rear end.
- Coat Feel** The coat should be soft and short other than on the ridge, which should be firm and erect when brushed with the palm of the hand.  
To be clean and free from grease.

N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on those for:  
**The Abyssinian** in terms of Points Allocations.

### **GUIDANCE NOTES**

The **Ridgeback** is a smooth coated cavy with a pronounced, unbroken ridge of hair standing erect along the spine.  
Ridgebacks may be shown in any colour or mixture of colours.

### **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

None

### **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

None



## **SWISS (Guide Standard)**

- Head, Eyes & Ears** **Head** to be short & broad, Muzzle of good width & rounded at the nostrils.  
**Eyes** to be large, bright and bold and set with good width between.  
**Ears** to be large and drooping, and set with good width between.
- Body Shape** To have short, cobby body; thick-set, with good width across shoulders.  
To be fit and of good substance, with plenty of firm flesh covering shoulders.  
To have good size appropriate to age.
- Coat Appearance** To stand erect from the body, being thick and even in length to give an overall ‘puff-ball’ appearance, with sufficient density that the skin is not visible without parting the coat.  
To be between 5 and 7 cm in length in the adult cavy.  
Belly coat to be wavy, well-covered and shorter in length than on the rest of the body.  
To have chops of length appropriate to age.  
Ideally to have longer hairs, known as ‘horns’, over the ears.
- Coat Feel** To be soft, plush and of good density.
- Presentation** To be clean, free of grease and unmatted.
- N.B. Any Full Standard for this breed is likely to be based on those for:  
**The Rough Longhair breeds.**

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

- The Swiss is a rexoid, semi-longhaired cavy whose coat stands erect from the body to give a ‘puff-ball’ appearance.
- The Swiss is inclined to moult at regular intervals, from the shoulder backwards. Accordingly, those in ‘mid moult’ have longer coats around the rump than on the rest of the body. They should not be shown during the moulting stages.
- Some Swiss possess a rosette on the forehead. This usually fills out and disappears by 5 months of age. However, Swiss should not be shown with any visible rosette.
- Swiss must be shown on a board. A brush or comb may be taken to the judging table in order to ‘tidy up’ the cavy after handling.
- Swiss may be shown in any colour or combination of colours.

## **SPECIFIC DISQUALIFICATIONS**

None

## **SPECIFIC FAULTS**

- The presence of any visible rosette in the coat (usually found on the head) is a severe fault.
- Having coat of inappropriate length, or of differing lengths and texture (particularly extra length on the rump), is a severe fault.
- Coat faults, where the coat direction visibly goes against the general lie of the coat, such as swirls (usually found in the hip area) should be penalised according to the extent of the fault.

## **OTHER GUIDE STANDARD VARIETIES**

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In addition to the specific Guide Standard Varieties described above, the following Varieties will also be regarded as having Guide Standards:

(a) **Non-Standardised Colour Variants of Standardised Non-Self Varieties**

These will be regarded as having a de facto Guide Standard, the guidance points being as for the standardised breed but with colour definition(s) remaining to be specified, with the exception of Self varieties, for which shade of colour is so fundamental that a specific Guide Standard must be defined for each colour.

N.B. Any solid coloured Satin is regarded as being fully standardised, as per the Standard for the Solid Satin.

(b) **English Crested versions of Smooth, Short-coated Guide Standard cavies**

These will be regarded as having a de facto Guide Standard, the guidance points being as for the corresponding Guide Standard cavy, plus the crest which must conform to the requirements laid down in the Standard for the English Crested.

Crested versions of Coated varieties such as Abyssinians, Rex, Teddy, Peruvian and Alpaca are not recognised as either Standardised or Guide Standard varieties.

© **Satin versions of Smooth, Short-coated Guide Standard cavies**

These will be regarded as having a de facto Guide Standard, the guidance points being as for the corresponding Guide Standard cavy, plus the satinisation, which must conform to the requirements laid down in the Standard for the Solid Satin.

N.B. As noted above this does not apply to satin versions of GS cavies of solid colour, which are fully-standardised Solid Satins.

(d) **Satin versions of Coated varieties such as Abyssinian, Rex and all Longhairs (but not short-coated Cresteds)**

Because satinisation affects coat quality in a fundamental way, due to the hollow hair shafts of the satin coat, these varieties will be regarded as having Guide Standards only, until specific requirements for such cavies can be defined, taking into account the effect of satinisation on the normal coat qualities.

Satinised versions of Guide Standard Coated breeds (e.g. Teddy) are not recognised as having a Guide Standard, and should be exhibited in the New / Emerging Breeds class until they can be assessed as suitable to receive a Guide Standard.

(e) **Dalmation or Roan versions of Guide Standard Self or Ticked cavies**

Dalmations or Roans in Guide Standard Self or Ticked colours are regarded as having Guide Standards, with colour features as for the relevant GS variety.

As the effects of different markings frequently compete with each other, **Varieties based on combinations of different markings** will not be regarded as having Guide Standards unless such have been specifically defined and agreed.

## **NEW VARIETIES: GUIDANCE NOTES FOR BREEDERS AND JUDGES**

### **CHINCHILLA**

A cavy with a long ticked agouti-pattern all over the body except for unticked white or cream markings. The effect should be of muted colours. Emphasis should be placed on the evenness and quality of ticking and overall colour, with longer ticking and light base colour showing through so as to contribute to an overall pastel effect. White or cream markings should be restricted to eye circles, nostrils, jowls, chest and belly; and should be clearly defined. The belly should be wide and just visible when the cavy is viewed from the side. The Chinchilla has a paler base colour than the normal Agouti, to be as light a shade as possible without losing the desired pigmentation on skin, ears and eye rims. Too dark a shade of body colour and patches of solid or white hairs are faults.

Allowable colours are:

- Silver Chinchilla: light grey base with long white ticking, white markings. Eyes dark, ears and pads grey.
- Cinnamon Chinchilla: light chocolate base with long white ticking, white markings. Eyes ruby, ears and pads pink / light chocolate.
- Lemon Chinchilla: light grey base with long cream ticking, cream markings. Eyes dark, ears and pads grey.
- Cream Chinchilla: light chocolate base with long cream ticking, cream markings. Eyes ruby, ears and pads pink / light chocolate.

### **LUNKARYA**

A longhaired cavy in the Peruvian model (having a frontal, chops and two hip rosettes), but differing in coat texture, which should be as harsh as possible. The coat is curly in a ringletted fashion, giving a corkscrew effect that needs to be present from the base of the coat to the ends. The hair on the frontal, chop furnishings and belly is rexoid but not ringletted. A young Lunkarya may have a softer coat than an adult and this should be taken into account.

Due to the random corkscrew effect of the coat the Lunkarya cannot be presented with a parting. To maintain a clean coat free of knots and matting the Lunkarya should be regularly brushed, combed or groomed by hand. For presentation at the judging table the Lunkarya must be shown with a coat that appears naturally untidy so as to display the random ringlets. Although this can be achieved by brushing the coat out and then ‘misting’ it with water, which enhances the curls, the cavy must not be damp when presented to the judge.

It is essential that judges should be able to run their fingers through the coat to check for coat quality and presentation; but although the Lunkarya must be shown free of knots and tangles on a board, brushes and combs must not be taken to the judging table. A Lunkarya may be shown in any colour or combination of colours.

### **DARK SABLE**

The Dark Sable is a dark sepia coloured ‘shaded cavy’. The masking top colour, a very dark sepia (nearly black), starts from the nose encompassing the head, the front feet and extending right down the back of the cavy. This masking top colour extends down the sides of the cavy shading to a dark sepia colour to a lighter shade of sepia on the belly. Eye colour to be dark ruby. It is important that the shading and mask are clearly visible for this breed to be assessed by the judge. In the young cavy the body colour is a single shade of dark sepia, as the shading has not yet developed, these are not suitable for showing.

The Sable can be assessed by placing the very dark sepia feet against the belly, this will identify the distinctly lighter shade of the belly. The dark ruby eyes of the Sable are different to the required black-eye colour for the Self Black.

The **Chocolate Sable** is a colour variant of the Dark Sable. This shows the same development of markings, with colour starting from a deep chocolate colour (mask) shading to a milk chocolate belly colour.

## **SABLE FOX**

Colour shading is as for the Sable, with a white belly, eye circles, pea spots and lacing hairs as for the normal Fox.

## **SELF CARAMEL**

All characteristics are as for a Self cavy but with colour to be warm toffee, distinctly darker than the Self Beige. Eyes light ruby.

## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN STANDARDS**

**Back ridge** (Abyssinian): The ridge of erect hair following a line between the hip rosettes and saddle rosettes, at right angles to the spine and parallel to the collar.

**Balanced Features** (e.g. Cheeks or Stops in Dutch): Features that are similar on each side of the body.

**Band** (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): A patch of a single colour going all the way round the body.

**Belt** (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): A patch of a single colour going over half way round the body.

**Bent Leg**: A deformity (usually of the foreleg) in which the lower part of the leg 'turns under', with the cavy sometimes walking on its 'ankle' rather than its foot.

**Blaze** (Dalmation, Dutch): White colour on the face of the cavy running from the nostrils and between the eyes to the top of the head.

**Bonnet Strings** (Agouti, Argente): Areas of lighter ticking running down from the mouth, along the neck and often to the chest area.

**Breaks in Coat**: Missing patches of hair, where bare patches of skin are revealed when the coat is turned back.

**Breech** (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): A patch of a single colour going all the way round the rump.

**Brindling**: Intermingling of differently-coloured hairs (but not involving white hairs – see Roaning).

**Cap**: The fringe of hair on the head of a Teddy, formed by the forward lie of the coat.

**Cataract**: A loss of transparency in the eye lens, giving the appearance of a milky film within the eye. This may impair vision.

**Centre ridge** (Abyssinian): A ridge of erect hair in a line above the spine, running rearwards from the collar to the rump, which continues in the same line forward from the other side of the collar into the mane.

**Cheeks** (Dutch): Patches of coloured hair on both sides of the head encompassing the eyes and ears.

**Chops** (Longhairs): Longer hair growing from the side of the head, commencing below the eyes and ears and continuing below the jaw line.

**Clean Neck** (Dutch): Absence of any colour from the neck (top of head), resulting from the cheek colouration not extending rearwards beyond the ears.

**Cobby** (refers to Body): Short and compact, not long and rangy

**Collar Ridge** (Abyssinian): A ridge of erect hair running across the upper body/shoulder area at right angles to the Centre Ridge (and spine).

**Condition**: Physical well-being, the ideal being a healthy, bright-eyed, alert appearance, carrying plenty of firm flesh but not gross or flabby

**Coronet** (Coronet, Merino): The specific name used for the crest in these varieties.

**Crest**: A rosette of hair radiating from a centre-point between the eyes and ears

**Crimped** (refers to Coat): Appearance of coat as having small waves. Also applies to individual hairs, which are wavy not straight.

**Cysts**: Rounded, subcutaneous (under the skin) swellings on the body.

**Dappled** (Roan): Indistinct spotting or splashes of colouration on a roaned body.

**Demarcation Line** (Dalmation, Roan): the clear line separating the blazed or solid coloured head and spotted or roaned body.

**Density** (Longhaired Varieties): Thickness and fullness of coat.

**Density** (Himalayan): Intensity of pigmentation in the Points.

**Double Rosette** (Abyssinian): A rosette with two clearly separated centres.

**Dutch Head** (Tort and White & RVCC Patched Varieties): Head markings in which cheeks of the same colour are separated by a blaze of a different colour.

**Eye Circle**: Circle of lighter colour around the eyes. Is a fault in Sells and Agoutis but is desirable in Tans, Foxes and Otters.

**Fatty Eye**: White, fatty flesh protruding from the eye-socket, often at the margin of the lower eyelid..

**Flakiness**: Lighter under-colour showing through the top coat.

**Flatness** (Abyssinian) Areas of coat, particularly on back (flat backed) where rosettes or ridges are flat and lack distinction.

**Flesh Marks**: Pink, flesh-coloured patches on the ears, hocks or footpads.

**Foot Stop** (Dutch): A "sock" of white hair, ideally stretching from half way between the hock to the toe ends.

**Frontal** (Peruvian, Alpaca): The fringe of hair growing from the head to cover the face.

**Frontal (Short-haired cavies)**: The appearance of the head when viewed from the front, particularly in terms of muzzle, width between eyes and ear set.

**Guard Hairs**: Longer, coarser hairs that protrude beyond the length of the majority of the coat.

**Guttering** (Abyssinian): Rosettes with elongated centres.

**Head Drag** (Dalmation, Roan): Solid colour running on from the head through the demarcation line into the body.

**Head Furnishings** (Abyssinian): Arrangement of hair on the head.

**Hem in Ear**: A crease or fold along the leading edge of the ear.

**Higher Cut** (refers to Saddle in Dutch): Saddle and Undercut that are cut more towards the head than is ideal.

**Hock** (Referred to in Foot Stops in Dutch): The joint part-way up the hind-leg from which the foot extends.

**Jowl**: The lower cheek.

**Lifter** (Abyssinian): A rosette in which hairs protrude above the regular surface of the rosette.

**Mane** (Abyssinian/Sheltie): The hair that grows from the top of the head to the shoulder, this being erect in the Abyssinian.

**Moustache** (Abyssinian): Hair growing outwards and upwards below the eyes, together with two small rosettes and a spike of hair in the centre of the face.

**Muzzle**: The lower part of the "face" commencing mid-way between the eyes and the nostrils and comprising the nostrils and mouth.

**Open Centre** (Abyssinian, Crested): A rosette in which a significant amount of skin is visible in the centre.

**Pads**: The fleshy undersides of the feet.

**Pea Spots** (Fox, Tan): The clear white or tan spots that should be visible on the forehead beside each ear.

**Points** (Himalayan): The dark pigmentation on the face, ears and feet.

**Red Flesh Around Eye**: Swellings of blood-engorged red flesh that sometimes protrude from the eye-socket.

**Ridge** (Abyssinian): A line of erect hair separating the rosettes.

**Roaning**: White hairs intermixed with another colour.

**Roman Nose** (refers to the profile of the head): A head with a pronounced convex curve from between the ears down to the tip of the muzzle

**Running Lice**: Lice that are seen to move within the coat.

**Runs** (Abyssinian): used to describe both collar faults, where the collar ridge is pushed forward on one or both sides of the mane, or as an alternative term for 'guttering.'

**Rump**: The hindquarters and bottom.

**Saddle** (Dutch): The top half of the line traversing the center of the back, which separates the white of the front part of the body from the coloured region to the rear of the cavy.

**Saddle Rosettes** (Abyssinian): Two rosettes in the centre of the back

**Satinisation** (Satin): A satin sheen on the coat that catches and reflects any light that is directed towards the coat.

**Shoulder**: The region behind the head and running into the body. Well developed bone and muscle in

this region provide a solid feel and a distinct hump that is particularly prized in the Self.

**Side Ridge:** (Abyssinian): Ridges of erect hair following a line parallel to the centre ridge on either side of the body.

**Side Whiskers:** Areas of raised hair (quiff) where the side of the head runs into the body.

**Slipping Saddle** (Dutch): Saddle and Undercut that are cut more towards the rear than is ideal.

**Smellers** (Dutch): The nostril and whisker bed.

**Smut** (Himalayan): Pear-shaped region of pigmentation on the head, running upwards from the nostril region to between the eyes.

**Solid Head** (Dalmation/Roan/Tort and White & RV Patched Varieties): Head all of one colour.

**Spinal Bar** (Dalmation/Roan): A definite white line, lacking any form of spotting/roaning and running the length of the spine from the head to the rump.

**Split Rosette** (Abyssinian): A rosette that has two, slightly separated, centres.

**Static Mite:** Mite living on the coat and appearing as white/grey specks attached to individual hairs.

**Stops** (Dutch): See Foot Stops.

**Sweep** (Longhairs): Hair covering the hindquarters.

**Texture** (Longhairs): The softness of the coat-feel.

**Ticking** (Agouti, Argente): Hair colour pattern in which each hair shaft contains a base colour (black, chocolate, lilac, beige), a band of a different colour (golden, lemon, silver, white) and a tip of the base colour.

**Undercolour:** The colour of the coat beneath the top colour.

**Undercut** (Dutch): The lower part of the line traversing the body that separates the white at the front of the body from the coloured region to the rear.

**Wry Neck:** A condition in which the head is held permanently to one side.

